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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW

OF

JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS,

LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. XXXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 1ST, 1899.

BIRTH.

At Yokohama, on the 25th June, the wife of H.I.G.M.'s Vice Consul WERNER HAGEN, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

On the 13th May, at Parkston, Dorset, BAZETT MICHAEL HAGGARD, Barrister-at-law and late H.B.M.'s Land Commissioner at Samoa, 2nd son of the late William Haggard, of Bradenham Hall, Norfolk, and brother of Baroness Albert d'Anethan.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Czarina has given birth to another daughter.

THE Transvaal troubles are far from being adjusted, and the war-cloud looks ominous.

THE Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have declared a dividend of 60 per cent. for the past twelvemonth.

IT has been decided to build the new Christ Church of brick from the designs of Mr. J. Conder.

THE German community of Yokohama will give a garden party next Friday at the Bluff Gardens in honour of Prince Henry.

IN France political matters are still disturbed by the Dreyfus affair. Several prominent military officers are to be tried by Court-martial.

A WOMAN named Fugawa Hana (48) has been found strangled with a straw rope on a farm near Odawara. No arrest has yet been made.

THE open-air theatricals at the Bluff Gardens last Monday night proved an immense success, the receipts reaching over *yen* 700.

PRINCE HENRY has received presents of cloisonne, porcelain, and silver vases from the cities of Tokyo and Kyoto, and the town of Yokohama.

THE Russian Government has appropriated a sum of thirteen million roubles for improving Vladivostock. Two millions will be expended forthwith.

A CHILD, son of one Yoshikawa, living at Kanagawa-machi, near Yokohama, has been attacked by cholera, and is now under medical treatment.

CONSTANTIAL DOOMCHEFF, a clever Russian violinist, drew a crowded and appreciative house at his farewell concert in Yokohama on Wednesday.

THE Peace Conference at the Hague is likely to turn out a *fiasco*, Germany's delegates opposing all measures leading to abandonment of armaments.

NEARLY 40,000 *yen* have been subscribed towards the new Church on the Bluff, Yokohama, leaving only a deficiency of *yen* 10,000 in the estimated cost.

THE yacht races on Tuesday the Fourth of July, are for prizes given by H.E. the American Minister, the American residents, and the Weston Challenge Shield.

THE Commissioners have decided to abolish the institutions of royalty in Samoa, and have appointed a provisional government composed of three Consuls.

MR. OTANI KAHEI will represent the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce at the International meeting of Chambers of Commerce to be held in Philadelphia in October next.

THE *America Maru* came out of quarantine on Friday: on Wednesday the *City of Peking* was placed in quarantine in Nagasaki, owing to a case of cholera occurring on board.

THE revised Prison Regulations which are the result of the Conference of Governors of Jails convened at the Home Department will be issued shortly after endorsement by the Cabinet.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA arrived at Yokohama on Thursday on his flagship, the *Deutschland*. He was received officially at the Admiralty Pier, and at the station was met by nearly the whole of the German community. He is staying in Tokyo until Monday as the guest of the Emperor.

CANDIDATES for the position of Court interpreters, numbering 33, were examined on Monday morning at the Tokyo Appeal Court. The successful applicants will undergo two further examinations.

THE thief who stole a quality of silk in course of transport to the Wakao silk store, Honcho, Yokohama, from a firm in Yamanashi Prefecture, is reported to have been arrested by the Bluff police a few days ago.

THE Democratic State Convention of Kentucky has resolved upon a platform including the free coinage of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one; has expressed confidence in Bryan, and has denounced protection.

A CABINET Council was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, attended by the Premier and other Ministers. The chief subjects of debate were questions respecting the treatment of Chinese after the new treaties come into operation. Religious questions were also discussed.

THE Hongo Police authorities have decided to discourage the habit of children crowding round foreigners and watching them while they are making purchases in shops. A notice has been sent to the Hongo Elementary School to warn children against this exhibition of foolish curiosity.

THE Financial Department intends to enlarge the scope of the Osaka Customs House. A separate President will be appointed to the department, which has hitherto been under the jurisdiction of the Kobe Customs House, while the number of appraisers will be increased.

A GENERAL meeting of the shareholders of the Kei-Hin Electric Light Railway Company was held at Kawasaki on the 24th ult., a dividend of 1.15 per cent. per annum was declared. The principal officials afterwards met to discuss the question of prolonging the line as far as Kawasaki Station.

ON Saturday night the wife (aged 32) of a land-surveyor named Matsui Seizo, in the service of the Military Head-quarter Staff, living at Nagatacho, Kojimachi, Tokyo, inflicted serious wounds on her sister, Chiba Takeo, with a sword. The man had illicit relations with his wife's sister, which aroused her jealousy. The would-be-murderess was arrested.

SERIOUS riots have occurred near Kiaochou. Thousands of armed peasants rose by preconcerted signal and attacked the railway, now being actively pushed in the vicinity. The rioters offered determined resistance to the German Infantry and nine were killed. It is expected, however, that the military will be able to restore order without further bloodshed.

THE victims in the Hokoku Colliery explosion numbered 213 in all, and the bodies recovered up to 4 a.m. on the 23rd were 102. A most pitiful spectacle was presented by one gang of 33 dead workers. They seem to have been engaged far from the scene of the explosions, and there are indications that they had made attempts to rush towards the entrance of the pit before they were overcome by the gas and suffocated. Their bodies were ranged in a regular row. A male worker named Hatanaka Sadagoro (52), and a female aged 26, were found dead with their children on their backs. Both were so burned and swollen that they could hardly be identified.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Saturday, June 24.

The concentration of forty thousand troops in South Africa is just what we should have anticipated. It means twenty thousand men in the fighting line, which is certainly not too large a force, seeing that the Boers can muster fully ten thousand, all skilled marksmen and thoroughly acquainted with the country. Thanks to Mr. Chamberlain's foresight, there are already ten thousand men assembled in the Cape Colony, so that England and India will now have to send only fifteen thousand each. Still it is an undertaking of great magnitude. The British army sent to the Crimea in 1855, when Russia was the *vis-à-vis*, numbered only twenty-seven thousand of all ranks, and Napier had but ten thousand men to conquer Abyssinia in 1868. At no time in her history has England assembled an army forty thousand strong in an over-sea country without having recourse to local levies, and she is the only Power in the world that could achieve such a feat where the rendezvous is at so great a distance from the home country. India, too, has never before been drawn on for anything like fifteen thousand men. After all, it is only 21 years since the first experiment of employing Indian troops to fight Great Britain's battles outside India. Some of our readers have probably a vivid recollection of the excitement caused in London when the news was spread abroad that Disraeli had summoned a handful of Sepoys to Malta when the possibility of Russia's marching into Constantinople seemed imminent. Constitutional politicians had a great deal to say about the sacred principle that Parliament had the sole right to fix the number of soldiers maintained by the Crown in England, and that the right became illusory if the Cabinet had competence, without consulting the Houses, to make unlimited drafts upon India's military resources. Lord Salisbury had just replaced Lord Derby in the Ministry by which that step was taken, and Lord Salisbury has now the satisfaction of applying his old chief's policy, unchallenged, on a large scale. It would be as easy to take fifty thousand men from India as fifteen, and when the statesmen of the East reckon up the military resources of Occidental Powers for a campaign in any part of the Orient, they will do well not to leave the Indian Army out of the account. From one point of view an army of forty thousand is large in proportion to the purpose contemplated, for the troops required to guard lines of communication will be insignificant, seeing that British territory marches with the borders of the Transvaal on three sides. But it is plain that no risks are to be taken, and that the fruitlessness of resistance is to be made clear to the Boers from the outset. Considering that the British subjects in the Transvaal, for whose sake this expedition is to be undertaken, aggregate about seventy thousand against a total Boer population of sixty-three thousand, it should not require much penetration on the part of President Kruger to perceive that he will soon find himself between the devil and the deep blue sea. For the sake of the sturdy old gentleman and his brave though exceedingly bigoted compatriots, we sincerely hope that "the better part of valour" will be discovered by them in good time.

Tuesday, June 27.

There is some difficulty in clearly interpreting the news that the Volksraad of Orange Free State has voted a sum of seventy-six thousand pounds sterling for the purchase of guns and munitions of war. The Free State occupies a neutral position, but lies on the natural line of march of a military force moving from the Cape Colony to the attack of the Transvaal. The inhabitants can scarcely think of preserving their neutrality to the extent of refusing passage to British troops, and would not be called on otherwise to take any part in the campaign. The Free State was founded by Dutch emigrants from the Cape Colony. It was proclaimed British territory in 1848, but, by a convention concluded in 1854, the inhabitants received their freedom, notwithstanding the protests of many of them. Since that time the relations between the Free State and Great Britain have been friendly, but of late there has been much talk of federating the State and the Transvaal. At any rate, the Boers of the Orange River, recalling Pretorius and Boomplaats, would be much more likely to throw in their lot with their compatriots of the Transvaal at this juncture than with England. If that is the meaning of the recent vote—a very considerable sum for a country with a revenue of less than four hundred thousand pounds annually—the task before the British troops will be somewhat complicated, and the war may end in the annexation of the Orange River district as well as of the Transvaal. The State has an area of 48,326 squares miles, with a population of 207,503, of whom 77,716 are white.

Wednesday, June 28.

This morning's telegraphic intelligence points to a peaceful settlement of the Transvaal trouble. The proposal attributed to President Kruger will, if genuine, take the whole sting out of the situation. What the Uitlanders complained of with regard to the programme hitherto representing the *ne plus ultra* of Boer concessions was first, that no account was to be taken of past residence as a qualification for the franchise; secondly, that the period for future probation was unreasonably long; thirdly, that two-thirds of the Burghers must approve the grant of the franchise in each case; fourthly, that a most objectionable form of oath was to be imposed; and fifthly that during the period of probation a candidate must renounce his previous allegiance to his own state. The grant of the franchise after six years in the Transvaal inclusive of past residence, is practically all that the Uitlanders demand, for it may be presumed that if President Kruger is prepared to concede this, the crucial point of the problem, he will not attempt to cling to conditions which cease to be essential when the main difficulty is removed. "Oom Paul" has always showed himself a shrewd, level-headed man, though an obstinate conservative. He knows very well that his compatriots could have very little hope of repeating Majuba Hill, and probably he has waited merely until the reality of England's resolution was borne in upon the intelligence of the densest Boer in the Transvaal. It is conceivable that not a few of the Queen's subjects will regret this kind of *dénouement*. They will imagine that it is not a final settlement of the Transvaal problem, and that no better opportunity than the present could have offered for effecting a radical arrangement. But there are grounds for thinking that nothing is needed except to disabuse the minds of the Boers of the false notion that England well never persuade herself to draw the sword against them. So soon as they see that she can be roused to a mood of active resolve, they will recognise the fruitlessness of flouting her. To crush them would not cost Great Britain a serious effort, but would most certainly involve much bloodshed, and what would be the issue? The Boers would never make peaceful, contented subjects of England, nor has England the slightest wish to deprive them of the independence which they prize so highly. They are fine, sturdy fellows, wedded to customs and traditions which can scarcely be called civilized, but possessing and displaying qualities that deserve respect. Twice they have "trekked" into the wilds for the sake of freedom, and it would ill become Englishmen to force upon them the choice of sacrificing their independence or wandering forth again into the wilderness. A peaceful settlement is, therefore, to be heartily welcomed. The task of weaning the Boers from antiquated systems and narrow-minded prejudices may be left to time aided by the eighty thousand Englishmen who will now acquire a voice in the administration of the Transvaal's affairs.

Thursday, June 29.

The telegraph this morning dispels the hopes raised by yesterday's news. It is evident that the outline of President Kruger's supposed concessions, sent across the wire on the 27th instant, can not be accepted as authentic. If every Uitlander became entitled to the franchise after six years in the Transvaal, counting from the time of his first arrival there, a large number would be enfranchised forthwith, whereas Mr. Chamberlain speaks of no appreciable representation being given immediately. A still more important point, however, is the Colonial Secretary's declaration that the letter and the spirit of the convention between Great Britain and the Transvaal are violated by the present state of affairs, and that nothing short of a complete reform of the administrative methods of the Boer Government will satisfy Great Britain. It is difficult to see how such a reform can be effected without war. The Boers are much too stubborn and bigoted to bow to any wholesale dictation as to the management of their affairs until they have been effectually taught the lesson of obedience. They believe that they can beat the "red-coat," and their faith will have to be shaken. That is the legacy bequeathed by Mr. Gladstone to his country. If the question were limited to a settlement of the Uitlander's grievances, there might be good hope of an understanding, but if the whole problem of Boer misgovernment has to be solved, the rifle will surely have to speak. Very likely the situation has been aggravated by the recent arrest of half-a-dozen Uitlanders on a charge of high treason, and by the insane attempts made in certain quarters to magnify the wretched affair into a second Jamieson raid, and to convict Mr. Chamberlain of having secretly connived

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at this fresh disturbance of the peace. The Transvaal, in fact, is a perpetual thorn in Great Britain's side, and it really looks as if the Colonial Secretary had received *carte blanche* from the Cabinet to remove the trouble finally from the field of practical politics.

Friday, June 30.

The telegraphic agents succeed in keeping us in a state of pleasing uncertainty about the Transvaal. One day, a peaceful settlement seems certain; the next war looks equally inevitable. It is difficult to imagine that the Boers will be so foolish as to fight, but, on the other hand, if Mr. Chamberlain intends to insist on administrative re-organization, and the establishment of a good system of government in the Transvaal, the Boers are not likely to prove sufficiently plastic until they have suffered defeat. Besides, is there any reasonable ground for supposing that a good system of government can be formed with such material as the Boers furnish? It would seem to be Mr. Chamberlain's resolve to obtain for the British subjects in the Transvaal, if not a preponderating voice in the administration, at least such a show in it as will put an end to the abuses which now render the country an almost intolerable place of residence for foreigners. The Boers will have to be brought to a very docile frame of mind before they agree to that.

SAMOAN AFFAIRS.

Saturday, June 24.

The Joint High Commission appointed by Germany, the United States, and Great Britain to adjust Samoan affairs have decided, the telegraph says, to abolish the office of King and substitute a triumvirate of foreign Consuls. The latter is spoken of as a temporary form of government. If it be permanent, the Samoans will lose the last shadow of independence guaranteed to them by the Berlin Treaty of 1889. But, after all, even that shadow was of the most tenuous character. The Samoans were not represented at the Berlin Conference, and their subsequent endorsement of its decisions was scarcely a matter of choice. Indeed, there is convincing evidence that not until the recent crisis occurred were the provisions of the Treaty fully known to the Samoans. However, sympathy with Samoan aspirations must not blind us to the fact that the system inaugurated by the Treaty has proved thoroughly defective in practice, and that all the foreign residents of the islands have long been clamouring for reform. The Commission were empowered, on their arrival at Apia, to assume the complete, if provisional, government of the islands, and a proviso was added that their decisions, in order to be binding, must be unanimous. We presume, therefore, that they are agreed as to the advisability of substituting a board of Consuls for a king, but certainly the experience we have had of boards of Consuls in the Far East does not inspire much confidence in their practical efficiency, and we are inclined to think that such an outcome of the *Tridominium* in Samoa will not work very happily.

Tuesday, June 27.

It must be confessed that the action of England and America in Samoa has not escaped severe criticism. A majority of the foreign residents of the island are making it known very plainly that the appointment of Malieota as sovereign was a fatal blunder, and that the subsequent use of armed force to keep him on the throne was little short of a crime. Discount these expressions of opinion as much as we please, there still emerges a solid residuum of truth which can not be ignored. As between Mataafa and Malieota, the former was undoubtedly the right man. The whole question turns on the decision of Chief Justice Chambers. He ruled that Malieota—or Tanu, as the Samoans call him—was the rightful King, and that Mataafa was a usurper, though the latter certainly had the bulk of the people at his back. British and American forces were then employed to give effect to the Chief Justice's ruling, and there is now a strong feeling that the Chief Justice asserted his human origin by erring.

THE DEFENCES OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

From the account given by Reuter's Agency of Mr. George Wyndham's Bill, it is evidently not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to place a strong force at Wei-hai-wei. Eight companies of infantry, two batteries of artillery, and a detachment of Engineers represent a force of about a thousand men, roughly speaking, and it will be observed that more than two-thirds of the whole are to be Chinese. Thus the talk of a Chinese regiment dwindles down to six companies of infantry and a battery of artillery, or about one-third of a regiment. That the place is to be fortified is evident from the proposal to include artillery in the garrison. On the other hand, two batteries of artillery aggregate only 240 men, whence we infer that there is no intention of restoring the fortifications on the mainland, and that guns will be mounted in the forts of Liukung island only. That, indeed, might have been expected. Wei-hai-wei will never have to act a defensive part so long as the British fleet has command of the sea, nor is there the remotest probability of the garrison's having to repel an attack from the land side. Of course, if it suited England's convenience or were in accord with her designs, she might concentrate a strong body of troops there, as Russia is doing at Port Arthur—though we may mention *en passant* that Russia's military preparations in the Liaotung Peninsula have been greatly exaggerated by rumour. But Wei-hai-wei is not well adapted for the purposes of a basis of military operations: it is too far from any objective point of importance. Its main function is subsidiary to the guarding of the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili, and a strong garrison is not needed for an object whose achievement depends almost entirely upon naval measures. Two hundred and thirty thousand pounds sterling, or 2¼ million *yen*, may seem a large sum to spend upon the armament of a small island and the building of barracks for a thousand men. But there will also be a depôt for naval stores, and doubtless some well equipped artillery-repairing shops. Besides, England does these things in an expensive manner. She spent a great many lacs of dollars at Port Hamilton during her temporary occupation of the place in 1885-6.

FUTURE QUESTIONS.

Foreign affairs, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, will be Japan's chief source of trouble in the near future: domestic complications have ceased to be disquieting. The *Jiji Shimpo* is a good authority, but we confess that the latter dictum does not altogether convince us. In our opinion a great many problems of absorbing and disquieting interest are likely to present themselves before Japan can be congratulated on having settled down permanently into a constitutional groove. For the rest, it is impossible not to endorse the *Jiji's* forecast that China is likely soon to become the field of many conflicting ambitions. Her present condition, indeed, already justifies that description. The only question is whether the process of her dissection can be carried to completion without some bloodshed. He must be a very sanguine man who believes anything of the kind. The Japanese do not believe it, we imagine. They are keeping their powder dry and their eyes open. Russian and German feats of territorial expansion are now being enacted at their very doors, and even America has joined the game, while England, though doubtless we shall find the familiar professions of reluctance on her lips, will not take a back seat at the psychological moment. The Transvaal has been a weight upon her conscience since 1881. Unless she went back upon her history, she was bound to shake off that incubus sooner or later. Then the Soudan difficulty seems to be nearly settled, or has at any rate passed the stage when it is likely to make any serious drain upon the military resources of the home country. Truly the game played in Africa has been colossal—and England has realized immense stakes. But there is no rest for a growing empire. England must obey her destiny in Eastern Asia, as she has obeyed it in India, in Africa, in Australasia, and in the New World. The shifting of the scenes for the next act of the giant drama may commence at any hour. And the Japanese will surely have to figure on the stage.

FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE PRISONS.

Tokyo newspapers publish a statement of the supposed intentions of the Authorities with regard to the treatment of foreigners incarcerated in Japanese jails after Japan recovers her judicial autonomy. They are to have cells separate from those of the Japanese, we read, and will be allowed a wooden chair. Their diet will consist of rice, barley and vegetables. Their dress will be *à la Japonaise*, a belt being substituted for an *obi*; they will wear straw sandals with wooden soles; special work will be assigned to them, and they will receive religious instruction independently of their Japanese fellow-prisoners. We do not credit the accuracy of this statement. It is evidently out of the question that the average foreigner should be asked to subsist on a diet of barley, rice and vegetables. That is precisely the diet now provided for Japanese prisoners, whereas the necessity of making a difference in food, above all things, is understood to have been fully recognised by the Authorities.

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THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

Tuesday, June 27.

It has doubtless been a great disappointment to many people to learn that the proposal jointly submitted by America and England to the Peace Conference for appointing a permanent council of arbitration has failed to obtain approval. But there is a belief in well-informed quarters that the scheme had very little practicality. It included a reservation of all cases where the honour or vital interests of a State were concerned. Such a proviso would have left to every Power an absolute right of option as to submitting a question to arbitration or withholding it, so that the situation would not have differed materially from that now existing. Nevertheless the mere fact of the existence of such a tribunal would have tended to keep States out of the fighting arena, and a custom possessing almost the force of law might ultimately have been educated in favour of arbitration. From that point of view the failure is very regrettable. Of course the conference will accomplish something. For the sake of the Emperor of Russia all the Delegates will endeavour to save it from ending in a fiasco. That there is plenty of room for some secondary achievement may be gathered from this statement of the Conference's proposed work:—

The Disarmament Committee will consider: First, the limitation of expenditure; second, the prohibition of new firearms; third, the limitation of the use of explosives; fourth, prohibition of the use of submarine boats.

The committee on the Laws of Warfare will discuss: Fifth, the application of the Geneva Convention to naval warfare; sixth, the neutralization of vessels in an engagement while engaged in saving shipwrecked men during and after naval engagements; seventh, the revision of the Declaration of Brussels of 1874 on the notifications and customs of war.

The committee on Arbitration and Mediation will discuss the eighth question of Count Muravieff's circulation which deals with arbitration.

Thursday, June 29.

There is an end of the disarmament proposal. Germany has thrown the first dust and ashes upon its coffin. But it was long ago buried in ridicule. It has been a blessing to cartoonists the world over, and we doubt whether historians, in any era however distant, will agree to regard the proposal as anything but farcical. Of late there have been some exceedingly astute attempts to prove that Russia's only object was to delude British capitalists into according a good reception to her new loan. That is about as complimentary to Russia's *bona fides* as to Englishmen's acumen. We believe that the Czar was perfectly sincere when he formulated his remarkable scheme. But His Majesty is not exactly in touch with the time.

CHINESE AND MIXED RESIDENCE.

Tuesday, June 27.

The controversy about admitting the Chinese to the interior after the 17th proximo goes on vehemently. On the whole the vernacular press is in favour of a waiting policy. There is no occasion to be in a hurry, Tokyo journalists say. Better wait a little and see how things work. But the Foreign Office is credited with holding a different view, and with asserting it very resolutely. The Foreign Office thinks that to discriminate against the Chinese would be highly impolitic, as well as an unwarrantable departure from the liberal principles for which Japan has always contended on her own account. On the other hand, the Home Office is reported to be strongly conservative on this point, and rumour alleges that a stout contest is being waged by each side. We do not know what degree of reliance may be placed on such stories. Meanwhile the question has elicited an interesting expression of opinion from the *Nippon*. Our readers know the *Nippon*. It represents a very truculent and very Chauvinist section of young Japan, and it is horribly frank in its condemnation of Occidental moods and measures. But we love it for its outspokenness, however disagreeable the verdict. Its view is that people who talk about mixed residence assisting to clear the moral atmosphere of Japan are talking nonsense. That is a sharp rap for the *Jiji Shimpo*, which has written so many eloquent articles urging its countrymen to sweep and garnish their house before the highly starched stranger finds an opportunity to inspect the cobwebs. The good *Nippon* believes that the newly admitted alien is more likely to make dirt than to prove a cleansing factor. There are good men in Europe and America, our contemporary admits, and, if one ascends to the higher levels of society, a fine type of civilization is found. But not from that stratum are the foreign communities in the Far East drawn. They belong to the subsoil of Occidental civilization. Their roughness and inhumanity exceed Japanese conception. Indeed, one result of their unrestricted admission to the interior will probably be the increase of a class of crime which we refrain from mentioning, but which shows that the *Nippon* brackets the European and American with full-blooded negroes. If such persons have the run of the country, why shackle the Chinese? If the Occidental camel is to be swallowed, why strain at the Oriental gnat? Such is the gist of our contemporary's sentiments. It is very amusing.

Friday, June 30.

The Chinese residents of Yokohama, with characteristic practicality, are bestirring themselves to influence Japanese public opinion in favour of granting to their nationals the same privileges as will be enjoyable by Occidentals under the revised treaties. Their method of compassing their end is very non-Chinese. They have sent delegates to Tokyo, and there, assembling the editors of the principal Japanese journals at the Maple Club, have dined them, wined them, and harangued them, doubtless with a great deal of success. The chief speaker was Mr. Leung Keichiu, whom the foreign public knows as an intimate friend and ardent disciple of Kang Yu-wei. Mr. Leung spoke very forcibly. He presumed that the principal objection felt by the Japanese to opening their doors to the Chinese was that the markets of this country might be flooded by cheap labour from the neighbouring empire. Such an apprehension was founded on an error of fact. Labour was not cheaper in China than in Japan. A common labourer in Canton received 30 *sen per diem*, and for that wage the Japanese lower orders were quite willing to work. On the other hand, living was cheaper in China than in Japan. The Chinaman, therefore, would not descry anything to attract him to Japan, since he could obtain as good remuneration at home and live more cheaply. Japan, then, need not fear any inundation of Chinese cheap labour, and, as to the better classes of Chinese, it was all in her own interest to encourage their coming. They would bring their capital and help to develop Japan's resources. There was plenty of spare capital in China, but its possessors shrank from investing it in domestic enterprises, inasmuch as they had no confidence in the security enjoyed at home. They would gladly invest their money in Japan, however, and Mr. Leung thought that, whereas the European or American capitalist, if he came to Japan, would work independently and in direct competition with the Japanese, the Chinaman would work in combination with the people of the country. He dismissed as chimerical the apprehension that by admitting low-class Chinese a demoralizing and disorderly element would be added to the population. The Japanese police were entirely competent to deal with any contingencies of that kind. At the same time he frankly declared that his country would not entertain any umbrage against Japan if she thought it expedient to impose some restriction upon the immigration of the labouring classes.

These were Mr. Leung's practical arguments. It goes without saying that he dwelt upon the political and sentimental aspects of the problem also, but into that part of his speech we need not enter. Evidently the Chinese residents of Yokohama appreciate the power of the press.

IMPORTED TOBACCO.

One of the questions which have been discussed lately with some interest was the course which the Government would probably adopt with regard to imported leaf tobacco. Under the provisions of a law passed by the Diet last session the Authorities are entitled to extend the tobacco monopoly to imported leaf as well as to that grown in the country, but the method of managing the monopoly was naturally left to be decided by those charged with the duty of managing it. What the public was curious to know was whether the Finance Department would itself undertake the purchase of the foreign leaf and the business of importing it, or whether the task would be entrusted to certain selected merchants. The latter course appears to have been chosen, and the merchants selected are said to be the Kansei Boyeki Kaisha of Kyoto, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, and Messrs. Yezoye Renzo and Company. The Finance Department will fix, in the first place, the quality, quantity, and price of the tobacco, will send experts to examine it after its arrival in Yokohama and Kobe, and will allow a brokerage of 2½ per cent. on the gross amount of the transactions.

It was foreseen from the beginning that some step of this kind would be necessary. When criticising the monopoly scheme at the time of its original submission to the Diet, we pointed out that if the Government levied anything like the proposed rates on home-produced tobacco, the foreign leaf would be able to drive the latter out of the market. It is in consequence of that difficulty that the Authorities have been obliged to include the imported article in the monopoly.

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JAPAN AND FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has one of its eminently sensible articles on the subject of the foreign loan. It forcibly points out that whatever injury Japan's credit has suffered must be attributed first to the alarmist writings of Tokyo journalists who, without proper investigation, adopted a habit of speaking as though the finances of the country were in grave disorder; secondly, to the perpetual outcry raised about the necessity of obtaining foreign capital; and thirdly to the false system pursued by the Government in raising the postal and telegraph rates, a resource which ought not to be employed except as a *pis aller*. It seems to us that the *Jiji* is not quite just in the last criticism. The responsibility for that defective method of finance rests with the Liberal Party, not with Count Matsukata. Had Count Matsukata's programme been adopted by the Party, there would have been no occasion for the petty shifts to which the Government was ultimately driven. But when the Liberals insisted on cutting down the Land Tax, the Cabinet had either to resign, or to devise some new method of balancing the accounts. The former step would have been disastrous. Then, indeed, a serious state of affairs would have resulted.

Another point made by the *Jiji* is that the Finance Department does not take the foreign public into its confidence. The officials of the Department have been unstinted in their expressions of satisfaction that the subject of Japanese finance was fully ventilated in *The Times*. But no credit for that belongs to the officials. If they are sensible of the advantages of publicity why do they not take steps to secure it. The loan just concluded is not by any means the last appeal that will have to be made to the foreign market.

That is a question which we (*Japan Mail*) have more than once discussed. Formerly the Finance Department used to have its yearly budgets and all other important statements translated into English and widely circulated. But nothing of the kind is done now. The reason of the change, as we understand it, is identical with the reason which induced the Department of Communications to cease advertising information about light-houses and buoys in the local foreign press; namely, unwillingness to furnish a precedent for a claim that the Japanese Government is under an obligation to issue official translations of all its laws and ordinances. Of course we sympathise with the reluctance of the Japanese to expose themselves to any demands of an inconvenient or exceptional character, and we understand that experience has taught them caution. But has not their prudence become a little morbid? What if they were to claim and exercise the right of discrimination possessed by every independent Government? If it suits their convenience and inures to the country's advantage that a translation of their financial documents should be published, and if they think that their duty of protecting life and property dictates the advertising of all important information about the lighting and buoying of their coasts, it seems to us that they would assert their dignity much more effectually by exercising discretionary power than by timidly shrinking from creating precedents which they need not recognise unless they please. They have an unquestionable right to publish anything which they consider advantageous, and by doing so in one direction, they do not pledge themselves to anything whatever in another.

This opportunity is taken by the *Jiji* to urge the importance of removing all restrictions upon the tenure of real estate by foreigners. A great many enlightened Japanese share the *Jiji's* view, but unfortunately there are numerous conservatives also.

DIPLOMATIC PHRASEOLOGY.

We wonder whether the Chinese are so unskilled in the use of their own language and so exceedingly ignorant of current events as a recent correspondent of *The Times* represents them to be. Describing the Sammun incident, he tells us that the Chinese interpreters of the *Tsung-li Yamén* rendered the words "concert of Powers," which occurred in the Chevalier de Martino's despatches, by a term signifying "theatrical performance"; and that "it was impossible to translate 'sphere of influence' into any Chinese characters nearer than those for 'protectorate.'" The former blunder is conceivable though scarcely credible, but with regard to the latter assertion, we find difficulty in reconciling it with the fact that an exact equivalent for "sphere of political influence" (*seiriyoku han-i*) passed long ago into current use in Japan, and that it is an equivalent obtained from the Chinese language. In fact, the Japanese always go to the Chinese language when they want an equivalent for a new Occidental term, and it is in the highest degree improbable that the wit of man could coin any rational expression incapable of being rendered with the greatest ease into the Chinese tongue. Very often, indeed in the great majority of cases, the Chinese equivalent is more concise than the European original, and we have never known an instance where any loss of significance was entailed in the process of translation. For the rest, can any one seriously suppose that the Chinese did not long ago learn the meaning of the expression "sphere of influence"; the Chinese of all nations? Why, even assuming them to be so phenomenally crass by nature, the Japanese diplomats in Peking would have instructed them and would also have acquainted them with the capacities of their own language.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Clear details are now published with regard to the matters of military reorganization briefly mentioned by us in a previous issue. It appears that the artillery as well as the cavalry is concerned. Each Division of the army has now a brigade of artillery consisting of nine batteries, and as there are twelve Divisions, the total number of batteries is a hundred and eight, or 432 guns. The new project is to reduce the Divisional artillery so that each brigade shall consist of six batteries only. In other words, three batteries will be detached from each Division. The thirty-six batteries thus obtained are to be formed into two independent regiments of eighteen batteries each, and they will be stationed in Tokyo. Thus the garrison of the capital will have a park of forty-two batteries of artillery, instead of nine as at present. The programme with regard to the cavalry is similar. Each Division of the army has now a cavalry battalion consisting of six squadrons. The battalions are henceforth to be reduced to four squadrons, and the twenty-four squadrons thus released will be organized into two independent regiments with their head-quarters in Tokyo, where there will consequently be a force of twenty-eight squadrons instead of six. A very large addition will thus be made to the Tokyo garrison. New barracks would have to be built for the purpose had it not been decided to abolish the Non-commissioned Officers' School, which, with certain modifications and enlargements can be converted into an excellent barracks for cavalry and artillery. It is plain that this scheme adds considerably to the potentialities of the cavalry and the artillery, as a large force of each body will always be ready for active service independently of the movements of Divisions. The Head Quarter Staff, in short, will be able to dispose of thirty-six batteries of artillery and twenty-four squadrons of cavalry, without calling on any of the Divisions for a contingent.

FINANCIAL RETROSPECTS.

Monday, June 26.

Speaking at a meeting of the Economic Society on the 21st instant, Count Matsukata made some interesting references to the history of Japanese finances. The currency of Japan may be said to have been placed on something like a stable and scientific basis for the first time during the *Keichō* era (1596-1614). This reform, like so many others, stands to the credit of Japan's never-to-be-forgotten statesman, Hideyoshi. The Tokugawa rulers found themselves unable to maintain the standard established by the *Taiko*. Their favourite resource in financial difficulties was to debase the currency. During the *Kyoho* era (1716-1735), the celebrated Arai Hakuseki succeeded in temporarily checking this pernicious habit, but after his influence was withdrawn, things drifted back into their old groove, and when feudalism fell, the central Government found itself with an empty treasury, with a burden of debt to discharge, and with a large volume of various local notes to redeem. The Mint was then established at Osaka, and silver monometallism was adopted. But in 1870, Marquis (then Mr.) Ito advocated the gold standard, and the result was the issue of a paper currency nominally redeemable in gold. Depreciation then set in, and, despite the employment of various devices by the Treasury, its notes fell to a discount of 80 or 90 per cent. in 1881. It was then that Count Matsukata came into office, pledged to bring about the resumption of specie payments. Four methods of procuring hard money presented themselves: first, a foreign loan; secondly, the sale of notes for specie; thirdly, to purchase the produce of the mines; fourthly, to tap the export trade. Among these methods the last was chosen, for reasons too long to describe here, and in the space of four years the Treasury succeeded in accumulating a specie reserve sufficient to warrant the resumption of hard-money payments. That was in silver, and once again Japan became silver monometallic. Thereafter commenced the task of accumulating a gold reserve in order to adopt the gold standard; a project which was finally consummated in 1897. The step was not unattended with anxiety,

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especially on the score of the silver coins which had been issued by the Treasury. It could not be foreseen whether a large quantity of these coins might not be presented for exchange, thus attenuating the gold reserves of the Treasury to a dangerous degree. Happily that did not occur. Only 18 million silver *yen* came from abroad and 34 millions were presented at home, a total of 52 millions. Concerning the disposal of this silver, and of other stores of the white metal held by the Treasury, 27,600,000 *yen* worth was used for subsidiary coins; and 47 millions *yen* worth was sold in Hongkong, Shanghai, Singapore and elsewhere. On these sales a loss of 5,700,000 *yen* was incurred, but since the profit on the subsidiary coinage amounted to 5,790,000 *yen*, the net result was a gain of 90,000 *yen*. The system was now fairly in operation. It had greatly facilitated trade with gold-using countries, and certainly had not hampered commerce with silver States. Summing up, Count Matsukata said that the interval from 1867 to 1871 might be called the period of currency confusion; the interval from 1881, the period of inflated fiat currency; the interval from 1881 to 1885, the period of financial adjustment; and the interval from 1886 to 1897, the period of preparation for the gold standard.

Friday, June 30.

As the first year of the new Tariff grows older, the experiences it furnishes do not tend to confirm the estimate of the Treasury. Speaking approximately, the customs duties for the first five months of the year aggregated less than 4 million *yen*. At that rate the revenue derived from that source for the whole year would not amount to 10 millions, whereas the Treasury reckoned on obtaining 16 millions. The second half of the year is always more prolific than the first, so that the income will probably mount up to 12 or 13 millions by the end of December. Still, a shortage of 3 or 4 millions seems inevitable. On the other hand, the prospect in other directions is bright. The increased revenue obtained during the present year from the Land Tax (7,078,583 *yen*), the *Sake* Tax (15,114,466 *yen*), the Soy Tax (1,252,070 *yen*) and the Tobacco Monopoly (2,541,039 *yen*) aggregates 26 million *yen*, approximately, whereas it will be 36¼ million *yen* next year. Further, the continuing expenditures—including new works—for the current year total 77¼ millions, whereas the corresponding figure for next year will be 64½ millions. Here, then, we have an additional income of 10¾ millions and a reduction of expenditure to the extent of 12⅞ millions, so that on the two accounts the Treasury's outlook is improved to the extent of 23 millions. *Per contra*, 9⅞ millions have had to be taken from the Indemnity this year for the purposes of the Ordinary Budget. There will not be any such source available next year; which means, in effect, a reduction of the Treasury's income to that extent. If to these 9⅞ millions we add a deficit of, say, 4 millions under the heading of customs receipts, our final result is that the State will have about 10 millions in hand next year. We take these computations from the columns of two of our Tokyo contemporaries.

Her Majesty has been pleased approve to the appointment of the Right Reverend George Carnac Fisher to be Bishop Suffragan of Ipswich, in the Diocese of Norwich.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Public opinion in the United States being divided as to the propriety of imposing American authority on the Filipinos by force of arms, those that take the negative view are busily engaged collecting evidence to show that the war is conducted by the invaders in a cruel and uncivilized manner. It will occur to level-headed persons that the manner of waging any war has no connexion whatever with the reasons for undertaking the war. But controversialists understand very well that if they can bring discredit on an adversary's cause by any means whatever, their own view of the case is strengthened. People's minds are often curiously constituted. Probably if it could be proved that among the disciples of a certain religious creed there were some who wear dirty socks, the rationale of the religious belief would be more or less discredited. On that principle the assailants of President McKinley and the war have collected letters sent by officers and men from Manila to their families in the States, and are endeavouring to show, by extracts from those documents, that the numerous tribes inhabiting the islands—three-eighths of whom are savage mountain nomads—should have been abandoned to work out their own salvation in their own way. Some of the extracts are certainly startling. A gunner writes that, one of the American soldiers having been found killed and mutilated, General Wheaton issued orders to burn the neighbouring town and kill every native in sight, the result being a massacre of about a thousand men, women, and children. Another man, a private of the Second Oregon Regiment, speaks of instructions from the same General to "kill or drive into the lake every native possible to be found" in a distance of 12 miles. A third correspondent avers that, as wounded Filipinos made a habit of struggling to their feet and shooting the Americans after the latter had passed, it was decided that no prisoners should be taken, but that all should be killed. These stories are denied by the defenders of the Administration's policy. They declare, as a matter of proved certainty, that every regiment, if not every company, has a champion liar—a man of the James Creelman type—whose only idea is to create a sensation: they produce many letters of a totally different type, and they point to the established fact that General Otis has now in his hands some fifteen thousand prisoners, who are receiving the kindest treatment. But, of course, a good deal of the mud will cling: that is inevitable. The trade of lying will prosper so long as human beings are at once credulous and scandal-loving.

TRUSTS IN AMERICA.

The law courts of Missouri have decided that a trust can not collect a debt in that State. The decision was obtained by a firm which refused to pay the National Lead Company a sum of $741 for goods received. It was ruled that the National Lead Company, being a trust, according to the definition of the State laws, was illegal, and could not be recognised. The decision has naturally caused some excitement. It seems to point to the death of trusts. But fuller consideration has shown that the importance of the ruling is exaggerated. The effect of the anti-trust laws, which are not limited by any means to Missouri, has been, not to deter the trusts, but to dictate to them a new form of organization. Perhaps the easiest way of explaining this point is to say that a trust is illegal only when corporate stocks are held by a board of trustees. There is no illegality when a new corporation is organized which buys the property, not the shares, of as many other firms, individuals, or corporations as wish to sell. Such a corporation becomes the direct owner of the factories, mines, and warehouses which are to be brought under consolidated management. In short, an illegal trust is one in which the several ownerships are preserved distinct; a legal trust is one in which all individual titles are extinguished. This kind of organization, which, of course, is often objectionable to individuals since it compels them to alienate their estates, has been adopted of necessity so as to keep within the letter of the law, and the experts say that the National Lead Company suffered through its own failure to adopt secure methods.

FOREIGNERS ENGAGED IN BANKING IN JAPAN.

The Department of Finance publishes an instruction for the guidance of foreign companies or individuals who, having already been engaged in banking business in Japan, desire to continue it after July 17th, or who contemplate establishing branches or agencies in this country. They have to forward to the Finance Department, through the Governor of the Prefecture, a document called a *ninka shinsei-sho*, or application for permission, in which must be set forth (1) the name of the firm or of the individual; (2) the place or places where the main office and the branch offices exist, and (3) the amount of the capital. This application must be accompanied by a copy of the bank's charter. When it is a question of opening a branch in Japan, or continuing the business of a branch already opened, the amount of capital allotted to the branch—should there be any allotment—must be stated. All this seems simple enough, but perhaps the easiest plan to pursue will be to communicate, in the first place, with the Local Authorities, who will doubtless be ready to furnish all details.

THE NEW LOAN.

The Rothschilds having ceased to unload Japanese securities, the bonds of the new loan show a strong upward tendency, and it is expected that they will soon be quoted at 90 or over. The under-writers are said to be determined not to sell until a price of at least 90 is obtainable. There seems to be no doubt that the public's unfavourable attitude towards the loan was entirely due to the action of the Rothschilds. They want to show Japan that she should have recourse to them, not to the banks, when she needs money. In our opinion the Rothschilds are perfectly right.

A telegram received by the Specie Bank from London says that Japanese War Bonds are now quoted at £105 15s. 8½d., having rises 12s. 2½d. since the 14th inst. From the same telegram we learn that Consols stand at £108, a drop of ⅛ since the 14th instant. That is the result of the Transvaal complications, we presume.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

A Tokyo correspondent of a local English contemporary writes as follows :—

The *Japan Mail*, in its issue of the 16 h instant, said that it obtained admission to the ranks of the coalition (of newspapers subscribing for Reuter's special service of telegrams.) This declaration is not in accordance with the exact canons of truth. In what way it obtained admission, the public has no means of ascertaining, nor have the members of the syndicate. They all disclaim the *Mail's* association as beyond their knowledge. There are some rigorous conditions in the contract, the most important of which is the deposit with the coalition, as a guarantee of good faith not to divulge the telegraphic messages before they are printed in the papers and as against default in payment, the sum of *yen* 500 either in cash, public loan bonds, or a certificate of bank deposit. The *Yomiuri*, which failed to join the coalition at first, was compelled, it is reported, to deposit *yen* 1,000 simply because it joined after the contract was signed. The *Mail* has not fulfilled this condition, in fact, none of the necessary conditions. The *Japan Times* had reserved to itself the right of signing the contract with Reuter's agency in its own name.

This is another of the too familiar attempts to stir up mischief at the expense of the *Japan Mail*. The libeller is to be complimented on his allusion to "the exact canons of truth," by way of preface to an immediate and flagrant violation of them. Concerning his statement, "all the members of the syndicate disclaim the *Mail's* association as beyond their knowledge," the simple answer is that the telegrams are furnished to this office by the syndicate itself. There is no independent service to each newspaper of the coalition. The messages come direct to one of the principal associates, and are by it distributed to all the others, the *Mail* among the number. The *Japan Mail* was included in the coalition from the outset. With regard to the allegation that the *Mail* has not fulfilled the condition of putting up a sum of money by way of guarantee of good faith, no such condition was ever proposed to us. The arrangement was that the *Japan Mail* should sign a separate agreement with Baron Reuter's Agent because the latter considered that the *Mail* ought to pay more than the other members of the coalition, and the *Mail* does pay more. This coalition, so far as we understand its origin and objects, is simply a means of procuring the best available service of telegrams by dividing among several journals the cost, which would be almost prohibitive did it fall upon one or two only. Baron Reuter's Agent spared no pains to arrange that Yokohama should have a service of its own, independent of that for Tokyo, and the *Japan Mail* was perfectly willing to cooperate. But owing to reasons which those concerned can explain for themselves, the project could not be realized.

The correspondent whom we have quoted above comments on the difficulty experienced by Japanese newspapers in deciphering Reuter's telegrams. He laughs at their perplexity and says :—"What a dignified figure for the metropolitan press to cut! It is an easy task to transcribe these telegrams, which should not require the services of a university professor." Evidently the scribe of that sneer has never seen one of the telegrams. So far from being easy to transcribe, they are exceedingly puzzling; so puzzling that even the most highly educated Japanese could scarcely undertake the task. Press telegrams have to be written in English. Cipher is not allowed. Consequently it is a matter of importance to abbreviate them as much as possible, and recourse is had to expedients often very perplexing to the recipient. Add to this that, neither punctuation nor the use of capital letters being possible, several messages on different subjects are jumbled into one confused paragraph, and that the puzzle is often accentuated by mistakes in spelling on the part of the telegraph operator. To translate the resulting hotchpotch, not merely an intimate knowledge of English is required, but also much familiarity with foreign politics, geography, and the course of current events in all parts of the world. Here is an example of one of the latest telegrams :—

Telegraphs lansdoune (*sic*) conferred lengthily heads war office monday understood concerning transvaal large exodus women children from johannesburg pretoria natives (*sic*) quitting mines louber (*sic*) summoned bourgesis (*sic*) from hague conference whereon delegate admiral decuvervile chief navalstaff superseded for publishing letter criticising national defence.

Would it not be rather extravagant to expect from a Japanese editor a correct rendering of such a message? The fact is that scarcely one of the telegrams received in Japan by the press service is free from perplexing abbreviations or confusions, and if the vernacular newspapers, in order to decipher these enigmas, have found it necessary to obtain the assistance of the English staff of a Tokyo contemporary, they have merely taken a wise and necessary precaution.

TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the above Association was held at the U.S. Legation, on Wednesday afternoon, June 21st, with Prof. Clay MacCauley in the chair and, in the absence of Mr. Herod, the Secretary, Mr. Gardiner acting as Secretary. The Chairman presented the Treasurer's Report, showing total receipts for 1898 and 1899, including a balance of *yen* 219.36 brought forward from 1897, of *yen* 3,685.29 and expenditures for properties and expenses of entertainments of *yen* 1,788.95 and *yen* 1,589.65 set apart for local charities, leaving a balance in the Treasury of *yen* 306.69, all as detailed in the printed circular sent to members. The report was unanimously adopted, and general approval expressed of the faithful and successful services of the Treasurer, who in turn wished to acknowledge thanks for the invaluable assistance of Baroness Sannomiya and Mr. Conder, to whom in so large a measure was due the success the Association has achieved.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result :—

President, H.I.H. Princess Komatsu,
Managing Committee, Marchioness Saigo, Viscountess Tanaka, Viscountess Aoki, Baroness Sannomiya, Baronese D'Anethan, Mrs. Buck, Lt. Col. Churchill, Lt. Key, Mr. P. May, Mr. Conder and Mr. Gardiner.

A motion was then carried to reduce the annual fee from six *yen* to four *yen*, after which the meeting adjourned.

At a meeting of the Committee held at the U.S. Legation on Monday, June 26th, the following officers were elected

Baroness Sannomiya, Chairman ; Lieut.-Col. Churchill, Hon. Treasurer ; and Mr. Gardiner, Hon. Secretary.

Hearty votes of thanks to the retiring officers, Mr. Herod, Secretary, and Dr. McCauley, Treasurer, were passed, and the meeting adjourned.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Tuesday, June 27.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes an article of welcome to Prince Henry. It notes that Prince Komatsu and other members of the Japanese Imperial Family had the pleasure of making His Imperial Highness's acquaintance and of receiving his hospitality during their visit to Germany, and they will therefore be specially pleased to welcome the Prince in their own country. The relations between Germany and Japan have grown closer and closer during recent years, and, since the former Power came into possession of Kiao-chou and of the Philippines, Germany and Japan may be said to be neighbours. This fact invests the visit of the Prince with additional significance. Japan will receive him as the representative of a nation with which she wishes to be on the best possible turns, and with which her political and commercial relations must grow more and more important. The Prince comes just as the early summer rains are clearing off and before the great heat sets in. The *Jiji* hopes that he may find something to please him in the scenery and climate of Japan, and that he will prolong his stay to the utmost limit consistent with his duties.

The detailed programme of Prince Henry's doings during his official visit is given as follows :—

29th, Forenoon.—Lands at Yokohama and proceeds to Tokyo.
Noon.—Lunch at Shiba Detached Palace.
Afternoon.—Witnesses Japanese Polo if the weather be fine.
Evening.—Dinner at the German Legation.
30th, Forenoon.—Exhibition of painting by celebrated Japanese artists ; Japanese Polo, should the projected display on the preceding day have been prevented by rain.
Afternoon.—Exhibition of Wrestling.
Afternoon.—Visits the Palace, Audience and dinner with the Emperor and Empress.
July
1st, Forenoon.—Emperor visits the Prince at the Detached Palace. The Ministers of State, Foreign Representatives, etc., visit the Prince.
Noon.—The Prince lunches at the residence of Prince Komatsu.
Afternoon.—The Prince repairs to the Palace to bid farewell to the Emperor and Empress.
Evening.—The Prince dines with Prince Arisugawa.
July 2nd.—The programme is undecided, except that the Prince lunches with Prince Kwanin.
July 3rd.—The Prince leave Tokyo in the afternoon.

Thursday, June 29.

The *Akashi* is to escort the *Deutschland* from Kobe to Yokohama, and in the latter port there have assembled the *Yashima*, the *Matsushima*, the *Chinyen*, the *Naniwa*, and the *Asama*. Moreover, the cruiser *Takasago*, accompanied by the torpedo-destroyers *Yugiri* and *Ikazuchi*, are to meet His Imperial Highness' ship in Tateyama Bay (Boshiu) and then steam in company with her to Yokohama. A battalion of Marines will be drawn up at the landing place. In Tokyo the Prince will be received at Shimbashi by H.I.H. Prince Kwanin, the Ministers of the Household and Foreign Dapartment, the Lord High Chamberlain, the Chief of the Tokyo Defences, the General Commanding the Garrison, the Chiefs of Police and Gendarmes, the Governor of the City and the Mayor. He will have a large cavalry escort whenever he moves through the streets of the capital, and two companies

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of infantry will be quartered at the Shiba Detached Palace during his residence there.

Friday, June 30.

The whole German Community of Yokohama turned out on Thursday to welcome Prince Henry of Prussia. Every German firm in the Settlement displayed the national flag, and Main Street presented quite an animated appearance. The Prince arrived at Yokohama shortly after eleven on the *Deutschland*, which was accompanied by the *Gefion*, and escorted by the *Ikazuchi* and *Yugiri* (torpedo boat destroyers), and the cruiser *Akashi*. The Japanese ships *Naniwa*, *Chinyen*, *Matsushima*, *Asama*, and *Yashima*, H.M.S. *Humber*, and the Austrian cruiser *Kaiserin Elizabeth* were lying outside the harbour, with bunting spread in honour of the Prince. Salutes were fired by the Japanese squadron on the approach of the German ships, and another salute was fired as the *Deutschland* reached the lightship, where she replied. Admiral Mori, the harbour master, at once boarded the Prince's flagship and extended the welcome of the port. By a special privilege the *Deutschland* and *Gefion* were allowed to enter the Harbour instead of taking up their positions at the usual anchorage for men-of-war outside the breakwater. The flagship moored close to the C. P. R. buoy, the *Gefion* mooring near the N.Y.K.'s Shanghai mail boat buoy. The flagship was visited before her entrance to the Harbour by Mr. Coates, German Consul-General, Mr. Hagen, Vice-consul, and Dr. Ohrt, interpreter, and soon after a great number of Japanese officials also went on board.

His Royal Highness, dressed in the uniform of a German Admiral, and wearing innumerable decorations, came ashore in his launch, and landed at the Admiralty Pier accompanied by the German Minister, Count von Leyden, who had come up from Kobe on the *Deutschland*. He was received by Prince Kanin and his suite, Count von Wedel, First Secretary of the German Legation, Freiherr von Riehthofen, Dr. Weipert, Dr. Specka and Dr. Scriba, Col. Tamura, Mr. Nagasaki, Master of Ceremonies, and Rear-Admiral Kataoka. Inside the Pavilion Messrs. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, Otani Kahei, Secretary Rinouye, and Councillor Sugiyama were presented to His Highness. Mr. Umeda and Mr. Otani Kahei presented Prince Henry with a pair of porcelain vases, made by the well-known artist Miyagawa Kozan and subscribed for by the Municipality. The Prince received them very graciously, and in his reply recalled the fact that he had been in Yokohama some twenty years ago. His words were translated into Japanese by Dr. Weipert. The deputation from the German community, Messrs. Wismer, Holm, A. Meier, Pors and O. Haynemann, were also presented to the Prince, who shook hands and exchanged a few words of greeting with them. Amid the strains of the German National Anthem Prince Henry left for the railway station with Prince Kanin and Mr. Nagasaki, the other officials following.

At the station there was a very large gathering of German residents, including many ladies, who had been patiently waiting for over an hour. On the Prince's arrival little Miss Grosser presented him with a handsome bouquet, which she handed him with the following speech in German:—"In the name of the Germans of Yokohama I bid your Royal Highness a hearty welcome, and ask that you will accept these flowers from me." His Highness accepted the flowers with a kind word of thanks, and shook hands with the wee lady. He then proceeded to the train, bowing his acknowledgments of the loud cheers which greeted his progress, and took a seat in the saloon carriage set apart for him, an Imperial coach with the chrysanthemum crest. The Prince occupied the compartment alone, and while waiting for the train to start bade kindly farewells to the German and Japanese officials. Hearty cheers were raised as the train steamed out of the station.

It is stated the Prince will visit Yokohama unofficially next Friday when probably a garden party will be given in his honour.

The Japanese Press and Prince Henry.

The leading vernacular newspapers have all published articles unequivocally hearty in tone by way of welcome to Prince Henry. Their general line of argument is that Japan lies under heavy obligations to Germany, the Germans having rendered her invaluable services in the fields of military art, education, and legislation, and that the feelings of gratitude and friendliness entertained by Japan towards the great European Power are now supplemented by a neighbourly sentiment, since Germany has obtained a *pied à terre* at Kiaochou and annexed the Carolines. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* goes a step farther. It says that since the spring of last year the relations between the two States have been placed on a footing of exceptional amity, and it intimates that the fact was reflected in the recent utterances of the German Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Reichstag, when he said that Germany hoped to see her intimacy with Japan increased by the acquisition of the Carolines, and that she had no intention of excluding the active, talented Japanese from her new possessions.

It is evident that the Liaotung affair is already well nigh forgotten by the Japanese, as we ventured to predict that it would be. The umbrage felt against Germany at the time was accentuated by astonishment. Such a *coup* was comparatively easy to explain on the part of the other confederates, but the Japanese were completely perplexed at finding Germany in the association. It seemed to them that they had received a sudden slap in the face from a friend. Time has now abated their bewilderment. They see that Germany herself has no special reason to be satisfied with the results of her action on that occasion, and they have had renewed evidences of her good-will. Thus their welcome to Prince Henry has no ring of hollowness or transient emotionalism.

THE ARMY.

Quite a large batch of students have graduated from the Military College this year, and received the rank of *Shoi* in the Army. They aggregate 641, and their commissions are thus distributed: infantry 366; cavalry, 48; field artillery, 82; engineers, 30; garrison artillery, 115.

THE BOMB-THROWING IN KOREA.

Since it is now pretty clearly established that no responsibility attaches to the Japanese in connexion with the recent bomb-throwing in Söul, Tokyo journals are able to consider the incident from a dispassionate point of view, and the conclusion they appear to arrive at is that Korea will continue to be a factor of disturbance in the Far East, until some strong Power takes her in hand and deals with her in a drastic manner. But there is as yet no open suggestion that Japan should constitute herself the saviour of the situation. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* goes so far as to dismiss that solution as unpractical. Korea, it says, has only six thousand soldiers and two thousand police. There would be no difficulty whatever in dealing with her. To crush her would be as easy as twisting the arm of an infant. Russian interference need not be apprehended. The Russian Government would scarcely stretch out a finger to safeguard Korean independence against Japan, and even if it stretched out both hands could not hope to restrain Japan effectually. But supposing that Japan stepped in, what then? Our contemporary thinks that she could not accomplish anything, working with Korean materials. It would be like chiselling fine sculpture out of a decayed tree-stump. So there is nothing for Japan to do except to protect the lives and properties of her subjects in the peninsula and to bide her time, "holding herself prepared to make a great spring should the necessity arise." That is mysterious but significant.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

It seems regrettable that the new French Cabinet should resort to the measure described in this morning's telegrams. There is certainly a great deal that calls for explanation and apparently for censure in the conduct of some of the officers whose names have been connected with the Dreyfus affair. But, on the other hand, such a mass of more or less conflicting testimony has been offered, elicited, or manufactured that a definite judgment is not yet possible. The case is still *sub judice*. Until the decision of the second Court-martial is known, no one can undertake to say positively whether Dreyfus is guilty or innocent. Should the court-martial acquit him, then indeed there would plainly devolve upon the War Office the duty of appointing a court of inquiry to determine whether the unfortunate man's original conviction had not been partially due to irregular acts on the part of those who arraigned him, and whether their subsequent procedure had not exposed them to grave accusations. But to punish them without waiting for the result of the court-martial and without full and formal investigation into their conduct will probably have a very exciting effect upon public opinion, and will certainly prove a rude shock to the Army. It seems like pre-judging the case. We shall not be surprised to learn that the relations between the civil party and the military are again dangerously strained. France is passing through a terrible ordeal. We sincerely trust that she may emerge scathless.

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THE "JOURNAL OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE."

The latest volume of the "Journal of the College of Science in the Imperial University of Japan, maintains the high character that Japanese students are acquiring for original research. It has been a favourite prediction of those who decline to believe that anything good can come out of Japan, that although the people of this country might prove themselves successful imitators, they would never be distinguished for originality. Such a prophesy argues an assumption of extraordinary analytical power on the part of those making it, and to deny it in the same off-hand manner would be equally presumptuous. We can not, for our own part, discover my reason to doubt that the moral equipment of the Japanese people is as good as the moral equipment of any other race. At all events the question is one to be decided by time, not by the glib dictum of a globe-trotter or a sensational essayist. The contents of the "Journal of the College of Science" are probably as good a test as we could find. The Journal has now reached its eleventh volume. Each volume covers the work of a year and consists of several parts. Part III. of Volume XI. is before us. Its contents are:—"Horizontal Pendulums for the Mechanical Registration of Seismic and other Earth Movements," by Dr. Omori, Professor of Seismology in the Tokyo University; "Note on the Preliminary Tremor of Earthquake Motion," by the same writer; "Earthquake Measurement at Miyako," also by Dr. Omori; "Ethyl Ammonium-sulphite" by Dr. Divers and Mr. Ozawa; "Ethyl Ammonium Selenite and Non-existence of Amido-Selenites," by the same authors; and "Notes on the Minerals of Japan," by Professor Jinbo. All these subjects are too technical for journalistic discussion. We therefore confine ourselves to noting the contents of the volume and the evidences they afford of continued scientific progress.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

The significance of the news that Russia is about to spend thirteen million roubles on Vladivostock consists in the obvious inference that there is not to be any gradual abandoning of the place in favour of Port Arthur and Talien. After Russia had obtained virtual possession of the Liaotung Peninsula, and of the whole of Manchuria for the matter of that, it was supposed in well-informed quarters that she would cease to attach prime importance to Vladivostock, and that Talien would be the Pacific terminus of her Trans-Asian Railway. But recent intelligence showed that she had not abated anything of the vigour hitherto displayed by her in fortifying Vladivostock and in furnishing it with all the appurtenances of a great commercial port, and her newly declared resolve to spend a further sum of 13 million roubles on the place, has an unmistakable import. We need scarcely dilate upon the connexion between this resolve and the Korean problem. If Russia is to have one foot planted firmly at Vladivostock and another on the Liaotung peninsula, the ultimate fate of all territories lying within her stride can not be doubted.

SILVER IN THE UNITED STATES.

If the Democrats of Kentucky had voted for the rehabilitation of silver at a ratio approximating as closely as possible to that now actually existing between the two precious metals, their proceedings might be taken seriously. But to talk of suddenly restoring the white metal to the place it occupied in terms of gold thirty years ago, is to trifle with an immense problem. Such a measure would produce a disturbance of values and dislocation of obligations far more acute than anything hitherto witnessed. It would be nothing short of an economic cataclysm. We do not imagine there is the smallest chance of the American nation's endorsing any scheme so extravagant. For our own part, we have always believed in the advisability of rehabilitating the white metal, but we can not close our eyes to the fact that American prosperity is gravely hampered by the uncertainty which now prevails, and that, even at the cost of permanently degrading silver and throwing the whole burden of the monetary service on one metal, it would be better to have the question banished finally from the field of practical politics. The idea of suddenly doubling the gold value of all silver securities and silver coins can not be attributed to any process of sober reasoning.

JAPANESE EMPLOYÉS IN THE CHINESE CUSTOMS.

The fact of Mr. Kurosawa's engagement as an official of the Chinese Customs has already been published. It is now stated that Sir Robert Hart has decided to give positions of the same nature to six or seven Japanese in addition. The credit of having brought this matter to the notice of Sir Robert and effected the preliminary arrangements with him is assigned to Mr. Homura, who formerly served in the Customs at Tamsui and Kelung. It is possible that the method of competitive examination may be employed to choose from among the candidates should their number be large, which is very probable, seeing that the salary attached to the post is from 150 to 160 *yen* monthly. At the same time, as an exceptional knowledge of the English language and of book-keeping is required, and as Japanese possessing such a knowledge can command fine positions in their own country, the Chinese Customs may not prove too attractive.

THE MINING DISASTER.

Investigations conducted *in loco* by Mr. Matsumoto of the Home Department, are said to have disclosed a flagrant absence of proper precautions at the Wakamatsu coal mine, where such a terrible loss of life recently resulted from an explosion. Although the place where the men were working was some 5,000 feet from the surface, no means of ventilation existed, no safety lamps were provided, and in every respect the greatest carelessness was displayed.

Another accident is now reported from the Takatori mine, in Fukuoka Prefecture (Kiushiu). Owing to a blunder committed by a workman, the mine was suddenly invaded by a flood, at 9 a.m. on the 19th instant, and eight men lost their lives.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE "NIPPON."

A delightfully characteristic article appears in the *Nippon* on the subject of the Söul-Wiju Railway. The fact that the French *concessionaire* of this line offered it for sale to some Japanese capitalists has been commented on by several vernacular newspapers. All of them urged the necessity of acquiring the concession, and the consequence was that the holder quoted a prohibitive figure and the transaction fell through. The *Nippon* now quotes the Foreign Office as lamenting such a want of tact on the part of the vernacular press, and adducing it by way of illustration to the often-uttered dictum that newspapers are the greatest possible obstacles to the successful conduct of foreign policy. Our Chauvinist contemporary's retort is that if the press had confidence in the Foreign Office, or were taken into its confidence, these untoward incidents would not occur, but, since the newspapers feel that the officials of the Foreign Office are incompetent to grasp an occasion or appreciate the importance of an opportunity, they must be kept up to the mark. Has not that the genuine ring of the editor's omniscience? He knows the business of the Foreign Office, of every office in fact, a great deal better than the office knows it itself.

As to the Söul-Wiju Railway, if report is correct in saying that no deal has been found possible with the French *concessionaire* owing to the character of his terms, we think that Japan is to be congratulated. She does not want the Söul-Wiju Railway. It would be a veritable white elephant on her hands for many years to come. Possibly in some remote future the possession of such a line might be advantageous, but nothing of the kind is now in sight. Besides, what conceivable reason is there to be in a hurry? What is the Frenchman going to do with his concession? He certainly can not hope to induce European capitalists to embark in a scheme which would give no return. He has no intention of sinking money in the line, nor any hope of selling the concession to Russia, since he offers it to Japan. And unless he can get it renewed, it will soon lapse. Japan has nothing to do but to bide her time. *Tout vient à celui qui sait attendre.*

EMIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA.

It has already been reported that two batches of Japanese emigrants were turned back by the Queensland Government, one consisting of 39 men who proceeded thither in the *Yawata Maru*, the other of 15 who went by the *Futami Maru*. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has issued a wise instruction with reference to these incidents. His Excellency points out that, owing perhaps to some laxness on the part of local officials and certainly to false representations made by intending emigrants, common labourers have occasionally succeeded in obtaining passports which represented them as merchants. Such was undoubtedly the case with regard to the emigrants by the *Yawata Maru* and the *Futami Maru*. It is quite plain that the discovery of these deceptions and errors must create a general feeling of distrust in the *bona fides* of passports granted by Japanese officials, so that respectable people are thereby

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exposed to loss and annoyance for the sake of mere adventurers. The Minister, therefore, invites increased attention, and directs that passports shall be granted to genuine men of commerce and persons of corresponding social status only, and that the emigration of labourers shall be confined to those who are in receipts of permits from the Governments of their places of destination.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

As the date for the public inauguration of the new political party approaches, its prospects can not be said to improve. The prophets decline to give it a long lease of independent existence, and predict that before a year elapses, it will be swallowed up by the Liberals. That forecast derives probability from the fact that Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, one of the most prominent members of the National Unionists, who are to constitute the backbone of the new party, is carefully standing aloof from it, and intends to form a *Giin* Club (Parliamentary Members Club), which will have for its principal *raison d'être* the establishment of an *entente* between the Liberals and the new party. Many people believe that such an *entente* exists already. Mr. Ooka, as our readers probably remember, travelled with Marquis Ito to China last autumn, and added not a little to his reputation by his journalistic correspondence about the journey.

THE PEST.

There is only too much reason to fear that Japan will not be able to avert an invasion of the pest. The case of the *America Maru*, indeed, does not seem to be as bad as was at first anticipated. Two patients suspected of having been attacked by the terrible disease, have been found to be suffering from very ordinary kinds of maladies. But that good news is more than counter-balanced by intelligence that a pest-patient has been discovered in the *City of Peking* at Nagasaki, where she made her usual call on the 26th instant, *en route* from Hongkong, and where she is now detained. The *Taichiu Maru*, from Formosa, is in similiar trouble. On her way from Kelung she entered Fukuoka, and the medical inspectors found a case of pest among the steerage passengers (Chinese). The ship has on board a number of time-expired soldiers from Formosa, so that her detention under such circumstances is a serious matter.

The total number of cases of pest this year in Formosa was 2,363, and 1,788 ended fatally. It is not stated how many Japanese were among the sufferers, but they were only exceptional. The plague avoids Europeans and Americans almost entirely, and in the comparatively rare cases where it attacks Japanese, seldom has fatal results.

TOKYO HARBOUR.

Some of the citizens of Tokyo seem to be getting impatient—as well they may—above the unconscionable delay in inaugurating any practical scheme of harbour improvements. Rumour says that Mr. Asano has made a programme of foreshore reclamation at Kanagawa. His idea is to fill in a space of about 140 acres by dredging operations which will give a depth of 20 feet of water at low tide. The harbour question would thus be effectually solved, it is said. Undoubtedly the project has attractive features. At present all goods for the north and west have to be carried up the Sumida River in lighters, landed and stored, and ultimately taken again from the warehouses for transport to the distant railway stations. There are thus three distinct operations, transfer from the cargo steamer to lighters; transfer from the lighters to godowns, and transfer from the godowns to railways. But if the steamers could come alongside at Shinagawa, it would be possible to land the goods at the railway station itself, and put them on board the cars at once. There would, of course, be an immense saving of time and money. Can the harbour problem be solved in that way, however.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The launch of the first-class cruiser *Azuma* is reported to have taken place successfully at St. Nazaire. The *Azuma's* displacement is 9,906 tons; her horse power, 14,500; her speed 20¾ knots, and her coal-carrying capacity, 1,200 tons.

The result of the voting in the French Chamber of Deputies, as announced by telegraph does not point to any great stability for the new Cabinet. A majority of only 26 on a question so crucial can not be called satisfactory. This is a most anxious time for France and for her friends.

Another railway is planned from Tokyo to Chiba Prefecture. Its route will be viâ Yechujima, Funabashi, and Giyotaku. There are already two lines—the Boso and the Narita—communicating with Chiba, but some enterprising people think that a third is necessary, in consideration of some facts connected with the goods traffic.

The commencement of work at the long-talked-of Iron Foundry seems to be imminent. A statement of the staff to be employed is now published. There are to be a superintendent of *chokunin* rank; two vice-superintendents of *sōnin* rank; fourteen engineers (*gishi*), of whom the chief will have *chokunin* rank; thirty-eight secretaries, of *hannin* rank and fifty-three assistant engineers (*gishu*).

Several vernacular journals state that the negotiations for the purchase of the Söul-Wiju Railway concession have proved abortive, the price demanded by the French concessionaire being quite prohibitive. We really do not see what Japan wants with the line, for the present at all events. Moreover, the period of the concession has almost expired, so that its acquisition would not be very valuable.

If Admiral Dewey regulated his homeward route in accordance with the wishes of his admirers, it would take a shape resembling the curve traced by the needle of a seismograph during a violent earthquake. But the Admiral apparently has no intention of being victimized as well as lionized. He wants to rest rather than to engage in a new kind of campaign as arduous as that in the Philippines. A great many eyes are watching him keenly. It is thought that, from his movements when he reaches America, an inference can be drawn as whether he entertains any project of standing for the Presidency.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpo* the silk market of Yokohama has not shown such activity since the opening of the port as it shows this year. Producers are netting a profit of 100 *yen* per bale, yet buyers continue to improve on their prices and the demand continues unabated. Every parcel that arrives from the interior is bought at once, and no less than 5,000 bales have been bespoken from the producers.

Marquis Ito would have to cut himself into several pieces in order to become the head of all the parties desiring his leadership. The latest suggestion is that the new political party has no chance of substantial success unless it can induce the Marquis to become its general; an attempt which the *Asahi* compares to swinging an iron ball with a single strand of packthread.

The Formosan Government seems to be encountering difficulties in establishing its proposed camphor monopoly. There are said to be about ten thousand stills at work in the island, and these must be reduced to a thousand at most for the purposes of the monopoly. But the manufacturers who will be "disestablished" in the process are naturally disinclined to submit tamely. That is the case especially with the insurgents who have submitted. It is feared that if any attempt be made to stop their camphor-making operations they will take the field again. Indeed some of them have actually threatened to do so.

At the recent meeting of the Japan Economic Society, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro asked Mr. Kato, Japan's Representative in London, to express his opinion about the foreign loan. Mr. Kato replied that he considered the terms obtained by Japan very favourable, all things considered. Evidently he did not wish it to be understood that the Legation had been actively concerned in negotiating the loan, and we can fully appreciate his views on that subject. At the same time it appears certain that the bonds are to be signed by the Japanese Minister in London. That is an unfortunate arrangement, we venture to think. The Japanese Government would be better advised if it steered clear of the methods of a South American republic, and conducted its financial transactions after the manner of great Powers.

There is great deal of talk at present about the probability—imminent probability—of the Liberal Party's receiving a new recruit in the person of Viscount Watanabe, formerly Minister of State for Finance. Viscount Watanabe is commonly known by his *nom-de-plume Muhen* (infinity), a name chosen with reference to his Buddhist studies of the illimitable. His final enrolment in the ranks of the *Kensei-to* is said to depend upon the advice of Marquis Ito, but the political prophets profess to be certain about the character of that advice. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, writing on this subject, refers to Marquis Ito as *Shumpo* (Spring furrow), which is that statesman's literary title. There would not be anything particularly noteworthy about Viscount Watanabe's entering the Liberal Party were not the event supposed to prelude a Cabinet change, a supposition not founded on any appreciable basis.

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ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the British Legation, Tokyo, on Wednesday the 21st June at 4 p.m., Dr. Edward Divers, F.R.S., being in the chair.

The Chairman having called on Sir Ernest Satow to read his paper entitled

"THE CULTIVATION OF BAMBOOS IN JAPAN,"

Sir Ernest Satow said that the main portion of his paper was too long and in some respects too technical to be well adapted for reading. He would therefore read only the Introduction, of which the following is a précis.

The writer commenced by observing that it was only in recent years that the bamboo had been cultivated in England in the open air. For a long time it had been supposed that the climate of Great Britain was too raw and cold for such delicate plants. At present, however, it had become rather the fashion to grow bamboos, and horticulturists seeking for hardy species had naturally turned to Japan because its climate, though possessing on the whole a higher temperature than Great Britain, was subject to correspondingly greater cold and more frequent frosts in winter. The result had been very successful. In one instance, that of a garden in the Midlands, a locality noted for the severity of its climate, some fifty species had been found to flourish exceedingly well, though of course not reaching the dimensions they attained elsewhere. A large number of these had been imported from Japan, and it might interest people to know that a considerable business in the exportation of bamboos to Europe was now being carried on in Tokyo and Yokohama.

The writer's object in preparing this paper had not been to give an account of the uses to which the dry cane might be turned but rather to encourage the cultivation of the living plant, and to assist in determining the right nomenclature of the various kinds of bamboos already introduced into the gardens and parks of Great Britain.

The body of the paper consisted mainly of a translation of the "Nihon Chikufu," or "Manual of Japanese Bamboos," a book published in 1885 by the late Katayama Nawohito. A Dutch translation of this work had been prepared some years ago by Monsieur Léon van der Polder, Secretary to the Netherlands Legation in Tokyo, and the same gentleman had also made a French translation which still remained in manuscript. A new version in the English language might not, it seemed to the writer of the paper, be regarded as superfluous. In the preparation of this, care had been taken to follow the original text as closely as possible, but it had appeared advisable to omit some unimportant matter, such as the different methods of preparing bamboo sprouts for the market, and the chemical analysis of bamboo seed. The author, or to speak more correctly, the compiler, of the work in question having evidently been indebted to an earlier and more elaborate book, the Keiyen Chikufu, written by an anonymous author, the latter had been compared throughout and extracts had been given where necessary.

The writer had been led to undertake the labour involved in the preparation of the paper by the recent publication of "The Bamboo Garden," by Mr. A. B. Freeman Mitford. That work contained descriptions of many of the species mentioned by Kabayama as they had been grown by him in central England. It was well known that differences of soil and climate when supplemented by care bestowed in cultivation resulted in considerable variations in many plants, especially so far as size was concerned. The *Rosa engosa*, the oleander, and the *Berberis Thunberju* were all instances of the changes which occurred and the Bamboo was no exception to the rule. It was therefore no matter for surprise that gardeners and cultivators should find it difficult to determine the plants which they obtained in Japan. They usually arrived in poor condition and it was necessary for three or four years to elapse before they developed sufficiently to admit of accurate identification. In the meantime, however, they had been named by the dealers, and sometimes in a manner which led to great confusion. Another cause of error lay in the fact that labels became illegible in transit and becoming detached were afterwards assigned to the wrong plants. Hence, as the reader who consulted Mr. Mitford's book would learn, there existed a considerable amount of uncertainty as to the proper scientific equivalents of the Japanese names of Bamboos, which was increased by the multiplicity of synonyms given to them in Japan.

Various instances illustrating the uncertainty which existed were given by the writer, who proceeded to refer to the great merits of the list of Japanese plants compiled by Professor Matsumura of the Imperial University of Tokyo, which gave the names of all the botanical species known in this country, and not properly to be included as exotics, distinguishing as far as possible the indigenous species from those which had been cultivated for so long a time as to be fairly regarded as naturalized. Professor Matsumura's scientific names disagreed in some instances with those given in the list at the end of Mr. Mitford's book, and therefore whenever in the author's paper the Japanese name of a bamboo appeared as the heading of a section both the specific names distinguished by initials had been given. In the cases where no Latin names had yet been assigned it might be found that the Japanese names merely represented garden varieties.

After referring to the practical difficulty in identification caused by the fact that most bamboos flower very rarely, the author of the paper discussed in detail the question of the classification of certain species of Bamboo, drew attention to the permanent characteristics of all bamboo, and the essential differences which existed between certain varieties, and examined generally the question of *genus* identification.

Professor Matsumura, it was pointed out, enumerated in his list 22 species of bamboo known in Japan, only seven of which he apparently regarded as exotic. Katayama, on the other hand, mentioned 51 sorts, but of these at least two dozen were either doubtful species or mere "sports."

Of the Bamboos grown in Japan three only, as a rule, attained any great size. These were the *Mōsō*, the *Madake* and the *Hachiku*, all of which were valuable for economic purposes. The first supplied the bamboo shoots used as a vegetable; the second was commonly employed for water pipes, scaffolding poles, roofing poles, and many other purposes, being perhaps the commonest of all; the third, though less common, was adaptable to the same uses as the second. The first was what was commonly known to foreign residents as "the feathery bamboo," from the manner in which the plumes bent over, and the yellow stem and yellowish-green foliage rendered it a picturesque object in the landscape. Of the larger species it was certainly the most decorative, the next to it in point of beauty being one of the smaller species, the *Tai-min-chiku*, which had also a drooping habit.

After he had finished the reading of the Introduction to his paper, the concluding portion of which dealt with the cultivation of the Bamboo in Japanese gardens, Sir Ernest Satow made the following additional observations:

The origin of the word bamboo, he explained was obscure. Colonel Yule, in his delightful "Glossary of Anglo-Indian words," thought we got it through the Portuguese from a Canarese word *banwu*. The earliest Portuguese writer called it *mambu*, and its first occurrence in English was in Hakluyt's Voyages (1586) in the form *Bambo*. By the time of Purchas, in 1621, it had assumed its present form Bamboo.

The *Bambusaceae*, according to Munro, quoted in Mitford's "Bamboo Garden," were divided into three sections, *Triglossae*, having three stamens, the True Bamboos, having six, and *Bacciferae*, having six stamens and a berry-shaped fruit. The first of these contained three sub-sections, of which the first, *Arundinariae*, contained three *genera*, two of which, namely Arundinaria and Phyllostachys, he had already described by their main characteristics.

If we dug up a bamboo we found that it consisted in many instances of an under-ground stem with knots like those on the over ground stem but closer together. In the specimen of *Hotei chiku* which he showed it would be seen that each knot bore a bud. Some of these buds developed and thrust themselves above-ground in the form of a shoot. This shoot he compared to a closed telescope which was gradually drawn out as the stem gained in height. The stem never grew in thickness after it was once formed and it attained its full height in the first year of its life, the only apparent exception being in the terminal leaf which sometimes did not unfold till the second year. The branches developed in the same manner as the stem, and bore the leaves. Both main stem and branches bore buds at the knots or nodes, which in many cases did not develop during the first year of life.

The joint or portion between two nodes was called the inter node. It was enveloped in a sheath, terminated on the lower part of the stem by a leaf-like appendage styled *hinbus*, or pseudo-phyll. It had no midrib, but at the top of the stem the last four or five assumed the form of a true leaf. These leaves were borne on sheaths which covered each other almost entirely, so that they seemed to grow close together; but if their sheaths were carefully stripped off it would be seen that each sheath rose from the lower end of an inter-node which it tightly embraced. Only the terminal leaf had no sheath and sprang directly from the top of the last node of all. In one species, the *Bungo zasa* (*Bambusa rusifolia*), the branches were very short, and each bore only one leaf. It would be seen therefore that the unit out of which a bamboo was built up consisted of a single inter-node with its accompanying sheath and pseudo-phyll, or true leaf, as the case might be.

Various species of bamboos were exhibited in the course of the lecture and the differences in their sheaths as to colour and hairiness were pointed out. The ligule, which was explained to be a small membranaceous portion of the sheath adhering closely to the stem and preventing rain-water from running down and lodging between the sheath and the inter-node was also shown, and the lecture concluded with the exhibition of a small collection of variegated bamboos.

The Chairman thanked Sir Ernest Satow in the name of the Society for his valuable and interesting lecture.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE DUM-DUM BULLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—*Tou wa tōza no haji, towanu wa ichidzi no haji.* We are reading now-a-days so much of the "dum-dum bullet" and its inhumane nature, so that it has been condemned by the Peace Conference; but what it is I fail to find out, although consulting several dictionaries. If you could kindly give us a little information you would certainly greatly oblige one "IGNORAMUS."

[We have to apologise for overlooking this letter for several days. As to the *dum-dum* bullet, we are not aware that exact details of its nature have been published, but we understand it to be a projectile which "sets up" on striking a bone, so as to enlarge the wound internally.—ED. *J.M.*]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to "Ignoramus'" query about the Dum-dum bullet I can inform him that it is the Government of India's modification of the Lee-Metford original ammunition. It will be remembered that the Lee-Metford bullet was condemned as useless against fanatics as owing to its high velocity and small diameter it went through a man without stopping him. It has been altered—how I do not

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know—so as to spread when striking a body and makes a horrible wound, but is not explosive in the accepted sense of the word. Its name is derived from the Government of India factory at Dum-dum.

Yours, faithfully. C. N.

CHINESE RESIDENTS IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Is not such an account as was contained in the *Japan Mail* of June 19, of the reasons why Chinamen should not be admitted to the benefits of mixed residence, a little risky? It will no doubt be allowed on all hands that the foreigners' scale of living is not "low": and, with more credit perhaps to ourselves, that our habits are not insanitary. I fear some Japanese will consider that the "customs" which foreigners have brought in are not all "moral," while in commercial "morality" one is led to suppose that the Chinaman almost leads the van. When it is further said that "He keeps himself apart from the native population; and he does not regard as his home the country to which he emigrates," we foreigners in Japan, with the exception of the Missionaries and one more here and there, are liable to the same retort which the pot made to the kettle.

Of course the writer of your article was thinking of an influx of Chinese coolies; but I cannot help thinking that the Japanese will make merry over the matter and quote—in Japanese no doubt—"Oh would some power the giftie gie us to see oursel's as ithers see us."

Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THESE FOREIGNERS.

St. Andrew's Close, Shiba, Tokyo
20 June, 1899.

AGNOSTICISM AND DR. KATO.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The writer in the *Japan Mail* who recently defended Dr. Kato's philosophy stated that according to the most reliable authority most of the thoughtful people in Europe and America are agnostics. Perhaps he will kindly tell us who the most reliable authority is and what claim he has to such a title. He also stated that thousands of London church-goers disbelieve in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Will he inform us what special opportunities he has of ascertaining the belief of London church-goers? Otherwise his statement may be regarded as a mere random assertion, and accordingly unworthy of serious attention. It is a pity that he did not make it clearer that Dr. Kato's teaching has no immoral tendency, instead of wandering off to a discourse on agnosticism. Schopenhauer's works and the *Saturday Review* are accessible to most of us, but for our acquaintance with Japanese authors we have to depend mainly on such scholars as Dr. Kato's defender and Mr. Chamberlain.

Your obedient servant. ON-LOOKER.

OPEN-AIR THEATRICALS.

The open-air performance of Shakespearean scenes, given last night at the Bluff Gardens in aid of the Ladies' Benevolent Association, was a great success, artistically as well as socially. There was a very large attendance, fully 500 persons—a large proportion ladies—being present, either attracted by the prospect of good acting, or by curiosity as to the appearance of Yokohama mimes in Shakespearean drama, or by the excellence of the cause, or by the mere physical pleasure of a lounge amid pleasant surroundings, and a sufficiency of fresh air, for the want of which the whole community has been gasping the last day or two. Certainly no pleasanter scene could have been found than the greensward of the Bluff Gardens, with the dark masses of foliage for *coulisses*, and the soft turf in place of the stage boards. One of the tennis lawns had been selected as the *mise en scène*, and was most admirably adapted for the purpose. At the rear and the sides the big shrubs gave an effect which, with the aid of a little imagination, did well enough for the Forest of Arden, the Duke's pleasure grounds, or the garden of the Capulets; lamps placed here and there in admired disorder supplied the necessary amount of light; and strings of Chinese lanterns crossing each other made the whole picture complete as a spectacle, even though they might have caused some purists to shudder at such an anachronism. The weather was on its best behaviour. A full and mellow moon shed its soft light on the scene; there was hardly enough wind stirring to move the paper lanterns; and the voices of the actors could be heard almost as well as in an ordinary theatre, and certainly much better than in the Public Hall. An open-air play was quite a novelty for many of the older residents, and the first experiment in this direction locally certainly justifies amateurs in making other attempts to provide a much-needed amusement for the long summer evenings.

Of the acting there is no necessity to speak at length. Miss Janet Waldorf has already played to several houses in Yokohama, and we are sorry to say that she has had a rather chilly reception. But that in itself proves nothing as to her capabilities. The proportion of people who have any real love for or knowledge of Shakespeare is not large; and even among those who fervently worship the Bard of Avon there are many who prefer not to see his plays staged, but like to enjoy them as pure literature. We doubt whether even a first-rate actor would clear his expenses in a tour of provincial England, excluding towns of more than 60,000 inhabitants. Is it therefore surprising that in a small community like Yokohama, where the theatre-going adults can only be counted by hundreds, and where the theatrical taste is more for the grimaces of Dan Leno than the tears of *Juliet*, only a handful of people mustered the necessary enthusiasm or curiosity to hear Miss Waldorf? An even more talented actress might have had a worse disappointment.

For Miss Waldorf is undoubtedly an actress of talent and her impersonation of Shakespearean heroines is always pleasing. True, her conception of the characters is not always the critic's conception, but what actress's is? Is Sir Henry Irving's *Lear* the reader's *Lear*, or Mr. Tree's *Falstaff* the dear old white-bearded Satan the reader may have reconstructed? It is one of the proofs of the great master's genius that the elements are so mixed in his chief characters, their passions, motives, and peculiarities so artfully blended, that almost every man goes away with a different impression of the creation. What two authorities have been found to agree, for example, in their conception of Hamlet? Or of Shylock? One actor may make of Shylock a very simple character, and lay stress merely on his racial and religious hatred. But there are many other sides to the implacable old Israelite. Shylock is a Jew of Jews, but he can be fair-spoken to a Christian when expediency commands. He is fond of money, but he can sacrifice even money for revenge. He hates Antonio as a Christian; but he hates him quite as much from injured self-love, from business jealousy, from a sense of social inferiority. And mingled with the rest of the strange medley of conflicting passions and emotions is the old man's love for his daughter, and his rage against the Christian lover who has robbed him of her. Shylock is no stage figure, but a real man; a complex organism, and not a mere dramatic *amœba*, a simple being of one motive or idea, like the creations of many playwrights.

So, when we say that Miss Waldorf's *Juliet* is not our *Juliet*, and her *Rosalind* is not quite the "fair, the chaste, the inexpressive she" we picture as inflaming the imagination of the impressionable young *Orlando*, we are not so dogmatic as to suggest that Miss Waldorf is wrong and we are right. The *Juliet* of fourteen who appears at *our* particular balcony, half-child, half-woman, palpitating with her first great love, is a different being from the elaborately bewitching, fully developed damsel Miss Waldorf presents us—a woman who knows the exact value of a smile, an ogle, and a glance—knowledge usually more associated with the experience of half-a-dozen London seasons than with the sweet innocence of an *ingénue*. But we do not quarrel with her for that.

Rosalind was, however, a happier personation; that is to say, it agreed more with our *Rosalind*. Miss Cranna as *Celia* played well enough, though the occasional New England accent sounded rather oddly in Elizabethan drama. Mr. McGregor was a decided success as *Orlando*, but as *Romeo* he played rather too much in "Ercles' vein, a tyrant's vein" than seems to us to befit a lover. A lover's part, as the great authority Bottom the Weaver puts it, "is more condoling."

It is not generally fair to apply to amateurs the same standard of criticism we adopt in dealing with professional artists of reputation. They come forward at much loss of time and inconvenience to themselves, with the simple object of providing pleasure for their fellow-residents; and, though this should not entitle them to undiluted sugar, the critic does well not to be too severe. But even if such a standard were adopted in the present case, the amateurs would not suffer. Mr. Harry J. Sharp certainly added to his many successes, and surprised all by his ability in parts that demanded a good deal of capacity. He played as *Mercutio*, as *The Friar*, as *Oliver*, and as the *Duke Frederick*,—characters as widely diverse as can well be imagined, and entailing much hard study. But he acquitted himself capitally, as well in the stately blank verse of the man of God, as in the sprightly sentences of the man of the world, the dignified lines of the Duke, and the self-accusatory language of the repentant brother. The extravagantly fanciful hyberboles in which *Mercutio* describes the nightly wanderings of the Fairy Mab were splendidly spoken.

Of Mr. Harold Irwine's performance we write with more diffidence. Mr. Irwine played *Charles the Wrestler*, and joined issue with Mr. McGregor as *Orlando*, being of course thrown according to the programme. Perhaps Mr. Irwine was not big enough for the part of the burly brute whom the stripling *Orlando* disposes of so easily. That great authority on things theatrical, Mr. Vincent Crummles, laid it down as essential that in a stage struggle a small and virtuous man should get the better of a bulky and wicked one. "Why," said this great man, "why, it's the very essence of the combat that there should be a foot or two between 'em. How are you to get up the sympathies of the audience in a legitimate manner, if there isn't a little man contending against a big one—unless there's at least five to one, and we haven't hands enough for that business in our company." That is the only criticism—a second-hand one—the present writer can offer. He must leave the technical part of the business to those who understand about choke-locks, and cross-buttocks, and Nelsons, and all the rest of the jargon of wrestling.

It should be added that the Yokosuka Band was present and played some charming music during the waits, while light refreshments were provided at the pavilion, where emotions aroused in the breasts of the sensitive by the woes of *Juliet* and her lover could be drowned by claret cup, or frozen with ice-creams.

The *Akebono* (Dawn), third of the six destroyers being constructed for the Japanese Government by Messrs. Yarrow and Co. (Limited), went through her official trials at the mouth of the Thames on 4th May. The trial consisted of a three hours' continuous run, carrying a load of 35 tons, when a speed was obtained of 31.159. This is the third destroyer having a speed of over 31 knots which this firm has constructed for the Japanese Government, and these vessels constitute the fastest group of destroyers possessed by any nation.

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AMERICAN ASIATIC ASSOCIATION.

The following report has been kindly supplied to us by Mr. L. H. Abel, Secretary to the newly formed American Asiatic Association :—

Minutes of a meeting held at the American Consulate, June 26th, 1899, by American residents of Yokohama and Tokyo for the purpose of forming an Association to be known as "The American Asiatic Association of Japan."

Mr. LINDSLEY.—Gentlemen, if you are ready I will call the meeting to order. I will read the notice asking you to meet us here :—

"In pursuance of a request from the American Asiatic Association of New York, it is proposed to form a branch of that Association in Yokohama, and any citizen of the United States who is interested in the purposes of the Association (as set forth below) is invited to attend a meeting to be held at the U. S. Consulate Court Room on June 26th at 3 p.m.

(Signed) T. L. BROWER.
J. W. COPMANN.
J. LINDSLEY.
J. R. MORSE.
E R. SMITH.
L. H. ABEL, Hon. Sec. Pro tem."

As you will have seen from the notice calling this meeting, we have been asked by the American Asiatic Association of New York to form a branch in Japan. This is the letter they wrote us some months ago.

JOHN LINDSLEY, Esq.
Yokohama, Japan.

DEAR SIR,—The Executive Committee of the American Asiatic Association resolved at its last meeting that the Secretary be instructed to convey, on behalf of the Association, a request to Messrs. Lindsley, Morse, Brower, Copmann, and Smith, of Yokohama, to form a branch of the Association at that port and such other Japanese ports as they might deem expedient.

I take great pleasure in transmitting this request and deem it unnecessary to explain in detail the objects of the society, as you are already doubtless familiar with them.

Under separate cover I have sent a copy of the Constitution, and have addressed a letter similar to this to each of the other gentlemen above mentioned.

I have the honour to be, Yours respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN FORD, Secretary.

There are many reasons in favour of such an Association, and I will now read the proposed Articles of Association unless you are willing to accept them as read. I think you have read in the notice calling the meeting the objects and purposes of this Association.

Mr. MIDDLETON proposed, and Mr. MCWILLIAMS seconded, that the formality of reading the Articles be dispensed with, and this was carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY,—I will now ask, if there are any gentlemen who have not signed the list which has been partially sent around, and who are willing to join the Association, to do so, that we may proceed to business. There are 56 names on the list at present. Of course it is not closed by any means. Any one can sign it by making the usual application through the Executive Committee. (The names were here read). Gentlemen, if we consider ourselves formed into an organisation the next thing in order will be to elect the officers of the Association.

Mr. HOWARD.—I move that you suggest certain names to act as officers.

Mr. GAUSE,—I second Mr. Howard's motion.

Mr. LINDSLEY.—It is moved by Mr. Howard, and seconded by Mr. Gause, that the Chairman propose names for officers of the Association. Those in favour will please answer in the usual way.—Carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY.—I propose as President Mr. James R. Morse; Vice-President Mr. Geo. Middleton; Secretary Mr. L. H. Abel; Treasurer Mr. Geo. H. Scidmore. Would you like to have this motion taken by ballot or by acclamation ?

Mr. HOWARD moved, and Mr. N. F. SMITH seconded, that it be taken by acclamation, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY—The next business before the meeting is the election of an Executive Committee of seven members according to the Articles of Association. You have all heard the names of the gentlemen who have joined and of course they are all eligible for election. It has been called to my attention that some gentlemen merely initialled the first list sent around, but we only consider those who have signed this paper to have joined.

A number of persons then signed the list on the table.

Mr. LINDSLEY—The following names have been sent in for the election of an Executive Committee :—Mr. Copmann, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. Brower, Mr. Howard, Mr. Booth, Mr. Gay, and myself. If there are any other names to be suggested I will receive them now. If not, we will proceed to vote on this list.

The above gentlemen were elected by acclamation.

Mr. LINDSLEY—There is only one more matter to attend to, and that is the date of the annual meeting. That is left blank in the Articles of Association. It seems to me if we have it in cold weather it would be better than having it at this season.

Mr. MCWILLIAMS suggested the first Monday in October.

Mr. LINDSLEY—It is is difficult to arrange it for any particular day. We are very much influenced by mails, and it seems to me if we bind ourselves to have a meeting within a certain month it would be much easier for the Committee.

Mr. MCWILLIAMS.—I withdraw the day and leave it "during the month of October."

Mr. MIDDLETON seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY.—The Articles read : "There shall be an annual meeting of the Association in the City of Yokohama during the month of October in each year." If there is any gentleman present who would like to make any remarks regarding this Association and its purposes I should be very pleased to give him an opportunity of making them.

Mr. BOOTH—I would call attention to Section 1 of Article IX., that after "such" and before "hour," "day" be inserted.

Mr. LINDSLEY—Yes, I think no objection will be made to that, which will make the Section much clearer.

Mr. BOOTH—When and where will the annual dues be paid ?

Mr. LINDSLEY—That will be arranged by the Executive Committee. You will receive notice from them. That finishes the business before the meeting to-day. I declare the meeting adjourned.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The trustees of the Cincinnati University have elected Professor Howard Ayres, of the University Missouri, to the presidency.

Another gold-rush is being engineered in California, this time to the southern limits of the State, 300 miles south of Ensenada. The gold is said to be coarse and the district lacks water.

The recent cyclone at Kirksville, Mo., is responsible for a lawsuit over the disposition of $100,000. A man and his wife possessed of that amount of property and money had agreed that the survivor should administer the property, and the heirs of the woman claim that she gasped a few times after her husband died.

Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred E. Bates, until recently military attache of the United States Embassy in London, has been appointed Assistant Paymaster-General of the United States Army, and it is understood at Washington that he will be made Paymaster-General upon the retirement of Brigadier-General Asa B. Carey a few months hence.

Several clergymen and other citizens of Cambridge have petitioned the Massachusetts legislature to revoke the sentence of banishment passed against Roger Williams in 1635 by the general court, inasmuch as his "doctrine of religions liberty, for advocating which he was banished, has become the fundamental sentiment of Christendom." A little late in the day, isn't it ?

The plans for the formation of the new Carnegie Steel Company have proved, when the matter is sifted down, to be much less sensational than was at first thought to be the case. It is with some relief that the financial community have received the assurance from Mr. H. C. Frick, of Pittsburgh, who is at the head of the enterprise, that the intended capitalization, instead of running up to $500,000,000 or more, is to consist of merely $250,000,000, and that only one class of shares will be issued.

The late ex-Governor Flower in his will gave $10,000 to the parish of St. Thomas, New York, for the benefit of the parish-house which he had erected in memory of his son, and $10,000 to Trinity parish, Watertown, for the poor. For many years, however, it had been his practice to give away at least one-tenth of his income, and it is gathered from excellent authority that benefactions during the last year of his life exceeded $1,000,000. In recent years it was his custom to require that those who received his gifts, whether institutions or persons, should say nothing about them.

American journals are making merry at the expense of Mark Twain. It seems that the Emperor of Austria gave Mr. Clemens an audience, and Mark carefully prepared a speech in German prior to the reception, but he was so embarrassed when he entered the room that he forgot every word of it. The Emperor received him cordially and soon put the author at his ease, whereupon he told his Majesty what had happened. The Emperor laughed heartily and said. "Don't trouble yourself. If you will say it in English I will translate it for you."

The new President of Yale University, succeeding Dr. T. Dwight, is Professor Arthur Twining Hale. He is a young man for such a position, 43. The son of a Yale professor and a Yale student and teacher himself, he has a full flow of the university spirit, and is in all respects an ideal man for the post of President if he can only develop the necessary executive ability, and everybody believes he can. For some years Professor Hadley has had charge of the training of Yale's debaters, in addition to his duties as Professor of Economics.

The suggestion originating with Rear-Admiral Upshur that funds be raised by national subscription for the purchase of a house in Washington for Admiral Dewey, has met with general approval. The National Dewey Home Committee has been formed in Washington, with Mr. Ellis H. Roberts as treasurer, to receive subscriptions. Among the distinguished sailors and soldiers of the United States who have received similar gifts from the nation we find Farragut, Rear-Admiral Worden, General Grant, General Sherman, General Meade, General Sheridan, President Harrison, and General Hancock.

Says *Bradstreets*—Exports of merchandise from the United States to China in the fiscal year about to end will be larger than those of any preceding year in our history. A decade ago the exports to China were less than $3,000,000, and to China and Hongkong combined were little over $6,000,000. In the fiscal year 1899 our exports to China will be more than $13,000,000 and to Hongkong more than $6,000,000, making a total to China and Hongkong of over $20,000,000, or more than three times as much as that of a decade earlier. That the bulk of the exports to Hongkong may properly be considered as ultimately destined for consumption in China is shown by the fact that the official reports of the imports into China show that over 44 per cent. of their imports are from the port of Hongkong. The 1899 exports to China and Hongkong combined will show a gain of nearly or quite 25 per cent. over those of last year, while the total exports from the

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United States for the fiscal year 1899 will be little, if any, in excess of those of last year, thus showing a more rapid growth in our exports to this particular part of the world than elsewhere.

Mr. U. S. Grant, son of the famous President, is evidently disgusted with Californian politics, for he has announced his intention of withdrawing from the Senatorial contest. He will pass the summer in Alaska.

The European edition of the *New York Herald* publishes a letter suggesting that instead of breaking up the steamship *Paris* the underwriters would confer a benefit on navigation by making her a lightship, as there is no light on the Manacles.

It is believed in Washington that Representative Henderson of Iowa will be nominated for Speaker of the House of Representatives, to succeed Mr. Speaker Reed, on the first ballot when the Republican caucus meets before the beginning of the next session.

The Lincoln Park Commissioners of Chicago have dropped the Dewey monument idea. Lack of public interest in the suggestion of President Woodworth that a heroic statue should be erected in Lincoln Park in honour of the gallant Admiral caused the Commissioners to ignore the proposition.

Diplomatic relations with Spain, broken off by the United States, on April 12th, 1898, were formally resumed at 11 o'clock on June 3rd, when President McKinley greeted Duc d'Arcos, the newly accredited Minister to the United States, in the Blue Parlour of the White House. It was a notable occasion in the world's history —the resumption of friendly relations between two nations which had been at war and in the brief struggle had changed the map of the world.

In Minnesota a law just passed authorizes park boards in cities to plant trees when petitioned by property-owners concerned, and to assess the cost, not exceeding 12½ cents a front foot, on the property improved, this to include the expenses of maintaining the trees for three years and replacing any that may die. The system has been tested in Minneapolis for fifteen years, and 15,000 vigorous, well-protected trees along the streets prove its success. The outlay has been remarkably small.

An alliance has been formed between Harper & Brothers and the S. S. McClure Company, publisher of *McClure's Magazine*. John W. Harper will be elected second vice-president of the McClure Company, and J. Henry Harper and H. Sleeper Harper will become officers of the McClure Company. S. S. McClure will become vice-president of Harper and Brothers, and John S. Phillips, Frank N. Doubleday, and Albert B Brady will hold other minor offices in Harper & Brothers.

The Belmont-Sloane marriage has aroused the indignation of both Protestant and Catholic clergymen in the States. Bishop Scarborough, of the diocese of New Jersey, in his annual address to the Protestant Episcopal clergy used it as a text for a sermon on the necessity of a stricter regard for virtue and decency. Cardinal Gibbons prepared for a syndicate of Sunday newspapers a scathing arraignment of present divorce legislation. President Patton, of Princeton University, addressing the undergraduates of that institution one Sunday, referred to the wedding as "simply disgusting." He said it was time "that Christians in this country turned their attention to fundamental morals."

The *San Francisco Chronicle* has the following pertinent advice to offer its readers :—

It is not good form to get excited over news by mail of war preparations in China or Japan. The eager scribes who collect data at Victoria and Seattle from incoming steamers make the most of them, but alas all the stories are nearly three weeks old, and would have been anticipated by cable if true. Many of them, too, are written, in the first instance, by the yellow journalists of Asia, who have their principal headquarters in Shanghai and Yokohama. It may be safely agreed upon if anything of vital significance happens in the Far East the outside world will not have to remain in ignorance of it until Puget Sound space-writers interview a newly arrived steamship purser.

Negotiations looking toward reciprocal trade relations between the United States and the island of Jamaica are among the possibilities of the near future, though whether a favourable result of the movement begun in the British colony is to be counted among the probabilities will take time to determine. The legislature of the island has decided to send three delegates to Washington to discusss reciprocity arrangements.

The National Export Exposition, to be held in Philadelphia next fall, will have more novel features than any other exposition ever held in this country, says the *Exposition Bulletin*. "It will be held in a city that made a success of the first large exposition ever held in this country, the Centennial Exhibition, which, though hampered by the niggardly financial aid given to it by Congress, was carried through successfully and paved the way for the other successful exhibitions since held in the United States. Unlike other expositions, which have been prevented from having a successful opening by the building not being ready, all the structures necessary will be completed ahead of time, and consequently there will be no vexatious delays for intending exhibitors. Arrangements have been made to have all the samples from foreign lands brought in ample time, and the exhibitors from the United States will be compelled to have their exhibits installed before the opening day.

When the statistics of revenue and expenditure of the United States for the eleven months ending May are compared, aninteresting showing is disclosed, says *Bradstreets*. The total receipts amounted to $469,089.830, which represented an increase of over $98.000,000 as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year. As has been heretofore indicated in dealing with these statistics, the receipts from miscellaneous sources have consstituted a disturbing element, which should be eliminated in order to form a fair idea of the growth of the revenue from ordinary sources during the fiscal year. Excluding the miscellaneous receipts from computation, there was an increase of over $147,000 000 as compared with the corresponding eleven months of the preceding fiscal year. The expenditures for the eleven months amounted to $573,709.972, which represented an increase of over $178,000,000 as compared with the disbursements for the like period of the fiscal year preceding. The reasons for this large increase of course lie upon the surface. They are strikingly reflected in a single item, the expenditures on account of the War Department alone showing an increase of not far from $150,000,000.

At a meeting of the Old South Church, Boston (Congregational), on April 28, the Westminster Confession of Faith, which has been the formal test of admission to membership in the church and the test of doctrinal subscription for the church's pastors since 1680, was formally set aside by a practically unanimous vote of the 160 members present, this action being taken after the initiative and upon the recommendation of the entire diaconate of the church. The sole doctrinal test for laity and clergy in this church will be as follows :—

You do now, in the presence of God and before His Holy angels and this assembly, solemnly profess to give up yourself to God the Father, as your chief good; to the Son of God as your Mediator, Head, and Lord, relying on Him as the Prophet, Priest, and King of your salvation; to the Holy Spirit of God as your Sanctifier, Guide, and Comforter, to be a temple for Him to dwell in. You profess to give up yourself to this one God, who is the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, in an everlasting covenant, to love, obey, and serve Him forever.

The Congregationalist says with reference to the matter : "The action means that what has practically been the basis of belief of the Old South Church for fifty years is now formally and exclusively that basis. As a doctrinal matter the action has less significance than its internal import. And that is that the church has determined to be honest with the world and with the sister churches."

During May 205 companies were incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, the State receiving in filing fees $92,083.25. This is a slight falling off from the last two months, when the receipts were something over $100,000 each month. The State has received in filing fees from corporations for the eight months of the present fiscal year $528,462.14. The following is a list of the companies incorporated during May, with an authorized capital of $1,500.000 or more :—

American Bicycle Company	$ 80,000,000
American Hide and Leather Co.	70,000,000
Republic Iron and Steel Company	55,000,000
American Alkali Company	30,000,000
National Electric Company	25,000,000
Illinois Electrical Vehicle Transportation Company	25,000,000
General Carriage Company	20,000,000
National Light and Power Company	15,000,000
Kern Incandescent Gas-Light Co.	12,000,000
Spanish-American Mining Company.	10,000,000
Boston Breweries Company	9 750,000
Manufactured Rubber Company	6,000,000
Washington Electric Vehicle Transportation Company	6,000,000
American Ginning Company	5,000,000
Goodson Graphotype Company	5,000,000
United States Glucose Company	5,000,000
Columbia and Electric Vehicle Co.	5,000,000
Pacific Coast Biscuit Company	4,000,000
Fire-Proofine Company	2 000,000
Gas Self-Lighting Company of America	1,500,000
Total	$391,250,000

A KOREAN PROTEST.

(From our Correspondent.)

Söul, June 9.

Last night the population of Söul was aroused from its first slumbers by the sound of explosives. A little before eleven o'clock, residents in Chong-dong—the foreign quarter of the city —heard the muffled reports of two shots fired in succession. Ten minutes later, or possibly less, two more sounds were heard, and at an equal interval two more. The last four shots were not muffled but clear and loud. They reverberated through the stillness of the night and sent a chill down the backs of those for whose benefit the noise was made.

Inquiry at the guard-house failed to secure any information. The soldiers were loading their rifles, but looked and acted as though they would like to join a Peace Society immediately. In the Imperial Palace the greatest excitement prevailed from the Emperor down to the guard at the gate. During the night or early this morning, the Emperor moved from the Kyeng-won Palace immediately in front of and south of the English Legation, to the new library building erected last year. This is to the west of the United States Legation, and with the exception of three missionary residences, there is nothing between it and the Russian Legation. The distance between the Kyeng-won Palace and the Library is only a stone's throw, but it is entirely surrounded by the foreigners for whom the present Conservative Government does not profess a too great fondness, and yet whose protection, seemingly, is sought at the least appearance of danger.

This morning the town was full of rumours. It seems an attack with dynamite bombs was made on no less than five Koreans of more or less prominence. Chief of these was the present Prime Minister, Sin Ki-son, a rabid conservative whose latest claim to notoriety is his efforts to restore on the statute books the ancient and barbarous laws of torture, destruction of families and kindred of men accused of high crimes—treason—; the mutilation of their bodies, and the confiscation of their property. The de-

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tails of this attempt to "blow" these leaders of Korea back into darkness are not known to me as yet, but sufficient is known to show that this may be regarded as the usual way the Korean has of protesting against measures he dislikes. Free speech is not allowed. The press is muzzled. Discussion is forbidden. Enactments that mean no good are passed. So from the stand-point of the man who wants to protest the dynamite bomb is all that is left him. This he has got hold of in some way,—how is a mystery—and he uses it, not for any good either to himself or the cause he would promote.

There were rumours to-day that the Emperor might knock again at the back door of the Russian Legation, but thus far he has contented himself with the shelter afforded by the Library.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Prince Henry's coming to Korea set the officials, mechanics, coolies, and money flying. Extensive and elaborate preparations for an appropriate reception and entertainment were at once, on the announcement of his coming, projected. The bargain for a two-story brick house which has been hanging on the ragged edge of indifference was at once closed, and an army of labourers at once sent into it to put it into proper shape for occupancy by the distinguished visitor. And I must say, that while the time was limited and the work to be done very great, it has been done admirably and reflects credit on those who had it in charge. When it comes to hustling, the Korean may claim some honour.

Prince Henry arrived in Chemulpo yesterday on his flag-ship, the *Deutschland*. He did not come ashore, but in the evening entertained at dinner Herr Carl and Mrs. Wolter. Herr Wolter is the senior representative of the large firm of E. Meyer & Co., which has been doing business in Korea since the opening of the country. This morning the Prince and his suite landed. The Minister of the Imperial Household and other high officials went to the port to receive him. Here they met him. The party, Prince Henry riding on horse-back, came to Söul overland. They arrived here and were formally received in a large tent outside the south gate. The whole city turned out to see the royal visitor. He entered the city a little after four o'clock and was escorted at once to his residence.

At six o'clock he was received in audience, and this evening he dines with His Imperial Majesty the Emperor. To-morrow and the day following will be devoted to seeing the sights of the city and visiting the several departments of the Government.

To-morrow evening the Emperor will return the call and dine with the Prince. On the 12th inst. the visitors will start for the country to visit the mining concession in the province of Kang-won granted to the Germans. The mines are about a hundred miles from Söul, and the journey one way will require three days.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A private yacht match on Thursday resulted in a win for *Nandeska* (sailed by Mr. Laffin). She finished 11 minutes ahead of *Wettinge*, *Coogee* being a bad third. *Vixen* broke a chain-plate and did not round the Lightship, pass through the harbour, or cross the finishing line.

A man named Ogura Chukichi (29), employed at a washing-house at Masagocho, Yokohama, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor at a house of ill-fame known as Mikazukiro, Enakucho, on Thursday afternoon. He was discovered lying dead in a pool of blood. He fell in love with a woman in the house, and had paid over fifty visits there. Consequently he had run into debt, and this was the cause of his suicide.

Kushida Shigeyoshi, known as James Scott, a racing cyclist who has won many laurels on the Yokohama track, has just been arrested in Aomori Prefecture. It is alleged that while he was in Yokohama a fortnight ago he obtained money from several parties under false pretences. It appears that he then fled to Aomori Prefecture, where he committed robbery armed with a sword in conjunction with a man who was a "boy" of the firm to which Scott formerly belonged.

We are glad to learn, on the authority of Kobe papers, that Mr. Cole, chief officer of the *Hakata Maru*, has not succumbed to his injuries, as erroneously reported. The latest news from Moji is to the effect that he is progressing favourably.

The property No. 11, Oura, Nagasaki, has been purchased on behalf of the German Government for 28,000 *yen*, and the Consulate will be removed there on the 1st January next. The Convent property situated on the Bund at Nagasaki has been bought by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. for the sum of 51,000 *yen*.

We understand that the gross receipts of the Open-Air Theatricals at the Bluff Gardens on Monday night amounted to *yen* 724, the expenses to *yen* 130.80. The nett result, amounting to *yen* 593.20, has been equally divided between the Waldorf Company and the Ladies Benevolent Association,

The first of the steam dredgers for the Osaka Harbour Works, ordered through Messrs. E. H. Hunter & Co., has arrived at Osaka 33 days from Aden, she having left there on 22nd May. A second dredger should arrive early in July. They are a very powerful and serviceable class of dredger, says the *Hiogo Evening News*, and are built by Messrs. Weif Conrad & Co., Holland.

On the 18th May, a young woman, named Margaret Quinn, fell into a tank full of alligators at the Electrical Show in Madison Square Garden. Spectators shrieked, and for a few seconds the crowd expected to see the woman devoured. Attendants hurried up and seized the woman. The alligators meanwhile had all huddled together in a corner of the tank. They were badly scared. The woman was dragged out and taken to a hospital, also suffering from fright. She is in no danger.

In the Yokohama District Court on Saturday morning, judgment was delivered by Judge Fujise in the case of H. Lucas & Co., versus the Tsugaru Railway Company. The Court ordered defendants to pay plaintiffs the sums of *yen* 28,400 and *yen* 9,800, which the latter had promised to pay the former as bargain money, etc., for a contract for the supply of rails, locomotives, etc —but which the railway company declined to pay, together with legal interest. The defendants were also ordered to pay costs of Court.

Reuter's Agency considered the following telegram worth telegraphing to Shanghai :—

> Mr. Hugh Clifford, Resident of Pahang, has given a lecture on the Malay States at the Colonial Institute. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith was in the chair, and Mr. W. H. Treacher and Sir Hugh Low were also present. Mr. Clifford dwelt on the great increase in prosperity and security in the States; looking to the future he saw many dangers threatening the Malays, and many others menacing our complete success in the administration of the federated States. He paid a warm tribute to Sir Andrew Clarke, Sir F. A. Wield, Sir C. C. Smith, and Sir F. A. Swettenham, who have given the Malays a new life and one worth living.

The *North-China Daily News* sarcastically headed the despatch, "Interesting to the Straits."

Lieutenant F. O. Pierce of Battery G., 6th Artillery, formerly doing duty at Iloilo, was found dead in quarters at Fort Santiago on the morning of June 6th, says the *Manila Times*, having, it is believed, committed suicide. Lieutenant Pierce was previously on duty at Iloilo, but came to Manila on seven days' leave of absence. He failed to report for duty, however, on the expiration of his leave, and he was, in consequence, ordered on May 19th to report to the Adjutant-General in Manila. He failed to report and from that date his movements were a mystery and he could not be located, when a second order was issued for his arrest. The fear of a court-martial for overstaying his leave without permission and other reasons are believed to have been the cause of Lieutenant Pierce's sad end.

Her Majesty held a State Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on 16th May, which was very largely attended. The following presentation was made in the Diplomatic Circle :— By the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, Prince Konoye, President of the House of Peers in Japan.

The *Journal des Débats* retails a story of Mark Twain. He was once present at a baptismal feast in an out-of-the-way village in the Alps. At dessert one of the invited guests rose and proposed a toast in honour of the little one. He declared that he did not know what name was selected, but he trusted they would call it Cæsar, "for Cæsar"—and here followed a *vibrant* eulogium of the great Roman. Then he paused, and added, "But perhaps you will call it Alexander." And then followed an enthusiastic panegyric of Alexander. Afterwards came disquisitions on the merits of Epaminondas, Leonidas, Napoleon, and Nebuchadnezzar. The eloquent speaker would have gone on indefinitely had not the father, seeing signs of impatience on the part of the guests, taken him by the sleeve, and said, "The name is chosen already, my dear sir." "And what is it?" "Mary Jane." Collapse of the orator.

Following is the record of the Australian cricket team to date :—

May 8.—South of England at Crystal Palace; drawn.
May 11.—Essex at Leyton; won by Essex by 126 runs.
May 15.—Surrey at Kennington Oval; won by Australians by an innings and 71 runs.
May 22.—Yorkshire at Sheffield. (Abandoned owing to rain.)
May 25.—Lancashire at Manchester; won by Australians by an innings and 84 runs.
May 29.—Oxford University at Oxford; drawn.
June 1.—First Test Match at Nottingham; drawn.
June 5.—M.C.C. and Ground at Lord's: won by Australians by 8 wickets.
June 8.—Cambridge; won by Australians by 10 wickets.
June 12.—Yorkshire at Bradford; drawn.
June 15.—Second Test Match at Lord's; won by Australians by 10 wickets.
June 19.—Oxford University Past and Present at Portsmouth; won by the Australians by 10 wickets.
June 22.—Leicestershire at Leicester; won by the Australians by 248 runs.
June 26—Derbyshire at Derby; won by the Australians by an innings and 249 runs.
Record to date: 8 wins, 1 loss, 4 draws, 1 abandoned.

It is next to impossible to take up an Australian journal, says a colonial paper, without noticing the desire of many to call rope, razor, pistol, or poison to their aid in solving the puzzle of the ages. The odd thing is that suicidal tendency is apparent in the more advanced countries. The Turks in the East of Europe rarely fall back on self-slaughter as an escape from life's inevitable worries—the French, in the West, frequently. Indeed, so frequent has the mistake (crime is scarcely the world) become among the politest nation that *Le Charivari* suggests methods for its correction. It proposes an establishment where would-be suicides had everything to their hand. Attendants would be in waiting to state the objections to this absurd method of quitting the world. If the pessimists persisted, a retreat of 48 hours would be given them for meditation. On its termination, their determination remaining unchanged, knives, poisons and pistols would be placed at their disposal. With purgatives for poison, blade-retreating knives, and cork bullets, it is thought the subject would be brought to reason. The proposal is but an amplification of a late coroner's view that a blue pill administered at the proper time would have saved many a man from suicide.

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CHRIST CHURCH.

Residents in Yokohama will be glad to see that the erection of a permanent new Church has been decided on. The meeting of seatholders and subscribers yesterday is to be congratulated on its wisdom in deciding that the new building shall be of brick. The differencc in cost is only trifling, and the small additional expense will be well repaid by the greater degree of permanence and the many merits which brick can claim above wood as a building material. The new building, to judge from Mr. Conder's plans exhibited at the meeting yesterday, will be a very handsome structure, and the provision of a belfry will be welcome. As to cost, the total, with an allowance for emergencies, is estimated at 50,000 *yen*, and of this nearly 40,000 *yen* has been subscribed and promised, so that only 10,000 *yen* approximately remains to be collected.

M. DOOMCHEFF'S FAREWELL CONCERT.

Ample amends were tendered on Wednesday to M. Constantine Doomcheff by the music-loving community for the scanty audience of last week. The Public Hall was filled and enthusiasm ran high. By special request the brilliant young violinist repeated the Fantaisie de l'Opera "Moise," and "The Bird on the Tree," which won such applause on his previous appearance; but we liked his own "Nocturne" in the first part and Schumann's "Abenlied," in the second, best of all. When M. Doomcheff has arrived at the maturity of his powers the world will possess a marvellous violinist, for the promise of his early years is already bearing fruit.

ENGLISH NOTES.

On 13th May, at the Hotel Cecil, a farewell dinner was given to Mr. Henry Norman, well known in Japan, on his retirement from the *Daily Chronicle* by his colleagues of the editorial and literary staffs of that journal. The editor expressed the regret of the entire company at the withdrawal of this distinguished writer from the regular field of daily journalism, and Mr. Norman made a touching response in acknowledgment of the affectionate greetings of his old colleagues.

An important combination in the coal trade is announced. A company has been formed, with a capital of £1,500,000, to acquire the wholesale and retail business carried on by Rickett, Smith and Co. (Limited), together with the retail business of William Cory and Son (Limited), and a portion of their merchants' truck trade. The business contributed to the new company is approximately two-thirds by Rickett, Smith and Co. and one third by William Cory and Son. The amount of the trade of London which will pass through the hands of the new company is stated to be about 2,000,000 tons.

The *Tailor and Cutter's* special sartorial critic has been paying his annual visit to the Royal Academy, and is again full of complaints. To a very large extent, we are told, those artists who attempt to paint portraits "treat the subject of ordinary clothing with supreme contempt." For instance, we read:—"There is a portrait of Lord Kelvin (No. 87), who is attired in a black morning coat, on which is placed one very large button, which looks as if it had originally formed part of a heavy overcoat. The breast pocket is placed far too low, the vest is too short, and the watch chain is being worn on the wrong side. The trousers he is wearing are innocent of seam, or any mode of fastening. We suppose he must have grown in them." One of the worst portraits in the Academy, so far as the representation of costume is concerned, is that of the Right Hon. Gerald Balfour. The lower portion of his frock coat, says the critic, "vanishes into indefinable nothingness!"

Practical use is about to be made of the storage of natural gas, discovered some time ago at Heathfield, Sussex, where petroleum springs have been found. The gas which arises from these subterranean springs has been burning continuously from a jet for two and a-half years, and as the experiments have proved that the gas is suitable for practical purposes it has been decided to light the railway station premises with it. Incandescent burners will be used, the experiments made showing that the gas, with the aid of these burners, is 20 per cent. more brilliant than ordinary gas. If there is sufficient volume of gas an effort will be made to utilise it for lighting the village.

The collection of pictures of the late Sir John Fowler has been sold by auction at Christie's, when some very high prices were realised. A landscape by Hobbema realised 9,100 guineas; the View of Venice, by J. M. Turner, 8,200 guineas; another Turner, a view of Oxford, 4,000 guineas; a water-colour, by Turner, "The Lake of Nemi," 3,000 guineas; and his "Temple of Jupiter, Tivoli," 1,700 guineas. Landseer's "Ptarmigan Hill" brought 2,000 guineas, W. Muller's "Slave Market, Cairo," 1,300 guineas, and J Phillips's "Chat Round the Brasero," 2,700 guineas. The total amount realised by the sale was £65,355.

Mr. Chamberlain presided on 10th May at the Hotel Cecil, over the festival dinner of the Seamen's Hospital Society, in connection with which, at the suggestion of the Colonial Office, it is proposed to found a School for the Study of Tropical Diseases. Mr. Chamberlain expressed the opinion that the greatest enemy of the civilizing work of the British Empire was not the hostility of savage chiefs, nor the influence of barbarous customs, nor even the physical difficulties in countries in which brutal nature still held full sway, but rather the insidious attacks of deadly diseases, which weakened where they did not kill. Subscriptions were announced to the amount of £15,800

Mr. Howell, the Australian cricketer, awoke on 16th May to find himself famous. He did not, it is true, absolutely establish a record, but to take all the wickets in an innings in first-class cricket is a sufficiently rare performance at any time to protect a bowler's name from oblivion; and when the feat is performed by an Australian against one of the leading counties it means immortality. It is noteworthy, too, that when Surrey went in the wicket was wet on the top, so that the ball cut through—just the sort of wicket a trundler, as a rule, cares least about. Yet on this pitch, and with a sawdusted ball, Howell took ten wickets for 28 runs in twenty-three overs, seven of them being clean bowled, including such batsmen as Abel, Brockwell, and Hayward.

THE NEW CHRIST CHURCH

IMPORTANT MEETING OF SUBSCRIBERS.

A meeting of seat-holders of Christ Church and subscribers to the Building Fund was held at Keil's Building, Yokohama, on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. James Walter, Chairman of the Committee, presided over a good attendance, including Bishop Awdry, the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine (Incumbent), Messrs. W. F. Mitchell, C. Wilson, W. B. Walter, J. T. Griffin, E. Flint Kilby, J. F. Lowder, H. J. Sharp, E. J. Muss, E. Leather, V. R. Bowden, H. Bent, J. Dodd, C. H. Fearon, &c.

The CHAIRMAN expressed pleasure at seeing such a large attendance as evidence of the interest taken in the rebuilding of the Church. They had been very fortunate in arriving at the estimates in having the assistance of Mr. Conder, of Tokyo, a Fellow of the Royal Institution of British Architects, and who made a speciality of Church building. They had asked him to draw up two plans, which they had an opportunity of seeing on the walls. He (the Chairman) would read Mr. Conder's estimates.

[The first was for a brick-built Church. This showed that the accommodation afforded would include nave, two aisles, choir aisle, organ chamber, lower entrance, porch, and vestry, with heating chamber below, altogether covering about 150 *tsubo*. There would be seating capacity with easy spacing for 380 people in addition to the choir. By slight re-arrangement of seats 400 people could be accommodated. The construction would be as follows; solid brick walls with stone dressings to plinth, windows, doors, buttresses, and gables; both inside and outside finished in good red facing brick and stone, no plaster being used. Cement-mortar would be used and a steel framework built into the brickwork as precaution against severe earthquakes. The tower would be carried up in brick work to the height of the rest of the church and finished with a timber belfry. Tracery windows in nave to receive leaded glazing. Floors of tower entrance, organ chamber, and porch paved. Floors of nave, aisles, choir, chancel and vestry boarded with good Douglas fir. Open timber roofs to nave, aisles, choir and chancel, with ornamental trusses and matched boarding to receive varnish. Vestry and tower, entrance ceiled. Roof coverings of Japanese slates lead, or felt. Foundations substantially constructed in cement concrete. The approximate estimate of the cost of general construction, excluding special steel framework, stained glass, furniture, boundary walls, and outbuilding would be 28,600 yen. The special steel earthquake frame would be 4 500 yen extra. Extras (including light installation, simple fences and gates in wood, and heating apparatus) were set down at 8,000 yen.

The alternative estimate for a wooden church was as follows:—Wooden church covering the same area, externally as brick church designed, would have slightly larger accommodation, on account of the thin walls, its seating capacity being from 392 people easy seating to 428 people slightly closer seating, as against 380 and 400 respectively. The cost of general construction would be 23,100 yen, and with extras including a brick heating chamber, 30,100 yen.]

Accompanying the estimates was a letter from Mr. Conder, in which he said without the special earthquake frame work the church would be substantially built, and would give a good record in ordinary earthquakes, but he was proposing to provide against severe shocks. It had been found that substantial brick buildings in which cement work was used had not been appreciably injured by violent earthquakes, whereas in brick buildings parts of which had fallen it had been invariably found that poor weak mortar having no adhesion or tenacity had been used, and the brickwork had been a mere shell. He would not for a church under any circumstances build a frame building with thin masonry nailed on it.

The only alternative to a brick Church would be a frame building finished in plaster or clap-boarding. There was a difference in cost between this and a brick building of 9,000 yen, 5,000 yen of which were for special earthquake precautions to a brick church. Without these extra precautions there would only be a difference of 4,000 yen. Tinted windows could be obtained locally, but stained glass windows with painted religious subjects would have to be imported. He had looked into prices, and found that figure-painted chancel windows (140 square feet of glass) imported would probably amount to £250, to which freight, charges, and duty at 20 per cent. must be added. Temporary tinted windows could, however, be put in, and, would leave a splendid opportunity for special donations or memorials in the shape of more elaborate chancel windows afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN said that the difference in cost between a brick building and a wooden one was not very large. Mr. Conder had informed them that they had at the plot selected the very best possible foundation for a brick structure. Mr. Conder had tested it by digging holes in various directions, and had found the foundation consisted of clay. They had already seen the Public Hall, which had been built for, he thought, 15 years, and to his (the Chairman's) knowledge there had never been a crack in it, and nobody had ever had any fear whatever in attending meetings or performances there. In regard to a wooden building there was one serious item of cost. That was the matter of painting. It was a very expensive business painting buildings in Japan. A large surface like the Church would be could not be painted probably for less than 1,000 yen, and it would require repainting every three or four years. There was also another consideration—that of fire insurance. They could insure a brick building on the Bluff for ½ per cent.; for a wooden building they would have to pay 1 per cent. As to the matter of finances they

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had taken an estimate, giving a pretty considerable margin for extras. The assets were 34,000 yen at the time of the last meeting. The expenditure was put down at 52,000 yen, showing a margin of something like 5,000 yen for extras. The state of the finances at present was as follows:—

ASSETS—Subscriptions paid and promised 15,000 yen; sale of old Church 800 yen; sale of two bungalows on new lot 1,800 yen; cash surplus on sale of old and purchase of new 15,000 yen; bank interest up to June 30th, 1899, 900 yen; rent of Bluff bungalow for May 40 yen; total 33,540; estimated deficiency, 18,365 yen.

LIABILITIES—Moving and rebuilding parsonage (estimated 5,000 yen); rent of parsonage for 12 months 1,080 yen; paid Dr. Mecre for cancelling lease of 235 Bluff, 625 yen; printing and sundries 200 yen; building new church of brick estimated 40,000 yen; extras for contingencies (estimated) 5,000 yen; total 51,905 yen.

They would see they had made pretty ample provision for extra expenses. That would leave them with a deficit of about 18,000 yen. He (the Chairman) thought they need have no anxiety as to this amount being made up. The Committee at their last meeting raised 7,000 yen, which left them with 10,000 yen or 11,000 yen deficit. Their bankers, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, had acted in an extremely liberal manner. Until the subscriptions had been collected they had kindly allowed an over-draft to meet current expenses without charging any interest. Sir T. Jackson had also made a handsome subscription, and other handsome donations had come from Mr. J. J. Keswick and Bishop Awdry. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had further very kindly written to Sir T. Jackson asking to allow an overdraft to the extent of 10,000 yen. He thought if they required it the Bank would let them have an overdraft which would enable them to finish the structure at the cost estimated by Mr. Conder. He moved that the brick church scheme be adopted.

Mr. JAMES DODDS asked if that would commit them to the estimate.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I think so. We are here for two purposes—one to decide first whether the building is to be of brick or of wood, and afterwards to appoint a permanent Committee which will take the matter in hand.

A subscriber asked if an estimate had been taken of a building partly wood and partly brick.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the negative. The difference between wood and brick was really very little. The Committee favoured the brick scheme.

Mr. W. B. WALTER asked whether the decision of the Committee was unanimous as regarded the scheme.

The CHAIRMAN—Not unanimous, but there was a majority.

The motion was then carried *nem con.*

On the proposition of Mr. W. B. WALTER, seconded by Mr. FEARON, the Rev. E. C. Irwine, Messrs. W. F. Mitchell, J. F. Lowder, F. S. James, James Walter, E. Flint Kilby, H. J. Sharp, E. J. Moss, and J. C. Nicholson (Hon. Treasurer) were appointed the building committee.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE asked the Chairman to give details of the subscription of the 7,000 yen he had mentioned.

Mr. WALTER said several members of the Committee who had subscribed very liberally when the fund was first started had doubled their subscription. He thought that was all it was necessary to say.

Mr. IRWINE—I don't think that is quite all. The Chairman won't give himself away, but he added a subscription of 5,000 yen himself towards the fund. Many probably know this, but others may not, and I think we ought to give honour where honour is due, and thanks where thanks are due. (Applause).

The meeting shortly after terminated.

We understand that the sum of 7,000 yen mentioned by Mr. Walter has been increased to 8,000 yen, so that there is only a deficiency of 10,000 yen.

PROMINENT KOREANS.

The Korean correspondent of the *Nagasaki Press* sends that journal the following notes about various Korean officials who have been the victims of the late outrages:—

CHO PYENG-SIK.

Among Koreans probably the most notorious official living to-day. He has filled many important posts in the Government, both [illegible] and post-bellum times, and in one and all it has been the same old story of oppression and high-handed outrage. It was he who revived the Pedlars' Guild in order to overthrow the Independent Club. When in power formerly his dealings with a certain Power were of such a character that his downfall was accomplished almost by violent means. At present he is President of a Privy Council which he has tried to pack with his friends.

PAK CHEUNG YANG

Was Prime Minister under the Progressives, and while not a leader of that party is regarded as affiliated with them and opposed to Sin, and Cho above mentioned. He was Korea's first Minister to the United Sates and gained distinction in the diplomatic fight with China. Why he should be attacked is a mystery,

PAK KI-YUNG.

A colonel in the Guards and a special Councillor of the Imperial Household. Not a big gun. In ante bellum days was Governor of the Ham-kyeng province and was run up to Söul by a mob, for a little game which did not work. The King was then organizing a guard for Prince Wi-wha and levied on the provinces for men for it. Pak thought he saw his opportunity and drafted into this guard as private soldiers some of the richest men in the province. The men took Pak's private secretaries, burned them to death before his eyes, and gave him short time to get to Söul if he wished to escape a similar fate. Since then he has done nothing to distinguish himself. Belongs to the Sin-cho faction.

HAN KYU-SOL.

Is very much the same kind of a man as Pak Cheung-yang. Is progressive in spirit, made a good record as Minister of Law, and has been in retirement for some time. Does not belong to the Sin-cho faction. Was a henchman of the late Empress Min.

YI CHONG-KON

Has been connected with the army for years and has rank of Lieut-General. Was, like Han, a henchman of Empress Min, and is a personal friend of his Majesty. Has done nothing to distinguish himself, is a Conservative, and a member of the Sin-cho faction.

PANG HAU-TOK

Holds the post of Prefect of We-chu. Belongs to the Court circle and is most influential. Was a prominent member of the Independent Club, opposed to the Sin-cho faction and his sympathies are with the Progressives. Not a heavy weight politically. The attack on him is a mystery. Must have been due to personal grounds.

SIN KI-SON,

at present acting Premier, is the leader of the reactionary Conservatives. He is about fifty years of age, is small of stature, and has a commanding bearing. He early achieved distinction as a literary man, and after a term as a magistrate, in 1884 was made a Court Registrar, then a post of commanding influence. Here he became acquainted with the Progressives and identified himself with Pak Yong-hyo, Kim Ok-kiun, So Chai-pil (Dr. Jaisohn), and their party. On the failure of the *emeute* he was seized and came near losing his life. In the torture to which he was subjected he had all his toes burned off! He was then sent into exile in the south and languished there until 1895, when on the return of Pak to power he was pardoned and recalled and appointed to important posts. He showed from the first, however, a most reactionary spirit, opposing the principle measures of Pak and the reformers, and joined with his foes in driving him into exile. His administration as Minister of Education was marked by an attack on the foreign schools of the Government and a scurvy pamphlet concerning Western civilization and Christianity. He was Minister of Law when the coffee plot occurred, and in spite of widespread public indignation put the unfortunate Russian interpreter Kim Hong-yuk and his fellow conspirators to torture and exposed their dead bodies in a barbarous manner. And now as acting Premier he is seeking fame by an attempt to abrogate the new and more enlightened laws and revive the old barbarous law of "taint and torture." When he issued his scurvy pamphlet the foreign representatives had to interfere, and again they have memorialized his Majesty against his measures. Sin would turn back the hands on the dial of Korea's destiny a half millennium if he could. He stands with his back to the future. He was once regarded as a sincere but misguided man. This is no longer the case.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The following Report and Accounts will be presented to the Shareholders at the twelfth yearly general meeting of the above-named Company, to be held at No. 61, Yokohama, on Friday, the 7th July, 1899, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Statement of Accounts for the year ended the 31st May last accompanies this Report.

The net profits for that period, including the Sum of yen 1,093 78 brought forward from last year, after writing off for depreciation of buildings, plant, and machinery and making provision for bad debts and payment of Directors' and Auditors' fees, amount to yen 46,649 51, from which amount the following payments have been made;

	Yen.	Yen.
On the 20th Oct., 1898, an interim dividend of yen 12 per share	15,600	
On the 2nd Feb., 1899, an interim dividend of yen 10 per share	13,000	28,600 00
Leaving a balance to credit of Profit and Loss account of		18,049.51
The Directors now propose to declare a final dividend for the year of yen 8 per share, which will absorb		10,400.00
To give a Bonus to employees of		858.00
And to carry forward to new account		6,791.51
		18,049.51

It will be observed with satisfaction that there has been a considerable increase in the profits earned during the year just ended. We are, however, about to become subject to various forms of taxation from which we have heretofore been exempt, and this may to some extent affect the future dividend paying power of the Company.

Messrs. Johnstone and Walter retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. F. J. Hall has been chosen by the Directors to take the place of Auditor rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Kiel, and they have pleasure in recommending the confirmation of their selection by the Shareholders, and also the re-election of Mr. Fearon as Auditor for the current year.

The amount of remuneration to be paid to the Directors will have to be decided at this meeting; and the Shareholders will also be asked to sanction retrospectively the disbursement of all sums expended in payment of Director's fees, which have been at the rate of 200 yen per annum for each Director, for several years past. It is probable that according to the right construction of the Articles of Association, these payments should have been authorized annually, in general meeting; it is therefore considered desirable that a vote of indemnity should be passed.

J. F. LOWDER,
F. GILLETT, } Directors.

Yokohama, 26th June, 1899.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON MAY 31ST, 1899.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital, 1,300 Shares of $50 each	65,000.00
Capital Reduction Account	65,000.00
Sundry Creditors	5,352.55
	135,352.55
Balance, Profit and Loss Account.	18,049.51
	153,402.06

ASSETS.	Yen.
Property (Estimated Value, as in 1898 yen 62,000)	21,905.60
Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches and Salvage Gear	52,502.25
Stock as per Inventory	65,806.70
Fire Insurance Policies	516.67
Sundry Debtors	7,535.29
Chartered Bank of I.A. & C.	3,951.07
Cash in hand	1,184.48
	153,432 06

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31ST, 1899.

	Yen.
To Interim Dividend yen 12 per Share paid October, 20th, 1898	15,600.00
„ Interim Dividend yen 10 per Share paid February 2nd, 1899	13,000.00
„ Bad and disputed Debts	546.90
„ Property Account. Depreciation of Buildings	1,000.00
„ Plant, Machinery, &c., Depreciation	2,464.87
„ Fire Insurance	1,321.27
„ Rent	942.84

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To Wages and Working Expenses ...			107,050.21
„ Directors' and Auditors' Fees			1,400 00
„ Balance			18,049 51
To be dealt with as follows:—			
Dividend yen 8 per Share	10,400.00		
Bonus to Employees.....	850.00		
Carried forward to new account ...	6,791.51	18,049.51	18.049.51
			161,357.60

1898.		Yen.
June 1.	By Balance	1,093.78
1899.		
May 31.	By Gross Earnings.....	159,983 40
	„ Interest	210.42
	„ Transfer	70.00
		161,357.60
1899.		
June 1.	By Balance	6,791 51

J. F. LOWDER, F. GILLETT } Directors.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers o the Company, and certify them to be correct.

C. H. FEARON, F. J. HALL } Auditors.

Yokohama, June 24th, 1899.

BANK OF JAPNA.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, June 24th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15,878,925
Amount of convertible notes issued...	182,672,897
Government deposits	31,514,822
General deposits	8,702,478
Exchange liability	35,047
Total	268,804,171

Cr.	
Discount notes	34,280,465
Foreign discount notes	10,491,390
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	47,472,300
Exchange liability	2,515 945
Government bonds	45,131,945
Property...	1,859 229
Bullion and Specie	105,053.345
Total	268,804.171

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those ...	179,998,733
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	100,772,720
Silver	
Total	100.772.720
Securities :—	
Government bonds	35,465.788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	7 551,680
Commercial notes	14,208.545
Total	79 226,013

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold, ...	322.529	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	161,144	—
Government deposits	—	1,293 822
General deposits	514.657	—

ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF A TRADE MARK.

THE TANSAN LABEL.

A case was recently heard in the Ku Saibansho, Kobe, in which Mr. J. Clifford Wilkinson sought to obtain damages from Messrs. Fukami and Ohara for using a label so closely resembling the true Tansan label that only a careful observer would be likely to note the difference between it and the label used by the manager and agent of the Ishimichi Water. Proceedings were instituted under both the Civil and Criminal Codes. We append translations of the judgment :—

THE CRIMINAL CASE.

John Clifford Wilkinson, a mineral water merchant (English), 82, Concession, Kobe, represented by Yamashita Yutaro, No. 61 (2) Shimoyamate-dori, Shichome, Kobe, versus Fukami Shukichi, (Heimin), a wine merchant No. 246 Motomachi, Sanchome, Kobe, and Ohara Yoshisane (Heimin), head of a Mineral Water Co. Togo-Mura, Toyono gun, Osaka, Defendants.

The above mentioned Fukami and Ohara have been accused of injuring the trade mark of the plaintiff, and the following decision is given in the case.

THE DECISION.

1. The demand of the plaintiff is dismissed. 2. Plaintiff is ordered to pay the Court expenses.

THE FACTS.

The plaintiff demanded damages in the sum of five thousand *yen* from the defendants for injuring his trade mark directly or indirectly to that amount. The defendants asked the Court to dismiss the case as the statement of the plaintiffs was not true.

THE REASON.

The plaintiff says that he has been damaged by the defendants directly or indirectly in the amount of 5,000 *yen*, but he does not adduce proof of the damage done nor does he prove the fact. Therefore the Court can not see that damage has been done, and moreover the Court cannot recognise that the defendants have injured the plaintiff's trade mark. Therefore the demand made by the plaintiff is unreasonable and decision is given as above.

FUKUDA SHOKI, (Public Procurator.)

June 10th, 32nd year of M iji.

Kobe District Court.

IDEGUCHI TAKEJI [Judge].
UMINO TSUNESABURO [Judge].

THE CIVIL CASE.

Fukami Shukichi, a wine merchant, age 36, Heimin, No. 246, Motomachi, San-chome, Kobe.

Ohara Yoshisane, Head of a Mineral Spring Water Co., age 43, Heimin, Togomura, Toyonogun, Osaka.

The proceedings of this case refer to injuring a trade mark.

The chief features of the case are that the trade mark of Mr. Wilkinson (an Englishman) that has been registered in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, has become well known and popular, that the two accused men purposely made a similar trade mark to that of Mr. Wilkinson for themselves, and their trade mark has been also registered in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. By using the trade mark, the accused sold their aerated water since last May, and injured Mr. Wilkinson's trade mark.

There are two questions in connection with this.

I.—Should the Patent Office stop the accused men from using their trade mark until the decision on this case is given?

II.—Did the accused men injure the trade mark of Mr. Wilkinson?

The first question is whether the accused men should be restricted as the injurers of a patent right or not, and, as it is not a question whether the trade mark will lose its effect or not, the Patent Office has nothing to do with the case.

The business of the Court is different from that of the Patent Office, and these two offices are quite independent of each other.

The Patent Office can give a decision on the effect of the patent right, but the Office has no power to try a case about an injury done to a patent right.

On the other hand the Court can give a decision on the case as to injury done on the patent right or trade mark, but has no right to judge whether the registered trade mark will lose its effect or not in such a case as this.

Of course, sometimes a judgment is given in the Court on the effect of patent right, but the judgment has no weight as to the effect of the trade mark; and the judgment given on that point is simply to furnish the Court with the supposed decision of the Patent Office so that the Court shall come to the right decision as to injury to the trade mark.

In the second case, when we say a similar trade mark, it must be so much alike that it is difficult for ordinary folk to distinguish one from the other. If they are not so much alike, we can not use the words "Similar trade marks, etc."

The trade mark is a mark by which a merchant distinguishes his goods from others, and if these trade marks can be distinguished one from another easily, we can not say they are similar trade marks.

The trade mark of the accused is the same in colour and shape as that of Mr. Wilkinson, but the trade mark of the accused men has the figure of Nioo with an oblong blank space across the figure, while Mr. Wilkinson's has the figures of Izanagi and Izanami, and a bridge instead, and these two trade marks can be distinguished one from the other easily. For these reasons, we can not say these two trade marks are alike in the view of the Patent Law. Suppose the trade mark of the accused is similar to that of Mr. Wilkinson, yet the accused are not guilty, because clause 1 of Article 23 of the Patent Law can only be applied to those who have not registered their trade mark and have made a similar or an identical trade mark to another's and used it. Therefore it can not be applied to such a case as this, for the accused men's trade mark has been already registered and its use is allowed.

If the accused men's trade mark has been obtained by some fraud, the case should be punished by clause 2 of the same Article, but we can not see any trace of such crime, therefore we can not try them on that point.

The trade mark of the accused is registered by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and its use is lawfully allowed, therefore there can be no objection to their exercise of a right justly obtained. If the trade mark of the accused was very similar to that of Mr. Wilkinson, the trade mark will only lose its effect under Article 10 of the Patent Law, and the accused should not be punished under clause 1 of Article 23 of the Patent Law.

Therefore the judgment given here is not to be restricted by the decision of the Patent Office. And we do not recognise that the trade mark of the accused is similar to that of Mr. Wilkinson; and even if they are alike the accused will not be punished by the law. Therefore we give the following decision in the case in accordance with Article 224 of the law.

DECISION.

The accused men Shukichi and Yoshigane are not guilty, and the siezed articles will be returned to the forwarder.

FUKUDA SHOKI (Public Procurator),
10th July, 32nd year of Meiji.
Kobe District Court.
IDEGUCHI TAKEJI [Judge],
UMINO TSUNESABURO [Clerk].

—*Kobe Herald.*

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS.

MASSING OF TROOPS AT THE CAPE.

Shanghai, June 23, 2.35 p.m.

The *Daily News* says that it has been practically decided to increase the troops at the Cape to 40,000, India contributing 15,000 of that total.

The number of people, mostly women and children, who left Johannesburg in May and June was 7,580.

Shanghai, June 26, 3.15 p.m.

The Volksraad of the Orange Free State has voted a sum of seventy-six thousand pounds sterling for the purchase of guns and munitions of war.

Shanghai, June 27, 1 p.m.

Various reports are circulated pointing to active mediation on the part of the Cape Africander leaders in the Transvaal complication. President Kruger is submitting to Sir Alfred Milner a proposal for granting the franchise to Uitlanders after six years' residence, the measure to have retrospective effect. The proposal further provides for the abolition of the present naturalization clause.

Shanghai, June 28.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham, declared that President Kruger's counter-proposals were not even a fair instalment of reform. He added that no proposal would be acceptable which did not give the Uitlanders immediate appreciable representation. The letter as well as the spirit of the Convention with the Transvaal were violated by the

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existing state of affairs. The misgovernment of the Transvaal constituted a festering sore which poisoned the whole atmosphere of South Africa. It was as erroneous to say that Her Majesty's Government wanted war, as to suppose that it would draw back without effecting its purpose.

All the English journals strongly endorse Mr. Chamberlain's utterances except the *Daily Chronicle*.

Shanghai, June 29.

Mr. Fischer, a member of the Executive of the Orange Free State, is using his good offices with the Boers to effect a peaceful settlement, but nothing will be done officially until the Raads meet on Monday next, the 3rd July. It is believed, however, that Mr. Fischer's mission will be successful.

THE SAMOAN QUESTION.

ROYALTY ABOLISHED.

Shanghai, 23rd June, 2.41 p.m.

The Commissioners have decided to abolish the institution of royalty in Samoa, and have appointed a provisional government composed of three Consuls.

A COALITION CABINET.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau has formed a coalition Cabinet. (Here follow the names given below with the added information that M. M. Millerand and Baudin are Socialists).

THE DEFENCES OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

Mr. George Wyndham's Bill provides an appropriation of £130,000 for the defences of Wei-hai-wei, which will be garrisoned by two companies of British Infantry, six companies of Chinese Infantry, one battery of British Garrison Artillery, and one battery of Chinese Garrison Artillery, together with a detachment of Royal Engineers.

THE NEW CABINET AND DREYFUS.

Shanghai, June 24.

The new French Cabinet has decided to remove a number of superior officers for actions contrary to military discipline in connexion with the Dreyfus case.

HONOURS FOR VON BÜLOW.

Herr von Bülow has been created a Count.

BRITISH MOVEMENTS.

Shanghai, June 26.

The military authorities at Cape-town are arranging to secure transport in the event of its being required.

Three batteries of field artillery and four companies of infantry are to sail from England for the Cape early in July. The *Tantallon Castle* took a hundred tons of cartridges and loaded shell.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

A circular has been issued over the signatures of their Excellencies M. Waldeck-Rousseau, President of Council, and General de Gallifet, Minister of War. It is addressed to the Prefects and Generals, and it enjoins upon them respectively the duty of enforcing respect for obedience to the institutions of the country.

FOR BRYAN AND FREE SILVER.

The Democratic State Convention of Kentucky has resolved upon a platform including the free coinage of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one; has expressed confidence in Bryan, and has denounced Protection.

CRICKET.

The Australians have defeated Leicestershire by 248 runs.

BIRTH OF A RUSSIAN PRINCESS.

Shanghai, June 28, 3 p.m.

The Czarina has been confined of a daughter.

THE "AMERICA" CUP CONTEST.

The yacht Shamrock has been launched.

IMPROVEMENTS AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

The Russian Government has appropriated a sum of thirteen million roubles for improving Vladivostock. Two millions will be expended forthwith.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE: DEFINITE ACTION OF GERMANY.

The German Delegates at the Hague have definitely opposed Russia's proposals for a suspension of armaments.

Shanghai. June 29, 11.58 a.m.

The Peace Conference has finally declared that Russia's proposals for a limitation of armaments are unacceptable.

COLONIAL AID FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

The Australian colonies are discussing the advisability of offering troops for service in South Africa.

CRICKET.

The Australian team have defeated Derbyshire at Derby by an innings and 249 runs.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE FRENCH CABINET.

Saigon, June 23.

In consequence of a failure on the part of M. Bourgeois to form a combination, M. Waldeck-Rousseau resumed his measures to organize a Cabinet.

Admiral de Cuvelier de Cuverville has been relieved of his duties as chief of the Head Quarters Staff in the Department of the Navy because of his having published in a newspaper a letter indicating defects in the national defences.

Later.

The following Cabinet has finally been organized :—

M. Waldeck-Rousseau...	President of Council and Minister of the Interior.
M. Delcassé	Minister of Foreign Affairs.
General de Galliffet	Minister of War.
M. de Lanessan.....	Minister of the Navy.
M. Morris	Minister of Justice.
M. Caillaux	Minister of Finance.
M. Millerand	Minister of Commerce.
M. Leygues	Minister of Public Instruction.
M. Decrais	Minister of the Colonies.
M. Jean Dupuy.....	Minister of Agriculture.
M. Baudin	Minister of Public Works.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, June 25.

The Council of Ministers has decided upon the text of a declaration which will be read on Monday to Parliament. It will say that the object which the Cabinet has in view is to defend the institutions of France.

General de Gallifet is to remove some officers.

Several Deputies are questioning the Cabinet.

General Roget has been sent to Belfort.

SEQUEL TO THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Saigon, June 26.

General Hartschmidt has been sent to Reims, Colonel de Saxcé to Poitiers, and an inquiry has been opened into the conduct of Colonel Couvertin. These officers took part in the polemics caused by the Dreyfus affair.

THE CABINET AND THE CONSTITUTION.

Saigon, June 27.

The Ministerial declaration says that the Government proposes solely to defend the institutions of the Republic and to insure the preservation of order with the cöoperation of all the Republicans; that it will cause all the decrees of justice to be respected, without distinction; and that it esteems discipline to be the essential guarantee of the Army's greatness.

VOTES OF CONFIDENCE.

The Chamber has approved the declaration and the acts of the Government by 263 votes to 237, and the Senate by 187 votes to 25.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

Saigon, June 29.

The French Government has introduced a project for direct contributions.

The prorogation of the sessions of the French Parliament is at hand.

RIOTS AT KIAO-CHOU.

PEASANTS ATTACK THE RAILWAY

LOSS OF LIFE.

ORDER RESTORED BY GERMAN INFANTRY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, June 26, 6.08 p.m.

Serious riots have occurred near Kiaochou. Thousands of armed peasants rose by preconcerted signal and attacked the railway, now being actively pushed in the vicinity. The rioters offered determined resistance to the German Infantry and nine were killed. It is expected, however, that the military will be able to restore order without further bloodshed.

MURDER OF RUSSIAN ENGINEERS

THE WORK OF CHINESE BRIGANDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, June 24.

Two Russian Engineers and ten Cossacks have been killed by brigands near Kirin.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Nagano, June 27.

Yesterday 400 packages of dynamite exploded at Kamuriki tunnel on the Shinouai line, and 24 workmen were injured.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Kobe, June 27.

The *Deutschland*, with H.I.H. Prince Henry on board, and the *Gefion*, arrived here at 1 o'clock this afternoon. The Japanese warship *Akashi* fired salutes and Rear-Admiral Kataoka, Mr. Omori, Governor; Commander Nakamura, the German Minister, and the Consuls visited His Imperial Highness. In all probability Prince Henry will not land. The two warships will leave for Yokohama either this evening or early to-morrow morning.

Later.

Prince Henry entertained Rear Admiral Kataoka and the German Minister, Count von Leyden, to luncheon to-day. He determined not to land here; and left for Yokohama at 4 p.m. His arrival is expected at 10 a.m. on the 29th. He at first declined the offered escort of the warship *Akashi Kan*, but afterwards accepted it. His Highness visited Kobe simply in the capacity of a commander; but he comes to Yokohama and Tokyo as a Prince of Prussia. Count von Leyden left on the *Deutschland*.

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(From the "Shanghai Mercury.")

THE FOOCHOW TROUBLES.

Foochow, June 19, 7.50 a.m.

Serious news reaches us from Kienningfu. It is reported that the Mission Home has been burnt to the ground and the hospital is also believed to have been destroyed.

All the missionaries at Kienningfu are safe.

The mandarins are utterly useless in the matter. The Viceroy has been requested to send soldiers to the scene of the outrage and to send men for the protection of missionaries in the disturbed region, but he appears to have treated the request with ominous silence.

Foochow, June 19, 11.10 a.m.

Dr. Rigg, succeeded in escaping from Kienyang. Telegraphing from Yengping he says that there are only about 150 soldiers there, and that the trouble is spreading.

The Hospital at Kienningfu has not been burnt as was at first supposed, but it has been plundered.

The British and United States Consuls here have ordered all British and American Missionaries to leave Kucheng for Foochow at once.

They have obeyed instructions and are coming down.

The chair coolies, knowing that it was imperative that the missionaries must return, made a charge of $80 from Yingping.

Foochow, June 19, 3.05 p.m.

The Mission ladies have suffered great trials in reaching here, and have had to hide in boats, the boatmen showing themselves very loyal. The ladies had to walk bare-footed across fields so as to escape attention. The latest news officially circulated, is that the British Consul has heard from the Viceroy that Rev. Mr. Phillips and wife, as well as Miss Sears are safe in Kienyang Yamen. The locality is quiet.

Dr. Rigg telegraphs similar news.

The Viceroy has received a wire stating that the Rev. Philips and party are safe at Kieningfoo.

Foochow, June 20, 3.25 p.m.

Dr. J. Rigg, of the Church Missionary Society, Nanhua, is expected here to-day. The Revs. W. C. White and Walsh have gone in a steam launch to Suikow to make enquiries and to give what assistance they can.

A wire has been received from Mission Dispensary, Yenping, from the native doctor, last midnight, confirming the news that Rev. Phillips and his wife and Miss Sears are safe at the Yamen at Kienyang, and are waiting there for an opportunity to leave for Foochow.

No native Christians have been killed at Kienyang.

At Kienningfoo Leper Settlement two leper Christians were murdered and their bodies thrown into a pond. One blind watchman belonging to the Church was stoned to death and his body thrown into the river. Two other natives are reported to have perished.

THE MISSIONARY TROUBLE IN FUKIEN.

Foochow, June 21.

Dr. John Rigg arrived here this morning. Rev. H. S Phillip, Mrs. Phillips and Miss Sears are expected here this evening.

The names of ten of the natives who incited the mob to burn, loot, and destroy property are well known, and it is to be hoped that these will be arrested at once and brought to justice.

It was the intention of the rioters to attack and destroy the hospital at Nangwa, but the sudden arrival of forty soldiers put a stop to it.

SAFE ARRIVAL OF MR. AND MRS. PHILLIPS.

Foochow, June 22.

Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Sears, and Dr. Pakenham have arrived here safely.

The disturbed district is now quieter.

(From the "China Mail.")

ADMIRAL DEWEY SAILS FROM SINGAPORE.

Singapore, June 16.

The United States cruiser *Olympia*, carrying Admiral Dewey's flag, sailed from Singapore at day-break to-day.

During his stay in Singapore, Admiral Dewey has observed the same privacy as he preserved at Hongkong.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

Manila, June 13.

It is reported here that General Luna paid a visit to Aguinaldo whose bodyguard shot him down, inflicting wounds from which he ultimately died.

The rebels on the southern side of the city have been demoralised by General Lawton's advance beyond Paranaque, and are falling back on the town of Imuz.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

Solution of Problem No. 426.

By A. F. Mackenzie.

First prize, 1898 Problem-Tourney of the Bohemian Chess Club, of Prague, Bohemia.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to R 3	1—K takes R
2—Kt to Q 7 ch	2—K takes P (must)
3—B to K 5 mate	
	1—K to K 6
2—Kt to Q 5 ch	2—K to B 7
3—B to Q 4 mate	if 2—K takes B
3—Q to R 7	
	1—P to Kt 5
2—Q to R 6	2—K takes R
3—Kt to Q 7 mate	
etc.,	etc.

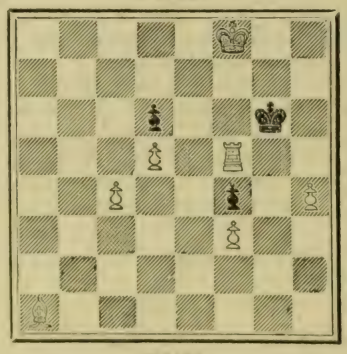
Thirty one composers, with forty-nine problems, competed in this tourney, in which the Blind Problematist of Jamaica secured first-prize.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, and W.D.C.

Problem No. 429.

By Jan Dobrusky.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 521.

Played in the Inter-University Match.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

White—George, Oxford.	Black—Meyer, Columbia.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—Kt takes P
6—Q to K 2 ch	6—B to K 3
7—B takes Kt	7—Q takes B
8—B takes P	8—B to Q B 4
9—Kt to K B 3 (a)	9—Castles (b)
10—B takes P (c)	10—R to K sq
11—K to Q sq	11—Kt to R 3
12—Kt to B 3	12—Q to B 3
13—B to Kt 3 (d)	13—B to K Kt 5
14—Q to B sq	14—B to Q 5
15—B to K sq (e)	15—R to K 6 (f)
16—B to Q 2	16—R takes Kt
17—P takes R	17—B takes P ch
18—K to B sq	18—K to B sq
19—Kt to K 2	19—B to B 3
20—P to B 3	20—Kt to Kt 5
21—P to Q R 3	21—Kt takes P ch
22—K to B 2	22—B to K 5
23—Kt to Kt 3	23—Kt to Kt 5 ch
24—K to Kt 3	24—B to B 7 ch
25—Resigns.	

Notes from *The Field*.

(a) Up to now both players follow the Books correctly. If 9—B takes P, then 9—B takes P, 10—B takes Kt, B to Q 5, with advantage.

(b) He should have played 9..... P to Q B 3.

(c) Now the Pawn may be captured with safety, the K Kt being in play.

(d) The mistake lies here. He should have retired B to B 4.

(e) The difference between 13—B to B 4, suggested in the preceding note, and 13—B to Kt 3 is transparent now. He could have played now 15—B to Q 3, and Black could not have brought a third piece to bear on the K Kt.

(f) The winning move. It gains the exchange, leaving Black the superior position besides.

Game No. 522.

A brilliant game which will well repay examination.

VIENNA OPENING.

White—Falkbeer,		Black—Anderssen.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	16 P KB4	R KBsq
2 QKt B3	P KB4(a)	17 Kt KB3	Kt KB3
3 PxP	Kt KB3	18 Q R4	B KKt5
4 P KKt4	B QB4	19 KtxKP	B KR4
5 P Kt5	Castles (b)	20 B R3	B K6ch
6 PxKt	QxP	21 K Ktsq	BxKBP
7 Q B3	B Kt3	22 QxKB	Kt Q4
8 P Q3	P QB3	23 RxKt(d)	RxQ
9 Kt K4	Q K2	24 R Q7	Q B5q
10 B Q2	P Q4	25 Kt K6ch	PxKt
11 P B6	Q QB2	26 RxKKtP	R KB6
12 Castles(c)	PxKt	27 B K5	Q KBsq
13 QPxP	RxP	28 R B7d.ch	K Kt-q
14 B B4ch	K Rsq	29 RxRch	K R2
15 Q R5	QKt Q2	30 RxQ and wins (e)	

NOTES.

(a) Weak play! Q Kt to B 3, K Kt to B 3 or B to B 4 are the recognised defences.

(b) The game is now resolved into a Muzio Gambit. White, however, has the move, and his Q Kt being in play makes all the difference.

(c) Grandly played! And against such an opponent!

(d) Another splendid sacrifice! If 23—P takes R, 24—Kt to Kt 6 ch wins the Black Queen.

(e) One of the finest games on record.

The World's Champion.

It is always interesting and instructive to know of the methods by which a man becomes distinguished. Emanuel Lasker is not only the Champion of the World, but he is probably the strongest player in the world. The Chess-editor of *The Press*, Philadelphia, says that his play is different from that of the other Masters. Morphy, Anderson, Labourdonnais, Zukertort, Blackburne, Tschigorin, and Pillsbury principally won by the brilliancy of attack. Steinitz, Weiss, and Tarrasch are more conservative. Still it is a powerful attack they chiefly rely upon.

"With Lasker it is quite different. He plays brilliantly, he attacks boldly and persistently, but only when he sees his way clear and when this line of play leads to the speediest win. Otherwise he adopts easier methods. Lasker is a master in the end game, and by wholesale exchanges most of his games are reduced to endings, and pretty generally he wins them.

"Play of this kind is not likely to be admired by the average player, but the expert will readily consent that it is the highest grade of Chess. His position judgment, and principally as far as end games are concerned, is unexcelled. Another quality Lasker possesses is, that he can maintain an advantage in position, however small it may be, for a considerable length of time. He may have no win on hand, but by clever manœuvering he gives his opponent all the chances to make a mistake. Surely there is no one who can take advantage of them quicker than Lasker does. He is thoroughly familiar with the various openings, he is very accurate, and his play is remarkably free from errors and oversights.

"The general opinion is that in combination he is not quite as deep as Pillsbury, Tarrasch, or Steinitz. This may or may not be the case. The fact is that he lost some games when he was taken by surprise by some brilliant combination, but he also won from the same opponents in a very similar manner. The chances are, that in the London Tourney he will come in first, or at least dangerously close to first."

Notes.

Pillsbury has announced his intention of playing short matches with the draughts experts in various towns in Great Britain.

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A novel suggestion has been made by the Hastings Chess Club. The leading members are arranging a summer chess tour, to include visits to and matches at Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Newcastle and Leeds.

It is a curious fact, says the *Westminster Budget*, that the upward march of a nation may be gauged by the flourishing condition of its Chess. When Spain was great it had its Ruy Lopez, Damiano, Lucena, and others; Italy had its Lolli, Greco, Polerio, and Ponziani. Spain has had no first class player for centuries, and Chess being neglected in consequence, it went gradually downhill; and the same could be said about Italy in a lesser degree, the latter country reviving somewhat after 1866.

Total abstainers with a fondness for the chess board will learn with pious terror of a fact connected with their favourite game which they probably never suspected. If Blackburne's assertion is correct there is not a single chess master who sports the blue ribbon. "I find," declared Blackburne recently, readily admitting the soft impeachment, "that whisky is a most useful stimulus to mental activity, especially when one is engaged in a stiff and prolonged struggle." In that respect he only follows a rule without a single exception. "All chess masters indulge moderately in wines or spirits," and, of course, Blackburne ought to know who has met them in all parts of the world. "Speaking for myself," added the champion, with candour, "alcohol clears my brain, and I always take a glass or two when playing." And it is whisky which the great chess player mostly affects.

The London International Chess Congress opened at St. Stephen's Hall, Westminster, last month. There was a large attendance of representatives of the principal chess clubs of Great Britain. Sir William Hart Dyke opened the proceedings with a brief address, in the course of which he extended a hearty welcome to the foreign players. It was announced that the committee had decided to admit the following sixteen chess masters for the international tournament, which is to be the principal feature of the congress; Blackburne, Burn, Bird, Lee, Mason, Teichmann and Tinsley of London, Tschigorin of St. Petersburg, Janowski of Paris, Schlechter of Vienna, Maroczy of Budapest, Lasker and Cohn of Berlin, and Pillsbury, Showalter and Steinitz of New York.

The result of the week's play, by rounds, is as follows:

The first round, played on Tuesday—Maroczy beat Mason, Pillsbury beat Tschigorin, Showalter beat Bird, Lasker, and Steinitz drew, Janowski beat Tinsley, Cohn beat Schlechter, Blackburne and Teichmann drew, while Lee and Burn adjourned their game.

The second round, played on Wednesday—Janowski beat Steinitz, Tschigorin beat Tinsley, Lasker and Schlechter drew, Maroczy, and Lee drew, Cohn beat Blackburn, Mason beat Bird, Teichmann and Pillsbury drew, Showalter a bye.

The third round, played on Friday—Steinitz beat Mason, Tschigorin beat Teichmann, Maroczy beat Tinsley, Pillsbury beat Bird, Janowski beat Cohn, Schlechter and Showalter drew, Lasker beat Lee, Blackburn a bye.

The fourth round, played on Saturday—Janowski beat Schlechter, Maroczy beat Bird, Teichmann beat Tinsley, Pillsbury beat Cohn, Steinitz and Tschigorin drew, Blackburne beat Lasker, Showalter beat Lee, Mason a bye.

The committee which has the arrangements of the congress in charge has brought down upon itself a great deal of adverse criticism by reason of its attempt to levy tribute upon the English press for the publication of the tourney games. The *Illustrated London News*, among other things, says:

"A demand so exorbitant, not to say preposterous, has never been advanced before in any chess competition, and where it might have been thought that the interests of the game would be best served by the utmost publicity as regards the proceedings of the congress, some influence suggestive of Shylock decrees otherwise. Had the necessary funds not been subscribed by the public there might be some excuse for this method of obtaining more, but the generous response made to the committee's appeal should have removed all need for a step without precedent in English chess. We do not profess to be lawyers but we have yet to learn that a spectator reproducing a game from memory is guilty of any breach of copyright."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 1	Sa. July 1
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. July 3
Hongkong	P. & O Co.	Rosetta 2	M. July 3
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 3	M. July 3
America	O. & O Co.	Doric 4	Th. July 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	Th. July 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. July 10
America	T. K K	Nippon Maru	Su. July 16
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Varra	Th. July 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. July 17
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. July 25

1 Left Shanghai on the 26th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 28th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 28th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 17th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. July 1
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. July 3
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. July 4
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	W. July 5
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. July 5
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. July 7
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. July 7
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. July 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. July 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. July 12
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M July 17
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. July 26

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 23rd June,—Shanghai via ports, 17th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 23rd June,—Yokkaichi, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 24th June,—London via ports, Kobe, 22nd June, General.—Cornes & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S Tsuji, 26th June.—Kobe, 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4 148 H. L. Allen, 26th June,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 24th June, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 827, F W. Horton, 25th June,—Otaru, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N Mumezono, 26th June,—Otaru via ports, 21st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 26th June,—Yokkaichi, 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Norna, American schooner yacht, 89, McIntire, 26th June,—Hongkong, 10th June.—W. J. Weaver.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 27th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 9th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,093 Riquier, 27th June,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 26th June, Mails and General.—M. M. S S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwabara, 27th June,—Yokkaichi, 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 27th June,—Otaru via ports, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 28th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 26th June, General.—C.P.R. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 28th June,—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (24), Japanese Cruiser, 3 709, Capt. Misu, 28th June,—Yokosuka, 28th June.

Asama Kan (37), Japanese Cruiser, 9,855, Capt Shimazaki, 28th June,—Yokosuka, 28th June.

Chinyen Kan (20), Japanese Battleship, 7,335, Capt. G. Hayazaki, 28th June,—Yokosuka, 28th June.

Yashima Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,517. Capt. S. Uryu, 28th June,—Yokosuka, 28th June.

Matsushima Kan (30), Japanese Cruiser, 4 278, Capt. H. Takei, 28th June,—Yokosuka, 28th June.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3 323, E G. Dickens, 28th June,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 27th June, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Kaiserin Elizabeth (19), Austrian Cruiser, 4,064, Capt. Julius von Zeck, 28th June,—Nagasaki via Kobe, 27th June.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,267, F. J. Davies, 28th June,—Glasgow via ports, Kobe 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kweilin, British steamer, 1 088, J. B. Harris, 28th June,—Newchwang via Chefoo, 22nd June, Beans —Butterfield & Swire,

Deutschland (35), German flagship, 7,676. Capt. Simila, 29th June,—Nagasaki and Kobe 27th June.

Gefion (25), German cruiser, 4,207, Capt. Rollman, 29th June,—Nagasaki and Kobe 27th June.

Takasago Kan (20), Japanese cruiser, 4,227, Capt. H. Tanji, 29th June,—Tateyama Bay (Boshiu) 29th June.

Ikazuchi Kan, Japanese Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 311, June 29th,—Tateyama Bay (Boshiu), June 29th.

Yugiri Kan, Japanese Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 257, June 29th,—Tateyama Bay (Boshiu), June 29th.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 29th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 27th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Ningpo, British steamer, 1,240, Rob Phillips, 29th June,—Taiwanfoo, 23rd June, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 29th June,—Otaru via ports, 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 23rd June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 23rd June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Laude, 23rd June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 23rd June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 23rd June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General, —Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Lüneschloss, 23rd June,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 24th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 24th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 25th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, —Yokkaichi, 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, R. C. Thompson,—London, via ports, 26th June, General.—Butterfieldt & Swire.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,165, Maier,—Trieste via ports, 16th June, General.—Brown & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, —Yokkaichi, 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezone,—Kobe, 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton,—Otaru, 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 28th June,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 28th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 28th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 28th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 28th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 28th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 29th June,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 29th June,—Vancouver via Victoria, B.C., General.—C.P.R. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 29th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 29th June,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 29th June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Sunday's 2 children, Mr. Chas. K. Krepplin, Mr. K. S. Salcaca, Lieut.-General Kuroki, Mr. Kitatle, Mr. N. Woog, Mr. Schwob, Mr. and Mrs. Fiecke, Mr. B. M. Overton, and Miss Wallace, in cabin; Mr. S. Fujimura, Mrs. H. Imakaku, Mr. N. Takahashi, Mr. Y. Tanii, and Mrs. M. Nakayama, in second class; 43 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. L. Izquierdo, Mr. J. D. Smart, Mr. and Mrs. Courtellemont, Mr. Koehler, Mr. F. Urbig, Mr. D McGregor, Mr. B. McGregor and boy, Mr. E. W. Kingsmill, Mr. McLindskog, Mr. G. Allcot, Mrs. Maigre and child, Mr. Ernest Achilles, Mrs. Shea and 2 children, Mr. Fawkner, Mr. Forshaw, Mr. H. Takenouchi, Mr. W. Low, and Mr. W. Treglown, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. A. Roch, Mrs. H. R. Bowie, Mrs. H. Cook, Miss M. Richmond, Miss K. M. Youngman, Mr. H. Wilson, and Mr. K. J. Iwakami, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. M. J. Shea, and Mr. H. S. Wheeler, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. W. Anderson, Mr. A. P. Bovier, Mr. T. S. Clark, Mr. J. McKay, Mr. E. Narland, and A. Chillovich, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Rev. M. B. Grier, Dr. J. B. Neal, and Mr. M. Trepivok, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. E. K. Johnstone, Mr. W. Seabury, Mr. and Mrs. F. Harkins and child, Mr. J. Leverson, Mr. R. T. Ralph, Mr. J. C. Munchen, Mr. N. Fikam, Mr. R. Thompson, Mr. B. A. Holcomb, Mr. G. H. Hayes, and Mr. C. K. Maguire, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, from Hongkong via ports, and Kobe:—Mr. H. Slade in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Olympia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. C. McIntosh, for Tacoma, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. Kraaij, Mr. Gorokichi Iwase, Mr. Kuchi Katayama, Mr. Fred Riley, Mr. M. L. Wilkinson, Mr. Ohmstedt, Mr. Saatze, Mr. F. G. Stone, and Misses Hogg (2), in cabin; 4 Chinese, and infant, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. S. Samejima, Mr. S Sugiyama, Capt. Y. Shimazaki, I.J.N., Mrs. Somoff, Miss Somoff, Mr. M. Horiuchi, and Mr. Y. Shirai, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Macy, Mr. T. R. Shea, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Shea, Miss Shea, Miss Eva Shea, Mr. A. P. Bovier, Mr. J. H Fawkner, Mr. Geo. C. Hayes, Mr. K. C. Maguire, Mr. W. Anderson, Mr. E. Narland, Mr. T. S. Clark, Mr. J. McKay, Mr. J. T. Richardson, Mr. R. T. Ralph, Mr. A. Seabury, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Murray, Mr. R. Thompson, Mr. J. C. Munchen, Mr. H. S. Wheeler, Mr. B. A. Holcomb, Miss Janet Waldorf, Mrs. Ada Dow Carter, Miss Virginia Crauna, Mr. Norval McGregor, Mr. Jas. H. Love, Mrs. Johnstone, Rev. M. B. Grier, Mr. and Mrs. F. Hashim and child, Mr. N. Fikam, Mrs. Layton and servant, Master G. B. Layton, Mr. P. R. Goedkook, Mr. I. Ehime, Mr. M. M. Trepion, Mr. J. Leverson, Major Watson, Mr. A. V. Chilovich, Mr. A. Simon, Dr. Jas. B. Neal, and Mr. R. T. Rolph, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver:—

TEA.

	Chests.	Half-chests.	Packages.	Catties.	Value.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	111	—	—	966	—	699
Kobe	2,290	671	—	—	—	3,161
Yokohama	2,186	3,471	5,212	—	—	10,869
Total	4,809	4,142	5,212			14,729

SILK.

	New York.	Hartford.	Total Bales.
Hongkong and Canton	65	—	65
Shanghai	—	—	—
Yokohama	177	—	177
Total	242	—	242

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Raw cotton is still rather weak; yarns show a fair business, but there is little doing in other lines.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 36½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	Per Yard. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2 100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

	Per Picul.
American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18.00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

The advance in prices still checks business, which has been small, but there are prospects of a movement when buyers realise that they must pay up to the increase in home prices.

	Per Picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	4.90 to 5.30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet Iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.70 to 12.00
Wire Nails assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.35 to 2.40
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¼ inch)	6.25 to 6.50

KEROSENE.

The market is dull, and quotations are normal.

American	$1.28 to 2.30
Russian	2.15 to 2.17
Langkat	2.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady at practically last week's rates.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.50
Brown Taikong	4.35 to 4.70
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.35

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The trade is exported to settle down by next week. At present we are still between the seasons and there is not a large stock to work upon.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	$1100 to 1120
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 1	
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 3	

WASTE SILK.

There has been absolutely nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	$90 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

The Market has been active. Good supplies of new tea have arrived, and large transactions have been put through. Prices have not materially altered since last week.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	31 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 29.

Silver and China sterling quotations are unaltered and rates, are all steady for the outgoing mail per *Olympia*.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 5/8
— — Bills on demand	2/0 11/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 2½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 3/8 to ½
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 213/16
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 3/8 to 6
On India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 11/16

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MESSRS. BISSET & URE'S LIST.]

Yokohama, June 29.

Japan Breweries are strong at *yen* 175. Club Hotels have been done at *yen* 80, and a few shares are offering at this rate. Bretts are obtainable at *yen* 9.50, Laundries at *yen* 77.50. Offers for Langfeldts are wanted. Brewery and Y. U. Club Debentures wanted at *yen* 108. Engine and Iron Works—the Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 16 per cent., making 60 per cent, for the year ended 31st May. Seiri Kosai at *yen* 96. and Gunji Kosai at *yen* 96.05.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $50	810 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. *yen* 50	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $100	227.50 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $100	80 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $100	225 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Pfds.), $125	450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., *yen* 100	60 S.
North and Rae, Ltd., $100	200 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., $50	9.50 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., $100	260 St.
Hogo Gas Co., Ltd., $100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	77½ Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. $100	100 S.

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,295.41; 4, *yen* 77,832.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Credit Working Acc

N.B.—S. Sellers, B. Buyers, Sa. Sales, St. steady, Nom. Nominal, W. Weak E. Enquiries.

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TOKUMIYA,

BROKER IN LOAN BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, AND STOCKS.

Cash and time transactions.

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TELEPHONE No. 921, NANIWA OFFICE.

MEAN PRICES OF SHARES AND STOCKS FOR DIRECT DELIVERY.

Tokyo, June 29

Redemption Loan Bonds	1...	96.10
War Loan Bonds	1...	96.10
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		98.40
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		282.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		52.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100		243.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75		227.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50		65.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50		65.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100		110.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25		27.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		73.80
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		59.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		25.40
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	108.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	72.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		58.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		50.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		64.40
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 35		44.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		90.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue-paid up yen 28		62.70
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		96.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		21.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		42.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20.20
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		12.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 23		23.30
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50		1 60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		233.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		182.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	1...	67.30
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25		17.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new-paid up yen 10		5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		32.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		19.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		34 00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		10.00

1 Ex dividend.

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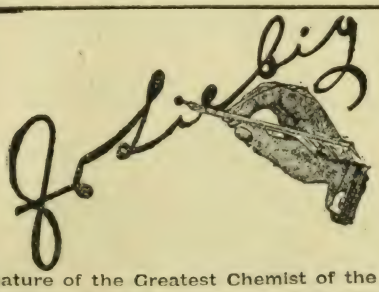
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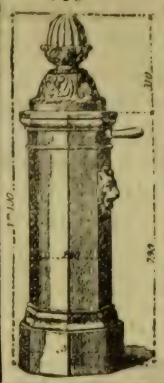
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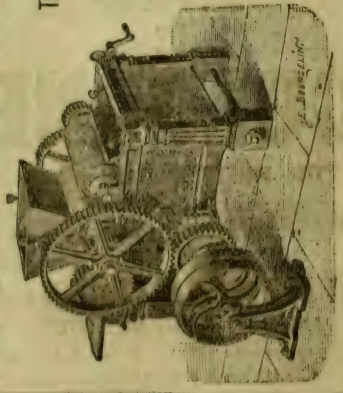
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JULY 8TH, 1899. 明治三十二年七月八日郵便物認可 [VOL. XXXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 8TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Liberal party in England is against war with the Transvaal.

DURING the week, Prof. Doomcheff has given a concert in Tokyo. Next week he plays in Kobe.

THERE have been serious riots in Spain, and troops had to be called out at Valencia to put down the mob.

ON July 1st the Emperor issued an important rescript dealing with the new condition of things under the revised treaties.

OWING to unparelleled scenes of violence in the Italian Chambers, Parliament has been closed by Royal decree.

THE Kobe Fourth of July celebrations were on a moderate scale, a baseball match being the principal item.

THE *City of Peking* came out of quarantine on Thursday. Among her passengers is U.S. Senator Beveridge.

DREYFUS has had two affecting interviews with his wife. His new trial takes place towards the end of this month.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia, after his three days visit in Tokyo, travelled to Nikko, where he stayed until Friday.

THE Rev. J. M. Francis, who spent ten years in Japan as a missionary, has been elected Bishop of the diocese of Indiana.

THE Fourth of July was celebrated with much *eclat* in Yokohama on Tuesday—a baseball match, bicycle and sailing races, and fireworks.

THE Duke of Connaught has renounced his claims to the Duchy of Saxe Coburg and Gotha in favour of his nephew, the young Duke of Albany.

OWING to the large increase in the population of Yokohama and the consequent demand for water, the Water-works have had to cut off the night supply.

BRITISH West Africa will henceforth be divided into three sections under the authority of the Colonial Office. The liquor traffic will be strictly governed.

THE Transvaal crises continues; trade has stopped at Johannesburg and a general feeling of uneasiness prevails, though the news on Friday bore a more pacific complexion.

OITA prefecture is suffering from drought, cases of dysentry are occurring in increasing numbers. The disease is spreading rapidly at Yonagomachi, Saihakugori, Tottori Prefecture.

FRESH disturbances are reported in China. In the south, a French Consulate has been burned down; near Kiaochow, in the north, the German railway surveyors have been attacked by armed mobs.

FOLLOWING the Emperor's Rescript, the Minister-President, the Minister for Education, and the Minister for War have issued instructions to the country and army at large dealing with the behaviour of people under the new order of things.

THE operation of the new Treaties necessitates the engagement of interpreters at the district offices in Tokyo, but the present appropriations are too small for the purpose. At present, therefore, only the Kyobashi district office has decided on engaging interpreters.

DETAILS of an unusually severe thunderstorm at Osaka on the 30th ult. are to hand. The victims struck by lightning were two women, a youth and a girl, of whom one of the women and the youth were killed, while the other two were seriously injured. Extensive damage was done to buildings, etc.

SENTENCES were delivered on the 30th ult. on Tsuji Shigeyoshi and other officials of the 111th National Bank at Kyoto, who were charged with a violation of the Banking Regulations and the fraudulent possession of properties. The sentences range from 3 years to 6 month's imprisonment, with fines from 360 *yen* to 10 *yen*.

AN American paper says that an Irish American Syndicate is being formed in New York for the purchase of the Lakes of Killarney.

SAYS the *N.-C. Daily News*—There will be general indignation at the news received from Peking that strenuous efforts are being made to oust Mr. C. W. Kinder from the post of Engineer-in-Chief of the Imperial Railways of North-China.

THE *Hongkong Telegraph* learns from a person who was present, that during a speech made by His Excellency the Governor at the Hongkong Volunteers' dinner, he informed those present that the Hongkong Government intended to keep all that it had got in the new territory during the recent Hinterland troubles.

FIVE young women who managed to obtain passports for abroad by employing the names of other women, attempted to embark on the *America Maru* bound for Hawaii, which left Yokohama on Saturday afternoon; but were arrested by the Water Police. The women who lent their names and the emigrant company are to be prosecuted.

MR. TANAKA TOKUTARO, a shareholder of the Shinagawa Tramcar Company, has brought a suit against Count Goto, President of the Company, in which he claims the annulment of several resolutions adopted at the extraordinary meeting in connection with the amalgamation of the company with the Tokyo Tramcar Company. The resolutions are alleged to have been irregular.

ABOUT 12 years ago, a man named Imai Tsuruta (57), living at Imagawakoji, Kanada, Tokyo, murdered Takeuchi Masazo, with whose wife he had been carrying on an intrigue, and buried the remains, packed in a straw mat. The murderer then ran away with his mistress. He escaped arrest till a few days ago, when he was apprehended by a detective of the Ushigome Police Office.

THE death is announced of Mr. Tominaga Fuyuki, who passed away last Friday morning. He studed in America, and after his return engaged in the mining industry and in foreign trade. He afterwards entered on a judicial career, and became a Chief of Section in the Court of Cassation. In 1894 he resigned, and was made director of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, which post he continued to hold up to his death.

IN the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho sentence has been delivered on Tanaka Ainosuke, formerly collector in the employ of a foreign publication at Yokohama, who absconded with the sum of *yen* 170 due to the office from the Grand Hotel. He obtained a cheque for the sum by stating he was the collector of the office. Afterwards he got it cashed at the Vantai Exchange, 72 Settlement. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ON Wednesday afternoon at All Saints' Church, Kobe, Captain Alfred E. Moses, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was married to Miss Elizabeth Annie James, daughter of Captain H. D. James. The bride's dress was of white glacé silk, trimmed with white chiffon and Valenciennes lace. The bride was given away by her father, and Mr. H. Kendall Newman acted as best man. The Rev. G. H. Davies, M.A., was the officiating clergyman. The newly-wedded pair left for the north—Kyoto and Miyanoshita—with the good wishes of their many friends.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE MINISTER OF WAR'S INSTRUCTION.

His Excellency Viscount Katsura has issued a long Instruction to the Army, enjoining upon military men the duty of treating foreigners courteously and considerately. After dwelling upon the fact that, owing to the sagacity and virtuous rule of the Emperor, Japan has been enabled to conclude treaties with Western nations on equal terms, and after insisting that there devolves upon every unit of the nation the duty of contributing to secure the best results of this happy achievement, Viscount Katsura goes on to say that this duty is notably imperative in the case of the Army, which justly regards itself as the protector of the Throne and the garrison of the national castle. The new status that Japan has acquired among the countries of the world carries with it additional responsibilities. Foreigners will soon be able to come and go whither they please throughout the Empire, and their contact with the Japanese must become closer day by day. Experience shows that the relations between nations are only the product of the relations between the individuals composing them. When, therefore, foreigners come to live side by side with Japanese, it will depend upon the circumspection and magnanimity shown by the latter whether the conduct of the Japanese people receives the applause of the world, or whether the seeds of trouble are sown. The loyalty of Japanese military man to the Sovereign and their single-hearted devotion to duty are universally acknowledged. If haply soldiers who have such a reputation to sustain should fail in self-control, and conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner toward foreigners, they will bring discredit not only upon their cloth but also upon their country. It is therefore to be sincerely hoped that the fullest attention will be paid to these points and that the importance of circumspection will be appreciated. Discipline is the basis of military organization. The Japanese troops have never shown any want of discipline. Yet it is possible that young soldiers who have not the full mastery of their feelings may be betrayed into displays of impatience and rudeness when brought into frequent contact with foreigners, and may thus impair the fair fame of the Army. Officers and non-commissioned officers should take careful note of these points, and impress them upon the men placed under their care. The Minister concludes by saying that the obligations set forth in his Instruction have always been incumbent upon military men and have doubtless been recognised by them, yet he deems it advisable to call special attention to them at the present juncture.

With this Instruction the Government must be confessed to have fully completed its precautions for the inauguration of mixed residence. In some quarters it will perhaps be thought superfluous that such a warning should have been issued to the Army, for, on the whole, the demeanour of Japanese soldiers towards foreigners has seldom given rise to any complaint during recent years. But there have been exceptions. Only a few days ago the writer of this note saw a half-intoxicated soldier pursuing a party of foreign cyclists, ladies and gentlemen, and throwing stones at them; and quite recently one of the leading foreign residents of Tokyo had his clothes nearly torn off his back by three or four military roisterers. It must be remembered that the Japanese conscript often joins the colours with very vivid memories of the days when, as a village urchin, he deemed it a proper and becoming pastime to cry *Ijin papa, neko papa, tojin baka*, and so on to every foreigner that passed by. So long as he is sober, his newly acquired discipline holds him in restraint, but a few draughts of *sake* revive his rustic habits and may easily betray him, not into the old freedom of opprobrious epithets, but into some correlated display of rudeness. Even though there were less cause to complain of his occasional *laches* than there actually is, we should think Viscount Katsura's Instruction an excellently conceived measure. For the Government's ultimate object is to carry to the mind of the whole nation a clear conception of the necessity of treating foreigners courteously and considerately. To accomplish that purpose, the two great channels of communication are the Army and the primary schools. The Army absorbs a large number of recruits every year from all parts of the empire, and when these recruits, on the completion of their service with the colours, return to their villages, they carry with them whatever idea of duty they have imbibed and whatever rules of general conduct they have been taught during their three years of barrack life. They certainly will not allow their children to make a habit of employing the abusive epithets in which they themselves were wont to indulge before they learned the lesson now outlined by the Minister of War, and it may be assumed that their new code of conduct will gradually obtain recognition from others in their district. The leaven will thus gradually spread. On the other hand, the primary schools receive 81 per cent. of the boys of school age annually, and these boys, too, will not only mend their own manners, but also become propagandists of an altered creed of etiquette. Thus, by employing the channels of the Army and of education, the Government can count on ultimately getting at the intelligence of the whole nation. We trust that Count Kabayama's Instruction will be included in the text-books of every school, and that Viscount Katsura's will be read on general parade once a quarter.

The Minister of State for Communications has adopted the course already taken by his colleagues at the Departments of War and of Education. He has issued an Instruction to the officials under his jurisdiction, inculcating the necessity of accuracy and promptness in the management of all transactions, and of courtesy in the treatment of the public. His Excellency premises that these obligations are equally binding *vis-à vis* natives and foreigners alike, but that attention is now specially called to them because many Japanese are still unfamiliar with the difference that exists between the manners and customs of their own nationals and those of foreigners, and are consequently apt to be betrayed into mistakes. Hence officials whose duties will bring them into contact with foreigners are warned to act with circumspection both in their observance of the law and the treaties and in their general demeanour.

THE "NIPPON" AND THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION'S INSTRUCTION.

The Minister of Education, in his Instruction of the 1st instant, said that if Japanese students indulged in rude and violent demonstrations towards foreigners, the prestige of the country would be lowered and its reputation injured. The *Nippon* is quite vehement in its condemnation of such language. It denounces it as flagrantly lacking in a sense of proportion, and denies that the behaviour of students can produce such results. Students have to be first taught manliness (*daitan*) and afterwards circumspection (*shōshin*). If the Authorities wish the youth of the country to fawn upon foreigners, Count Kabayama's Instruction will aid in bringing about that end. Official example is very powerful. One of the Sung Sovereigns having shown his preference for small waists, some of the palace ladies starved themselves to death in the hope of making their proportions slender. Governments have to be careful about the principles they advocate. Besides, what is all this talk about? The manners and customs of the lower orders in Russia are below the general European average, yet nobody pretends that Russia's prestige is lowered thereby. Vladivostock is one of the worst places for theft in the world, yet we do not hear that Russia's reputation is impaired.

We presume that the *Nippon* will elaborate the above thesis by and by, and seek to show that it does not constitute a direct incentive to rudeness and violence. But, as the article stands, it may claim to be almost a unique production. The *Nippon* avers, in a manner incapable of misconstruction, that students show their "manliness" by shouting abusive language, or throwing stones and dirt, at a solitary foreigner passing peacefully along the road. Sometimes this "manliness" takes the nobly courageous form of spitting at an unprotected female or otherwise insulting her. And the *Nippon* does not think that such wretched displays of cowardly and barbarous rudeness tend to lower the country's prestige or impair its reputation! We can assure the *Nippon* that if a country's prestige and reputation depend in any respect on the place it occupies in the ranks of civilisation, the "manliness" our contemporary advocates is eminently calculated to drag Japan's name in the dirt.

THE BANK OF FORMOSA.

The shareholders of the Bank of Formosa held their first meeting in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association in Kanda, Tokyo, on the 5th instant. The number present was 305, representing 39,528 shares. Mr. Soyeda Juichi, the President, submitted an account showing the expenditures incurred in establishing the Bank, and the meeting, having unanimously adopted the report, passed to consider the question of the officers' salaries. These were fixed at 400 *yen* per month for the President; 350 for the Vice-President; 250 for the managers, and 500 *yen* annually for the auditors, a provision being added that these amounts be increased by fifty per cent. in the case of officials serving in China or Formosa.

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THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE IMPERIAL RESCRIPT.

The leading vernacular newspapers refer in terms of strong satisfaction to the Imperial Rescript with reference to Treaty Revision, and are equally outspoken in their approval of the correlated Instructions of the Minister President and of the Minister of State for Education. The *Jiji Shimpo* predicts that the whole nation will welcome the Rescript, and respond with alacrity to His Majesty's behest. Passing on to the Prime Minister's Instruction, our contemporary seems to be specially pleased by the phrase that, while duly asserting the rights Japan has acquired, the responsibility devolves upon the Government, and the duty upon the people, of safeguarding the rights of foreigners, also, and enabling them to live confidently and contentedly in Japan. That reciprocity of obligation can not be too strongly inculcated. It is of the Instruction issued by the Minister of State for Education, however, that the *Jiji* speaks with the strongest approval. Our contemporary declares that the tendency shown by the student class to behave rudely towards foreigners is the outcome of a faulty educational system, and that the defect of the system is primarily due to the mistaken policy which school teachers have imbibed. The *Jiji* has repeatedly called attention to this lamentable state of affairs, but no visible effect has been produced by its writing. It now trusts that the desired reform will result from the Imperial Rescript and the Instructions based on it. Otherwise these wisely conceived messages will prove mere empty forms without any practical value.

The *Nichi Nichi* draws particular attention to the Emperor's injunction that all must unite in associating cordially with foreigners, since by that means the character of the nation will be preserved and its prestige enhanced. In olden times the Chinese used to call Japan a country of gentlemen, and foreigners were wont to applaud the courteous manners of her people. But since the war of 1894-5 a spirit of arrogance has prevailed. Many foreign writers have descanted upon it. They do not find any fault with Japanese institutions, but they condemn the want of discipline in the schools, and the rude behaviour of the students, and they record instances of stones thrown or scurrilous epithets addressed to strangers. The result is that a nation which aims at taking rank with Occidental peoples is classed with the Chinese and the Koreans. Such a state of affairs would call urgently for remedy even though the era of mixed residence were not about to be inaugurated. The fundamental policy of the *Meiji* era may be briefly summed up. It aimed, first, at unifying the administrative power, establishing constitutional institutions, and duly organizing all the Departments of State; secondly, at exchanging the unequal treaties concluded with foreign Powers for treaties of equality. These great purposes have now been accomplished, and the country bathes in the blessings of civilization. It would be most unhappy if the good work were marred by a continance of the abuses to which the Minister of Education refers.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, after warmly applauding the sentiments expressed in the Rescript and the Ministrial Instructions, comments on the extraordinary hallucination which prompts some Japanese to think that patriotism consists in treating foreigners rudely. It is true that the phantasy has disappeared in great part, but remnants of it are still active. There are school instructors who teach their pupils that to regard aliens as enemies is to be loyal to one's own country. Some go so far as to allege, even in this era of constitutional liberty of conscience, that distinctions should be set up between alien and native forms of religion. A result of such doctrines is that among certain classes of people anti-foreign rudeness comes to be regarded as a legitimate method of self-assertion, and instances occasionally occur of stones being thrown at foreigners or opprobrious language applied to them. The Sovereign's plain declaration that acts of such a nature tend to lower the character and impair the reputation of the nation can not be too earnestly taken to heart by every unit of the people. Nor is it towards foreigners alone that the Japanese should be circumspect and polite. They should learn to treat each other also in a more considerate and courteous manner, and to eschew the unceremonious and ill-mannered conduct too often witnessed in railway trains and elsewhere. This revision of the Treaties is one great forward step, an event which makes the era memorable. Every unit of the nation is concerned to see that the fruits of the change are duly gathered.

If the result of Treaty Revision, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, is to make the people lose caste in the eyes of foreigners so that the latter learn to despise them, it would have been better to have had no revision at all. Unless mutually kindly relations can be established with the foreign residents, it will be impossible for them to live here, and they will conclude that treaties on an equal footing ought never to have been conceded to the Japanese. Thus the end for which Japan has worked so diligently will be forfeited.

The *Jimmin*, after premising that the position Japan has happily won among the nations is due to the Emperor's wisdom and virtues, and after repeating the fact that Treaty Revision has imposed new responsibilities upon the country, goes on to note that Japan is the first Oriental Power which has obtained admittance to the comity of Western nations on equal terms, and that it behoves her to set a worthy example to the other peoples of the East in her manner of enjoying her novel privilege, since the result may greatly influence the future progress of civilization. The reputation of the nation and the prestige of the empire depend upon the uses to which the country's newly acquired rights are put.

We should add that the *Jiji Shimpo* expresses a confident hope that, in the face of the Emperor's Rescript, the Educational Department will finally abandon the illiberal and discreditable anti-foreign legislation which it recently asked the High Educational Council to endorse.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Saturday, July 1.

The problem of Chinese mixed residence is attracting increased attention every day. There appears to be a feeling of considerable impatience that the Cabinet hesitates to come to a final decision, seeing that the question may be said to have been before the public for many years. The *Jiji Shimpo* emphasizes the latter fact by quoting from one of its own articles, published in 1884, an extract denouncing, in the strongest terms, the insanitary, demoralizing habits of lower-order Chinese, and declaring that on no account should they be suffered to enter the country freely. Our contemporary apologises for the vehemence of the language in which the article was couched, and observes that the times have changed since 1884; but nevertheless adheres to its then announced conclusion that restrictions should be imposed on the immigration of the Chinese. That may be said to be the general sentiment of the vernacular press—admit all respectable Chinese freely, but exclude the labouring classes.

Meanwhile the Chinese themselves, as we have already intimated, are not idle. They have prepared a petition signed by 140 of their principal men in Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, and have forwarded copies of it to all places where its effect seems likely to be useful. We need not dwell upon its contents, as they are virtually identical with the arguments advanced by Mr. Leung in a speech the gist of which we quoted in our issue of of the 30th ultimo, but we may say that it is a closely reasoned and forcible document. Its effect is likely to be somewhat marred, however, by certain strange utterances attributed to the Chinese Consul in Yokohama by an interviewer on the staff of the *Asahi Shimbun*. The Consul is reported to have said that he failed to appreciate the objections to an invasion of cheap labour, since employers would be the persons to benefit; and, further, that if the Chinese were found to be working at too low rates, it would be easy for the Japanese Government to enact a law fixing their remuneration at a proper figure. He went on to say that there are only 3,000 Chinese residents in Yokohama, of whom probably not one-third would avail themselves of the privilege of going into the interior if they were allowed to do so. But even supposing that the whole three thousand went, why should Japan doubt her ability to control three thousand Chinese when the Government of the Middle Kingdom controls four hundred millions? Finally he declared that if his countrymen were excluded from the privilege of mixed residence, it was their intention to enter into a league embracing all the Chinese residents of Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, who would bind themselves not to export any more Japanese commodities or buy any more Japanese goods. These very ill-advised utterances will not promote the interests of the Chinese.

Thursday, July 6.

The opinions that have been elicited in connexion with the question of Chinese mixed residence are varied and emphatic. Those that maintain the importance of excluding the lower orders of Chinese dismiss as purely academical the arguments of their adversaries when the latter urge that Japan's international duty, her position as the leading Power of the East, and her special relations with China, forbid her to discriminate against her Oriental neighbour. The *Jiji Shimpo* lends its powerful advocacy to this view of the problem. It asks whether Great Britain and America do not exclude Chin-

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ese labourers, and whether Japan should be ashamed to find herself in such company. The *Nichi Nichi* seems disposed to lead the liberals, but has not yet taken a very decided line. It maintains, however, that no danger need be apprehended from an invasion of opium-smokers. The laws of Japan are so severe against the use of opium that their efficacy can not be doubted for an instant. But the *Nichi Nichi* does not deal with the matter of strikes, which bulks very largely in the *Jiji's* apprehensions. The *Jiji's* conviction is that the introduction of the Chinese lower orders on any considerable scale would very soon bring Japan within the sphere of the great battle between labour and capital.

PRINCE HENRY IN JAPAN.

Monday, July 3.

The Emperor visited Prince Henry at the Shiba Detached Palace on the forenoon of the 1st instant, and the Prince dined with His Majesty in the Imperial Palace on Friday evening (June 30th) at half-past five. The Prince's carriage was escorted by a squadron of cavalry *en route* for the Palace, and among those who had the honour of dining with His Majesty were Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu, Prince and Princess Arisugawa, Prince and Princess Kanin, and Prince Princess Kacho and Prince Princess and Yamashina; Count Leyden, Count Wedel, Dr. Weipert, Dr. Scriba, and the members of Prince Henry's staff; the Minister President of State, Marquis Oyama, Viscount Katsura, Viscount Aoki, Admiral Yamamoto, and Baron Sannomiya. The Emperor and Empress received the Prince in the Phœnix Hall, and the banquet took place in the Hall of Radiance.

Among Prince Henry's purchases in Tokyo there are to be some very handsome combs and hair-pins for lady's use, and some rich Japanese costumes. The Prince will also have the pleasure of carrying away some magnificent specimens of lacquer. The Tokyo Municipality have given him a pair of writing boxes of that material, valued at two thousand *yen*, and the Emperor's present has taken the same form. Lacquer coming from the Imperial collection is always of the very highest type. The *suzuri-bako* in this case were made by Uyemura Homin, one of the most celebrated among modern lacquer-makers.

Tuesday, July 4.

On the 2nd instant H.R.H. Prince Henry gave a banquet in the Shiba Detached Palace at 8 o'clock in the evening. Among those present were Their Imperial Highnesses the Princes Komatsu (Senior and Junior), Prince Arisugawa, Prince Kanin, Prince Yamashina and Prince Kacho; Their Excellencies the Ministers of State, Field Marshal Marquis Oyama, Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito, Marquis Hachisuka, Count Leyden, Count Wedel, Dr. Weipart, the officers of Prince Henry's staff, and the members of the Reception Committee. In the course of the banquet Prince Henry, speaking in German, which was excellently rendered into Japanese by Dr. Weipart, said:—

Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies and Gentlemen!—My official visit in Tokyo approaching its end, I am anxious to express to all of you my heartiest and sincerest thanks for the very kind reception accorded to me and to the gentlemen who accompany me. Especially I beg to thank H.I.H. Prince Kanin most sincerely and cordially for the trouble that H.I.H. has kindly taken on my behalf during the past three days. I know from experience, that an office such as His Imperial Highness has graciously undertaken to fill, involves not only loss of time but also much personal inconvenience. I beg H.I.H. Prince Komatsu kindly to convey to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress the expression of my feelings of deepest gratitude. Let me add that it has been a great pleasure to me to be able to visit your beautiful and hospitable country again after so many years. According, to our custom I call for three cheers for Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan.

His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu, who spoke in Japanese, Mr. Nagasaki translating his words into English, said:—

Your Royal Highness, Your Imperial Highnesses, Your Excellencies and Gentlemen,—I beg to express my sincere thanks for the kind words which His Royal Highness has just used with reference to the reception given to him on the part of H.M. the Emperor. I will immediately convey to His Majesty the expression of H.R.H. Prince Henry's warm sentiments, and I have no doubt that His Majesty will receive it with much gratification; I further believe that His Royal Highness' kind visit to this country will not only strengthen the tie of friendship which so happily exists between Japan and Germany, but will also surely cement, more and more, the cordial amity of the two countries. As His Royal Highness is the brother of H.M. the Emperor of Germany, this occasion serves to renew my grateful recollections of the gracious kindness shown to me by His Imperial Majesty during my stay in Germany, when I last had the pleasure to visit that country. I empty my glass to the health of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Germany.

Prince Henry seems to have made a slight change in his plans. He was to have left Tokyo on the 3rd instant, and returned to his ship, subsequently making trips to Nikko and Miyanoshita. But he decided to proceed direct to Nikko from Tokyo, and, accordingly, left Tokyo by the 9 a.m. train from Uyeno on the 3rd. As the Prince desired to travel incognito a special train was not provided, a carriage only being reserved for his use. Mr. Nagasaki and others of the Reception Officials superintended the arrangement. The Prince returned to Tokyo on the 5th, and, after spending the night at the Shiba Detached Palace, proceeded to Miyanoshita on the 6th, finally rejoining the *Deutschland* on the 7th.

PRINCE HENRY IN KOREA.

According to Tokyo journals, Prince Henry of Prussia received an extraordinarily hospitable reception in Söul, and, what is more, did not fail to turn the occasion to account in German interests. When the Emperor received him, His Majesty told the Prince that Korea had a vivid perception of the position occupied by Germany, and that any advice given by the distinguished visitor would be carefully followed. This declaration is said to have been prompted by some suggestions previously made by Prince Henry to the Korean Ministers in the sense that Korea would probably fare better if, instead of allowing Russia and Japan to fill the whole vista of her foreign affairs, she included Germany as a counter-balance.

Some more tangible results of the Prince's visit are also spoken of. Thus in the matter of the Söul-Gensan railway, the concession for which is believed to have been an object of competition between Americans, Russians, and Germans, the prospects of the Germans are now said to of eclipse those of their rivals. Further, a line of telegraph from Söul to a gold mine worked by a German syndicate, has been laid in consequence of the Prince's coming. The Germans had applied for permission to lay it themselves, but the Korean Government put them off by pretexting its own intention to do the work. No prospect of its being carried out was apparent until Prince Henry's intention to visit the mine became known, when the wires were erected at once. A very remarkable performance, surely.

THE BUDDHISTS AND THE STATE.

We have spoken more than once of the meeting recently held in Kyoto by the prelates of the Buddhist Sects. At first it was generally supposed that a proposal pointing to the recognition of Buddhism as the State religion of Japan had been introduced at the meeting, and had obtained such influential support that its adoption would have been assured had not Count Otani Koson, Chief Prelate of the Hongwan-ji, entered a strong protest. Subsequently this version of the proceedings was denied in part, and the public remained uncertain whether any of the prelates had really advocated a scheme for linking their faith to the State. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now claims to have discovered that such a project was undoubtedly conceived, and that the document embodying it took a form closely resembling that of a petition to the Throne. In consequence of resolute opposition from Count Otani and others, certain modifications were proposed, but even when thus altered, the bill would have remained a highly objectionable project. Hence the discussion broke out anew, and the meeting finally decided to confine itself to a request that, in consideration of the imminence of the operation of the Revised Treaties and the necessity that must consequently arise of adopting measures of general control, the prelates prayed the Government to make some definite declaration of its policy towards religion. We should imagine that the Government's reply will be on very broad lines. The policy of the State towards religion is already defined in the Constitution, and the Government may be content simply to quote the latter. Still there are unquestionably some points demanding reflection and adjustment if the Administration intends to adopt a strictly uniform procedure towards all creeds, whether native or alien.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

When Mr. Hoshi Toru was delivering a speech to a large audience in Niigata on the 2nd instant, a *soshi* named Ishizaki sprang upon the platform and attempted to assault the Liberal leader. The intruder was promptly pulled down and somewhat roughly handled by the audience. A sympathiser sought to bring a sword-dagger within the *soshi* reach, but the police frustrated that idea, and took the man into custody. Mr. Hoshi's usual good-fortune did not fail him. The incident, which would probably have interrupted the proceedings in the case of another man, only tended to make the Niigata audience more enthusiastic, and at the conclusion of his speech he received an ovation.

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DREYFUS.

Saturday, July 1.

The telegrams which we publish this morning are slightly contradictory. According to one, the arrival of Dreyfus at Brest is expected every moment; according to another, the French Government is shrouding his movements in mystery. It is possible, however, that the *Sfax* will not come to Brest at all. Naturally the utmost precautions will be taken to prevent demonstrations which might have the effect of throwing the nation into a ferment. But why should "hostile demonstrations" alone be spoken of? The tendency of Anglo-Saxons under such circumstances would be to give the unfortunate man an ovation. So we think, at least. That is one of the compensations a nation might properly offer to a man who, whether innocent or guilty, was certainly illegally sentenced to a terrible punishment which he has been undergoing for five years. But apparently the Government apprehends that the prisoner of Devil's Island will be hounded by the populace as soon as he sets foot on French soil. We trust that the apprehension will prove groundless. Colonel Picquart's release seems to have been managed without any noise or excitement whatever, and Colonel Picquart is a figure only a little less conspicuous than Captain Dreyfus. He, too, suffered severely. He lay in prison at Cherche Midi for eleven long months without trial, and the complete establishment of his innocence depended throughout on the reversal of the Dreyfus sentence. If it was found possible to set him at liberty without evoking popular protests, Dreyfus too will probably escape that addition to his misfortunes. France could well afford, indeed, to treat him very differently, but France is a little beside herself at present.

Monday, July 3.

We have again a discrepancy in the telegrams sent by Reuter and those coming from the French Legation. Of course the latter are the more trustworthy. At the same time, we should prefer on this occasion to credit Reuter when he tells us that a large crowd assembled to receive Dreyfus at Rennes. Both telegrams agree in declaring that there was no demonstration, but such a display of *sang froid* would be more welcome could it be asserted of a considerable concourse of people than when it is ascribed merely to "representatives of the press and some curious persons." At all events, it is a matter of great satisfaction that Dreyfus' sufferings have not been accentuated by a hostile demonstration. That, indeed, would have been a crowningly cruel act of injustice, and although the telegrams said, a few days ago, that the Government were shrouding Dreyfus' movements in mystery so as to avoid any displays of popular passion, we were disposed to suspect the Government of superfluous caution rather than the people of deliberate inhumanity. Dreyfus is now in the position of an innocent man. He may be convicted again, but until he is, his guiltlessness must be assumed. Hostile demonstrations prior to his re-trial and in the face of what he has already borne, would be a disgrace to the French nation. An English or American crowd would have given him an ovation, but it must be confessed that the silence of the French, though it lacks a touch of the milk of human kindness, represents a more judicial attitude. Another most satisfactory point is the intelligence about Dreyfus' health. He has grown somewhat grey. No wonder. But he is looking well and he bore himself very erect when he stepped again on the shores of his country. It is evident, then, that the stories of the terrible hardships endured by him in Devil's Island were sensational inventions. When the French journals of July 2nd reach us, we shall probably find that his healthy looks and upright carriage suggested contradictory inferences as to his guilt or innocence. For our part we think that had he been guilty he must have been without hope, and had he been hopeless, five years of Devil's Island would have accomplished more than the grizzling of his hair. It is said that he refused to wear his uniform when it was restored to him on the eve of his embarkation in the *Sfax*. Does not that seem very natural? He can never endure to don his uniform again until his innocence is publicly proclaimed by the same Authorities who ordered his tunic-straps to be torn from his shoulders. Unfortunately the military regulations do not prescribe any ceremony for "drumming in" an officer or a soldier whose innocence has been established. Such a contingency is not provided for.

Thursday, July 6.

The most interesting statement we have seen of the reasons that induced the Court of Cassation to pronounce in favour of revising the Dreyfus case is contained in the following *résumé* of Mr. Ballot-Beaupré's report, which we take from the Paris correspondence of *The Times*:—

Paris, May 31.

It was certain that spectators at a distance would be above all struck by the somewhat secondary means adopted by M. Ballot-Beaupré in his very remarkable report to admit revision. But it should not be forgotten that to admit revision at all M. Ballot-Beaupré was bound to conform to the letter of the law, which requires the discovery of a *fait nouveau* tending to prove the innocence of the condemned man. So that M. Ballot-Beaupré not only had to find a *fait nouveau*, but to find one tending to prove innocence. The fact discovered by him was new, since it proved that Esterhazy, who had been acquitted by a Court-martial of the authorship of the *bordereau*, was, nevertheless, its author, and that consequently Dreyfus, who had been condemned as its author, was innocent of the charge. This sort of demonstration was absolutely necessary in order to induce the Court to admit revision, for nothing else whatever could have persuaded it, the Court being composed for the most part of eminent jurists who do not yield to sentimental considerations, but have a profound respect for the letter of the law as well as for its spirit.

At the funeral of M. Édouard Pailleron I met M. Emile Ollivier, and walked by his side behind the hearse. "Everything you say," said he to me, "is very true, but these are all questions of sentiment and reasoning. There is something above all that—namely, the spirit and the letter of the law. I was the first, and it was under the Empire, to propose a Revision Bill, and we had the greatest difficulty in finding a formula. It was only 25 years later that an agreement was arrived at as to this formula—namely, *fait nouveau de nature à établir l'innocence du condamné*. Now, in everything which has been said since the campaign in favour of revision has been carried on, nothing has arisen indicating a *fait nouveau* tending to prove Dreyfus's innocence—neither the secret documents communicated to the Court-martial, which may be made the basis of the annulling of the verdict but not of revision, nor the Henry forgery committed in 1896, which may indeed weaken the force of his evidence but does not constitute the *fait nouveau* required by the law, nor the fact of the false confession which is said to have occurred only after the condemnation. No, nothing whatever which has as yet been put forward constitutes a *fait nouveau* tending to prove the innocence of Dreyfus, and I assure you revision will not be admitted."

I confess that these declarations disturbed me. M. Emile Ollivier is not to-day a man governed by passion. He has suffered himself too much from hatred and insult to imitate those who have become his torturers, or to applaud the sufferings of others. He is a lawyer, a legislator, a man who has borne the responsibilities of office, and his utterances struck me at the time all the more as I myself felt that, although Dreyfus's condemnation as prepared and carried out was an infamous piece of business, the law held it fast as in a vice.

M. Ballot-Beaupré, however, has managed to extricate himself, for he arrived in his report at the question of the tracing-paper and the hand-writing only after thoroughly weighing the *pros* and *cons*. He had laid bare all the arguments of the accusers of Dreyfus, and proved that neither self-interest nor gambling nor hatred nor passion could have inspired him, that he had not confessed, that he could not have sent the documents, that he did not attend the manœuvres, that he had never been in relations with foreign Powers, that the Panizzardi telegram had been falsified, and that Schwartzkoppen had never had knowledge of it. When in this way he had torn all the meshes in which Dreyfus's feet were entangled, destroyed all the traps laid for the credulity of the Judges of the Court-martial, wishing to provide the Court of Cassation with a means of pronouncing revision in conformity with the law, he offered them the proof based on the handwriting and on the reports of the paper experts. He showed them in Esterhazy a man ready for everything and anything, and he said to them, "There is the *fait nouveau*, for there you have the real culprit, and you can declare revision in strict conformity with the law."

Evidently M. Ballot-Beaupré has judged as much with his heart as with his head. He felt that revision was necessary, that an infamy was weighing on the conscience of France, and when he wept it was perhaps because he tremblingly asked himself whether this material means of revision thus offered to the Court would suffice, for as to moral considerations he had been constantly insisting on them throughout this memorable report. Such is the real significance of this document, and it is necessary to recall the hateful passions, the infamous spirit of violence, which have been let loose in this country to understand what courage was required for the Reporter to come to this conclusion. Yes, in [the proud consciousness of his unimpeachable integrity, M. Ballot Beaupré has dared even to go further than any one could suppose, and to proclaim both Esterhazy's guilt and Dreyfus' innocence, since thus and thus only could he attain his object in "conformity with the law," for these words just quoted are words uttered by M. Ballot-Beaupré himself, and they become absolutely clear in the light of these comments.

If I may be allowed to dwell on this point, it is because the magistracy as well as the army needed rehabilitation in this lamentable affair, and that is just what M. Ballot-Beaupré has accomplished. To appreciate what he has done we must consider what dictation and threats he has faced. But France has happily boundless resources, and amid her greatest follies there are always gleams of her natural splendour, She has had d'Aguesseau de L'Hôpital, Portalès, Dalloz, and Dufaure, but she also had under the Second Empire a Judge who executed orders and another who refused to put questions which might elicit the truth. She has also had the man who vilifies Judges of whom he had the unmerited honour of being a colleague, and she has had this painful conflict in which he who was the natural safeguard of her honour admitted that justice might be influenced by animosity or passion. France has had all this, and the bankruptcy of justice might have been apprehended, but behold such fears dispelled, behold M. Ballot-Beaupré, who restores its prestige, and the reaction, the prelude of the acquittal, will not only ease the conscience of the country but efface the stain which the hatred of some and the timorousness of others seemed to have left on the magistracy.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, interviewed by a representative of the *Asahi Shimbun*, has furnished some interesting information about Formosa. The finances of the island are gradually improving. Its revenues, which aggregated only 8 million *yen* in 1897 and 1898, will be over 10 millions during the current year, and will very nearly balance the normal expenditures. From 1900 the new dominion will cease to be a source of

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expense to the mother country. Its income is now derived from opium, tobacco, and land-tax: the new salt monopoly has not yet begun to be productive. Five million *yen* will be obtained this year by means of public undertakings bonds, through an arrangement with the Bank of Formosa, and will be devoted to improving the harbours and the means of communication. The construction of a really good harbour at Kelung is a great desideratum, but, owing to want of funds, the operations there must be confined for the present to dredging. As to the commercial outlook, Baron Kodama finds that the Chinese in the island have no confidence in Japanese traders, and that combinations are not likely to be formed between them. The Chinese do trust the Japanese Government, however, and several applications have been made by them for official guarantees with regard to Japanese firms, but the Governor-General has naturally declined to entertain such proposals. Speaking of the insurgents, Baron Kodama ridiculed the statements that their submission had been purchased. It is true that, after submission, land was given to some of them in order that they might have means of subsistence, but the notion of buying their allegiance had never been entertained for a moment. The Baron alluded in very emphatic terms to the relation between Amoy and Formosa. To know Formosa, he said, it was absolutely necessary to know Amoy. The Chinese constantly eluded the regulations and crossed secretly from Amoy to Formosa. Three had been detected and sent back just before the Governor-General left the island. Concerning the operation of the Revised Treaties, General Kodama saw no difficulty. The main point was proper prison accommodation. In all other respects, the operation of the laws was much on the same basis as in Japan proper. Besides, the foreign residents in Formosa were comparatively few, about a hundred, and, as they were nearly all gentlemen, no trouble need be anticipated with them. With reference to sanitary conditions, His Excellency said that the troops enjoyed capital health. The sickness did not exceed 4 or 5 per cent. The Tsuruga soldiers (Third Division), who returned by the *Taichiu Maru*, had not lost even one man during their service in the island. The barrack accommodation, however, was miserable, and sanitary arrangements in general called for large reforms. Happily the pest was declining. The returns showed a marked decrease, and with due precautions the malady would probably be driven out. The Baron added that since his return to Japan at this season had been construed as flight from the dog-days in Formosa, he purposed going back to his post before the end of the month. A great many people had a great deal to say about the administration of Formosa, but he intended to hold his peace and do his duty to the best of his ability.

"THE SOCIAL EVIL IN JAPAN."

The Rev. U. G. Murphy of Nagoya has compiled and published a brochure under the above heading. His object has been chiefly statistical, and it is evident that he has taken very great pains to collect facts and figures. He is obviously a strong foe to the licensing system, but he does not make any attempt to state the reasons of his belief, nor does he attach much value, so far as we can see, to the statements made by Japanese plysicians that without the official supervision which licensing renders possible, the maladies incidental to this form of vice would work terrible havoc. Mr. Murphy justly remarks that the only satisfactory evidence, so far as Japan is concerned, would be to obtain accurate comparative statistics from prefectures where licensing is carried out and prefectures where it is forbidden. But even then we could not rely implicitly on the teaching of the figures. It is in military records that information of the kind may be found. Take the case of Hongkong, for example. Thirty-three years ago the licensing system was not practised there, and the garrison was literally decimated by disease. Then the C. D. Act went into force, and soon the hospital returns showed one case of that nature in twelve months. We who write know these facts to be correct. An argument against the sanitary utility of the licensing system is furnished by England. Can the Anglo-Saxon race be said to compare unfavourably with any other in point of physical condition? Yet the Anglo-Saxons do not license. We doubt whether the pro-license theorists could not answer that contention pretty effectively. Still, there it is, and it has just as much value in its way as any comparison of prefectural returns in Japan could have. Mr. Murphy estimates that there is one dissolute woman in every 80 Japanese females between the ages of 15 and 35. He arrives at that result thus:—*geisha*, 30,000; licensed prostitutes 50,000; unlicensed prostitutes 80,000; and concubines, 10,000, making a total of 170,000. We think that he is below the mark in the matter of concubines; but, whatever addition may be made on that account, his figures contrast very strikingly with the exaggerated assertions put forward two years ago on the platform and in the press. Conscientious and careful workers like Mr. Murphy can do a great deal of good, but to attain a maximum of usefulness they should inform themselves fully of the state of affairs in other countries before they arrive at any conclusions about Japan. The most terrible blot on the morality of this nation is the sale of young girls by their parents into a life of shame. Mr. Murphy justly denounces that abomination.

AMERICAN & ENGLISH MECHANICAL INGENUITY.

Unwillingly as the admission is made, it nevertheless is made, that America has distanced the mother country in inventing new machines. The consequence of the superiority is not merely that American machinery "invades" Great Britain, but also that American manufactured goods are beginning to displace English. A sense of security against dangerous competition was engendered among British manufacturers by the knowledge that labour in America is much more costly than in England, and by a strong doubt whether the highly paid labour of the States could prove more efficient than the cheap labour of England. But hard facts have dispelled that theory. It is found that by using a higher type of machinery which enables labour to be largely dispensed with, American manufacturers can undersell their British rivals. A collateral issue raised in connexion with this subject is the question of patents. Every body remembers Daniel Doyce and the Circumlocution Office, so vividly described by Charles Dickens. The great romancist ended by sending Daniel to the American continent. It was a prophetic fancy, and we are reminded of it when we read in *Industry and Iron* that whereas "in America an inventive idea is regarded as a marketable commodity, in Great Britain the troubles of the inventor in getting his invention, however meritorious, into commercial form are proverbial. For this," we are told "the patent laws of England are largely accountable. In both the United States and Germany the granting of a patent is a serious process, and one exercised with the greatest possible discrimination. In England any one may obtain a patent for almost anything, so long as the fees are paid. The consequence is that while both an American and a German patent are possessed of a certain, though doubtless undetermined, value, owing to the fact that their substance matter has been examined and judged patentable, in England the value of a patent is practically nothing."

Referring to the above, the *Scientific American* says:—An American patent "is only granted after a thorough and painstaking search, not merely of American but all foreign records, has been made and the element of novelty has been cleally established."

These points are worthy of Japanese attention. A great many complaints have been formulated about the length of the investigations preliminary to granting a patent in Japan, but possibly the error is on the right side.

OSAKA KISHA SEIZO GOSHI KAISHA.

Viscount Inouye Masaru's long-talked of company for the manufacture of railway rolling stock has become an accomplished fact. Its inauguration is now definitely announced from Osaka. The capital is 900,000 *yen*, which will be increased at any moment should the occasion arise. Many of the best names are connected with the enterprise; *e.g.* Count Inouye, Marquis Mayeda, Baron H. Iwasaki, Mr. Okura, Mr. Fujita, Mr. Yasuda, &c. The President is to be Viscount Inouye himself, the Vice-President Mr. Hiraoka Ki, and the auditors Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi and Tanabe. Viscount Inouye, as most of our readers probably know, was for many years chief of the Railway Bureau. His experience in railway matters is unique. Mr. Hiraoka, the Vice-President, has proved himself a thoroughly competent organizer of great manufacturing enterprises. In speaking of the prospects of the new Company vernacular newspapers quote the following figures:—

IMPORTS OF MACHINERY AND ROLLING STOCK

	Yen.
1895	5,840,000
1896	8,880,000
1897	18,190,000
1898	12,420,000

IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL.

	Yen.
1895	10,480,000
1896	14,530,000
1897	16,920,000
1898	18,290,000

We do not see that figures with regard to iron and steel have any direct reference to the *Kisha-seizo Kaisha*, but as they are adduced we re-produce them.

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A COROLLARY.

An interesting corollary has been appended to the proposition on the subject of the Chinese and mixed residence. The *Tokyo Asahi* argues that not upon the immigration of Chinese alone but also upon that of all foreigners, restrictions should be imposed with the object of protecting the country against an invasion of loafers and adventurers. Our contemporary has no difficulty in demonstrating that the foreign loafer is a very objectionable individual, especially when he undertakes to exploit Oriental pastures. But it attempts rather weakly to strengthen its case by a curious argument, namely, that the authorities will certainly be too invertebrate to deal vigorously with these Occidental outcasts, and in proof of that prediction it notes that whereas the Japanese Government take no notice of anything appearing in a vernacular journal, they are thrown into a state of perturbation should a foreign newspaper discuss Japanese affairs. That little touch of jealousy—baseless so far as we can see—seems slightly inconsequential, but, after all, it is impossible to be surprised because the Japanese begin to show a disposition to mete out to others the measure they themselves receive at the latter's hands. If Japanese of the labouring class are excluded from certain Western countries, it is not unnatural that there should be an inclination in Japan to exercise similar discrimination against Westerners. It would be a sorry day, however, when every incoming steamer was boarded by Japanese officials armed with authority to make an inquisition into the circumstances of each passenger desiring to land in this country. We have no expectation of seeing the advent of such a time, despite the fact that a writer in the *Asahi*, labouring under an access of pique, has been induced to advocate a system of general discrimination.

COUNT MATSUKATA ON FINANCE.

Some remarks made by Count Matsukata and quoted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* endorse the favourable account recently given by the *Jiji Shimpo* of the present state of the country's finance. Briefly summarized, the gist of what the Minister said was that the country will commence next year with a substantial surplus. The yield of the taxes is larger than was anticipated, and on the other hand, there will be a reduction in the continuing expenditures, so that, after due allowance is made for the impossibility of any further drafts on the Indemnity for the purposes of the ordinary Budget, and after the increased outlay on account of navigation encouragement has been provided for, there will still be a surplus of something like 10 million *yen*. It is true that the appropriations applied for by the Departments of State in the estimates for next year, make an aggregate considerably in excess of the available revenue. But these estimates are prepared without any reference to, or knowledge of the revenue. Each Department asks for everything that it seems desirable, and upon the Minister of Finance devolves the duty of deciding what part of these demands may be sanctioned and what part must be disallowed, so as to keep the expenditure within the limits of the revenue.

BAD PAPER.

A gradually improving state of affairs in the Japanese mercantile world is indicated by the returns of bad paper. Cheques without assets, promissory notes dishonoured, and bills not taken up used to be comparatively rare in Japan, if we accept journalistic figures as trustworthy. That fever of speculative enterprise that followed the war seems to have produced a demoralizing effect in that respect, as the following figures indicate :—

Year.	Number of defaulters.	Number of cheques bills &c., not redeemed.	Amount. yen.
1895	12	18	2,270
1896	7	35	8,123
1897	66	101	62,253
1898	128	141	68,891

The most numerous defaults were in cheques ; then followed promissory notes, and last came bills. The returns for the first six months of the present year are :—

	Defaulters.	Documents.	Amount. yen.
January	19	19	3,238
February.....	16	20	6,005
March	13	13	1,860
April	1	10	1,237
May.....	12	12	2,619
June.....	11	11	2,716
Totals	72	85	17,675

According to this rate, the end of the year would see 144 defaulters. 170 documents repudiated, and 35,350 *yen* involved ; which figures would be a marked improvement in the matter of money over the figures for the past two years.

A QUESTION ABOUT RELIGIOUS DISABILITIES.

The 12th Article of the Law of Election says that "*Shinto* priests, and teachers of religion of all kinds shall be ineligible" for the franchise. Does that include Christian pastors and propagandists of Christianity ? Such is the question which the prelates of the various Buddhist sects are now considering. Their recent meeting in Kyoto and their abortive attempt to bring forward the much greater problem of State recognition of Buddhism, have already been reported in these columns. A few days ago, they assembled again in Tokyo, the Tendai, Rinzai, Soto, Shingon, and other sects being represented. The two Counts Otani were present. It should be explained that the prelate of the Eastern Hongwan-ji is Count Otani Koyei, and the chief prelate of the Western Hongwan-ji, Count Otani Koson. The former has the reputation of being a politician and an advocate of the State-religion platform, whereas his brother of the Nishi Honganji entertains diametrically opposite views. That point, however, did not come up for discussion at the Tokyo meeting. The prelates confined themselves to the franchise question, and decided to address the authorities on the subject. Their idea is that although the matter has not hitherto received any attention, it will have to be settled one way or the other after the inauguration of mixed residence. We do not see the connexion. Japanese subjects alone are concerned, since foreigners can not enjoy the franchise, and the introduction of mixed residence will not affect the status of Japanese Christians in any way. Still the question should be definitely settled one way or the other.

CONCERT IN TOKYO.

Mr. Constantine Doomcheff gave a concert at the Hotel Metropole in Tokyo on the 3rd instant. An audience, large for Tokyo and thoroughly appreciative, assembled to hear the great master—for so unquestionably Doomcheff must now be called—and the unanimous verdict was that such playing had never before been heard in Japan. Mr. Doomcheff's command of his instrument seems almost beyond human capacity, and the music he obtains from it is at once noble and exquisite. Already, when speaking of his Yokohama concerts, we have offered our tribute to his really splendid ability, and it only remains to add that his success in Tokyo was even more marked. The following is the programme :—

PART I.

1.—Fantaisie .....Vieuxtemps.
2.—Serenade .....Pierné.
3.—Fantaisie de l'opera Moise .....Paganini.
Executed on one string (G) only.
4.—Dans tziganes .....Nachez.

PART II.

5.—Fantaisie de l'opera Mignon ...Sarasate.
6.—Mazurka .....C. Doomcheff.
7.—The Bird on the tree .....Hauser.

CHINA AND CHRISTIANITY.

A great deal of interest was recently excited in London and Paris by the receipt of intelligence that the Emperor of China had issued a decree extending unexampled recognition to Christianity. The report turned out to be much exaggerated, but the decree is nevertheless of considerable importance. It is thus summarized by the Paris correspondent of *The Times* :—

"Churches of the Catholic religion, the propagation of which has long been authorized by the Imperial Government, being now erected in all the provinces of China, we are desirous of seeing the people and the Christians live in peace, and, in order to render the protection of Christians easier, it has been arranged that the local authorities shall exchange visits with the missionaries under the conditions specified below." Then follow articles by which Bishops, being in rank to equal Viceroys and Governors, are declared entitled to visit the latter. Vicars-general and archpriests are, in like manner, entitled to audience of Treasurers and Judges, while other priests may demand audience of prefects. All these civilities are to be reciprocated by the Chinese officials. A priest ignorant of Chinese may be accompanied by a native priest as interpreter. Letters are also to be exchanged between a new Bishop and a new Viceroy when they reside at a distance from one another.

Article 4 is as follows :—"When a grave or important affair concerning a mission arises in any province, the Bishop and missionaries on the spot shall ask for the intervention of the Minister or Consuls of the Power to which the Pope has entrusted the religious protectorate. The latter will arrange and settle the affair either with the Tsung-li Yamên or with the local authorities. In order to avoid the necessity of long proceedings, the Bishop and missionaries may also first apply to the local authorities, with whom they will arrange and settle the affair. When a Bishop or missionary calls on a mandarin on business the latter is bound to negotiate it without delay in a conciliatory manner and seek a solution." Lastly, Article 5 says :—"The local authorities should give timely warning to the inhabitants of the place, and strongly exhort them to harmony with the Christians. They are not to cherish hatred and cause trouble. The Bishops and priests shall also exhort the Christians to strive to do good in order to maintain the good repute of the Catholic religion, and act so that the people may be content and grateful. When legal proceedings take place between the people and the Christians the local authorities ought to judge and settle it equitably. The missionaries shall refrain from interfering and giving their protection with partiality, so that the people and the Christians may live at peace."

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JAPANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND FOREIGN MEMBERS.

It is stated that the Japanese business-men of Yokohama, Nagoya, Nagasaki, and Osaka have all declared themselves opposed to admitting foreigners to membership of Japanese Chambers of Commerce, on the ground that such a proceeding would not be productive of any advantages. The business-men of Kobe alone constitute an exception: they are strongly liberal in their views. We can not see, for our own part, that in the existing state of the law foreigners could be excluded if they applied for membership. The Chamber of Commerce Regulations do not contain any explicit discrimination whatever against foreigners, and the second article of the Civil Code provides that foreigners enjoy all private rights not forbidden by law or treaty. The eligibility of a foreigner is therefore beyond question, so far as the letter of the law is concerned. It is most unlikely, however, that many foreigners would apply for membership, as their knowledge of the Japanese language is seldom sufficient to equip them for such association. Would it not be wiser for the Japanese to put off the discussion of these delicate questions until an occasion arose calling for their solution? The impression produced abroad by the premature discussion of such matters is very bad, especially when the majority of the disputants betray a spirit of illiberality.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

It is stated that the question of religion and education has been discussed at a Cabinet Council with the result that the views of the Educational Department have been adopted almost in their entirety. This a somewhat vague assertion, especially as it is supplemented by an explanation that the Department's views are not by any means as narrow as the public supposes. The Department's views, if they may be inferred from the proposals submitted for the consideration of the High Educational Council, are decidedly narrow, for while the general principle of separating religion and State education is recognised and practised by the most enlightened countries, there are happily very few places where religious instruction is excluded from both public and private education, as would be the case in Japan if students in schools where religion is not tabooed are liable to be taken as conscripts, whereas students in schools where religious training is altogether excluded from the curriculum are secure from military service until the age of 28. We can only continue to hope that Japan will refrain from adopting a course which would be of the gravest injury to her progress as a nation, to say nothing of its effect upon her reputation.

KANAGAWA PREFECTURAL AUTHORITIES.

The authorities of the Kanagawa Prefecture have been so considerate as to publish in the advertising columns of the local English newspapers a notice of some length, setting forth the various trades and occupations, on account of which licenses must be obtained or applications made when foreigners pass under Japanese jurisdiction. The evident aim of the advertisement is merely to indicate what kinds of business require official sanction or supervision, in order that the persons engaged in them may place themselves in communication with the Authorities and obtain clear directions for their guidance. One of the local journals of the Settlement, aided by an anonymous correspondent, attacks this advertisement, declares that it is couched in unintelligible English, and alleges that the public can not possibly be expected to decipher its meaning. Such comments are greatly to be deprecated. If the efforts made by the Local Authorities to furnish information useful to foreigners under the new order of things are to be received in a snarling, hypercritical spirit, there can be little hope of smooth and pleasant relations between the Japanese and this community.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY (TAIKOKU-TO).

The National Unionists have now finally dissolved their organization and become merged in the new political Party, which was definitely born on the 5th instant. In speaking the epitaph of the deceased Party, its leaders—Viscount Shinagawa and others—explained that it had its origin in the necessity of weaning party politicians from the destructive habits into which they had fallen in the days when personal ambitions, not national interests, were their governing impulses, so that they opposed administrative and military expansion, and rendered the conduct of State affairs extremely difficult. Owing to the stand taken by the National Unionists these mischievous methods of political agitation had been gradually corrected, and the Party could now congratulate itself on having accomplished its mission. Such was the gist of the speeches delivered. They were very long, but they contained nothing about either the past or the future that would interest our readers. We have searched in vain for some clear indication of the new Party's platform, but can not as yet find materials to construct it. Probably the hiatus will be filled when the manifesto of the Party is published. Meanwhile we may note that the usual congratulatory meetings and *réunions* have taken place, or are about to take place. There will be a garden party to-day at the Seiyoken in Uyeno Park, and on the evening of the 7th the Ministers of State, Marquis Ito, Count Kuroda, and many other notables are to be invited to an evening party at the Maple Club. There is no intention, apparently, of appointing a president of the Party immediately. Its affairs are to be managed by a Committee of five, three of whom will probably be Messrs. Sasa Tomofusa, Motoda Hajime, and Saito Shuichiro.

Since writing the above the manifesto of the party has reached us. It is a gracefully worded document, but we can not see that it contains anything which might not be endorsed by any of the other parties already in the field. All that need be said is that the Party declares itself for a positive policy, and for progress in every form. It has changed its originally projected name of *Kokken-to* into *Teikoku-to* (Imperialist Party). The chief point of interest is that, at the end of the inaugural meeting, a resolution was unanimously adopted, declaring that the Party finds itself entirely in accord with the present ministry and will support it. A permanent committee has not been elected, but Messrs, Saito Shuichiro, Sasa Tomofusa and Motoda Hajime are nominated a temporary committee.

Many people seem to be perplexed about the real purpose of the new political party—the Imperialists. That the State, not the individual, is to be the Party's first consideration, and that its programme will be progressive, is plain enough. But it has declared itself to be in accord with the present ministry, with which it will cōoperate. Why, then, ask the sceptics, does it not join the Liberals, who also support the Ministry. What is the use of having two distinct parties in the same camp? Writers claiming familiarity with the purpose of the Imperialists say that they have no *penchant* for the Liberals because these are now in a condition of extreme corruption. On the other hand, the Progressists seem to have lost heart altogether. They limit themselves to a feeble cry for reduced taxation. Under such circumstances, the time seems to call for a new party, and the Imperialists have entered the field. Possibly they expect to form a nucleus about which the best elements of the two other parties will gradually group themselves. Perhaps they do not aim at anything greater than holding the balance of power.

TAXES THAT FOREIGNERS WILL HAVE TO PAY.

A question was recently addressed to us with reference to the taxes that foreigners will have to pay after the Revised Treaties go into operation. So far as we can ascertain, the facts are these. Beginning with the Income Tax, we find that there are three classes of payers: first juridical persons; secondly, holders of public loan bonds or debentures payable at a place where the Tax is in force; and thirdly, men enjoying other kinds of incomes. As to the third class, which comprises the great majority of private persons, it may be dismissed at once by saying that, since returns of income are furnished in April, there can be no levy of the tax until subsequently to that month in 1900. With regard to the interest on bonds or debentures, foreigners holding Japanese securities of this class in Japan have doubtless paid the tax already, for it is levied without reference to the nationality of the holder, being, in fact, an impost on the bond itself. The first class of the tax remains as the only kind that may perhaps be levied during the present year. It is the tax on the incomes of associations organized for purposes of profit, and it becomes leviable at the termination of the business year after the firm's accounts have been made up, and a statement of profit and losses has been submitted to the Taxation Office. Inasmuch, however, as nearly all business concerns make up their accounts in January, we fail to see how this tax can be imposed in the majority of cases before next year, and how it can be levied on the income for the whole of 1899, seeing that foreigners do not become liable to it until July 17th, and are therefore responsible for a period of 5½ months only.

The Business Tax is of considerable importance. It is levied on sales of mer-

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chandise, on rental value of buildings, on capital, and on *employés*. Persons liable for Business Tax must present a return of their business in January of each year. Hence it might appear that the foreigner cannot be taxed until 1900. But if we turn to Art. XXIII. of the Business Tax Law, we find it provided that "if a business is continued, or if facts exist from which such continuance is to be inferred, the business tax will be levied on the person who is carrying on the business at the time when the tax falls due." It is apparent from this provision that since the various businesses carried on by foreigners will fall under the heading of "continued," after July 17th, they will be liable to pay tax at the fixed time; and, since the business tax is payable in two instalments—the first in May and the second in November—it may be collected from foreigners in November of the current year. Presumably the collection will be on account of the months of August, September, and October only.

The Tax on Drugs (*Baiyaku-zei*) is payable immediately on obtaining a license. The 23rd Article of the Regulations says that, when a license is taken out subsequently to July 15th, the business tax for a half year and the license-fee must be paid at once.

The stamp tax, the registration tax and the game-license fee are payable immediately on completing the transaction to which they refer.

FOREIGN SHAREHOLDERS IN JAPANESE ENTERPRISES.

The broad limit which men of affairs in Japan seem disposed to set upon the purchase of shares in Japanese enterprises by foreigners is that, wherever a Government guarantee is enjoyed, the foreigner should be excluded. That principle would apply to the Bank of Japan, the Specie Bank, the Industrial Bank, and all the shipping or railway companies that are in receipt of State aids or subsidies. Railways not enjoying that advantage would be exempt from the veto, and so would the shares of industrial and commercial companies in general, as well as those of stock exchanges. It has been suggested that, in the case of all associations connected with means of communication, foreigners should not be permitted to hold more than one half of the stock, but a restriction of that kind can scarcely form the subject of national legislation: it must be dealt with in the by-laws of the companies. The impression seems to be that the general limit set by officialdom will be drawn round State-aided enterprises only.

All this is very wonderful, in our opinion. The Japanese are never tired of saying that they want foreign capital, yet they apply themselves diligently to close up the avenues for its access. Particularly incomprehensible is the notion of making the receipt of State aid a reason for tabooing foreign investors. The theory of State aid is that an enterprise is not in itself sufficiently attractive to draw capital, and that it needs some assistance. It is to such a field that cheap money from abroad ought to be welcomed with special *empressement*.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The news from the Transvaal this morning is again pacific. But even granting that the immediate subject of discussion is settled, does that mean a permanent solution? We do not believe that the redress of the grievances complained of by the Uitlanders will solve the problem. At the base of the whole trouble is the desire of the British population, not of the Transvaal alone but also of its surrounding districts, to see the blessings of British rule substituted for the unprogressive and semi-civilized administration of the Boers. As for the latter, they understand very well that their tenure of power is threatened, and it is for that reason that they interpret the crisis as involving their independence. If they concede the demands made by Mr. Chamberlain on behalf of the Uitlanders, they place in their hands a power which must end in the overthrow of their own rule. If they refuse to concede them, they have to face a war with still more disastrous consequences. The issue will be the same, whether it is brought about by the slow working of constitutional processes, or by the speedy action of the sword.

MARQUIS ITO.

The *Jimmin* has a glowing eulogy of Marquis Ito. In his sixtieth year, says the Liberal organ, the Marquis has still a great future before him. A man is not older than he feels, and from that point of view the Marquis can not be said to have aged at all. He is as full of purpose and resolve as ever. Yet, he neither hastens not rests, but bides his time quietly and utilizes his leisure. He has occupied himself of late touring in the provinces. Count Okuma, when he makes a political journey, invests his comings and goings with a great semblance of significance. Marquis Ito makes no semblance, but his movements are in reality full of significance. He enjoys the absolute confidence of the Emperor and the Court. The civil and military officials are ready to work for him with heart and soul. The one thing wanting to complete him is closer touch with the people, and that he is now establishing. It is plain that he has a definite object before him in the visits he pays to provincial districts: he aims at instructing the people in the principles of the Constitution. That is a thoroughly statesmanlike and patriotic purpose. It has been said—this refers to a recent article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*—that the speeches of the Marquis are entirely about the past, and the fact is interpreted as a sure sign that his day is over. Nothing could be more incorrect. His references to the past are designed solely to strengthen his arguments about the future.

One asks oneself the purpose of this eulogy and finds an easy answer to the question. The *Jimmin's* object is suggested at the close of its article where it endeavours to show—first, that Marquis Ito has no aptitude for organizing political parties; secondly, that he can not do without a political party, and thirdly, that his obvious course is to place himself at the head of some great party already organized. That is one for Marquis Ito and two for the Liberals, whose organ the *Jimmin* is.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

Looking at the recently issued Report of the Minister of State for Education, we see that the policy pursued by the Japanese Government is steadily producing the result which we have often predicted—it is killing private educational enterprise. In 1893 there were 2,021 private schools in Japan; in 1899 the number had fallen to 1,677. The decline had been steady. It is true that the number of pupils attending these schools increased from 139,595 in 1893 to 152,714 in 1897, but the closing of 344 schools in five years is a fact of unmistakable significance.

Turning to Government and public schools, we find that there were 26,776 in 1897, as compared with 23,573 in 1893, an increase of 3,203 in five years; that the number of instructors and teachers was 82,545 against 62,850, an increase of 9,695; and the number of students, 4,016,003 against 3,316,200, an increase of 699,803. It is certainly very satisfactory to note the steady growth of the attendance at elementary schools. No less than 81 per cent. of the school-age male children, and 51 per cent. of the female children, attended in 1897.

The total expenditure on account of public schools in 1897 was 18,669,049 *yen*, to defray which sum the people had to be taxed to the amount of 12,545,243 *yen*, the difference being obtained from the income of the schools. As for the Central Government, it appropriated a sum of 1,522,509 *yen* towards the support of 2 universities, 2 higher normal schools, 6 high schools, 5 technical schools, 1 blind and dumb school, 1 school for training technical teachers, and 1 library.

AN INVESTMENT.

Vernacular papers mention an investment which they call the first employment of foreign capital by private individuals outside the limits of the Settlements. It is the purchase of an iron foundry hitherto owned by Mr. Miyoshi in Shikoku-machi, in the Mita district of Tokyo. The name of the foreign investor is not given, but he is said to be an Englishman, and to have paid thirty thousand *yen*. The newspaper adds that sixty Chinese hands have been engaged in Shanghai to work at the foundry, and that their arrival may be expected soon. This also they justly call the first employment of Chinese labour for manufacturing purposes in the interior of the country. But we are inclined to doubt about the Chinese. It is not yet known whether the Chinese will be permitted to reside outside the limits of the Settlements after the Revised Treaties go into operation. That difficulty might, perhaps, be surmounted in the case of workmen employed at Mita if they had their residence in Tsukiji and thence repaired daily to their place of employment. But the experiment is not likely to be tried while the question is still pending.

In connexion with this subject we may mention that the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce is said to be now discussing the Chinese problem with considerable warmth. The President reserves his opinion, but the views of prominent members are supposed to be divided. On the whole, however, the probability is said to be that the Chamber will vote for a liberal policy.

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Tokyo newspapers appear to think that the Government will have to issue some notification on the subject before the 17th instant, but we do not appreciate the necessity. The Chinese are on a footing quite different from that occupied by the other foreign residents, and a change in the latter's condition owing to the operation of the Revised Treaties does not involve any corresponding change in the former's. The privileges enjoyed by the Chinese will remain just as they were after July 17th unless some special step is taken by the Government with regard to them.

STUDENTS AND FOREIGNERS.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a crushing reply to the *Nippon's* criticism of the Instruction issued by the Minister of State for Education. What the *Nippon* nominally objected to was the Minister's statement that rude and obstreperous conduct on the part of students towards foreigners might lower the character of the country and impair its prestige; but what it really rebelled against—as any one reading between the lines could perceive—was the notion of attaching any paramount importance to the treatment of foreigners. We do not desire to interpret the *Nippon* harshly, for, though its views often differ radically from our own we respect its outspoken and fearless methods. But it certainly has laid itself open to the imputation of resenting any attempt to condemn the present behaviour of Japanese students in so far as concerns their demeanour towards foreigners. The *Kokumin* read its utterances in that sense, and traverses them uncompromisingly. We observe with interest that the views advanced by the *Kokumin* are identical with those often expressed in these columns. The *fons et origo* of any anti-foreign sentiment surviving in Japan are to be sought in the Educational Department. It is owing to a false interpretation which certain leaders in the field of Education put upon the Emperor's Rescript about education, and also to the encouragement given to the study of *Seiken Igen* in primary schools, that the youth of the country have learned to mistake for patriotism a repellant attitude towards things and persons of foreign origin. They have been taught, on the one hand, to regard as enemies any disciples of a creed that clashes with the theory of the divine origin of the *Tenno*, and on the other, the examples set before them of loyalty and love of country, collected from old Chinese annals and embodied in the *Seiken Igen*, are calculated to mislead rather than to instruct. Such teaching educates among some students a proclivity to anti-foreign demonstrations, and impels the least thoughtful to form associations like the *Biyakko-tai*, whose doings recently scandalized the public. The *Kokumin* thinks that the Educational Department has a great deal to answer for, and that the action now taken by the Minister is most commendable.

THE "TOKIWA."

The first-class armoured cruiser *Tokiwa* arrived at Singapore on the 3rd instant. Her commander telegraphs that he intended to resume his voyage on the 6th, and, proceeding direct to Yokosuka, expected to reach that place on the 16th.

JEWS AND PARSEES.

Three conjunctures are to be dreaded in the sequel of the revised treaties, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks. One is an invasion of Chinese cheap labour; the second, an invasion of Jews; the third, an invasion of Parsees. The two latter perils can not be averted; the first can. It is a strange fact that these things do not receive more intelligent attention. The beautiful scenery of Japan and her pleasant climate are spoken of as likely to attract numbers of foreign settlers. But Italy has the same advantages, and yet there are only 59,000 strangers living in Italy. The total number in Japan at present is 10,015, and more than one half of them are Chinese. Even if the inauguration of mixed residence had the effect of doubling the number, it would be a mere bagatelle. What is very likely, however, is that Jews and Parsees may come. The character of the Jews is well known, but it is not so well known that the Parsees are close-fisted, cold, calculating speculators, whose presence in a country is anything but a blessing. Japan has her trials before her. We (*Japan Mail*) do not recognise the type of Parsee described by the *Nichi Nichi*. The Parsee of British colonies is an excellent subject and by no means a bad fellow.

THE SÖUL-WIJU LINE.

There is evidently a strong feeling that the Söul-Wiju railway ought to pass into the hands of the Japanese, but, as to ways and means, everything is obscure. The line would have been useless, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, in French possession, since, although it might have been connected with the Siberian road, it could not have been connected with the Japanese road from Söul to Fusan. Similarly no Japanese capitalists could be expected to undertake it unless an engagement existed for effecting a junction with the Russian system. But, under any circumstances, there is little probability of a Japanese company's sinking money in the enterprise without a Government guarantee, which can not be given. Still the Japanese ought to own the railway, and, as the times are improving, they may possibly be induced to make an effort by and by. Meanwhile the Korean Government has secured itself against inconvenient applications by granting the concession to a native company.

That is the gist of the *Shogyo Shimpo's* article. It is rather an intricate chain of reasoning, but one idea emerges clearly enough, namely, that Korea is an object of very strong ambition to many Japanese.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

It will be remembered that, at the request of the Government, the Diet last session passed a law authorizing the permanent enforcement of the system of medical inspection at all ports open for foreign commerce. It was justly contended by the Authorities that such a system, to be really effective, must be perpetually operative, since to enforce it only after cause had been furnished is to run the risk of allowing the mischief to be done before the remedy is applied. A notification has now been issued that the law will take effect from August 14th.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is stated that the Bank of Japan has purchased three million *yen* worth of the new foreign loan. There is room, apparently, for such a speculation. The bonds show an upward tendency, and are tolerably sure to rise to par before much time has elapsed.

The first-class battle-ship *Hatsuse* was successfully launched at Newcastle on the 27th ultimo. She is one of the four big ships included in Japan's *post-bellum* programme of naval expansion. Her displacement is 15,240 tons, and her speed 18 knots. It is expected that she will be ready for sea by March next.

A telegram from Rome, published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that the yield of cocoons this season is exceptionally fine. The following figures are given :—

	Kilo.
1895	42,074,000
1896	41,182 000
1897	36,726,000
1898	39,612,000
1899	50,000,000

Although the country is to be thrown open from July 17th, it is evident that Japan does not intend to fully exercise her recovered autonomy before August 4th. The Statutory Tariff and the Tonnage Dues Law are not to come into operation before the latter date. The fact is announced in the *Official Gazette*, which also publishes the detailed regulations for carrying out these laws.

The latest intelligence from the Hokoku coal mine, where such a disastrous explosion recently occurred, is that a hundred and forty-seven corpses have been recovered. The total number of persons missing being two hundred and eleven, sixty-four are still in the mine. No hope is entertained for them, however, as the mine is flooded, and even if they were not killed by the explosion, death must long ago have been caused by drowning.

Mr. Ito, head of the Issue Department of the Bank of Japan, has been condemned to forfeit two months' salary, in consequence of the theft of 5,000 *yen* which recently took place from the section under his charge. His responsibility does not seem altogether plain, but some official has to suffer for all mishaps in Japan, and besides there is a precedent, one of Mr. Ito's predecessors having been condemned to the loss of one month's salary for a similar accident on a smaller scale.

The iodine trouble has been happily brought to an amicable conclusion. What the nature of the settlement was we do not know, but it is pleasant to learn that there has been a settlement, and that all the fee-faw-fum talk of the boycotters and the boycotted has ended in a convivial entertainment which took place in the Riyukotei at Yanagi-bashi on the evening of the 2nd instant. Eighty persons were present, twenty of them being members of the Tokyo Dyers' Guild, who acted as mediators in the affair.

We have heard nothing for some time about Judge Takano, whose grievance against the Government for arbitrarily removing him from the Formosan Bench occupied such a prominent place in public attention a year ago. But the ex-Judge's case has now been taken up by some

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twenty barristers, who consider that he was the victim of unconstitutional treatment. They intend to bring the question into the law courts by suing the Prime Minister for the salary which Mr. Takano would have received had he continued in office.

The Duke of Connaught will gain much in popularity by the step he has now taken. He is in his fiftieth year, and it was considered morally certain that he would succeed Lord Wolseley as Commander-in-chief when suddenly the nation learned that he had decided to renounce his prospects in Great Britain for the sake of succeeding to the Duchy of Coburg. He is already very popular, and Britons regard him as an officer of great promise, whereas no very acute sense of public loss will be caused by the transfer of the young Duke of Albany to a German sphere.

There is to be sent from the Japanese Imperial Museum to the Paris International Exhibition a magnificent specimen of metal sculpture. It is a small figure posturing in the *Taihei-raku no mai*, or dance of peace, and the metals used are *shakudo*, *shibuichi*, copper, silver and gold. It is impossible to convey by words any adequate idea of the marvellously delicate and expert workmanship which figures of such a nature display when all the resources of Japanese expert labour are exhausted in their production. The inlaying alone is a wonder. Un-no-Shomin, a renowned artist, is the sculptor of the figure, and the cost was 12,000 *yen*, though the height of the specimen does not much exceed a foot.

The Liberal leaders appear to be touring the provinces with great success. Mr. Hoshi Toru especially is receiving ovations wherever he goes, and Count Itagaki, who has taken Kiushu as the scene of his campaign, is only a degree less successful. There is certainly a very marked contrast between the fortunes of the Liberals and the Progressists at this juncture. The latter can scarcely obtain a hearing. They are completely under a cloud, which is a significant fact, seeing that the principal plank in their platform is the reduction of taxation. Apparently the people are not much troubled about their burden of taxation. We never thought they were.

It is becoming quite a custom in Japan to publish little volumes containing photographs of the best pictures shown at art exhibitions. The idea is borrowed from foreign countries, but has been applied very successfully in Tokyo, especially by the recently established Meiji Bijutsu-in. We observe that the Nippon Bijutsu Kyokai has decided to adopt this plan with reference to the best pictures displayed at its recent exhibition in Tokyo. The photographs will number a hundred, and will be selected out of over seven hundred exhibits. We confess that we should have thought it difficult to find, among the drawings recently hung in the Uyeno gallery, a hundred worthy of such distinction.

It appears probable that we shall soon have a telephone capable of making songs and speeches audible at a distance of 300 feet from the receiver, and of registering its methods, if necessary, by means of an attached phonograph. The inventor of this wonder is M. Germain, a Frenchman. At a trial of the instrument made in Paris, on March 17th, before the French Cabinet, it is stated that "Songs and instrumental music were heard clearly in all parts of the grounds between the Departments of Commerce on the Rue de Grenelle and of Agriculture on the Rue de Varenne, notwithstanding all the noises of the city."

The remarkable calm that has brooded over the political horizon for some time has been slightly disturbed by an incident with which Mr. Ozaki Yukio is connected. Mr. Ozaki gave due notice a few days ago that he intended to deliver a political lecture in Tomioka. But the local inspector of police, Mr. Nogami, issued a veto, seven hours before the time fixed for the lecture. Such a step is not absolutely beyond the competence of a police official, but there must be very strong reasons justifying it, as, for example, good grounds for anticipating a riot or some outrage which the police are not immediately in a position to control. No such justification is said to have existed in this case, and the police inspector is vehemently accused of abuse of authority.

The *Yomiuri* reports that Mr. Kato, the Representative of Japan at the Court of St. James, who is now in Tokyo, has had a long interview with the Prime Minister, and has expounded at some length the political conditions existing in England and his views of the wisest course to be adopted by Japan. Mr. Kato condemns the notion of attempting to conclude a convention with Great Britain after the manner of the convention between Japan and Russia on the subject of Korea. He does not think that anything of the kind would be possible, and he is persuaded that it would not work advantageously, even if it were possible. What he advocates is an understanding such as could be converted into a system of active cöoperation in time of emergency.

Telegraphic intelligence from Korea, published by the Tokyo *Asahi*, indicates that the French concessionaire of the Söul-Wiju Railway has allowed his concession to lapse at the end of the appointed time. The French Representative is said to have proposed, as conditional on the restoration of the concession, that Korea should pledge herself to use French material and French experts in the event of her building the line on her own account. The Korean Government replied, however, that the return of the concession when its period lapsed being a matter of course, no engagement could be given by way of consideration. Still, as the excellence of French material and the skill of French experts were fully recognised, their title to be employed would carry due weight should the occasion arise.

At a recent meeting of the Economical Society of Japan, Mr. Wakamiya Seion proposed that a grand *réunion* of Japanese and foreigners should be organized for the 4th of August, in honour of the Revision of the Treaties. He said that, though the present condition of Japan's laws, judicial arrangements and administrative systems might be regarded as fairly satisfactory, the intercourse of individual Japanese and foreigners left much to be desired," and unless that intercourse became closer, one of the great objects of revising the Treaties would be defeated. He quoted Viscount Aoki as holding the same opinion, and his remarks were warmly seconded by Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi and other prominent men. It was decided to invite all the leading foreigners to a party on August 4th. About 300 Japanese gentlemen will act as hosts; and 3,000 *yen* have already been subscribed towards the expenses.

The question of the registration of movable property in the Foreign Settlements is said to have been the subject of much discussion between the Foreign Office in Tokyo and the Judicial Department. An agreement has finally been arrived at, and, should it receive the Cabinet's approval, it will be promulgated by Imperial Decree before the date fixed for the operation of the Treaties. The supposition is that a year's interval will be allowed for the completion of all this kind of work.

In the *Jiji Shimpo* we find an article advocating a view which has often found expression in these columns, namely, that the policy adopted by the Government of Japan is killing private educational enterprise, The enormous advantage enjoyed by the students at public schools in exemption from conscription virtually creates a monopoly and places private education at a hopeless discount. We do not doubt that this state of affairs will ultimately be reformed, and the more vehemently reform is called for by organs like the *Jiji Shimpo*, the quicker will the desired result be attained.

We invite the attention of our readers to the fact that Vol. II. of the new laws of Japan has now been published, as translated by Dr. Lönholm. It contains the Laws relating to stamp duties, registration fees, and business tax. Foreign residents can not possibly dispense with these laws. They are essential to every business man. Dr. Lönholm, as usual, has done his work excellently, so that the laws are presented in clear and succint language. They show the stamps that must be affixed to documents; the steps that must be taken for registering transactions in order to render them valid against a third party, as well as the fees that have to be paid, and all the details of that onerous impost, the business tax.

There lived once, in Japanese fable, a house-wife so economical that she could not persuade herself to give away even the cold rice that remained after the family's meals, but kept it in a cupboard until it became putrid. She was a prototype of the Tokyo City Council, says the *Jimmin*. They are so jealous that they will not grant a concession to any company or combination to build electric railways, dig harbours, or make generic improvements. Neither will they undertake the work themselves. The result is that Tokyo remains conspicuously backward in all the essentials of civilization. It certainly does. A more backward city could scarcely be found. A slight excuse for the state of the streets is to be found in the fact that houses in Tokyo have such large grounds, and there are so many unoccupied areas, that the length of roads to be repaired is out of proportion to the number of persons taxed for their repair. But there is not the smallest excuse for choking private enterprise by refusing concessions of every kind.

A news agency reports that Baron Nishi, formerly Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has taken to the business of money-lending, and has also established a fertilizer company in Ibaraki Prefecture. We dare-

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say that this piece of intelligence sees the light by some route of the *tosho-bako* kind. The *tosho bako* is an invention, of the yellow newspaper which is doing so much to destroy the reputation of the Japanese press. Letter boxes are placed at various positions throughout Tokyo. The name of the newspaper is blazoned in large characters on the lid, and any one that pleases to deposit an item of news, slander, personal spite, scurrility, or mischievous falsehood in the box, is pretty sure to see it in print on the following morning. That may truly be called the scavenger style of journalism. We have hitherto supposed that the people of Japan neither climbed to quite such lofty heights of intellectual grandeur nor sank to such profound depths of villainy and moral *abandon* as do the units of some Occidental nations. But we were mistaken in the latter hypothesis, so far, at any rate, as newspapers are concerned.

We read in the *Fiji Shimpo* that, as a result of the amendments effected in the Code of Criminal Procedure in the last session of the Diet, the number of persons detained in the Kajibashi prison awaiting trial shows a marked reduction compared with last year. The following table speaks for itself :—

Month.	Persons released on Bail 1899.	1898.	Persons Intrusted (*sekifu*). 1899.	1898.
January	10	2	0	4
February	28	4	2	1
March	47	0	15	2
April	37	4	4	5
May	33	27	4	2
Total	151	37	25	14

Another scheme of fore-shore reclamation is on the tapis in Tokyo. It was propounded at a meeting of the Shiba District Assembly on the 3rd instant, Mr. Suzuki Uhei being the promoter, and it obtained unanimous approval. The idea is to reclaim the whole area from the Takanawa Railway Station to the Shiba Detached Palace, and to apply the profits of the transaction to the endowment of a Shiba school. A Committee of seven was chosen to conduct the necessary investigations. Our readers doubtless remember that Mr. Asano Saichiro lately formulated a project of fore-shore reclamation in the same region. The two schemes do not clash, however. Mr. Asano's project is to reclaim the area southward of the Shinagawa Station, that is to say, in the direction of the town of Shinagawa, whereas Mr. Suzuki proposes to reclaim the area on the north, and appends to his programme a proviso that it is not to interfere in any way with Mr. Asano's harbour scheme. If these two plans were carried out, the whole area now exposed at low water between the Detached Palace and Shinagawa would become building land, and ships would be able to anchor at quays in the immediate vicinity. *Credat Apella.*

Marquis Ito, if he is rightly reported by the *Chuo Shimbun*, strongly opposes the idea of excluding the Chinese from the privileges of mixed residence. His ideas are very broad and liberal. How can Japan, he asks, who calls herself the leader of Oriental peoples, discriminate against the principal of them by refusing to admit them freely to her territories? Is it not absurd that the Japanese should declare, on the one hand, their readiness to engage in competition with Europeans and Americans on equal terms, yet should shrink, on the other, from a similar struggle with the Chinese? If it should be found at any future date that the presence of the Chinese, or the privileges accorded to them, were producing mischievous results, there would be no difficulty in imposing altered conditions. Marquis Ito made these remarks in connexion with a letter he had just received from Prince Ching, explaining that, in accordance with the advice tendered by the Marquis when he visited China last autumn, the Peking Government is paying close attention to military organization and finance, and that the Chinese regard close intercourse with Japan as the best way to promote the commerce and prosperity of their country.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT ON THE NEW TREATIES.

Governing Our realm by the abiding aid of Our ancestors' achievements, which have enabled Us to secure the prosperity of Our people at home and to establish relations of close amity with the nations abroad, it is a source of heartfelt gratification to Us that, in the sequel of exhaustive planning and repeated negotiations, an agreement has been come to with the Powers, and the revision of the Treaties, Our long cherished aim, is to-day on the eve of becoming an accomplished fact; a result which, while it adds materially to the responsibilities of Our empire, will greatly strengthen the basis of Our friendship with foreign countries.

It is Our earnest wish that Our subjects, whose devoted loyalty in the discharge of their duties is conspicuous, should enter earnestly into Our sentiments in this matter, and, in compliance with the great policy of opening the country, should all unite with one heart to associate cordially with the peoples from afar, thus maintaining the character of the nation and enhancing the prestige of the empire.

In view of the responsibilities that devolve upon Us in giving effect to the new Treaties, it is Our will that Our Ministers of State, acting on Our behalf, should instruct Our officials of all classes to observe the utmost circumspection in the management of affairs, to the end that subjects and strangers alike may enjoy equal privileges and advantages, and that, every source of dissatisfaction being avoided, relations of peace and amity with all nations may be strengthened and consolidated in perpetuity.

(Imperial Sign Manual).

(Signatures of all the Cabinet Ministers).

(Dated) June 30th, 1899.

Cabinet Notification. No. 1.

The work of revising the Treaties has caused deep solicitude to His August Majesty since the centralization of the Government, and has long been an object of earnest desire to the people. More than twenty years have elapsed since the question was opened by the despatch of a special embassy to the West in 1871. Throughout the whole of that interval, numerous negotiations were conducted with foreign countries and numerous plans discussed, until finally, in 1884, Great Britain took the lead in concluding a revised treaty, and the other Powers all followed in succession, so that now the operation of the new Treaties is about to take place on the 17th of July and the 4th of August.

The revision of the Treaties in the sense of placing on a footing of equality the intercourse of this country with foreign States, was the basis of the great liberal policy adopted at the time of the Restoration, and that such a course conduces to enhance the prestige of the empire and to promote the prosperity of the people, is a proposition not requiring demonstration. But if there should be anything defective in the methods adopted for giving effect to the Treaties, not merely will the object of revision be sacrificed, but also the country's relations with friendly Powers will be impaired and its prestige may be lowered. It is of course beyond question that any rights and privileges accruing to us as a result of Treaty Revision should be duly asserted. But there devolves upon the Government of this Empire the responsibility, and upon the people of this realm the duty, of protecting the rights and privileges of foreigners, and of sparing no effort that they may one and all be enabled to reside in the country confidently and contentedly. It behoves all officials to clearly apprehend the August intentions, and to pay profound attention to these points.

(Signed) Marquis Yamagata,
Minister President of State.

(Date) July 1st, 1899.

General Instruction No. 10, of the Minister of State for Education to Local Governors.

Since my assumption of office the condition of the schools has caused me much solicitude, and on the occasion of the assembling of the Governors of Prefectures and Cities last April, I urged them to give serious consideration to the question of correcting the conduct of students and making the school regulations more stringent. The time for the operation of the Revised Treaties is now only a few days distant, and His Majesty has graciously issued an Imperial Edict on the subject. Doubtless the number of foreigners visiting the interior of the country will greatly increase, and if, at such a time, students be left without proper control, and suffered to neglect the dictates of propriety by cherishing sentiments of petty arrogance, and behaving in a violent, outrageous, or vulgar manner, not only will the educational system be brought into discredit, but also the prestige of the country will be impaired and its reputation may even be destroyed. It is desired, therefore, that, in respectful accord with the August will, the directors of schools and the teachers should exert themselves to the utmost to effect reforms and to discharge their functions with such earnestness that educational methods may be freed from all errors.

(Signed) Count Kabayama.
Minister of State for Education.
1st July, 1899.

Special Instruction, No. 11, of the Minister of State for Education to Government Schools.

The Schools under the direct control of the Government serve as models to all the public and private educational institutions throughout the country. It is therefore my earnest desire that the behaviour of the students at such schools should be regulated with notably strict regard to the canons of propriety, so that they may show themselves worthy of the station they occupy. The date of the operation of the Revised Treaties is now imminent, and His Imperial Majesty has issued a gracious Rescript. It may be expected that the coming and going of foreigners in the interior of the country will henceforth grow more frequent, and if, at such a time, students be left without proper control, and suffered to neglect the dictates of propriety by cherishing sentiments of petty arrogance, and behaving in a violent, outrageous, or vulgar manner, not only will the educational systems be brought into discredit, but also the prestige of the country will be impaired and its reputation may even be destroyed. For that reason I have addressed an instruction to the Local Governors urging them to guard against any defects in educational methods, and I am now constrained to appeal to the Government Schools which serve for models. I trust that those upon whom the functions of direction and teaching devolve, paying respectful attention to the August intention, will discharge their duties carefully towards the students, and, by securing the latter's strict adherence to rules, will contrive that they shall serve as a worthy example to the schools throughout the country.

(Signed) Count Kabayama,
Minister of State for Education.
July 1st, 1899.

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IMPERIAL RESCRIPT ON TREATY REVISION.

THE Rescript which His Majesty the EMPEROR has issued in connection with the operation of the Revised Treaties will be read with satisfaction by foreigners, and can not fail to produce an excellent impression upon the public at large. The EMPEROR uses language of very exceptional force and frankness. It is an almost invariable rule that the expressions employed in a Japanese Imperial Rescript are comparatively colourless and unmarked by any evidence of strong feeling. But in the message just addressed to his people, the Emperor of JAPAN tells them that Treaty Revision has for years been to him an abiding object of desire (*nenrai no shukubo*); declares that its consummation has entailed exhaustive planning and repeated negotiations (*kikwaku wo tsukushi kōshō wo kasanete*), and speaks frankly of the heartfelt gratification (*chiushin no kinyei*) he derives from the achievement of this long purpose. It is, perhaps, difficult for foreigners in general to appreciate the moving effect that such language must exercise upon the Japanese people, whose mental attitude towards their SOVEREIGN is still based on a profound belief in HIS MAJESTY'S divine origin. We may be sure, however, that every Japanese will derive from this portion of the Rescript a conviction that the nation's mood should be one of deep gratitude, and that the SOVEREIGN has invited his subjects to participate in his own satisfaction and to assist in completing it. Following upon these words comes a remarkable behest which can not fail to derive added force from such a preface. The EMPEROR, addressing himself to his people, whose devoted loyalty in the discharge of their public duties is conspicuous (*chiuftsu oyake ni hōzuru ni atsuki shimmin*), asks them to enter earnestly into his wishes (*jukaku chin ga i wo tai shite*), and all to unite with one heart (*okucho kokoro wo itsu ni shite*) in associating cordially with the people from afar (*yoku yenjin ni majiwari*), by which means, HIS MAJESTY says, the character of the nation will be upheld and the prestige of the empire enhanced. The significance that such expressions must convey to Japanese readers can scarcely be over-estimated. They have evoked comments of a very strong character from the leading vernacular journals, and they will come with the force of an irresistible command to the whole nation.

By the average foreigner, however, the last paragraph of the Rescript will probably be read with most interest. It is not easy to convey, by means of any concise translation, the full value of HIS MAJESTY'S language. In speaking to his officials of the responsibilities that devolve on them in carrying out the treaties, the EMPEROR uses the words *Chin ga tame ni*, which literally mean, "for my sake," or "on my behalf," and which, in this context, amount to a frank declaration that the responsibilities primarily belong to the SOVEREIGN himself, and that he invites his officials to discharge them on his account. As to the manner of their discharge, HIS MAJESTY lays down the broad principle that both natives and foreigners must enjoy equal benefits and advantages (*chiugai shimmin ni shte hitoshiku sono keitaku wo ukete*), so that, all sources of dissatisfaction being removed (*urami nakarashime*), amity and peace with the Powers may be strengthened and perpetuated. Nothing could be less equivocal. The EMPEROR declares in the plainest terms that it is his policy and desire to abolish all distinctions between natives and foreigners, and that, by pursuing that course, his people will best consult his wishes, maintain the character of the nation, and promote its prestige. It is a very gracious and enlightened Rescript, worthy of the epoch, and of the SOVEREIGN under whose government Japan has risen to a position never before attained by an Oriental State.

MINISTERIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

WE need not comment at any length on the Instruction issued by the Minister President by way of corollary to the Imperial Rescript of the 30th ultimo. The gist of the document is contained in the sentence that, while duly asserting the rights which the Japanese themselves acquired under the Revised Treaties (*tōzen ware ni osamubeki kenri wa seikaku ni kore wo hojisu*), the responsibility devolves upon the Government and the duty upon the people of safeguarding the rights of aliens so that they may one and all be able to reside confidently and contentedly in the country (*ono ono sono ando wo seshime tanoshimite waga kokunai ni jukyo seshimuru*). That is all that foreigners ask, and we can safely say that if the attainment of these most desirable objects depends upon the goodwill and the exertions of the Empire's leading statesmen, foreigners may rest easy.

Upon Count KABAYAMA'S Instruction wider interest will centre. Has the Educational Department really recognised the necessity of introducing stricter discipline into the schools, and inculcating a different spirit into the students' attitude towards foreigners? It would appear that such is the case, and the officials of the Department are to be congratulated on the fact. The subject of rudeness to foreigners has often been discussed in these columns. We are firmly persuaded that it has its origin in the schools. Owing to a false construction placed by a professor of the Imperial University on the Imperial Rescript relating to Education, a spirit of more or less hostility to foreign religious creeds and their disciples has been inculcated in the schools, and, as a matter of course, that spirit is manifested in the demeanour of students towards foreigners. The evil is reflected in other directions also, but its source is the schools, and to correct it nothing is required except a slight change in the instruction given there. School teachers will now have before them this new Imperial Rescript declaring that cordial intercourse with foreigners is not only desired by HIS MAJESTY, but will also conduce to the country's reputation; and this Instruction from the Minister of Education, telling them that anything like truculent or rude behaviour towards foreigners will impair the nation's prestige and injure its fair fame. We may reasonably hope that these wholesome rules of conduct will replace the morbid conception of patriotism hitherto entertained by misguided students, and that the youth of the nation will be taught to regard civilized courtesy as one of the most conclusive evidences of national worthiness.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

At the close of the last Summary we made a few extracts from the sayings of the late Count Katsu, as recorded by Mr. Iwamoto Zenji in an extremely interesting little book called the *Kaishū Yoha*.* We now return to the subject and give a few more of the characteristic incidents in a life that was sufficiently remarkable to warrant the publication of fuller memoirs than have yet appeared. Count Katsu was a great admirer of energy of character and powers of endurance. The Japanese word for this quality, 根, *kon*, was ever on his lips, Mr. Iwamoto tells us. Of the numerous visitors that came to him he had many things to say, but there was nothing that seemed to impress him so much as strength of will and mental energy. When told of some great accomplishment of foreigners, he would exclaim, "What energy!" As was to be expected with a man of such strength of character, he was often very obstinate, and would follow no advice that seemed to him foolish, though it might come from a medical man. On being told by a doctor that he should take exercise, he replied, "Give that advice to some fool who knows nothing about himself. My body does not need exercise." "When I die," he said once to a friend, "I shall not complain and make a fuss as many men do, but shall pass away quietly." This actually happened, Mr. Iwamoto informs us.

No one seems to have known better how to snub political upstarts than Count Katsu. Mr. Iwamoto tells us that on one occasion several young men tried to impress on him that the State was all important beyond everything. "Is that so?" asked the Count. "Do you mean to say that you are a member of the Privy Council and have not realised that?" was the rejoinder of the young men. "Since the like of you concern yourselves so much about the State, the members of the Privy

* For an explanation of this title *vide* the last Summary, foot-note at the end.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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Council need give the matter no anxious thought," was the satirical reply.

Count Katsu sent a striking letter to Kang Yu-Wei, written in Chinese style, on the future of China, which is given in the *Kaishū Yoha*. He predicts that nothing will be able to stay the disruption of the great empire. The only possible way of averting the impending ruin would be for China to help herself, but this she will not do. She is divided against herself, and no country knows better than Russia how to make the best of internal dissension and jealousy to further her own ends. Russia's advance may be slow, but will be certain, and none of the great Powers will combine to stop her. The fate of so many Oriental countries has been to be deprived of stable forms of government, to lose all national unity, and thus to expose themselves to attack from Western foes. China is following in the wake of India, Turkey, and Egypt.

Another series of reminiscences of Count Katsu has been published by Mr. Iwamoto, entitled 氷川清話 *Hikawa Seiwa*, 3 volumes of which have appeared, and have been so popular that in a few months they have reached the tenth edition, or at least one of the volumes has done so. The reviews of these works have been highly favourable, and it would be true to say that in recent years few books have commanded so large a sale.

* * *

Mr. Otori Keisuke, formerly Minister in Peking, a short time ago read a paper before the Gakushi-kai-in entitled "The changes which Japan's feelings towards China have undergone." The following is the gist of Mr. Otori's remarks:—(1) Japan began by *unduly worshipping China*. Her literature and her institutions, her methods of government, and modes of life were universally held up to admiration from early times down to the close of the Tokugawa era. (2) Next to this succeeded *distrust* and *fear*. These feelings were awakened by the study of Chinese affairs in the early years of the *Meiji* era. In the 6th year of *Meiji* we made a treaty with China, and shortly after this we sent a Minister to Peking, whose reports gradually impressed his fellow-countrymen with the notion that China's army and navy were very formidable and that as a country she was better backed by material resources than the Japanese. The attack on Formosa, which was caused by outrages committed by barbarous tribes, was the first cause of coldness between the two nations. For ten years after that event, beneath the surface there was a good deal of ill-feeling. Our people found themselves regarded as inferior to the Celestials, and this was very galling. In 1884 the relations were very strained between the two countries owing to the disturbances in Korea. The affair was temporarily patched up by the Treaty of Tientsin. (3) The course of events was such that suspicion led to a feeling of *hostility* that ended in war, the result of which was a surprise to our nation. The effect of the victory over China was (4) *Contempt*. This feeling lasted till China became the victim of Western aggression, when it gave place to (5) *Pity*. This has produced a *desire for union* with China against Western foes, which is the latest development of Japanese sentiment towards China. Mr. Otori concludes his interesting paper by expressing the hope that Japan may find an opportunity of helping China in a substantial manner and of thus repaying her for the numerous benefits that in ancient times she bestowed on the little island empire.

* * *

In the pages of the *Taiyō* we find Dr. Toyama discussing the future of music in this country. The article is the embodiment of an address delivered to the 應和會 Owakai, a Philharmonic Society whose object, according to Dr. Toyama, is not to give concerts but to devise measures for the better development of musical talent and musical taste in the nation. The last report of the Society was not encouraging, Dr. Toyama tells us, but he thinks the members should not despise the day of small things and should bear in mind that the difficulties which confront them have to be met by all would-be reformers. Public opinion has to be educated in order to appreciate really good music; just as it has to be taught what are the true standards whereby to judge fine art. The mass of the people only regard with favour that which is thoroughly native. Oil colours may, and often do, possess more merits than the sketches of those modern artists who keep to traditional methods and portray objects associated with the life of the nation, but by the majority of the public the foreign-style painting is relegated to a very subordinate position. All the societies which have tried to push foreign art have had very uphill work; and those who are interested in music have a similar experience. Foreign music is in a highly developed state compared with the native airs, but the difficulty of convincing the masses of this fact is enormous. Speaking of fine art generally, it is found quite impossible to overcome native prejudice against what is foreign except by means of a compromise. We may say that in sculpture and in portrait-painting foreigners excel, but in the rendering of scenery, in the representations of birds, flowers, and the like, Japanese artists are on the whole superior to foreigners. Men belonging to both the Japanese and foreign schools represent each other's styles as lacking in breadth. But an unprejudiced public ought to try and see what is good in both schools. In music it is desirable to endeavour to bring about a compromise between Eastern and Western music. There are occasions when it is generally felt that the foreign band alone is suitable. War songs should certainly be set to foreign music. On occasions when it is desired to arouse the same emotions in a vast number of people at the same time, resort should be had to foreign instrumental music. But it is to be expected that foreign music will gradually undergo modifications so as to suit Japanese native taste more than it does now, concludes Dr. Toyama.

* * *

In the *Kyōiku Jiron*, Dr. Inouye Enryō brings several charges against the existing school system, which, briefly stated, are as follow:—(1) More attention is being given to buildings and other necessary accessories to school work than to the stamp of men chosen as teachers.* (2) The adoption of foreign ways in many schools engenders extravagant habits in the pupils. In the boarding establishments connected with some schools the food and the accommodation, it is maintained, are alike superior to what the boys are accustomed to in their own homes and makes them dissatisfied with their home life when they return to it. (3) On the plea of observing sanitary laws, the rooms and other arrangements are such as to render students susceptible and particular about little things. Such pampering is morally bad. In olden times the student worked hard at his books, with nothing but an *andon* to light him, but now he needs a good light and to be surrounded by every comfort in order to prepare his lessons. (4) Rules are enforced in too strict a manner. There is no scope for the development of individual character. The pupils become machines, moving to order like so many puppets. The principal reason for insisting on the carrying out of rules is that the directors and teachers in the schools change so frequently. There are educationists who talk about developing the mind, concludes Dr. Inoue, but all they mean by this term is the cultivation of what is called *Yamato-damashii*, or the increase of the spirit and energy of their pupils. Mind development of a more comprehensive nature never enters their thoughts.

* With the salaries of teachers as low as they now are in elementary schools, it seems absurd to be complaining of the quality of the men employed. —[Writer of the Summary.]

* * *

In the *Sekai-no-Nihon* incidents in the life of Marquis Saionji are still being related. No. 5 is entitled, "The Waiting Room of a Foreign Office." Referring to his experience as Minister at Vienna, the Marquis says that the conversation that goes on between diplomats who are waiting for an audience is often of a most entertaining kind, and usually is very free and easy. The air of frivolity that characterised such *rencontres* seemed to the Marquis more suitable to a young men's club than to a meeting of officers engaged in serious State business. Amusing anecdotes about weaknesses or idiosyncracies of Ministers were constantly related. On one occasion the Russian Minister having led off with an account of the stinginess of a Minister whom, when a secretary, he had the misfortune to serve, Marquis Saionji followed with an account of his own experience when a Legation student in London. His chief was noted for his parsimony, and the members of the Legation soon found out the kind of man they had to serve. One practice to which the Minister objected was the free use made of the cigarettes placed on the table for visitors by the Legation officials. No sooner was the box opened and a cigarette taken by one of the Staff than the eyes of the Minister were fixed on the culprit. But even this did not stop the plunderers. So the Chief placed a notice in Japanese in the box, which ran thus, "This box contains—cigarettes." A short time after, on examining the box, the Minister found the following words added: "Minus 5, to which your humble servant has helped himself."

* * *

No 14 of the *Sekai-no-Nihon* contains a useful article entitled, "The Want of Scientific Knowledge." The writer says that any one accustomed to the toy bazaars of the Tokugawa era would be struck by the brilliant variety of the wares now displayed in first-class *kankōba*. But when the minds of toy-manufacturers of the present day are considered, the conclusion reached is that they are in no way further advanced than those of their predecessors. The designs of modern

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toys have been borrowed *en masse*, and there are no signs of adaptations that would show mental activity among the artisans engaged in the toy industry. Toys in every country are worthy of study as an index of popular taste and as marking mental progress or stagnancy. A survey of various branches of industry leads one to the conclusion that what is called the civilisation of the Meiji era is very superficial, designs of all sorts are imitated, but the designing mind is conspicuously absent. To find objects that are the result of some original application of scientific principles is next to impossible. Examining the results of the study of chemistry, we come to the same conclusion, namely, that as a people we are very slow in applying the knowledge we have acquired. To teach the people at large connected with various industries how to use the knowledge they possess is one of the most urgent of the duties devolving on scientists. It is most desirable that trained experts should go around the country and lecture in popular style on the industries in which so many of the bread-earners of the present generation are interested. Then the studies of various investigators have hitherto been very unsystematic. The knowledge of the natural history of Japan, for instance, which has been embodied in books that are thorough and lucid is very small. . . . . We are glad to observe, says the writer in the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, that the *Yorozu Chōhō* writes on "New Inventions in Industry," and the *Chiyoda Nippō* on "Physiology and the Laws of Health," and that the *Jiji Shimpō* has its *Bakuteria Monogatari no Zokukai* (A Popular Account of Bacteria); but infinitely more needs to be done in this line before the industrial and other capabilities of the nation reach the state of development found in the West.

* * *

The *Teikoku Bungaku* is of opinion that the tendency of modern thought in Japan is all in the direction of the practical and the material and that in taking this course the Japanese are following traditional instincts. They have never cared for speculation as such. Their philosophy, their science, their literature and their fine art have never been of a transcendental or spiritual type. Even Buddhism, which in other countries preached a metaphysical idealism, in Japan adopted itself to current thought and native taste, and became a peacher of practical morality. In adopting Western civilisation, our leading men have emphasised its non-spiritual side, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*. Whether we consider the materialism of Mr. Fukuzawa, the utilitarianism of Dr. Katō, the "Organic Sociology" of Dr. Toyama, the tendency is all in the same direction. Things present, the practical side of life, are magnified at the expense of the ideal. Even men like Doctors Inoue (Tetsujirō), Motora, and Nakajima, though not going to the extreme reached by Dr. Katō and Mr. Fukuzawa, are not able to shake themselves free from the spirit of the age. Among rising young writers there are a few who now and again denounce the superficiality of the leaders of thought and who express a desire to make their way to an ideal world, but they lack guides and usually end by swimming with the current. In all the discussions of modern times abstract arguments of any kind are at a discount. It is the concrete that men want placed before them, not ideal life. Only the actual and the real possess interest for them.

The Magazine just quoted, under the heading of "A new phenomenon in the Literary World," calls attention to the progress of public opinion as regards the liberty to be allowed to would-be critics of the Shintō Scriptures and oral traditions. What the *Teikoku Bungaku* has to say on this subject is of considerable interest. Stated briefly, it is as follows:—When the *Shigaku-kai Zasshi* commenced to publish original investigations of the history bearing on the age of the gods (mythological age), the public sale of the magazine was forbidden. This was regarded as a kind of veto on free inquiry, and hence many who had begun to explore gave up the pursuit as not likely to lead to any satisfactory results. Those who did continue the investigation, and who no doubt reached certain conclusions, carefully avoided giving their views to the public. But during the present year a change has come. Mr. Takahashi Tatsuo, in the *Nippon Shugi*, Mr. Naitō Chisō in the 新學界 *Shigaku Kai*, and Mr. Takayama Rinjirō in the *Chū-ō Kōron*, have all published the results of their studies. Among these the criticisms of Mr. Takayama are of a most trenchant type; such as a few years ago would certainly have brought a hornets' nest about the writer's ears, but, *mirabile dictu*, little notice has been taken of Mr. Takayama's method of interpreting the 神話 *Shinwa*, or "Communications of the Gods." This fact the *Teikoku Bungaku* considers to be an indication that public opinion sanctions free criticism of all theological lore and is prepared to welcome any conclusions that thoroughly competent investigators may reach in reference to the authority of the most ancient records and the sayings they report to have been uttered by various gods.*

* * *

The *Shigaku Zasshi* publishes some interesting particulars respecting libraries and the collection of books in Japan. There are two well-known libraries in Tōkyō, the University Library and the Teikoku Zushokan. The number of books constituting the Imperial University Library is given as 230,000 and those of the Zushokan as 300,000. But the Cabinet Library, which goes by the name of the Naikaku Bunko, has a far larger and a more valuable collection of books than either of the above. The figures given by the *Shigaku Zasshi* are 170,000 Japanese volumes, 370,000 Chinese books and 60,000 European works, making a total of 600,000. The origin of this library dates from the days of Tokugawa Ieyasu, who founded it by collecting all the valuable books possessed by the Owari, Kii, and Mito branches of his family. This collection was then called the Sumpu Bunko. It was enriched from time to time by purchases of valuable works from the captains of ships which came to Nagasaki. In later years the Sumpu Library became the Momiji-yama Library. Taking over this collection and adding to it what were known as the Seidō Library and Asakusa Library, as well as the books which had been collected from time to time by the various Departments of State, the Managers of the Cabinet Library found themselves in possession of the most valuable collection of works in the whole country, if not in the whole East, for the Naikaku Bunko is said to contain many Chinese volumes that are no longer to be found in China.

* * *

The following recently published works are worthy of a passing notice:

The *Hokkai Shikō* purposes to be a concise history of the Hokkaidō, but the main object of the writer, Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke (implicated in the assassination of the Queen of Korea) seems to be to prove that Russia has always had designs on Japan and the Far East and that her railway and other preparations bode no good to Japan. The volume covers 735 pages and is for sale at 2 *yen* per copy at the Fuzampō, Urajimbō-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō.

The *Shisho Shingi* (The Four Classics Newly Interpreted), is a work that consists of 11 volumes. It is published by the Tōzankan, 14 Iida-machi, 4 chōme, Tōkyō; each volume costs 27 *sen*. The object of the compilers is to give the ideas of modern critics, Japanese and European, on Confucianism. Among the essays given are General Grant's "Confucius and the Japanese Imperial House"*; "Roman Law and the Benevolence of Confucius," by Mr. Hosokawa Junjirō; "Civil Law and Confucianism," by M. Boissonade; and "The writings of Mencius are political and not religious," by Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi. The articles number over one hundred and have been collected with great diligence from various sources.

The *Nihon no Kasō* (下層) *Shakai*, by Mr. Yokoyama Gensuke, covers 400 pages and is for sale at the Publisher's Office, the Kyōbunkan, 4-chōme, Ginza, Tōkyō. As the title indicates, the subject of the book is the lower orders. The object of the author is to give an account of the ways in which the poorer classes obtain a living, a topic on which it is not easy to find accurate information. The work is divided into five sections, the contents of which we give below. Section I. treats of the condition of the Tōkyō and Osaka poor, their dwellings, their occupations, the money they earn, their education and surroundings. Section II. contains a history of certain classes of artisans, whose ancestors followed the same trade, and goes into the customs which are strictly observed among them. Sect. III. gives an account of the various hand-work establishments throughout the country and of the people that are employed in them. Sect. IV. treats of the spinning industry, and iron works, and draws attention to the great strides that have been made in the use of machinery throughout Japan and the result of this movement on labour. Sect. V. deals with the agricultural classes, their status and modes of life.

A new edition of the "Diary of Richard Cocks" is announced to appear within a few months, in two vols. The subscription price of the two vols is 5 *yen*, and 5 *yen* 50 *sen*, according to binding. Vol.

* It strikes us that the *Teikoku Bungaku* is a little too sanguine here, and that the reason of the silence of the Shintō revering public is more likely attributable to the fact that, Mr. Takayama Rinjirō not being an authority on ancient Shintō literature, and being a young man, little importance is attached to his criticism. Silence by no means always signifies consent. It more frequently spells indifference or contempt.—[WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.]

* This title is translated from the Japanese and may differ verbally from the actual heading of the Essay.—[WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.]

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. will be published on June 28th* and Vol. II. on Sept. 30th. The subscription list will be open till June 15th at Mr. Shima Rentarō's, 1 Mitoshiro-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō. This edition, it is stated, has had the advantage of a careful revision by Dr. Riess.

The *Nihon Shoga Jimmei Jisho* is a Dictionary which gives in alphabetical order the names of all artists and authors of note in Japan, together with a list of their works and biographical sketches. The work covers 706 pages and has been revised by Mr. Kohitsu Ryōshin. It consists of two volumes and sells at 75 *sen* at the Shōyeidō, Tachibana-chō, Nihonbashi, Tōkyō.

The *Eikoku Rikken Daijin-ron*, a translation of a standard work published in Belgium in the French language, is an account of Constitutional Government in England.

* * *

The *Tōyō Tetsugaku Zasshi* publishes an article by Dr. Inoue Enryō entitled *Tōyōgaku no Shinsō* (眞相) "The Real Character of Oriental Learning," in which the writer institutes a comparison between distinctive features of Oriental and Occidental learning. The following are the conclusions which Dr. Inoue has reached on this subject. Western learning excels in analysis. But there are subjects which do not lend themselves to analysis, which must be understood as a whole or not at all. The results of analysis can be stated in words, but after this has been done there still remains unrepresented in any way a certain flavour and charm that characterise the literature subjected to the analysing process which is not conveyed to the minds of those for whom the analysis has been made. This whole method of explaining things by dividing them up into parts and analysing the parts has serious drawbacks, and this is why Occidental descriptions of existing things often fall far short of the portraiture of the same things given by Oriental scholars. The way of regarding Oriental learning adopted by Occidentals seems to me quite unsuited to the real nature of that learning. It is like trying to measure the length of a garment with a thermometer. The test applied to Oriental learning by Western writers is essentially mechanical and utilitarian. The Western mind is more interested in industry and commerce, and subjects connected therewith, than anything else. Hence it finds it hard to enter into and appreciate our worship of beauty for its own sake, our high regard for domestic ties and the duties they involve. The Western ideal is of a commercial type. But it is of the very essence of our life to regard this ideal with disdain. Hence the wide divergence of views between the East and West. . . . Among Japanese students of Western learning not a few have imbibed the foreign spirit and they are no longer able to study Oriental learning as Orientalists. In my opinion the reading of Western books is sadly overdone nowadays; though, if report be true, there are some that in this particular are greater sinners than others. It has been customary to divide scholars into two parties, the "Much-Reading Party" (多讀派) and the "Non-Reading Party" (不讀派). In the Imperial University Dr. Nakajima is said to belong to the former and Dr. Motora to the latter, but compared with myself I should say that Dr. Motora is a voracious reader. Dr. Katō is said to belong to the Reading-party and Dr. Fukuzawa to the Non-Reading party. In the Imperial University the great readers seem to carry the day. To speak frankly on this question, it seems to me that though up to the time of graduation students should read as much as possible, after graduation the fewer books they read the better. They need then to study the living books with which they are surrounded and and should leave dead books alone. In the middle ages both Buddhism and Confucianism suffered severely from the reading craze which came over priests and scholars alike. If modern scholars are to see Oriental things with Oriental eyes, they must give up the practice of relying on foreigners to teach them how to regard the modes of thought, the phases of life, and the institutions the Oriental mind has developed. Intuition will teach them better than books if they will only give it a fair chance to do so. One of the greatest drawbacks of modern life is the unwillingness of educated men to study life and thought for themselves at first hand and their readiness to rely too implicitly on what other people have said on the various subjects of investigation.*

* * *

Writing on the Peace Conference, the *Gaikō Jihō* maintains that with affairs in the Far East situated as they now are, it would be a great mistake on Japan's part to consent to any diminution of her armaments or to promise not to increase them in the near future. China and Korea are alike helpless. The only power which can claim to have a voice in the settlement of the Far Eastern question on account of the organised force she has at her disposal is Japan. What we have to consider, says the *Gaikō Jihō*, is what is it likely will happen in China? Will European powers combined to guarantee her integrity? Should they do so on paper, will they be able to carry their resolve into practice without falling out among themselves? These are questions which nobody can answer with certainty. The horizon is dark with clouds, and no one knows when the storm may burst. Japan should be prepared for any and every eventuality. It is no time to be talking of the reduction of armaments.

* The publication of this Summary has been unavoidably delayed.—[WRITER OF SUMMARY.]

* The connection of reading with thinking is a subject of great interest, as it must never be forgotten that when the intellectual life of the Greeks was at its zenith, there was little reading of any kind done. Dr. Inoue's article, however, like so much of his writing is penned in the interest of anti-Occidental conservatism—a cause which he openly espouses.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

EVANGELIZATION AND EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reply to the editorial note on "Missionaries and Preaching" in the *Japan Mail* of June 17th, I would say that I very much regret if I have seemed to any one to misrepresent the writer of the original note on this subject. I can not yet see that I have done so, unless it be that I did not debate the main issue, the answer to which seemed to be the sufficiently obvious one already given by Dr. Peery. The answer is that the prospect of success in evangelization is not so great as men of equal endowments might expect to meet with in an Occidental country. My contention was that if the missionary is called to preach he will also be given power to deliver his message. I argued that it was no part of the missionary's duty to lecture on morals and ethics, and so, although I did make the writer of the note say that no missionary could lecture "acceptably" on these matters, I did not by so doing put the writer in "the position of denying the general competence of missionaries to do the very thing to the doing of which they devote their lives and abilities."

After giving the original words I did in one place use the "acceptably" as above; but, as I could not speak of preaching the Gospel "in such a way as to dignify the subject," I was constrained in this connection to use another expression. Even in speaking of ethics and morals to which either expression is applicable, it might indeed be argued that it is of more practical importance to consider whether one can lecture acceptably than to consider whether he can lecture in such a way as to dignify the subject. The object of all lecturing is not to dignify and edify the hearers; in other words to lecture acceptably. Whether or not one attains this object we can decide with some approach to certainty; but it is not so easy to answer the question, what degree of linguistic ability is necessary to enable one to lecture in such a way as to dignify an important subject? The question is, however, one of merely academic importance.

If, then, I cannot be convicted of misrepresentation I am willing to have appeared obtuse if my obtuseness called forth the full and clear exposition of the views of the writer given in the *Japan Mail* of June 17th. Considering the discussion on the original question ended, I should like to say a few words on the advice that "the average missionary would do well to devote a part of his energies to a field where he undoubtedly does achieve much success, the field of education."

In view of the difficulty of preaching acceptably it would seem better for one missionary to devote his whole time to evangelization and another to devote his to education. It may safely be said that, in general, the best evangelists are those who do not spend their time in education, or to be explicit, in teaching English, for, excluding the educational evangelists, the education given by the missionary consists of education in English.

Education, even if it be only the teaching of one's mother tongue, also demands much time and thought from the teacher. In an age of specialists it seems unnecessary to say much on this question. If many missionaries be teaching it is probably not because they desire to achieve success in that field directly.

The general question of the division of time and energy is not a new one. Jethro came once to see Moses and finding him much occupied said:—What is this thing that thou doest to the people? Why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even? Moses replied that he had to judge between the people; and Jethro replied: The thing that thou doest is not good. Thou will surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee; for this thing is to heavy for thee.

The words are old but they seem to apply exactly to the subject under discussion now.

Thanking you for giving advice and for allowing others to speak.

I am, Sir, very truly yours, F. MULLER.

Etajima, June 29th.

FIRM NAMES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR—I am given to understand that many gentlemen are greatly perplexed over the interpretation of Article 18 of the new Commercial Code, which reads:—

"Where no (commercial) company exists, the trade name must not contain any word indicating the existence of a (commercial) company. This applies when a person takes over the business of a (commercial) company. A person who acts in contravention of this provision is liable to a fine of from five *yen* to fifty *yen*."

For the information of the foreign public, will you kindly permit me to state, through the

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medium of your journal, that, having carefully investigated the matter, I am of opinion that this article will not, in practice, cause any inconvenience to the large majority of business concerns in Yokohama.

Should any foreign firm object to form their members into a commercial company as defined in Article 43 of the Code, and desire to carry on business under the same name as hitherto, I consider that the prohibition against using the word "company" in the firm name will not apply if the application for registration be carefully drawn, and if the house can furnish credible proof to the register-office that its business has been conducted under the name, style, and title of "———— & Co." prior to the enforcement of the present Commercial Code.

In order to effect registration I should advise application to be made in the joint names of the members of the firm "carrying on business at ———— under and using the name, style, and firm of" etc.

In other words, the firm name will become what is known among Japanese as "Shō-gō" (trade name), and a commercial concern is entitled by the text of the law to continue the use of this, even if it contains the word "company," provided that it was in use before the present Code came into force.

I should point out that while there is a vast difference between a firm and a corporation, in practice the word "company" is often applied loosely to both ordinary firms and corporations. Conventionally the expression "& Co." is used as synonymous with a partnership, and, should objection be raised by the authorities to the use of the term in connection with a non-incorporated association of individuals it would be an easy matter to prove the existence of foreign custom, and besides it is not absolutely necessary to translate the English word "Company" by the Japanese word "Kaisha." The point is that the Japanese authorities are not concerned with the English translation employed, but only with the Japanese characters used.

The relations of partners of an ordinary foreign firm will be governed by the general principles underlying Section XII. of Chapter II., Book III. of the Civil Code—Articles, 667 688.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of this letter, and hoping that the information contained may be of service to the foreign public.

Yours respectfully, S. SAWADA,
Barrister-at-law.

Tokyo, July 3rd, 1899.

DR. KATO'S VIEWS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your correspondent "Onlooker," like so many of us, may be suffering from the heat, but he is evidently in a very dissatisfied mood, and seems to have resided for many years past in some very out-of-the-way part of the world. My authority for stating that most of the thoughtful people of Europe and America are agnostics is the public press. I have for many years been a diligent reader of three or four of the best London journals and of several American publications, and I think that the uncontradicted and incontrovertible facts bearing on religious thought and opinion which from time to time appear in print at the very centres of the most advanced speculation of Western scientists, philosophers, and theologians are a sure indication of the trend of public opinion on the questions at issue referred to by "Onlooker." I am away from home, and hence cannot produce a number of quotations. But I happen to have one quotation from the *Spectator* of March 11th last by me. An "M.P." in a letter on "Agnosticism," writes, "Vast numbers—in my belief the great majority—both of men of action and of men of thought are agnostics. 'All wise men are of the same religion, and what is that? No wise man ever tells.' Hence the question of numbers is necessarily one of impression." The rest of the letter is instructive, but as "Onlooker" assures us that he has nothing to learn from the *Saturday Review*, Schopenhauer, and such-like-inferior exponents of current thought I fear further quotation would be fruitless. Whether I have vindicated Dr. Kato from the charge brought against him in a flippant and unwarrantable manner by Mr. B. H. Chamberlain I leave readers with wider minds than that of "Onlooker" to judge. As for the article referred to being a discourse on Agnoticism," to persons who "like Onlooker" have no clear notion of what "Agnosticism" is such might appear to be the case. "Onlooker" is evidently one of those who think that the term "Agnosticism" covers every form of unbelief. I refer him to the writings of men like Huxley and Leslie Stephen for a full exposition of the views held by the men and women who call themselves "Agnostics."

The *Saturday Review* and other London papers are certainly reliable authorities as to the belief of the London Church-goers. The present writer is not in the habit of making "random assertions" about the belief of any person, much less about that of a whole community. The article quoted from the *Saturday Review* was evidently written by a London Church-goer and represented the feelings of thousands of Church-goers. But this is only one among hundreds of adducible proofs of the change which theological thought has undergone within the past two decades. I would suggest to "Onlooker" that he should look beneath the surface of professing Christendom.

I am, yours, &c.

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE ON DR. KATO'S VIEWS.

"THE GLORIOUS FOURTH."

Details of Yokohama's Celebrations.

Independence Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on Tuesday; indeed, the American community almost outdid itself in the magnitude and completeness of the arrangements. The presence of the Japanese, German, Austrian and American men-of-war in the harbour made the water spectacle much more interesting than usual. All the vessels had "dressed ship," and the gay lines of bunting from stem to stern made up a very pleasing picture. On shore the Grand Hotel was particularly prettily decorated, much the same scheme of embellishment being pursued as that adopted on the occasion of the Emperor's birthday. The Oriental Hotel, the Club Hotel, the United Club, and the business houses and private residences on the Bund were also brilliantly decorated, and in Main-street and the other business thoroughfares flags were everywhere displayed. In the morning Mr. Consul General Gowey held a reception at the United State Consulate, Mr. Vice-Consul McLean assisting him in affording hospitality to the numerous callers. At noon the *Boston* commenced to fire her salute, and the Japanese warships, the *Deutschland*, and *Gefion*, and the *Kaiserin Elizabeth* followed. On board the *Boston*, Capt. Wildes was busy during the afternoon in receiving the many visitors who put off to inspect the cruiser. In the afternoon there was an exhibition of *geisha* dancing at the rear of the Grand Hotel, and at night the festivities closed with a splendid display of fireworks. The Bund was densely crowded all the evening; carriages found it impossible to make their way through the masses of people; and even *jinrikisha* had a hard struggle of it. Outside the Grand Hotel, opposite which the display took place, the crowd was simply enormous—greater than most residents can remember on any previous Fourth. The verandahs of the hotel were thronged with ladies and gentlemen, and the Band of the Imperial Guards occupied the music stand. The pyrotechnic display was certainly very fine, and the set pieces, which were built up on a series of lighters moored just opposite the hotel, were particularly good. The figure of Columbia and the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes crossed aroused the greatest enthusiasm, showing that the fraternal feelings of the two great branches of Anglo-Saxondom in this part of the world have not cooled since last year.

BASEBALL.

The bright sunshine of the early morning attracted a large crowd to the base-ball match, the tent erected for the ladies being crowded to overflowing. The ground was gay with flags and the presence of the Yokohama Town Band in the Pavilion added to the animation of the proceedings. As the day wore on the heat grew very oppressive to players and onlookers alike, but no one succumbed fortunately, though there are many scorched hands and faces to be seen to-day. The game concluded at 11.30, when Blake's side had made 14 runs, Merriman's 3. Mr. E. Mendelson was scorer, Mr. Gunn, Umpire.

BICYCLE RACES.

The bicycle races in the afternoon were among the chief attractions of the day, and drew a very large attendance, including a great number of ladiers. The sport was excellent, some capital riding being witnessed. W. C. Vaughan, well known as a trick rider, distinguished himself greatly, winning the first heat in the one mile championship, and also the five mile championship. He also rode in the ten mile championship, but had to give up, which was not surprising considering the hard work he had done, and the serious fall he sustained in the final of the one mile. H. Irwine rode well both in the five mile and in the ten mile, but in the latter the Japanese rider Tsuruta pulled off the event, his victory being the signal for an immense ovation from the Japanese spectators. The officials were as follows: Referee and starter, Mr. E. Mendelson; Judges, Messrs. Kilby, Blake, and Matteson; timers, Messrs. Stewart, Jacott, and Sutliff; clerk of the course, Mr. F. J. Lias; scorers, Messrs. White, Merriman, and Duff.

At the conclusion the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Gowey, who was presented with a handsome bouquet by Mr. Flint Kilby. Hearty cheers were given for the British residents, who had presented the 10 Mile Cup, and also for the Americans.

SAILING RACES.

The Yokohama Yacht Club carried out a capital programme of sailing races. The fisst was for 39 and 32 raters, over the Tsurumi-Nakane course of 22 miles, the prize being the Fourth of July Cup, presented by the American Minister. This was also the last race for the Weston Challenge Shield, to be kept by winner. The times were as follow:—

	Finish.	Arb. Handicap.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.	h.m.s.
Mary	5.20.45	—	5.20.45
Haidée	5.37.04	22	5.15.04
Kingfisher	5.33.31	25	5.08.32
Mail Marion	—	22	—
Spray	5.43.16	33	5.10.16
Wanderer	—	60	—
Daimyo	6.17.05	55	5.22.05
Svanhild	6.25.50	45	5.40.50

Prize: 1st and 1 record point, *Kingfisher*; 2nd, *Spray*; 3rd, *Haidée*. *Mary*, 2 record points.

The race for 21-raters was over Course No. 2, 9 miles, the 1st prize being the Fourth of July Cup, presented by American residents (under Club time allowance). Times:—

	Finish.	Club Time.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.
Yugao	4.06.30	—	4.06.30
Vixen	3.36.40	1.35	3.35.05
Nandeska	3.57.20	1.35	3.55.45
Abunai	3.52.45	1.35	3.51.10

Prize: 1st and two record points, *Vixen*; 2nd, and one record point, *Abunai*; 3rd, *Nandeska*.

The 17-raters raced over course No. 8, 6½ miles, the prize being the Fourth of July Cup, presented by American residents (under arbitrary handicap). Times:—

	Finish.	Arb. Allowance.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.	h.m.s.
Eclair	4.22.27	—	4.22.27
Daisy May	4.25.43	—	5.25.43
Wettinge	4.28.15	—	4.28.15
Coogee	4.30.00	—	4.27.30
Oscar	—	3	—
Bonito	4.36.42	3	4.33.42
Devonia	—	3	—
Petrel	—	8	Gave up.

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Prizes: 1st and 2 record points, *Eclair*; 2nd and, record point, *Daisy May*; 3rd, *Coogee*.

THE SEA-SHORE SUMMER SCHOOL.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The Sea-shore Summer school is to be held under the direction of Mr. S. Isawa, during three weeks after the 1st day of August, 1899, at Sakawa village, which is situated between Hakone and Kodzu, Tokaido. The principal object of the school is to introduce the Visible Speech System of Prof. Alexander M. Bell, the father of Dr. Alex. Graham Bell, into this country, which is useful not only for teaching English phonetic methods in Japanese schools, where the quick acquirement of correct English pronunication is of urgent necessity after treaty revision, but also to teach correct Japanese to foreigners, as well as to correct wrong dialects prevalent among some provincials. The further application of the method extends to the teaching of deaf-mutes to speak. Mr. Isawa learnt this method under the direct instruction of Prof. Alex. Graham Bell, while he was studying in America some years ago, and after his return home, he made experimental teaching of deaf mutes, and succeeded in making them speak. Mr. Yoshikawa, a deaf-student who learnt to speak Japanese tolerably well under his instruction, will assist in the Summer School work. There will also be given in the School, elementary lessons in the Amoy dialect, which is the common language among Formosan people. This subject will be taught by a blind Formosan student, who was sent here by a missionary two years ago, to learn Japanese as well as some profession suited to blind men. He has been since educated in the Tokyo Blind and Deaf School under the protection of some Japanese gentlemen, and has acquired a pretty good mastery of Japanese.

In addition to the above, Singing and Japanese Literature will be taught by professors of the Tokyo Music School, and many well known educators will deliver extra-lectures on educational as well as social subjects.

Mr. S. Isawa wishes to give the students healthy and pleasant summer living, and to avail of this opportunity to promote benevolent enterprises among the general public.

SHINAGAWA STATION.

Observant travellers between Tokyo and Yokohama on the Tokaido line have probably noticed the new station building, platforms, etc., at Shinagawa. These new works, which have been nearly completed by the administration of the Imperial Government Railways during the past few months, will soon be brought into use, and the old Shinagawa station, which has existed since 1872, from the beginning of the railroad era in Japan, will be abandoned entirely. The new arrangements provide a large and pleasant station house, with two big general waiting rooms, and one ladies' room. There are also two separate platforms, both roofed and connected by a covered overhead bridge. The eastern platform, next the sea, is for the up and down trains of the Tokaido line, the western platform exclusively for local trains running between Shimbashi and Akabane. These last will in future be run on the third track which lately was constructed between Shimbashi and Shinagawa, thus relieving considerably the main tracks of this section, which have been in the past greatly congested, the total number of trains being 110 a day. The new Shinagawa station will make the local traffic on the Akabane line independent of the through traffic, and as the Akabane trains are often considerably delayed, it is easy to understand that in the future one great source of irregularities in the train-service on the Tokaido line will disappear entirely. On the other hand the Akabane trains will not suffer from delays on the through trains.

The public using the railway will also perhaps be glad to learn that the completion of the new Shinagawa station may be considered a good omen for the near beginning of the construction of the long-talked-of Metropolitan Railway of Tokyo, which is to be erected as a four-track elevated line between Shimbashi and the new proposed central station at Yeirakucho. As it is intended to carry the local and city-trains on the metropolitan line in a southerly direction as far as Shinagawa, arrangements have been made there so as to allow all necessary changes and enlargements for this purpose to be carried out without difficulty. Of course the doubling of the Akabane line from Shimbashi to Shinagawa, in order to have two separated pairs of tracks for the local and city trains, still remains to be carried out.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Chinese steerage passenger from the *City of Peking* died from bubonic plague at the Isolation Hospital, Megami, Nagasaki, on June 30.

It is announced in Paris that M. Delcassé, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, is sending M. Pierre Loti on a diplomatic mission to Persia and Afghanistan.

The General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland has, by a majority of 565 votes to 38, decided to amalgamate the Free Church with the United Presbyterian Church.

The Times is reported to be exceedingly annoyed at being tricked into believing that the statement which it recently published over Esterhazy's signature was exclusive, whereas the confession had been sold to the *Daily Chronicle* also, each contract stating that no other paper's offer would be entertained. The Major has sent his regrets and apologies.

H. E. Yü Keng (Manchu), former Chinese Minister to Tokyo, is to succeed Ching Ch'ing, Minister to France, who, it is stated, has been removed from office owing to the murder of the second secretary of the legation by an *attaché* in the spring of this year. The case was investigated by Lü Hai-huan, Minister to Germany, who went specially to Paris for the purpose in obedience to instructions from the Empress Dowager.

The Russian authorities—having been greatly annoyed by the frequent publication in the European Press of details concerning the development of Siberia, and exposing the defects in the construction of the Trans Siberian Railway, the shortcomings in the system of colonisation, and the ever-increasing state of lawlessness that has come about in the neighbourhood of certain towns—have suspended for eight months the publication of the *Siberian Commercial Gazette*, which is looked on as the cause of the offence.

We learn that the following tenders were opened on Wednesday at the Imperial Government Railway's purchasing office, for the supply of sundry waggon and carriage springs, &c., the contract being awarded to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the lowest bidders:—

	£ s. d.
Frazar & Co.	3,713 11.10
Okura & Co.	3,445. 5 00
C. & J. Trading Co.	3 349.18.10
Isono & Co	3,325. 3. 6
Takata & Co.	3,312 14.00
Mitsui Co.	3,302 12 10
Jardine, Matheson & Co. ...	3,266.00.00

The U S. hospital-steamer *Relief* went ashore at Futsu (Saratoga) Spit, Tokyo Bay, on Sunday about seven o'clock. A telegram was sent to Yokohama, and Mr. Laflin at once went down to render assistance. During the afternoon the C. and O. Company's steamer *Thyra* was engaged to try to get her off, but her steam-power was insufficient. At high-tide on Monday morning the vessel floated off and came up to Yokohama unassisted. The *Relief* it should be mentioned, is one of the most perfectly equipped hospital ships in the world. She carries a large staff of medical men, lady nurses, and every appliance known to modern science for the relief of the sick and suffering.

We have received a notice from the Yokohama Water Works Office to the effect that the water supply is short, largely on account of the increase of population, there being 130 more houses and 7,663 more people this summer than last. It has been necessary to impose restrictions since the middle of May, and the supply has been maintained with difficulty. Of late the demand has considerably increased in consequence of the heat, and the quantity of water in the reservoir is decreasing daily. It has therefore been decided to cut off the supply, after July 5th, from 8 o'clock p.m. to 5. a.m.

Hongkong papers contain but meagre statements of the daring outrage at Mengtz, an important town on the Franco Chinese frontier in the Province of Yunnan. Only the briefest details have come to hand, but these indicate that a band of armed Chinese attacked the Imperial Maritime Customs Station and the French Consulate, burning down the houses of the Commissioner and the Customs Assistants, and plundering the quarters of the Outdoor Staff and the French Consulate. The outrage occurred early in the morning of Thursday, the 22nd June. Fortunately, all the foreigners are safe. The foreigners living at Mengtz are Mr. Spinney (Commissioner) and Mrs. Spinney; Mr. Oldham, assistant; Mr. Milhe and Mr. Miller, outdoor staff—all of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs; and M. de la Batie, French Consul.

Delails of the accident which happened to the 2.25 p.m. down local mixed train from Hamamatsu on the 30th ultimo show that the train consisted of 5 passenger carriages (3rd class only) and several goods trucks. The whole passenger portion was thrown down over an embankment between Goyu and Kamagori. The train had fortunately only 50 passengers in all, and the injuries to the public were not fatal or even serious, though a guard of the train sustained a rather bad hurt. Out of 50 passengers 24 were more or less hurt, but so slightly that only one required trifling surgical treatment; they were able themselves to walk over to the next station. The accident, so far as it has been ascertained and investigated, was caused by a fierce wind, which was blowing with typhoon strength at the time.

A somewhat remarkable statement was made by the Rev. Geo. Owen, of the London Missionary Society, in Peking, at the Centenary breakfast of the Religious Tract Society. He affirmed that the young Emperor of China was a diligent student of Christian literature, and that it was rumoured in the capital that he was a Christian in almost everything but name. At a subsequent stage of the proceedings, Mr. T. A. Denny said that if they could succeed in placing the Emperor securely on his throne they would accomplish more for China than the efforts of all the diplomatists put together. The British Government, he added, did nothing without pressure, and he urged that pressure should be brought to bear upon them to settle the Chinese question in that way.

The many friends whom the Rev. J. M. Francis made during his ten years' sojourn as a missionary in Japan, will be glad to hear that he has been elected Bishop of the episcopal diocese of Indiana. The choice, which was made on June 8, resulted after five hours' balloting. Early in the contest the clergy chose the Rev. John Fraude, of Minneapolis, and the lay members the Rev. J. M. Francis. The deadlock continued until fifty ballots had been cast, when the clergy joined the lay members. The new bishop is 41 years old and is a native of Philadelphia, Pa. He is a graduate of the theological seminary at Nashotah, Wis., and was for a time settled at Watertown in that State. He then came in Japan as a missionary, and remained here ten years. In 1897 he returned to the United States and was nominated for a bishopric in Japan, but was not confirmed,

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because the church did not have the funds with which to carry on the extended work that had been planned and he was never consecrated. Since January, 1898, he has been rector of St. Paul's, Evansville.

FOREIGNERS AT THE CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday, Messrs. Singleton, Benda & Co. sued Hidaka Hisakichi, a silk merchant at Otamachi Itchome, for *yen* 1,279, the price of flannel sold, and also petitioned the Court to order the defendant to take delivery of 42 *hiki* of flannel ordered by the latter.

Counsel for the defendant objected that as the plaintiff firm was not registered as a legal person it had no legal right to sue others in a law Court.

Counsel for the plaintiffs maintained the negative and applied for an adjournment for the production of a certificate from the Consul.

The Court adjourned till September 28th.

An action for the recovery of lighterage charges, brought by Captain A. Weston against Wing Cheong Wo, No. 190, was heard at the Chiho Saibansho on Thursday. The plaintiff claimed lighterage from the defendant amounting to *yen* 229, from May 10th, 1898, to January 31st, 1899, with interest at the rate of 5 per cent.

Counsel for the defendant claimed that unreasonable rates were charged and asked the Court to summon as a witness Mr. Helm, to fix a reasonable price. It was further alleged that ten out of 2,038 bags of rice that arrived here by one vessel were lost while they were being discharged by the plaintiff.

Plaintiff alleged that the original consignment consisted of 2,028 bags.

Defendant applied for the summons of a clerk, Omura Kotoro, in the employ of Messrs. Sale & Co., to prove this point.

After some argument on the part of the plaintiff, the Court granted the application and adjourned to September 28th.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

DREYFUS ARRIVES IN FRANCE.

Shanghai, June 30.

The French Government is surrounding the arrival of Dreyfus with impenetrable mystery in order to avoid hostile demonstrations.

Shanghai, July 2.

Dreyfus landed at Quiberon early in the morning and proceeded to Rennes. A large crowd assembled at Rennes, but there was no demonstration. Dreyfus appeared well and bore himself very upright.

Shanghai, July 4.

Dreyfus has had three affecting interviews with his wife.

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.

Shanghai, June 30.

At a meeting of four thousand citizens held in Captown Milner's policy was strongly supported.

Shanghai, July 1.

Mr. Fischer has reported to the Africander leaders the results of his mission. It is understood that President Kruger is unwilling to grant the concessions suggested by the Africanders.

Some newspapers announce that a brigade of field artillery will sail for the Cape on the 15th of July. Another journal says that a company of engineers will be despatched immediately for the purpose of constructing a military railway.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, speaking at the City Liberal Club in London, declared that it was the duty of every patriot to avoid anything calculated to prejudice an amicable settlement of the African question. He repeated his statement that he could see nothing in what had occurred to justify warlike preparations.

The United States cruiser *Chicago* has arrived in Delagoa Bay, and her commanding officer, Captain Howison, will proceed to Pretoria.

Shanghai, July 4.

The political tension is causing a complete stoppage of business at Johannesburg. There is great destitution. A green-book published in Pretoria shows that the Transvaal, in a series of despatches, repudiated the suzerainty of Great Britain.

Shanghai, July 5.

The Volksraad has met. President Kruger urged the members to hold firmly by their independence. He stated that it was his intention to increase the representation of the gold-fields, but made no reference to any alterations of the franchise, without which all proposals must be valueless.

Shanghai, July 6, 3.21 p.m.

Hofmeyer, Herholdt and Fischer have had a conference with President Kruger and the Transvaal Executive at Pretoria. The discussion lasted the whole day. No official intimation of the result has been made, but it is believed that the reforms favoured by the Afrikanders have been accepted, and that they will be submitted to the Raad to-morrow, thus preserving the peace.

ENGLISH PRINCES AND THE DUCHY OF COBURG.

Shanghai, July 1.

The Duke of Connaught has renounced the heirship of the Duchy of Coburg in favour of his nephew, the Duke of Albany.

RIOTING IN SPAIN.

Shanghai, July 3, 3.24 p.m.

Rioting has taken place at Barcelona and Valencia. Several persons have been killed and wounded. Symptoms of general unrest are apparent throughout Spain. The middle classes are dissatisfied with the Government's financial expedients.

Shanghai, July 4, 9 a.m.

The streets have been barricaded in Valencia. There is fierce fighting. The troops are firing volleys.

ITALIAN UNREST.

Shanghai, July 3.

Unparalleled scenes of violence have taken place in the Italian Chamber. A royal decree has been issued closing the session.

WEST AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 5, 3.15 p.m.

The House of Commons has adopted a bill for revoking the charter of the Niger Company. West Africa will henceforth be divided into three sections, under the authority of the Colonial Office. Free-trade principles will be applied, with the exception of spirits, the import of which will be everywhere restricted.

INDIAN AND CEYLON TEA.

The tea-growers have held a meeting in London, and have endorsed the report of the joint committee of the Indian and Ceylon Associations. It was resolved that after the seventeenth one-pound allowance should not be made. The tea-dealers, at a subsequent meeting, resolved not to attend sales or to buy tea privately. They also determined to convene a mass meeting of the trade to consider further action.

PEACE PROPOSALS AT THE HAGUE.

Shanghai, July 6.

The Peace Conference at the Hague has definitely adopted a new code of laws for governing the conduct of war.

BRITISH PACIFIC CABLE.

The conference held by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and Mr. Chamberlain with the representatives of the colonies has resulted in a satisfactory agreement for the construction of a Pacific cable on Imperial lines.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

DREYFUS.

Saigon, June 30.

The arrival of Dreyfus at Brest is momentarily expected.

Saigon, July 2.

Dreyfus landed during the night at Quiberon, or at Brest, and proceeded by special train to the neighbourhood of Rennes, whence a landau brought him at six o'clock in the morning to the military prison. Representatives of the press and some curious persons alone awaited him. There was no demonstration.

Dreyfus is growing grey. He does not seem at all out of health. He has received a visit from his wife. It was a very touching scene.

Saigon, July 3.

The cruiser *Sfax* has arrived at Brest. The officers say that Dreyfus, who is well, physically and morally, has great confidence in the result of his new trial.

Saigon, July 4.

Advocates Demange and Labori have visited Dreyfus. The new trial will probably take place at the end of the month.

DISORDERS IN SPAIN.

Saigon, July 3.

Serious disorders took place yesterday at Valencia in Spain. Barricades were erected and the troops had to fire.

FRENCH FINANCE.

Saigon, July 5.

The Chamber of Deputies has passed the law of contributions.

Saigon, July 6.

The Budget for the year 1900 has been submitted to the Chamber of Deputies, which has prorogued the powers of its Budget Committee for 1899. The latter has re-elected its former bureau, and preserved the greater part of the reporters of the various Departments. It has designated M. Boudenoot as Reporter-General.

The Parliamentary session is closed.

(From the "China Mail.")

THE FRENCH IN SZECHUEN.

Shanghai, June 28.

The French have claimed Taels 1,200,000 and mining rights in six districts in the Province of Szechuen. This demand practically covers the whole mineral field of Szechuen, and the large monetary claim was made in the hope that the Chinese Government, having no spare funds for such a heavy indemnity, would grant the mining rights.

The Chinese, however, have offered Taels 2,000,000, in settlement of all claims.

The French now insist upon having the mining concessions, which will involve the question of the Yangtsze Valley and the control of Szechuen. Meanwhile, British diplomacy remains inactive.

(From Japanese Sources.)

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

Hirano, (Settsu Province), July 1.

Yesterday a severe thunder-storm prevailed, and four persons were killed by lightning, three also being severely and 7 slightly injured.

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CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 427.

By A. H. Robbins.

(From the *American Chess Magazine*.)

Key-move Q to R 5

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, and W.D.C.

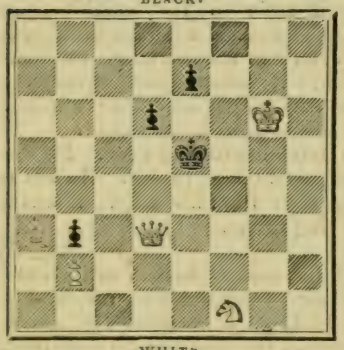
O.B.—(Dunedin, N.Z.) is to be credited with correct solution of problems No. 416, 417 and 418. We are glad to see our old friend join the list of competitors for the W.H.S. Solution prize. Of course readers will recognize in the above initials Yokohama's former champion, Mr. Oscar Balk, who though far removed from us now, is still taking a lively interest in his former chess comrades.

Barbier (Peking) sends correct solution of Problem No. 425 and is anxious to hear of any one willing to play one or two games with him by correspondence. We will be glad to receive names of players willing to accept the challenge.

PROBLEM No. 430.

By "BLACK BISHOP."

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 523.

Winner of the prize for the "best and most brilliant game" in the recent Scotch Tourney.

QUEEN'S COUNTER GAMBIT.

White—J. Campbell (Edinburgh). Black—J. M. Finlayson (Glasgow).

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P Q4(a)	12 Q K2	KtxB
2 PxP	QxP	13 QR Q-q	Castles
3 P Q4	QKt B3	14 RxKt	Q K-q
4 QKt B3(b)	QxQP	15 BxKRP(e)	PxB(f)
5 B Q3	P K3	16 Q R5	P K4(g)
6 Kt B3	Q Q q	17 QxRP	P KB3(h)
7 B K3	K B3	18 R Kt3ch	K B2
8 Castles	B K2	19 KR Q-q(i)	B KB4(k)
9 KKt Kt5(c)	P KR3	20 R Kt7ch	K K3
10 KKt K4	KtxKt	21 Kt Kt5, mate	
11 KtxKt	Kt K4(d)		

Notes by Mr. Gunsberg.

(a) This move is bad in principle as well as in practice—in principle because it is the expressed confession of Black that he is afraid to meet an open game, a serious drawback to any player; in practice because a wide experience has shown that Black invariably gets a cramped game as a result of this defence.

(b) We admire this move. Development is everything in the opening portion of the game, and the player who has the courage to give up a Pawn for the sake of development shows that he is possessed of the *idée grande*. Such play shows up the weakness of Black's strategy better than we can express it in words, although we hope we have not minced matters in our first note. Black took the Pawn, but this did not turn out a Jacob's ladder to success.

(c) Not by any means a waste move, as the sequel will show.

(d) Black was not lacking in the perception of danger which might arise to his game if he castled while the two Bishops commanded the King's wing, and it is only natural that he should have tried to get rid of one of the Bishops at least. Notice, however, the excellent manner in which White utilises the position for further development.

(e) What one might have expected from a player with the courage and the spirit shown by White, whose every move was dictated by sound judgment and incisive attacking instincts; the issue of this sacrifice is by no means clear, but the judgment which dictated it was excellent.

(f) If P to K B 4, 16—R to K Kt 3, R to B 2, 17—Q to R 5, &c.

(g) P to K B 4 is no improvement on this move, for then 18—Q takes R P, P to B 5; 19—R to R 3, &c.

(h) It cannot be said that Black did not do his best after a fashion at any stage of the game. It will be found that he had no other chance but the forlorn one of creating a loophole for his King via B 2 and K 3.

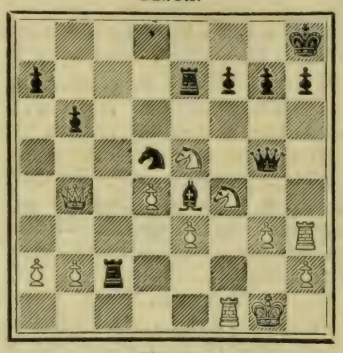
(i) This is the problematic *coup de repos*.

(k) If R to K Kt square; 20—Q to R 7 ch, K to K 3; 21—R takes R, Q to B 2; 22—R to Kt 7, Q to B square; 23—Q to Kt 6, and Mates next move. Then, again, if K to K 3; 20—Kt to Kt 5 ch, K to B 4; 21—Q to B 3 ch, K to Kt 3; 22—Q to R 7 Mate.

END GAME.

(From Actual Play.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

The above position represents the ending of a game played blindfold by Prof. V. Brent, a strong New Orleans amateur, against a strong opponent, at Tallahassee, Florida. It is a sparkling finish, and occurred after Black had played 20..... Kt from B 3 to Q 4. Prof. Brent wound up brilliantly as follows:—

21—Kt takes P ch	21—R takes Kt
22—Q to B 8 ch	22—R takes Q
23—Kt to Kt 6 ch	23—B takes Kt
24—R takes R mate	

GAME No. 524.

A brilliant correspondence game, won in magnificent style by the well-known Hungarian master.

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

White—K. Zambelly. Black—G. Maroczy.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	14 K Kt3	Q B2ch
2 Kt KB3	P Q4	15 P B4	PxPch
3 PxP	B Q3	16 KxP	R Q5
4 Kt B3	Kt KB3	17 P Q3	B Kt2ch
5 B Kt5ch	P B3	18 Kt K4	BxKtch
6 B R4	P K5	19 KxKt	Q R7
7 PxP	Castles	20 PxB	QxPch
8 Kt Q4	PxP	21 K R4	RxB
9 K xBP	Q Kt3	22 QxR	R R4ch
10 KtxKt	RxKt	23 KxR	Q R6ch
11 B Kt5	R Q q	24 K Kt5	P R3ch
12 Castles	BxPch	25 K B4	P Kt4ch
13 KxB	Kt Kt5ch	26 K K5	Q K3 mate

THE EVANS GAMBIT.

The Evans Gambit was casually discovered by Captain William D. Evans, R.N., of Milford, about the year 1834; the exact date is uncertain. He was an officer in the British Navy, holding a captain's commission. The time of his death is a matter of some uncertainty, but it is probable that he lived to a ripe old age, and for many years lived a quiet life somewhere in France or Holland, subsisting on a pension which he held from the British Government. The following anecdote is told by a gentleman about Captain Evans having met and defeated in a game of chess the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia, brother of a former Czar and uncle of the late Muscovite ruler:—I was personally aquainted with Captain Evans. His son had served in the same regiment as me, and that was how I came to know his father. The old man was living in Ostend in somewhat straitened circumstances with his daughter and the son already mentioned. This was just before the Franco-Prussian war broke out in 1870. During the season of that year the old Czar's brother, the Grand Duke Nicholas, was on a visit to Bruges, which is about sixteen miles from Ostend. Hearing that the inventor of the Evans Gambit was in Ostend, and being himself a warm devotee of the game, the Grand Duke sent an invitation to Evans to come over to Bruges and play him a game. Captain Evans was of a very independent turn of mind, and, taking the fancy, refused to go. Perhaps this refusal was in consequence of something which will be explained directly. However, the invitation came a second time, and was a second time declined. On the third occasion, when the Grand Duke gave a special commission to one of his aides-de-camp to bring the old man whether he would or no, Captain Evans, for some reasons best known to himself at that time, consented to go to Bruges. The old salt and the brother of the greatest of autocrats met and fought a stubborn game, which lasted for three days. Of course they played without time limit. The Grand Duke was counted a fine player, but the old Welshman got the better of him in the end. When the fight was over—Captain Evans told me the story himself—the Grand Duke turned to his adversary, and, addressing him in French, said, "I believe you invented the Evans Gambit?" "Yes," replied the captain, "and it is not the only thing I have invented for which you have not paid me." "What is the other?" asked the Grand Duke. Captain Evans then explained that he was the inventor of ships' light—the red and the green for "port" and "starboard" I believe it was—which have since been almost universally adopted. The Grand Duke Nicholas was at that time the Admiral of the Russian Navy, which had just begun to use the lights to which Captain Evans referred. Nothing more was thought about the matter at the time, and Captain Evans continued his quiet life at Ostend. Some months later, however, he received a letter from the Russian Consul in that city asking him to call at the Consulate. When the old man reached there the Consul handed him a letter from the Grand Duke Nicholas, in which that great man, in very complimentary terms, told the Captain in French how happy he had been to meet him and play with him a game of chess. When the inventor of ships' lights and the Evans Gambit had finished his perusal of this letter, the Russian Consul said that was not all he had to give him, and thereupon he handed to Captain Evans a magnificent gold chronometer. Upon the obverse side of the case was an inscription in Slavonic characters in these terms:—"To the great and good man, William Evans," while on the reverse were engraved two ships, with their lights represented by two precious stones. Accompanying this appropriate gift was a valuable gold chain, each link of which represented the link of a ship's anchor, and the holder a ship's lantern with a brilliant for its light. And finally, to make the thing complete, there was a draft for £2,000 from the Grand Duke Nicholas to Captain Evans, ostensibly in payment for Russia's rights to use the captain's invention on her ships.—*Pictorial World*.

NOTES.

According to the *British Chess Magazine*, the Calcutta Tournament played during February and March this year was the most important Chess event in India since the Jubilee of 1887. The players were divided into two sections, one composed of European and Eurasian players, and the other of Hindu and Mahomedan players—the winners of the two sections then playing a match for the local championship. Fourteen players entered the former and four the latter section. In the final Dwarkanath Mukerji defeated E. Robertson by winning the first two games out of three.

The Chess Tournament by postcard between the Ootacamund and Ceylon Chess Clubs has resulted in a draw. One game was fully fought out, lasted a year, and was won by Colombo. The other game went to Ootacamund, and consequently honours are divided.

A correspondent of the Liverpool *Weekly Mercury* points out that, although chess-players may talk of tournaments and escutcheons, and such other knightly terms, there is, as a matter of fact, no "chivalry" in Chess. The game reminds him of Darwin's description of a combat between two large and voracious beetles. They did not attack each other's mail or proof. Each, with his powerful mandibles, tried to bite off his enemy's legs, joint by joint. They started with eight legs apiece—imagine the delight of that one which still had six left when the other floundered about with only three, and all three on the same side. The six legged beetle just romped around, and lopped off his opponent's three also. Then as the legless one was dragged off to the larder, what resentment filled his soul, and what despair. Such is modern Chess.

Mr. Hara Tomitaro, of the Hara Silk Store, Yokohama, intends to undertake a tour of investigation in America, France, China, and Italy, starting out some time in August next. He is said to be the first merchant at Yokohama who has undertaken a foreign trip of the nature since the opening of the port.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 1	Su. July 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	M. July 10
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Yarra 3	Th. July 13
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. July 16
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. July 17
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. July 17
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	M. July 24
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. July 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	Th. July 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Aug. 2

1 Left Nagasaki on the 6th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 5th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M July 10
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. July 12
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. July 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. July 12
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. July 17
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. July 19
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. July 19
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 24
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. July 26
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F July 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 3
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Aug 4

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Akashi Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, 2,800, 29th June,—Kobe 27th June.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 30th June,—Portland, Oregon, 13th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibball, 30th June,—Kobe 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3 589, P. H. Going, 30th June,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 30th June,—Shanghai via ports, 24th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 30th June,—Nagahama, 30th June, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 1st July,—Seattle, Washington, 15th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, A. E. Moses, 1st July,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Kobe 30th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 1st July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 30th June Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, R.N.R., 2nd July,—Vancouver, B.C., June 20th, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Boston, U. S. Cruiser, 3,000, 8 guns, Capt. Whiting, 2nd July,—Nagasaki via Kobe, Kobe 1st July.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2.419, Edwardsen, 2nd July,—Hongkong via Moji and Kobe, Kobe 30th June, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Relief, U.S. Hospital steamer, 1,987, Capt. Frank Harding, 3rd July,—Manila via Nagasaki, 29th July, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 3rd July,—San Diego, Cal., 10th June, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, H. Kirchner, 3rd July,—Hongkong 28th June, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 5th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 17th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Chun Sang, British steamer 1,250, E. J. Buller, 5th July,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Kaiserin Augusta, German Cruiser, 6,331, Capt. Gulich, 5th July,—Kobe, 4th July.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 6th July—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 5th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Lord Shaftesbury, British ship, 2,273, McCarthy, 30th June,—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 30th June,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Humber, British storeship, 1,640, Captain H. J. Davison, 30th June,—Nagasaki.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 1st July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 1st July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148 H. L. Allen, 1st July,—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Bambridge, 1st July,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Kan, Japanese cruiser, 2,800, 24 guns, 1st July,—Yokosuka.

The Hahnemann, British ship, 1,937, Robert Brown, 2nd July,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Fairport, British ship. 1,857 Armstrong, 2nd July,—Port Townsend, Wash., Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 3rd July,—Hongkong via ports, 3rd July General and Mails.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kweilin, British steamer, 1,088, J. B. Harris, 3rd July,—Otaru, 3rd July, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 3rd July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Ningpo, British steamer, 1,240, Rob. Phillips, 4th July,—Kobe, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,093, Riquier, 4th July,—Marseilles via ports. Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 4th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asama Kan (37), Japanese Cruiser, 9.855, Capt. Shimazaki, 5th July,—Yokosuka.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866 Y. Oda, 5th July,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroclus British steamer, 3 323, E G. Dickens, 6th July,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Naniwa Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, 3 709, Capt. Misu, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Chinyen Kan (20), Japanese Battleship, 7,335, Capt. G. Hayazaki, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Matsushima Kan (30), Japanese Cruiser, 4.278, Capt. H. Takei, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Yashima Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,517, Capt. S. Uryu, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Takasago Kan (30), Japanese cruiser, 4,227, Capt. H. Tanji, 6 h July,—Yokosuka.

Ikazuchi Kan, Japanese Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 311, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Yugiri Kan, Japanese Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 257, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, Burch, 6th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Portland, Oregon :—Messrs. B. Campbell, H. Campbell, Prase, and Eastham in cabin, and 2 adults and 3 children in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from London via ports :—Messrs. K. Iijima, S. Kawasaki, and K. Yendo in cabin ; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whitaker, Mr. Emil Mattieson, Mr. and Mrs. T. Niki, and Miss M. Niki and 2 children in second class, and 12 Japanese and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. T. Meyer and child, Colonel and Mrs. M. Caskey, Rev. and Mrs. Jones and 3 children, Mrs. Gray and infant, Madam Bonchord and child, Miss A. Gibbert, Capt. and Mrs. Lindberg, Mrs. Tilden, Mrs. Melhuish and 2 children, Mr. S. Richardson, Mr. O. Mashke, Mr. R. Fujisawa, Mr. K. Hosoda, Mr. K. Itow, in cabin ; Mr. I. Imai, Mr. B. Hara, Mr. K. Kuwabara, and Mr. Yung Ching Foo, in second class ; 35 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. J. Archer, Mrs. Marie Andessner, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Carles, four children and governess, Mr. E. Des Vaux, Mr. T. Hart Davies, Mr. H. B. Fisher, Dr. J. C. Gibson, Lady Hannen, Miss E. D. Humet, Mr. Jacqmin, Mrs. Jacqmin, Mr. O. C. Joline, Mrs. Kohler and child, Mr. H. Martin, Madame May and maid, Mr. S. Mills, Mrs. G. Munro, Miss Matsuda, Mr. A. G. Robison, Mr. F. O. Stuart, Mrs. J. G. Schurman, and Miss J. C. Terry, in cabin ; 6 in second class ; and 66 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Sydney and Melbourne via ports :—Governor S. Omori, Mrs. K. Soyeda, Mrs. F. W. Johnston, Miss Rettle, Mr. W. Rollinson, Mr. W. Douglass, Mr. G. Kyngden, Mr. V. der Andrade, and Mr. B. M. Stiebel in cabin ; Mr. L. W. Spencer, Mr. C. Britton, Mr. Geo. Mill C. Winter, Mr. A. C. McMillan and Mr. T. Aoki in second class ; 1 European and 17 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer, *Hohenzollen*, from Hongkong :—Mr. F. A. Starke, Mr. A. Kew, Mr. C. Michelson and 10 Chinese in second class.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. R. Abenheim, Dr. C. M. Wharton, Mrs. Leigh Hunt, Miss Helen Hunt, Mr. C. Schilling, Mr. F. H. Ball, Mr. M. F. Fox, Mrs. E. C. Whaley, Rev. J. W. Wadman, Mr. R. H. Wright, Mr. C. J. Economo, and Mr. D. J. Economo in cabin. For Kobe :—Mr. J. D. Atkinson in cabin. For Shanghai :—Mr. F. G. Blom, Mr. J. C. Epperly and Mrs. J. C. Epperly in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mrs. William H. Avery, Mrs. H. Rodriguez, Mr. Z. Oppenheimer, Mr. R. A. Ainsworth, Mrs. Barry Baldwin, Miss Dorothy Baldwin, Master N. Baldwin, Mrs. Reta Menier and Mrs. Pearl Seeman in cabin.

Per British steamer *Chun Sang*, from Hongkong :—Mr. J. L. Stewart in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* from Hongkong via ports :—Col. Elsdale, Mrs. Rustomjee and Misses Rustomjee (2), Lt. and Mrs. B. Wild, Major W. R. Little, Mrs. Borrett, Mrs. Beyer and 2 daughters, Mr. T. H. Ridpath, Mr. H. G. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Haskell, Miss Allen, Mrs. G. J. Mainland, Mrs. C. D. Kerr, Mrs. G. Sutherland and child, Dr. Macauley, Mrs. Wicsham and child, Mr. and Mrs. Gove and infant, Mr. J. Hennergsen, Mr. J. L. Van Laer, Miss Stryser, Mrs. H. Wallace and maid, Rev. and Mrs. Oltman and 5 children, Mrs. H. D. Price, Mr. and Mrs. B. Hyde Pearson, and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Myels and infant, Mrs. Buchanan and infant, Mr. O. Pollocks, Mr. O. Fulcher, Mrs. J. I. Plummer, Mr. J. Malloy, Mrs. J. Robertson, Mr. R. A. Ruttan, Com. Luzzatti, Mr. P. G. S. Large, Mr. B. Knoehenhaner, Mr. J. T. Lay, Miss Hannen, Mrs. Skottowe, Mrs. L. Kerr and child, Mr. E. Runge, Miss Runge, Mr. E. H. Burrows, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Col. Browne, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. E. K. Bull, Miss Lansing, Rev. and and Mrs. C. L. Brown, Miss Settlemayer, Miss Gum, Mr. Reynell, Mr. L. D. Abraham, and Mr. P. H. McKay in cabin. For Vancouver :—Mr. and Mrs. Waddell, Miss Waddell, Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Col. and Mrs. L. A. Core and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Smyth and 3 children, Miss Smyth, Dr. and Mrs. Woods and 3 children, Mr. H. M. Woods, Mr. S. B. Woods, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. MacMichael and child, Signor Patesi, Rev. J. N. Hayes, Mr. P. Mc. G. Grant, Captain Rabiger, Captain, Pust, Lt.-Comdr. F. Singer, U.S.A., Miss R. Lees, Mrs. Lees, Miss Lees, Mr. T. E. Sanson, Mr. J. W. Hepworth, Captain A. S. Barker, Lt. E. W. Eberle, Rev. L. Lawson, Miss Singh, Miss Ricketts, Mr. J. D. Hutchinson, Dr. and Mrs. Macartney and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. B. Brenan, Mrs. Macauley, Dr. Forster, Mr. H. Cordes, Mr. M. Schenary, Rev. Crozier, Mr. G. Butler, Mr. C. G. Beard, Mr. A. H. Heath, Mr. A. J. H. Carlill, Miss S. M. Couch, Mr. F. Parrott, and Mrs. Parrott in cabin ; 11 in second class and 277 in steerage.

DEPARTURE.

Per Japanese steamer *Inaba Maru*, for London via ports :—Lieut.-Col. S. Matsukawa, I.J.A., Com. K. Sato, I.J.N., Lieut. K. Moriyama, Lieut. T. Yuasa, Staff Surgeon A. Kobayashi, Staff Paymaster G. Arida, Consul K. Shidehara, Dr. H. Mino, Miss Nobu Masaki, Mr. J. B. Terry, Capt. Hadley, Capt. R. Harvey, Mr. J. B. Beevor, Mr. J. Calder, Mr. E. C. Philips, Mr. A. E. Collingwood, Mr. Finke, Mr. T. Imanishi, Mr. K. Hiyama, and Mr. K. Amano in cabin ; Petty Officers S. Tsunoda and M. Fukushima, and Mr. Yoshimoto in second class ; 45 crew I.J. Navy.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. H. L. Achilles, Miss Jessie Asbury and maid, Mr. H. Blumnstein, Mrs. S Brunel, Mr. C. I. Brigel, Miss Brodie, Mr. H. G. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Bramhall, Miss Bramhall, Mr. G. R. Carter, Mrs. G. R. Carter and maid, Miss A. Carter, Mrs. J. V. C. Comfort, Miss Comfort, Mr. N. R. Chamberlin, Miss Chamberlin, Mr. Ly Chat, Mr. H. Cunningham, Mr. W. H. Dobson, Mr. M. O. Helffreich, Rev. B. C. Henry, Mrs. J. R. Hill, Miss Hill, Miss Iznar, Mrs. M. Kingdon and maid, Mr. E R. Kimball, Mr. H. A. Keller, Mr. T. Kezeria, Mr. Tang Kin, Mr. J. D. Mactavish, Mr. J. S. Maynard, Miss Alice Miller and servant, Miss Amelie Lamb O'Neill, Mr. Porter, Mrs. Porter, Lieut. Nilhalm von Schleich, Mr. E. S. Stevens and maid, Mr. J. Strap, Mrs. Charles Strap, Mr. Tong Sun, Miss Ada D. Thompson,

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Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Strong, Mr. and Mr. Varblowsky, Dr. Wagner, Mrs. Wagner and three children, and Mr. T. Yamada in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Koekler, Mr. R. P. Saunders, Mr. Frances Tyler, Mr. F. J. Mayers, Rev. and Mrs. D. C. Greene, Mr. A. McGlew, Mr. Jas. H. Bathgate, Mr. S. Lucas, Mr. E. Bedloe, Mr. Slight, Mr. J. Shelton, Mr. R. Singer, Mr. D. Vshikubo, Mr. K. Saito, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. A. G. Mosle, and Mr. March, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. T. Oyama, Mrs. Oyama, two children and two servants, Mr. Lichelle, Mr. T. Yokoi, Mr. M. Shirai, Mr. T. Sakaguchi, Mr. E. Selardeaux, Mrs. Selardeax, Mr. G. Courtellemont, Mr. M. S. Oveyrin, Miss Boudelin, Mr. Alex. Salame, Mr. Alex. Nasif, Mr. Ad. Chaquert, Mr. J. S. Subirades, Mr. Ignace Vavrich, Mr. Y. Yemori, Mr. Th. Beard, Mr. N. A. Startseff, and Mr. Nicolas Mannas, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Hon. S. Omori, Governor of Hiogo Prefecture; Mr. K. Soyeda, Mrs. Truseott and child, Mrs. Pass, Mr. S. Machida, Mr. N. Kishida, Mr. Shokei, Mr. M. Kamiyama, Mr. M. Okayama, Miss O. Osato, Miss Kame Auri, Mr. M. Toriyama, Mr. S. Togawa, Mr. J. Togawa, Mr. U. Yamamoto, Mr. T. Tamenari, Mr. K. Suda, Mrs. Suda, Mr. Kakuko Suda, Mr. U. Saka, Mr. J. Kasakari, Mr. Shinobo Tajima, Mr. Yegaki, Mr. B. Fujito, Miss Tsuru Matsushima, Mr. G. E. Bridge, Mr. F. J. Meyers, Mr. Lee Pin Ki, Consul for China, Mr. S. Nakanuma, and Mr. S. Dokura in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	HONOLULU.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	31	—	31
Amoy	—	—	2,126 *	—	—	2,126
Shanghai	264	609	714	488	—	2,075
Kobe	—	4,143	2,205	—	—	6,318
Yokohama ...	600	5,855	3,141	—	—	9,596
Total.....	864	10,607	8,186	519	—	20,176

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	145	—	145
Shanghai	—	—	—
Yokohama	188	—	188
Total.....	333	—	333

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 2 bales.

Following are silk shippers per *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, July 7th:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	93
Doshinsha	10
Kuto Shokwai	2
Total	105

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns firm. Fancy cottons and woollens quiet; white shirtings in demand, while Victoria lawns are also enquired for.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 36½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches.....	1 90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 54 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28
WOOLLENS.	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0 75 to 0 85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 25 yards, 22 inches ..	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-45 inches	0 70 to 1 10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2 45 to 3 45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16-21, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28-32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38-42, Singles	42.00 to 43.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 00 to 41 00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos 2 100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18 00
Chinese	20.00 to 20 75

METALS.

Business is restricted to sales of stocks and small lots bought on speculation. Home prices continue to advance, and generally are higher than those current here.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	4.90 to 5 30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet Iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	10 70 to 12 00
Wire Nails, assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.35 to 2.40
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 18 inch)	6.25 to 6.50

KEROSENE.

Quotations are slightly higher.

American	$1 30 to 2 35
Russian	2.20 to 2.25
Langkat	2.10

SUGAR.

Market quiet, with a slight upward tendency.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.65
Brown Baitong	4 35 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6 80
White Java and Penang	6 80 to 8 40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Holders are demanding higher prices than buyers think the American and European demand warrants, and business is consequently restricted.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1120 to 1130
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1070 to 1080
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No 1	1100
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	1050
Kakedas—No. 1	1020
Kakedas—No. 1½	1020
Kakedas—No 2	980
Kakedas—No 2½	940

(Nominal)

WASTE SILK.

There has been absolutely nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	$90 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

There has been an active demand at advancing prices. The quality of the second crop is rather poor; stocks are large, but chiefly of low grades.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MESSRS. BISSET & URE'S LIST.]

Yokohama, July 6.

Engine and Iron Works have changed hands at *yen* 200 ex dividend and are wanted at this rate. Club Hotels are wanted at *yen* 80, Grand Hotels at *yen* 227½, Oriental Hotels at *yen* 125, Laundries have sellers at *yen* 77½. Bretts at *yen* 9½, Offers for Langfeldts are wanted, Y. U. Club Debentures and Brewery Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108, Breweries are steady at *yen* 175.

Hongkong wires the following:—

H. & S. Banking Corporation.	$305 % prem. Sa.
National Bank of China, Ltd.	$20½ B.
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$89 Sa.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$312½ S.
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Limited	$400 % prem. Sa.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company, Ltd. .	$96 Sa.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	$58 S.
Indo-China Steamship Company, Limited	$70 Sa.
Punjom Mining Company, Limited	$15 Sa.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Mining Company, Ltd. ...	$59½ Sa.
Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Company, Ltd.	$93 B.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	$235 Sa.
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited.....	$62 S.
H. C. & M. Steamboat Company, Limited	$30¾ B.
Straits Insurance Company, Limited	$6¼ B.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	200	B. ex div.
Japan Brewery Co, Ld. *yen* 50	4...	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100.....		227.50 B
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	1...	80 B
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100.....	2...	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Pfds.), $12½		450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100		60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., $100		200 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10.....		9.50 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100.....		Offers wanted
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100.....	3...	170 S
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50 ...		77½ Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100.....		108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50		50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100.....		108 S.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100.....		100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100		100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298 44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

[A. C. HUTTON POTTS'S SHARE LIST.]

Yokohama, July 6.

Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Engine & Iron Works have changed hands at *yen* 200 ex dividend and are wanted at this rate. Y. U. Club Debentures can be had at *yen* 108. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 225. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, have sellers at *yen* 122.50. Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9 50. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 150. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 77.50.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	200 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	225 Sales.
Club Hotel.....	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	122 50 Sellers.
Langfeldts & Co.	150 Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co.	175 Sales.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS,
Stock and Share Broker,
75, Main Street.

Tokyo, July 6.

Redemption Loan Bonds.....	1...	95.90
War Loan Bonds	1...	95 90
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		98.40
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		283.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50.....		52.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100		243.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75.....		217.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50.....		65.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50		65.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100		110 00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25		26.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		71.60
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		59 00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		22 20
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	108.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	70.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		57.80
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		48.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		64.40
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 35.....		44.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		88.50
Hokkaido Colliery R'w'y, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28 62 50		
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50.....		92 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50 00
Bono Railway—paid up yen 50		32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.00

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Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	21 0.
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	40.80
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	20.20
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	12 00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	26 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	1 60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	233 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	82 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	66.20
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	17.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new - paid up yen 10	5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	30.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	19.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	34 00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	10.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	235.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	193.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	122 0.
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	97.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	3 50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	56.00
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 35	20.90
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	73.50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	40 00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	86.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	35.00
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	45 00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	57.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	54 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	54 00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	18.50
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	42.00

1 Ex dividend.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 6

Silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower from London without affecting rates, which keep steady, and close accordingly for the mail per *Empress of India*.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0$\frac{5}{8}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{11}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{7}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1$\frac{1}{8}$
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 2$\frac{1}{2}$
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51$\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 213$\frac{1}{2}$
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3$\frac{1}{2}$% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4$\frac{1}{2}$% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75$\frac{3}{4}$ to 6
On India—Bank sight	153$\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27$\frac{3}{4}$

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.38, 9.10, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.30, 5, 5.35, 6.15, 7.16, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.40, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.25, 7.55, 8.30, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25, a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.25, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.50, 5.25, 6.30, 7, 7.35, 8.20, 9.15, 10, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

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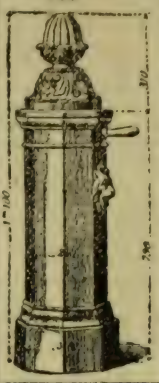
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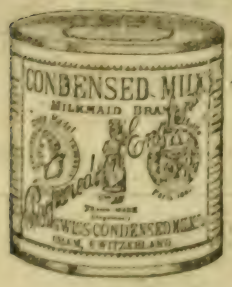
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

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No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged, in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 15TH, 1899.

BIRTHS.

On Tuesday, July 11th, at No. 69, Bluff, the wife of W. K. WILSON of a son.

On 7th instant at H.B M.'s Consulate, Nagasaki, the wife of JOHN B. RENTIERS, H.B.M.'s Consular Service, Japan, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On Wednesday, July 12, at Trinity Church, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Miss EMILY VERBECK, daughter of the late Rev. Guido F. Verbeck, to HENRY T. TERRY, Esq., of the Imperial University.

DEATH.

On the 10th inst., at Zurich, Switzerland, Mr. C. BRENNWALD, of the firm of Siber, Brennwald and Co.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Crown Prince, who has been staying at Numadzu, is slightly indisposed.

AT Belgrade an individual fired several shots from a pistol at King Milan, but did not hit him.

THE French national fete—the Fall of the Bastille—was celebrated very quietly in Yokohama on Friday.

A GOLD standard has been advocated for India, with the sovereign as legal tender and the rupee fixed at 16d.

THE Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has had another very successful half-year: details will be found in another column.

THE Tokyo Beer Company will hold its general meeting on the 17th inst. A dividend of 10 per cent. is expected to be declared.

THE Grand Duke George, second brother of the Czar died during the week in the south of Russia. He had been ailing for years.

AN order has been issued by the Washington Government for the enlistment of ten volunteer regiments to serve in the Philippines.

THE Japanese cruiser *Yakumo* has been launched at Stettin. She was christened by the wife of the Japanese Minister, Madame Inouye.

THE French, German and Russian journals comment favourably on the visit of the Emperor of Germany to the French training-ship *Iphigénie*.

THE *Globe* eulogises the Rescript recently issued by the Emperor of Japan, and hopes that His Majesty's timely words will be taken to heart.

THE storm of Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, occasioned a good deal of flooding in the south-western provinces, and several lives have been lost.

MESSRS. JAMES WALTER and W. F. Mitchell have been elected Trustees of Christ Church in the place of Mr. J. A. Fraser and Mr. John Rickett, who have left the country.

DURING the week various Ordinances preparatory to the new order of things have been issued by various Departments of State. They will be found noticed in detail in other pages of this issue.

THE Volksraad of the Transvaal have made certain alterations in the franchise laws, but the Uitlanders are still very dissatisfied. Meanwhile England is pushing forward her military preparations.

THE President of the Orange Free State, in his speech closing the Raad, stated that he still hoped for a peaceful settlement of the Transvaal question, but that, if war came, it would not be the fault of the Transvaal.

AN aged woman, mother of one Kurokawa Inosuke, living at Sanchome, Kotobukicho, Yokohama, strangled herself a few evenings ago. The woman thought herself a burden to her son and his wife, who are only able to live from hand to mouth.

THE Hon. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary for the Foreign Office, replying to a question put by Lord Charles Beresford in the House of Commons, said that British subjects would be liable to serve in the militia in the Dutch East Indies.

THE Marquess of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, introducing his measure providing for the provision of a ballot for the militia, said that he did not expect it to pass, but he wanted the country to understand that provision should be made for compulsory service in case of emergency.

A FEW nights ago a housebreaker entered a waiting-house at Onoecho, Yokohama. He was apparently 32 or 33 years of age and had his face covered with a black cloth. He threatened a geisha who happened to be in the house, by drawing a sword, and from her secured 4 *yen*.

MR. OTANI KAHEI, Chairman of the Japan Central Tea Guild, will proceed next month to America to use his efforts for the abolition of the tax on tea. He will afterwards go to Great Britain, and visit the principal cities in France, Germany, Italy, etc. His return home is expected in February next year.

TAKEDA KAMAJIRO, ex-clerk of Ushigome District Office, who absconded in 1893 with upwards of 4,000 *yen* of taxes, which he stole in collusion with a man in the service of the Mitsui Bank, has been arrested by the Fukushima police authorities on another charge. He was afterwards identified as the long "wanted" thief.

GENERAL BRUGÈRE, Commander of a *Corps d'Armée* and formerly chief of the military staff of President Carnot, has been nominated Governor of Paris. The present Governor, General Zurlinden, remains a member of the High Military Council. Admiral Caillard has been appointed Chief of the General Staff of the Navy.

OGAWA HIKOTARO and Kobayashi Gentaro, ex-constables of the Asakusa Water Police, charged with beating a maid in the service of the Superintendent of the police office, were sentenced at the Tokyo Appeal Court on Saturday to 2 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and *yen* 2.56 fine, the Court quashing the original judgment. The men will appeal to the Supreme Court.

THE Emperor William paid a visit at Bergen to the French training-ship *Iphigénie*. His Majesty telegraphed to President Loubet, praising the demeanour of the young cadets. He called them sailors worthy of their noble country, and added that his heart as sailor and a comrade had been charmed by the welcome they gave him. M. Loubet expressed his warm thanks for the honour paid to France's sailors.

THE Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier and President of the Privy Council, speaking in the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa, on the question of disallowing the British Columbian measures dealing with Japanese and Chinese emigration, said that the Dominion and Imperial authorities were prepared to deal with Chinese emigration in accordance with the views of the British Columbians, but that Japanese emigration was governed by Imperial considerations; and added that if circumstances should precipitate war in the Orient, Japanese support would be of great importance to Great Britain.

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REGISTRATION.

It is probable that the question of registration has already begun to cause some anxiety to foreign residents, and that they may experience a certain difficulty in understanding exactly how they will be circumstanced in this respect after the new treaties go into operation. Two Imperial Ordinances have recently been promulgated with reference to the subject, but to lay them verbatim before our readers would be likely to cause confusion rather than enlightenment. We shall therefore explain the situation briefly.

Japanese law requires that all titles, in order to be valid against a third party, must be registered in the books kept for that purpose at local government offices. It follows, therefore, that the titles now possessed by foreigners in Japan will have to be registered after the 17th instant. The question arises, then, how is the registration to be effected? Broadly speaking, two kinds of titles have to be considered, namely, those acquired by foreigners from Japanese, official or private, and those acquired by one foreigner from another. Let us deal with the former first. They are all titles of land tenure: titles to the land leased in perpetuity from the State within the Settlement areas, and titles to the land leased temporarily or in perpetuity from Japanese individuals within the "mixed residence zones" outside the Settlements. All these titles are already registered in the archives of the various Prefectural or City Offices, and it will be for the Japanese Government to see that the records are duly copied into the *Tochi-Daicho*, or great land register, which is kept at each Local Office. Foreigners need not give themselves any concern about that. But, after July 17th, foreigners must be very careful about registering any transactions in immovable property, such as transfers, leases, or mortgages. They will have to pay fees for doing so, and the amounts in the various cases are clearly shown in Vol. II. of the New Laws of Japan published at the office of the *Japan Mail*.

The second class of title are those that foreigners have hitherto been in the habit of registering at their respective Consulates. As to titles already registered, it will be the business of the Consuls to see that they are regularly copied into the Japanese local archives. But there are probably a good many transactions which foreigners have failed to register at the Consulates. These will have to be registered. An Imperial Ordinance issued on the 7th instant allows a year from the 17th instant for effecting the registration, and provides that titles not registered within that period shall not be valid against a third party. Of course fees will have to be paid on account of each registration, and it may consequently be a matter of some importance to anticipate the necessity of applying to the Japanese Authorities by effecting registration in the Consulates prior to the 17th instant. Anything entered in the Consular archives earlier than the 17th instant will, as we understand the matter, be transferred to the Japanese registers without the payment of a fee; but anything registered by a foreigner in his private capacity after that date will have to be paid for.

A word may be added here about the pledging of personal property. Transactions of that kind can be legally effected by British subjects in Japan under an Order in Council, and several loans on the security of bills of sale are probably registered in Her Majesty's Consulates at present. But Japanese law does not recognise such pledges. It provides that pledges of movables must be accompanied by actual transfer of the possession of the object. Obviously, therefore, it will not be possible to register transactions of that nature in the Japanese archives even though they stand already in the Consular Books. We do not know what is proposed about that difficulty.

TRANSFER OF LANDS IN THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS.

There has hitherto been some doubt with regard to the question of selling or otherwise transferring to Japanese subjects the land now held in the Settlements by foreigners under perpetual lease. The laws of Japan do not now recognise a perpetual lease. They recognise no form of perpetual tenure short of actual ownership. The perpetual leases under which the lands in the Foreign Settlements are held have been created by treaty, and by treaty are excluded from the purview of the law which might otherwise interfere, or be invoked, to assign a fixed term to them. Suppose, now that a foreign land-holder wishes to sell his property to a Japanese, it is obvious that he can not lawfully sell the fee simple of the land since he does not legally possess it, and it is equally obvious that he can not sell the perpetual lease since a Japanese can not lawfully be a perpetual lessee. Does it follow, then, that transactions in land within the areas of the Settlements must be limited to foreigners? This question is answered by an Imperial Ordinance (No. 333) just published. Shortly stated, the Ordinance provides that when land held by a foreigner under perpetual lease is transferred by the lessee to a Japanese subject, it becomes the latter's real property. In other words, the perpetual lease is converted into a title of ownership. The Ordinance explicitly includes land which is the property of the State, as is the case with all the lands leased by the Government to foreigners within the Settlements, and land which does not belong to the State, as is the case with land in extra-Settlement areas, in Tokyo, Hyogo, and Niigata, for instance, which is for the most part private property, and of which perpetual leases are in some instances held by the present foreign occupants. Of course, in the case of privately owned lands, proper compensation must be paid for the conversion of the title. In short, if a foreigner who is a perpetual lessee of land sells his title to a Japanese subject, the latter becomes, not a perpetual lessee, but an owner.

Evidently, if such provisions were not enacted, the value of the lands within the area of the Foreign Settlements would be diminished since the market for them must be restricted to foreigners. A Japanese subject might lease the land for twenty years, or might purchase a superficies of it for any length of time, but could not become its owner. Now, however, all impediments being removed, the land will command its full market value. On the other hand, it is obvious that the effect of the Ordinance may be to ultimately alienate the whole of the land from foreign tenure. Once a Settlement lot is sold to a Japanese, it can never again pass into the perpetual possession of a foreigner so long as the present system holds. The perpetual lease of it can never be resuscitated. That will not concern the foreigner much, we presume. If he wants to sell he will sell. The perpetual-lease system is nothing to him from the moment when he has no further use for the land, or prefers its monetary value to its tenure.

There is still another phase of the matter. Suppose that a Japanese subject acquires from a foreigner an unlimited, or perpetual, lease of privately owned land, but is unwilling to convert the lease into a title of ownership, or fails to take any step in that direction during the space of one year from the date of receiving a communication from the owner on the subject, then the Ordinance provides that the owner, by paying proper compensation to the tenant, can invoke the aid of a law court to limit the period of the tenure in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Code.

THE POLICE AND FOREIGNERS.

An instruction consisting of 36 articles is said to have been issued by the Government to the police throughout the empire for their guidance in dealing with foreigners. We have not seen the document, and are indebted to the Tokyo *Asahi* for a very slight knowledge of its contents. One useful injunction is that the police shall, as far as possible, employ men having some knowledge of foreign languages in their transactions with foreigners. Another is that the precincts of foreign Legations can not be entered without permission for the purpose of making an arrest, and that no member of the staff of a Legation, whether he be a foreigner or a Japanese, shall be bound with ropes or handcuffed in the event of being apprehended. The *Asahi* comments on this last point, and condemns the restriction as unreasonable. Is it to be asserted, asks our contemporary, that a Japanese *betto* or *jinrikisha* coolie may not be handcuffed or roped simply because he happens to be in the employ of a foreign Legation? Such a theory is unpractical and pusillanimous, and could never have been entertained had it not been forced upon the Japanese Government by the arbitrary insistence of Sir Harry Parkes in 1874.

The *Asahi* may rest assured that whatever immunity from ordinary police processes have been notified by the Japanese Government as belonging to the Foreign Representatives, their households, their legations, and their goods, is simply in accord with, and does not in any way exceed, the provisions of international law, and as to the statement that Sir Harry Parkes, in 1874, forced upon the Japanese Government an arbitrary and unjustifiable interpretation of the law of nations, we have not the slighest hesitation in denying it emphatically. Our contemporary will find, if it studies the career of Sir Harry Parkes, that, while he never suffered any derogation of the rights accruing to his nationals by treaty or law, neither did he seek on any occasion to over-ride treaties or laws on behalf of his countrymen. It is a well-established principle that the exemption from local jurisdiction which the representative of a foreign State enjoys within the borders of the country to which he is accredited extends to his family, his train,

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and his domestic servants. It is true that the reasons for this exemption in the case of servants, especially natives of the country where the foreign Minister resides, are not very cogent, but the usage has received the full sanction of practice. The exemption is not complete, but we need not here enter into any explanation of the exceptions. It is within the competence of the Minister to surrender his control over domestics hired within the foreign country, and it is a recognised usage that when a crime is committed by a native servant belonging to a Minister's household, the Minister not only delivers the man over to the local courts but also affords every facility to the police to effect his arrest. Probably, if the *Asahi* considers these facts, the instruction which it criticises will assume a different character in its eyes.

YOKOHAMA'S FUTURE.

The first signs of Yokohama's decadence are detected by the *Asahi Shimbun*. Several of the residents are preparing to take advantage of the privileges granted by the Revised Treaties and remove the seat of their commercial operations into the interior, converting their Yokohama premises into mere places for shipping or landing goods. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company are about to open a house in Nagoya; Messrs. Ahrens and Company will establish branches at Mikkamachi in Kofu; at Tokomachi in Yamagata; at Hanazono-machi in Aichi; and at Wakamatsu in Iwashiro; and Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company have arranged for building kerosene tanks in Shizuoka, Hamamatsu, and Nagoya. Thus the era of Yokohama's tradal superiority is destined to terminate soon.

We take the above from the *Tokyo Asahi*, but concerning the accuracy of our contemporary's forecast we are bound to say that we have a poor opinion. Yokohama's place in commerce is not threatened. With the disappearance of the old limits and restrictions there will, of course, be some expansion; some striking out into new fields. Yokohama, however, will remain the chief emporium of the empire's foreign trade—unless that distinction is wrested from it by Kobe,—and its prosperity will probably gain a great deal more from the general development of commerce and industry than it will lose by the transfer of small fractions of its business to provincial centres.

The question of street nomenclature also has come upon the *tapis*. At present each house in the Settlement or on the Bluff is known by its number, to which is affixed the word *kwan*, a term used with reference to foreign buildings only. A Japanese living at No. 5, for example, in such and such a street, does not speak of his house as *goban-kwan*, but, as *goban-chi*. It would be obviously inconvenient to preserve the appellation *kwan* after the incorporation of the Settlements with the local communes. The proposal, therefore, is to include the whole of Yokohama, hill and plain, into *Yamate-machi* (Upper Town) and *Yamashita-machi* (Lower Town), the former comprising the present Bluff, the latter, the present Settlement. Were that done, we should have no more distinctions of Water Street, Main Street, and so on. "No. 51, Main Street, Settlement," would become, simply, *Yamashita-machi gojuichi-ban-chi*, and "No. 40 Bluff" would be *Yamate-machi shiju-ban-chi*.

MARQUIS ITO AND COUNT OKUMA.

If we want to know something about a man's character, we do not ask his enemy to prepare an analysis. What the *Jimmin* has to say about Count Okuma is to be taken, therefore, with all reserve. It has its interest, however. The Count, says the Liberal organ, is at present completely enveloped in darkness, and shines faintly like a glow-worm in his sombre environment. His feeble policy of reduced taxation does not shed a ray of light upon his moribund cause. It serves rather as a handle to his enemies than as a weapon to his friends. But if it may be said of Marquis Ito that no man knows better how to make the horizon lift before him, it must also be confessed of Count Okuma that failure never daunts him. In that respect he is superior to Marquis Ito: the man is absolutely indomitable. But he long ago recognised the extraordinary buoyancy of his disposition, and has unfortunately learned to place too much trust in it. Instead of controlling it to useful ends, he abuses it by over-reliance. The programme he has now adopted is fatal to himself. Were he entrusted with administrative power to carry out his projects, it would be like putting a dagger into the hand of a suicidal maniac. In fact, to place him at the head of a Cabinet to-day would be to destroy him, for his policy is impracticable. Yet he would take office to-morrow, for he does not know how to wait. At any moment he might become the catspaw of the Satsuma and the Choshiu men. He shows his hand too easily. Count Mutsu was able to use the folks of Satsuma and Choshiu while pretending to serve them. Count Okuma is used by them while they pretend to serve him. He is in too great a hurry to be famous. It almost seems as though Count Okuma was born to fail; Marquis Ito born to succeed.

Certainly that is not what we ourselves would have written about Count Okuma had we been asked to depict his character. We should have said, first, not that he is in too great a hurry to succeed, or that he was born to failure, but that he knows thoroughly how to bide his time, and that he has already succeeded. What is success? Is it to be famous? Then certainly Count Okuma must be called successful, for, after Marquis Ito, he occupies the largest space in the nation's vista. That he knows how to wait was amply proved between 1881 and 1888, when for seven years he toiled patiently and almost unnoticed, building up a great party and organizing an educational institution which has no superior in the empire, and which, year after year, has sent out scores of ardent students to disseminate the political doctrines of their benefactor. It is very true that Count Okuma never succumbs to defeat, but, if we understand the *Jimmin* rightly, it accuses him of never recognising failure, which is a very different matter. Doubtless the Liberal organ refers to his hesitation about resigning office last fall. Concerning that we can only say that a Western statesman, in Count Okuma's place, would, we believe, have acted just as he acted. The hostile section of his colleagues abandoned him because they imagined that he could not stand alone. He had good reason to think that he could stand alone, and he was prepared to try the experiment. Why not, indeed? His star is not in the ascendant at present, but is there any one who imagines that it has permanently sunk below the horizon? He is doing precisely what the *Jimmin* declares him incapable of doing, biding his time. And it will come. He is a man of extraordinary resource, and his mind is as fresh and virile to-day as it was twenty years ago.

THE BUDGET.

It is interesting to learn, as we do from our vernacular contemporaries, that the two great political parties and the Finance Department have almost simultaneously arrived at a conclusion about next year's budget. The views of the Liberals are of course the most important, for their parliamentary strength enables them to virtually force the Cabinet's hands. They have formulated three resolutions; first, that without any increase of taxation the revenue and expenditure shall be balanced; secondly, that the transfer of prison outlays to the charge of the Treasury must be resolutely carried out this year; and, thirdly, that only such new enterprises shall be undertaken as do not interfere with the principle of no addition to the taxes. The Progressists have adopted a very different platform. Their scheme is to effect reductions of 8,475,958 *yen* in the Land Tax; 1,600,000 *yen* in the Soy Tax, and 2,159,160 *yen* in the Post and Telegraph Rates. The revenue would thus be reduced by a total of 12,235,118 *yen*, and corresponding reductions of expenditure would be necessary. They would be effected by restricting the programme of Army expansion and cutting down the grants to Formosa. Finally, as to the Finance Department's figures, we learn that there will probably be a slight increase in the Ordinary Expenditures, but that the total figures will remain practically unchanged.

THE CHINESE MIXED-RESIDENCE QUESTION.

The problem relating to the admission of the Chinese into the interior of the country has been solved in the manner anticipated by the general public. It is said to have been decided that the privileges of free trade, travel, and residence in every part of the realm shall be granted to all Chinese subjects except the labouring classes. The broad principle alone is thus far fixed; the details of carrying it into practice remain to be determined. We have already pointed out that no imperative necessity exists for dealing with this question by the 17th instant, or even by the 4th proximo, inasmuch as the Chinese, being on a different treaty footing from that occupied by other foreign nationals, have no *ipso-facto* share in any rights or privileges conventionally obtained by the latter. But it certainly would be graceful and friendly on Japan's part to make as little discrimination as possible between the subjects of the neighbouring empire and Western peoples, and if she can not venture to grant to the former the full measure of privileges conceded to the latter, she should at least endeavour not to delay in granting what she can. Besides, this Chinese question may be said to be a part of the general problem of the treatment of non-treaty nationals; a problem which ought certainly to be settled before the 4th of August at latest.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Saturday, July 8.

It goes without saying that the Transvaal Boers are quite persuaded of the justice of their own cause, and that their compatriots of the Orange Free State share their view. There are two sides to every question. But it must be confessed that the statement attributed by Reuter this morning to the President of the Orange Free State does not promise well for peace. In the mediation of the Bloemfontein politicians seemed to lie the only hope of averting war, and if they approach the task with a conviction that Great Britain is in the wrong, they are little likely to be successful. We have as yet seen no *exposé* of the Boers' case that carries any conviction. The fact is remarkable. Never before, so far back as we can remember, did the opposite side of a dispute in which England was involved fail to find a champion in the columns of *The Times*. The Transvaal complication is unique in that respect. Still it must be generally recognised that if the Boers concede what the Uitlanders ask for, the administration of the Transvaal will soon pass into the hands of British subjects, and that, if they refuse, English rule will probably be imposed on them at the point of the sword. The result is the same in either case. The Boers are proverbially slow of perception, but that they appreciate the outlook can not be doubted. No wonder they display some want of docility. They see only what they are likely to lose, and apprehend nothing as to the cause of the loss.

Monday, July 10.

There has been a marked improvement in the attitude of the Transvaal towards the Uitlander problem, according to this morning's telegrams. The Volksraad has voted a project of law for immediately enfranchising every foreigner who has resided nine years in the country, and every future new-comer after seven years' residence. The period of qualification under the present law is fourteen years, and at the meeting of the First Raad on the 23rd May, President Kruger submitted a proposal for reducing the period to nine years. This modification was denounced in London as a mere mockery, yet the Raad received it in a spirit of strong hostility and decided that it must be published for consideration of the burghers before coming up for final decision. Yet we now find that not only has the nine years' period been voted, but also that the law is to have retrospective effect, the result being that many of the Uitlanders now in the country will be at once enfranchised. The telegram tells us nothing about another important point, namely, the modification of the oath exacted during recent years from candidates for naturalization. Formerly the oath used to be like that prescribed in the Orange Free State, but since 1890, the time when the Transvaal Boers embarked upon the retrogressive and uncivilized policy which has now brought them within sight of war, it has been necessary that every one desiring to become a burgher should take, not merely an oath of fealty to his new country, as is perfectly proper, but should also solemnly and explicity renounce allegiance to all other countries, especially that to which he previously belonged. If the form of this oath has not been altered, a chief grievance of the Uitlanders will remain unredressed. Still a large step in the right direction has been made. We do not attach paramount importance to the question of independence. The British nation will never agree to go to war with the Boers solely because they want to be independent. A federation of free republics is probably the future of South Africa, and England will not interfere to prevent such a consummation by force of arms.

Wednesday, July 12.

It is evident that we have been informed of a part only of the franchise proposals said to have been recently passed by the Volksraad; or, perhaps, that we have over-estimated their effect. The acquisition of the franchise after nine years' residence counting from the date of first arrival in the case of the Uitlanders now in the country, is a proposition that does not sound illiberal. But everything depends on the number of Uitlanders who would be enfranchised immediately under such an arrangement. Possibly it would confer the desired privilege on only a very small fraction of the foreign population and would condemn the remainder to a further probation of several years. It is poor comfort to the Uitlanders to know that at some far distant date they may acquire a measure of competence to amend the existing abuses of administration, if they have to suffer them tamely in the interval. What they want, and what they are certainly entitled to under the London Convention, is instant relief.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY AT BERGEN.

The doings of the Emperor of Germany at Bergen appear to have more significance than usually attaches to interchanges of courtesies between heads of governments. His Majesty has accustomed the public to expect very pithy and picturesque language from his lips, and we should therefore hesitate to interpret his expression by rules quite so rigid as those generally applied to the public utterances of monarchs. At Bergen, however, it is plain that his conduct is directed by the purpose which has animated him for some time: he wants to conciliate France. The visit to the *Iphigénie*, the singularly cordial message to President Loubet, and finally the fête on board the *Hohenzollern*, represent a programme which the people of France can not mistake. It must be confessed that M. Loubet's answer to the Imperial message seems somewhat pallid by the side of the brightly coloured language of the Emperor. That, however, may be the fault of the telegraph. Frenchmen never allow themselves to be distanced in courtesy. All the civilized world is interested in this attempt on the part of the Emperor William. Should it succeed, it will be one of the greatest achievements of a reign which promises to be very great. In such cases it is usually difficult to apply any test of success, but perhaps in the present instance we shall be justified in assuming that if His Majesty sees his way to visiting the French Exhibition next year, his purpose may be regarded as achieved. The doings at Bergen seem to preface the Exhibition project, and from that point of view they have doubtless attracted the keenest interest and attention in Europe.

A CURIOUS CASE.

A curious case has occurred at Kobe. Mr. Christensen, a Danish subject, gave out a contract for the building of an addition to his house. The work had been nearly completed when the building was observed to have a leaning from the perpendicular, and complaint was made to the contractor, who, in turn, found fault with the carpenter. Exasperated, apparently, by this censure, the carpenter proceeded to the building, and wreaked his vengeance on it, hacking pillars, cutting up lintels, and slashing a ceiling. Mr. Christensen summoned the carpenter before a Japanese tribunal, but the court decided that, whether the man had acted maliciously or not, he could not be punished at Mr. Christensen's suit, inasmuch as, the building being still in the contractor's hands, any damage caused by the carpenter would fall, not on Mr. Christensen, but on the contractor, who alone was competent, therefore, to prefer an accusation. This decision is severely commented on by a Kobe journal. It appears that Mr. Christensen had already paid the contractor the whole sum due, with the exception of 80 *yen*, and the Kobe newspaper takes the view that the Danish gentleman had consequently a proper *locus standi* in court. Our contemporary goes on to argue that "had the house collapsed by reason of the supports being hacked away," Mr. Christensen would have been very unlikely to "recover the amount of damage from a man of the standing of a Kobe building contractor," and draws this inference from the whole incident:—"Contractors and head carpenters who may have a dispute with their employers or principals—and in our experience the erection of a house is seldom completed without such a dispute arising—will now consider that so long as they have not formally delivered over the house, they are at perfect liberty to destroy or hack the work for which they have already been paid, and to threaten and abuse the actual owner should he presume to interfere." Surely there is here some confusion of ideas. In the first place, the question of a Kobe contractor's competence to make good any damage caused by his workman does not enter into the case at all. If contracts are given to men of straw, the person who gives the contract may suffer in the end, but the liability of the contractor remains unchanged. In the second place, the judgment of the Court did not say that no one could be punished. What it said was that the carpenter, being the contractor's *employé* and not Mr. Christensen's, was answerable to, and must be sued by, the former, not by the latter. No license was given to destroyers or hackers, whether carpenters or contractors. The Court merely ruled that it could not punish a man on the plaint of the wrong person. There can be no reasonable doubt that had the whole sum due to the contractor been already discharged at the time of the incident, and had Mr. Christensen already taken delivery of the work, the Court must have recognised the Danish gentleman's right to appear as complainant. It remains simply for the contractor to sue the carpenter: that is all. It is quite plain that Mr. Christensen had not absolved the contractor from liability, for it was to the contractor he complained when he saw that the building was out of the perpendicular.

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THE MASCARENHAS CASE.

Monday, July 10.

The Mascarenhas case has entered an interesting phase. Probably our readers remember the outlines of the case. Mascarenhas was a Portuguese subject. He rented a piece of land from a Japanese in a district outside the limits of the Foreign Settlement in Kobe, under an international arrangement by which foreigners were permitted to make agreements between themselves or with Japanese, at their own convenience, for leasing land or houses within that district. Lands within the Foreign Settlement were leased by the Government in perpetuity to foreigners, according to a form of lease prescribed by treaty. But lands in the extra-settlement district were to be leased by private arrangement, the nature of the lease being independent of any treaty or convention. Mascarenhas' lease was for an indefinite period, and, the rent paid by him being very small—smaller even than the taxes to which the land ultimately became liable—, the landlord began to employ various devices, some of them decidedly questionable, with the object of recovering possession. His latest attempt represents the new phase alluded to above. According to the revised Civil Code, no form of land tenure, short of actual ownership, can be absolutely perpetual. When the duration of a superficies has not been fixed, either of the contracting parties may apply to have it fixed by a Court of law, and the Court may fix it at any period not less than 20 years or more than 50. There is, however, another limit to the competence of a Court. If the superficiary has a structure, or bamboos or trees on the land, the superficies must continue until the structure ceases to be fit for use, or the bamboos and trees become fit to cut. It is further provided that "if a superficiary has made repairs or alterations in such structures, the superficies ends at the time when the structure in its original condition would have become unfit for use."

The owners of the Mascarenhas lot resolved to apply for the privilege of the Civil Code, namely, to have the period fixed. But in the meanwhile they observed that repairs were being effected, and they consequently applied for an official survey of the premises, on the ground that the repairs might indefinitely postpone the date of the structure's becoming unfit for use. The Court refused the application, the argument of the Judge being that an action for the limitation of the superficiary was pending, and, the evidence in question not being easily destructible, no steps need be taken to preserve it until the action came up for hearing.

Counsel for the Portuguese tenant advanced a strange plea. He contended that the lease was safeguarded by treaty; that it was, in short, one of the perpetual leases recognised by diplomatic arrangement. That seems to us to be a remarkable misconception. The only leases of which the perpetuity is guaranteed by treaty are the leases granted officially to foreigners within the limits of the Settlements. It is expressly stipulated that leases of extra-Settlement lands are made at the convenience of the parties, and that the district within which they are permitted is beyond the purview of the diplomatic arrangements relating to the Settlement. The tenure of land in the *zakkyo-chi* of Kobe is altogether distinct from the tenure within the Settlement.

Wednesday, July 12.

There is an interesting point in the Mascarenhas case should it come before the law courts as at present threatened. The land is held under a lease which, though not explicitly perpetual, is for an indefinite period. We make this statement as to the period of the lease with reservation, having seen the Japanese version only, but the fact does not affect the question to which we would draw attention. It is at all events certain that the tenure of the land is by lease, and that the period of the lease is not fixed. Now what the owners of the land purpose doing is to invite a court of law to treat the lease as though it were a superficies, and to assign a limit of duration from 20 to 50 years as indicated by the Civil Code. Speaking theoretically, a lease and a superficies are distinct. But it is evident from the language of Japanese legislators that, according to their view, certain kinds of lease fall under the heading of "superficies." The Law of the Operation of the Civil Code says:—"If the duration of a superficies created before the taking effect of the Civil Code has not been fixed, &c." It follows, therefore, that although the term "superficies" was not current in Japan prior to the promulgation of the Civil Code, a kind of land tenure corresponding with superficies in all essentials did exist. That is easily conceivable because, after all, a superficies is simply a long lease for building or planting purposes, and such leases were common enough from time immemorial in Japan. Many of them have come within our own personal knowledge, their periods varying from 70 to 30 years. There is, consequently, nothing anomalous in the idea of bringing certain classes of leases within the purview of the provisions relating to superficies. But is it just that the leases concluded between foreigners and Japanese in the extra-Settlement area at Hyogo should be so treated? There can be very little doubt that when foreigners, acting on the authority of the Communication made by the Governor of Hyogo in 1868, leased lands from Japanese outside the Settlement, they imagined that they were availing themselves of a privilege not inferior to that enjoyed by land-renters within the limits of the Settlement. The Communication said that foreigners and Japanese might "make agreements between themselves at their own convenience, and it appears to us that if, under these circumstances, they concluded leases explicitly perpetual, the power of the legislature ought not to be subsequently invoked for the purpose of greatly diminishing the value of such agreements. According to the strict interpretation of the treaties and conventions it would not be possible, we think, to set up a case for the foreign lessees. But it may fairly be argued that the spirit of the Hyogo arrangement was to accord the same privileges inside the Settlement and in the *zakkyo* area outside it. The difference was that the land within the Settlement, being in the hands of the State, the terms for leasing it could be fixed in any manner determined by Treaty; whereas the land in the *zakkyo* district, being the property of Japanese subjects, the method of acquiring it could not be made the subject of international agreement but must be left to the option of the owners. From a public point of view the question is very small, but from the point of view of the lessees it may be vital, and we can not but think that the Government's justest and most dignified course would be to extend equal treatment to all perpetual leases acquired by foreigners prior to the enactment of the Civil Code.

A BOYCOTT.

Some of the Jewish firms of Yokohama have combined to boycott the *Japan Mail* on account of its supposed hostility to the Jewish race, as announced by Mr. J. Witkowski in the marvellous letter addressed by him to this Journal on the 8th instant. Mr. Witkowski has now to make good his accusations, or to withdraw them, or to take the consequences. In the meanwhile, with all due deference to the Jews, we must confess that this action of theirs is quite laughable. Probably did they search the whole of England they could not find a man more friendly to the Jewish race than the editor of the *Japan Mail*. If the Jews were seriously attacked, or if they were threatened with the sort of treatment which some of them are now good enough to measure out to us, we should be the first to defend them and to espouse their cause, whatever our assistance or championship might be worth. But, allowing themselves to be carried away by an inexplicable vertigo, evidently at the instance of a gentleman who will have some difficulty in re-establishing his title to be counted rational, they have turned upon a whole-hearted friend and treated him like a bitter enemy. We have had some curious experiences in the course of a tolerably long career of journalism, but this last incident caps everything previous. However, there are silly Jews, we presume, as there are also silly Christians. This procedure on the part of our Jewish co-residents is calculated to provoke merriment not resentment. We have had friends of their race whose memory alone would prevent us from conceiving any general prejudice because of the extreme injustice and precipitancy into which a few individuals have now allowed themselves to be betrayed.

MILITARY RIOT IN FORMOSA.

Later telegrams show that the fracas reported to have taken place in Kelung between garrison troops and time-expired men was not as serious an affair as the first intelligence suggested. It appears that a detachment of the First Battalion, which is stationed in Kelung, was marching through the streets on the evening of the 7th instant, under the command of a non-commissioned officer, when they encountered a party belonging to the Fourth Battalion which had halted in the town *en route* for Japan. Some difference of opinion occurred with reference to military etiquette, and the soldiers finally came to blows. It was a fierce fight while it lasted. Eight men of the Fourth Battalion and four of the First were wounded, though none of the injuries seems to have been fatal. The statement that sixty houses were wrecked seems to have been erroneous. A Tokyo contemporary, in relating the particulars, conjectures that the men did not use their rifles but confined themselves to their side-arms. That is quite certain, we should imagine.

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FOREIGN HOUSEHOLDERS UNDER THE NEW REGIMEN.

A correspondent, signing himself "A Britisher," propounds a very natural query. Like him a great many people are probably asking themselves whether, through ignorance of the laws of the land, the resident foreigner may not be guilty of some sin of omission involving unpleasant consequences. We can assure our readers that they need not give themselves the smallest concern about these matters. They may rest perfectly easy and pursue the even tenor of their lives just as though Treaty Revision were still a century distant. They are not called upon to take any step whatever of which due and intelligible notice is not given. In two respects only are changes to be looked for. The first is in the matter of registration; the second, in the matter of taxes. Most of us have already registered at our Consulates and paid our fees for the privilege. But the Japanese system of registration is more thorough. We have nothing to do with it, however, until, in due course of time, an official calls and presents a form to be filled or certain questions to be answered. The initiative in such matters rests with those whose public duty it is to keep the records. Then as to municipal and local taxes. Here, also, the foreigner may remain perfectly unconcerned. In Japan, every householder receives an exact statement of the amount of tax he has to pay, and within a fortnight from the receipt of the notice, he is expected to send the money to the local office of the district, as designated in the notice. Until such notice is served on him, he need not take the matter into consideration at all. As to national taxes, also, he will receive full information in due time. We presume that Her Majesty's Consuls will take care to supply all such information as may conduce to their nationals convenience and ease of mind, but, as a matter of fact, every one may go on his way with absolute *nonchalance* and confidence. He will be plainly told what to do when the time comes for doing it.

BANK OF JAPAN & THE NEW LOAN.

Some surprise has been caused by the news that the Bank of Japan has purchased three million *yen* worth of the stock of the new loan. It is not unnaturally argued that if the Bank of Japan is going to buy up these bonds, there was no necessity to float the loan in London: it might as well have been placed on the home market. But a little consideration will make the matter plain. The Bank is doubtless purchasing on the Government's account—not three million *yen*, we believe, but eighteen hundred thousand—and the purchase is not an investment, but a mere matter of financial convenience. Evidently if the Treasury has funds lying idle—probably in London—it can make a profit by a temporary investment in the loan-bonds, first because it saves the interest which would otherwise be payable, and secondly because it will probably be able to sell the bonds-by-and by at a higher figure than they now command. From that point of view the transaction is quite intelligible.

THE EMPEROR AT THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

The Emperor attended the graduation ceremony at the Imperial University on the 10th instant for the first time. His Majesty left the Palace at 9.30 a.m. and reached the University at 10.10. The faculty and students, headed by the President, Professor Kikuchi, met the Sovereign at the gate. After inspecting the library and instruments, His Majesty took his seat in the main hall, supported by their Imperial Highnesses Princes Yamashina and Kacho, their Excellencies Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Count Matsukata, Viscount Kioura, Count Kabayama, Mr. Sone, Marquis Tokudaiji, Viscount Tanaka and other notables. The most distinguished graduates of the year, twenty-two in number, were then called before His Majesty, and to each was handed a silver watch bearing the inscription *gyoshi* (imperial gift). The Emperor subsequently proceeded to the Engineering College, where the President of the University, Professor Kikuchi, adddressed a short speech to the graduates of the year, and Mr. Naoki Riutaro replied on the latter's behalf. It need scarcely be said that both the President and the representative of the graduates alluded in warm terms to the great honour His Majesty's presence conferred on the University and to the impulse such patronage must impart to the cause of education. The total number of graduates for the year was 414, distributed as follows:—Law 108; Public and Administrative Law 77; Medicine 24; Pharmacology 3; Civil Engineering 32; Mechanical Engineering 24; Naval Architecture 9; Electrical Engineering 18; Architecture 3; Applied Chemistry 9; Mining and Metallurgy 17; Philosophy 22; Japanese Literature 4; Chinese Literature 10; History 10; Japanese History 10; Philogy 2; English Literature 10; German Language 10; German Literature 2; French Literature 1; Mathematics 4; Astronomy 2; Natural Philosophy 11; Chemistry 6; Zoology 1; Botany 4; Geology 6; Agriculture 5; Agricultural Chemistry 6; and Forestry 3.

THE SHIPS TAKEN FROM CHINA.

There is some talk of Japan's returning to China the ships taken from the latter in the war of 1894-5. Admiral Tsuboi is said to be the author of the idea. It is not all emotional: there is also a strongly practical element. The Admiral recognises the fact that a squadron in action has to "level down" to something like the capacity of its weakest units. The battle-ship *Chinyen* and the six gunboats captured from China are vessels far below the standard to which the Japanese fleet has now been raised, and Admiral Tsuboi doubts whether they are worth the cost of maintenance as a part of that fleet. On the other hand, they would certainly be of great use to China in the present comparatively defenceless state of her coasts, and their restoration might be productive of much better results than can be anticipated from their retention. That is the case as stated by some of our vernacular contemporaries.

BARON KODAMA'S METHODS.

At the very cordial celebration in his honour given by the Formosa Society on the 9th instant, Baron Kodama explained the policy pursued by him for the pacification of the island whose affairs he now administers. His principle is very old, *divide et impera*. He has made it his aim to set the rebels by the ears, and so much success has attended his efforts that the insurgents, after some mutual display of ferocity, have virtually ceased to be an element of disturbance in the Taipeh and Tainan districts. But in the central regions of Taichu and Unrin, the work of pacification is still incomplete. The general opinion seems to be that Baron Kodama has been more successful than any of his predecessors, but then it must be remembered that time has been his friend. Every year that passes ought to make the task of government easier.

Speaking of finance, the Governor-General said that, owing to the expense of organizing the camphor and salt monopolies, the public outlay during the approaching fiscal year would be increased by a sum of $1\frac{1}{4}$ million *yen* approximately. Hence it would not be possible to dispense with the grant in aid—$2\frac{1}{2}$ million *yen*—now paid by the Central Treasury. The monopolies will, however, become a source of profit at an early date, and, since the revenues from other sources are steadily increasing, it may reasonably be hoped that Formosa will soon stand on an independent financial footing.

The Baron is not without his detractors. Some of the Tokyo journals—notably the *Hochi* and the *Yomiuri*—have never modified their contention that the rebels have not surrendered to him but that he has surrendered to the rebels, and that, so far from subjugating the latter, he has practically rewarded them for their lawlessness, and enabled them to settle down among the peaceful, law-abiding section of the population whom they will certainly prey on in the future as they have done in the past. Time alone can contradict or confirm these criticisms.

CAMPHOR MONOPOLY OF FORMOSA.

The Government's scheme for a camphor monopoly in Formosa has now been reduced to working form and embodied in a series of regulations. The Government is to receive from manufacturers all the crude camphor and crude camphor oil produced in the island, the possession, hypothecation, transfer, or export of all other camphor or camphor-oil being interdicted, and the ports of export strictly limited. As to the price paid by the Authorities to the manufacturers, it is to be fixed by the Governor-General. Manufacturers are required to render to the Government every year a report of the anticipated amount of production, and for failure to do so, or for furnishing a false report, the penalty is a fine of from 10 to 100 *yen*. Officials connected with the monopoly are to have the right of visiting and inspecting stills and stores, and of enforcing suitable measures of control. The penalty for selling or exporting camphor independently of the Government is heavy, namely confiscation of the camphor and a fine of from 50 to 500 *yen*. Adulteration is punishable by a fine of from 10 to 150 *yen*, and so is the making

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of a false declaration or neglecting to make the required declaration.

Simultaneously with the issue of the regulations embodying the monopoly system, another set of rules relating to the manufacture of camphor were promulgated. They provide that any one desirous of manufacturing camphor or camphor-oil must obtain official permission; that failure to commence the manufacture within the period prescribed in the permit may involve cancellation of the license; that the Governor-General shall have competence to suspend a manufacturing business or revoke a license should such a course seem necessary in the public interest; that a manufacturer forfeiting his license or discontinuing his business shall return to the Government any camphor wood remaining on his hands, suitable compensation being paid to him in the latter case; and that penalties of from 10 to 500 *yen* shall be imposable for violations of these rules. It is satisfactory to observe, however, that vested interests are respected. The last Article of a set of supplementary regulations provides that persons who have received a license to manufacture camphor under the regulations issued in 1895 and 1896, shall be regarded as already possessing the permission indicated in the regulations.

THE INDIAN CURRENCY.

The Indian Currency Committee has reported in favour of the establishment of a gold standard for India with the British pound sterling, more familarly known as the sovereign, as legal tender, and fixing the exchange value of the rupee at 1s. 4d. The appointment of the Committee arose through the Government of India declining, in September, 1897, to be a party to the arrangement proposed by the American and French Governments for the establishment of international bimetallism, one of the proposals being that the Indian mints should again be freely opened to the coinage of silver. Failing the assent of the Government of India the whole scheme was abandoned. In March, 1898, the Government of India put forward proposals of their own to make effective the currency policy of 1893, that is, to render the exchange stable at 1s. 4d. the rupee. This was to be done by making sovereigns eventually current in India at that rate side by side with rupees. A start was to be made by the Government borrowing and importing £5,000,000; for the rest, rupees were to be withdrawn and melted till sovereigns came to take their place. Stable exchange was for the future to be maintained by the existence of a marginal gold currency. A Committee was appointed in April, 1898, with Sir Henry H. Fowler as Chairman, to report on these proposals and on any relevant matter, and to advise on the best plan for establishing a satisfactory system of currency in India, and for securing a stable exchange with England. The Committee took voluminous evidence, all the leading bankers and financiers connected with Oriental trading being consulted, and in August last they published their first report. The schemes examined were (1) the reopening of the mints to silver coinage, but the difficulty of largely increasing taxation in India was generally held to make this practically impossible; (2) the Government of India's proposals, which, though adversely criticised, have evidently proved the most acceptable to the Committee; (3) a scheme by Mr. A. M. Lindsay, of the Bank of Bengal, for fixing the exchange value of the rupee, not by introducing concurrent circulation of sovereigns, but by Government undertaking to pay gold in England for rupees deposited in India, and rupees in India for gold deposited in England; (4) modifications of this scheme suggested by Sir E. Vincent, who would make gold legal tender in India and limit the liability of Government; and (5) another scheme, proposed by Mr. L. C. Probyn, the first stage in which would be to make currency notes of high denomination encashable in gold bars. The Government's own proposals have been recommended out of the five alternative schemes. It should be noted that the abnormal stringency of the Indian money market has passed, and for a long time now the rupee has been steady at 1s. 4d.

THE STORM.

Saturday, July 8.

On the 4th instant a low depression was recorded at Manila. Its direction of motion was north-east and its rate of advance very slow. Formosa and the Riukiu Islands were then enjoying fine weather, but on the 5th the barometer began to fall rapidly at Ishigaki-jima—in the Riukiu archipelago—, and the storm soon arrived there. It was still moving to the north-east, but so slowly that the centre—showing a depression of 732 millimetres—did not leave the islands until the 6th, and then travelled in the direction of Kiushu.

Monday, July 10.

The storm has been steadily working its way towards the main island. The characteristics are deep depression and slow rate of progress. Four days were required to travel from Manila to Kagoshima. Typhoons of this nature seldom occur in Japanese seas in the early summer. They belong rather to autumn. The records of the Central Observatory show that during the past sixteen years there has been only one gale of the kind at this season. It occurred on July 7th, 1898.

Tuesday, July 11.

The centre of the storm was at Tanega-shima, off the south of Kagoshima, at 6 a.m. on the 8th instant. At 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the same day it entered Kiushiu at Sanda Cape, and, travelling up the east of Kiushiu, advanced in a north-north-easterly direction. By the evening it had arrived on the east of Kumamoto, and had begun to trend more to the east. At 6 a.m. on the 9th, it reached Hime-jima Bay in the Inland Sea, and passing thence through the Sanyo and Sanin districts (i.e., Chinkoku), is believed to have emerged from the island at 5 p.m. on the 9th instant, and entered the sea at Hamada Bay in Iwami. Reports are to hand from the Governors of Miye, Okayama, Tokushima, and Oita, showing that the storm visited all those prefectures on the 8th instant, producing inundations which flooded rivers, swept away houses and bridges, and caused great devastation, especially to the indigo crops. The gale was felt as far eastward as Yokosuka on the 9th instant, but it abated during the night of the 9th and 10th. The characteristics of the gale are that, whereas its rapidity of progress increased as it travelled from Manila towards Japan, the violence of the wind decreased slightly. From the Philippines to the Riukiu Islands and thence to Tanega-shima the centre advanced at the rate of from 7 to 12 miles an hour, but when it entered Kiushiu it was travelling at a speed of 15 miles. On the other hand, whereas the depression was 717 m.m. at Riukiu, it had risen to 723 when the centre invaded Kiushiu, and to 732 m.m. at Oita. These improvements were not attended, however, by any very marked diminution in the violence of the gale, though they were accompanied by a marked increase in the rain-fall. Thus when the centre was at the Riukiu Archipelago, the rain was not very heavy, but as Kiushiu became involved, an immense quantity of rain descended, and from Hiuga, Bungo, Tosa, and Awa reports of a regular deluge are published. The area of disturbance was exceptionally large, the wind retaining storm force at a distance of 200 miles east of the centre. Assuming the storm to have been approximately circular, we thus arrive at the idea of a vast atmospheric disturbance a hundred and twenty-five thousand square miles in area, moving at the rate of from 12 to 15 miles an hour. As yet we have no record of the velocity of the wind.

Wednesday, July 12.

Various reports are arriving from the provinces with reference to the storm of the 8th and 9th, but it is unnecessary to reproduce them, as they describe nothing more than the flooding of a few rivers, with injury to bridges and embankments on a not very extended scale. So far as agricultural interests are concerned, the indigo crop in Shikoku has probably suffered most. Oita Prefecture seems to have felt the effects of the gale more severely than any of the other places from which news is thus far to hand. The Governor telegraphs that 6000 yards of embankment have been destroyed; 33 houses injured, 391 inundated, and 12 swept away; 5 bridges broken; roofs and fences blown down in 100 cases; 4 boats wrecked; 1 man drowned; and 2 crushed to death; 885 acres of arable land flooded, and 58 acres of young rice swept away. The list looks formidable, but unless it is largely supplemented by later news there will not be much reason to complain. Interruptions of traffic, however, were numerous. No less than six railways had to temporarily suspend their services, the Sanyo, the Nankai (Shikoku), the Bantan (Harima), the Hankaku (Osaka-Maizuru), the Chiugoku (Okayama), and the Hoshu (Buzen). The lines of telegraphs in the south were also much damaged, and in the province of Tosa distribution of the mails became impossible owing to the flooded state of the rivers. A telegram from Miye prefecture announces a disastrous land-slide at a place called Otsu, causing the death of 48 persons and the wounding of 5.

Thursday, July 13.

Reports of damage done by the recent storm continue to arrive from the south. The unfortunate Prefecture of Tokushima, against which the forces of nature seem to have a special grudge, is as usual a prominent sufferer. The accounts sent by the Governor are vague, but there appears to be little doubt that several lives have been lost, and that the floods inundated quite a large number of houses.

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A COURAGEOUS ADVENTURER.

The notorious Mr. Koyama Kiunosuke, a member of the House of Representatives, has just been figuring in the law courts. His name was on everybody's lips during the last session of the Diet. He had developed in his own person a new theory, namely, that if the times are corrupt, a wise man's part is to derive what advantage he can from the corruption. He argued that if his political opponents were foolish enough to spend money in bribery, his duty to his party and to himself prescribed that he should pocket the money and then vote against the measure that he was paid to support. By that means he filled his own purse while emptying that of his political foes and, at the same time, frustrating their designs. Some consciences might be able to reconcile themselves to that kind of performance, but it brought a great deal of opprobrium on the head of Mr. Koyama. He went on his way, however, with perfect nonchalance, and took such pride in his own exploits that he proclaimed them far and wide through the columns of the press. But at one stage of his noble career he "slipped up." He accepted a promissory note for 2,000 *yen* from Mr. Oyamada Shinzo, a fellow-member. The note did not fall due until after the voting on the bill which Koyama had promised to support, and when Koyama cast his ballot in the wrong direction, Oyamada declined to pay the note. Koyama thereupon sued him. In order, however, to obtain the assistance of the law in collecting a debt, it is necessary to prove that the debtor has received value. Mr. Koyama does not appear to have provided for that essential. He could scarcely hope that a court of justice would recognise the legality of a bribe; still less that it would give judgment in his favour because he did not do what he had promised to do. He appears to have merely "tried it on," and, as a matter of course, he has been cast in his suit. What will the House of Representatives do now, we wonder? Will it continue to show itself splendidly indifferent in the face of even these facts?

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of £2 from Mr. D. Hunter Brown, of Long Look Out, Nelson, New Zealand, for the Meguro Leper Hospital.

The eminent violinist, Mr. Constantine Doomcheff, was invited to play at the Imperial Court on the afternoon of the 7th instant. The Emperor and Empress were present, and the audience included several of the principal officials of the Court and the Government.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram from London, dated the 5th instant, to the effect that there had been a fall of ten shillings in Consols, which were then quoted at £107 10s., and that Japanese War Bonds had appreciated by 2s. 6d., the quotation being £106 3s. 4d.

A company calling itself the *Musashi Denki Tetsudo Kaisha* has been organized in Yokohama. The promoters are Mr. Fushijima Kinzo, whose name is new to us, and Mr. Sonoda Yanenori, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The purpose of the company is to lay an electric railway between Yokohama and Hachioji, a distance of 24 miles and 40 chains, and the capital is a million *yen*. A charter has been applied for, but not yet granted.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that the sittings of the Peace Conference will probably be extended for three weeks, and that it is pretty certain to extend the Red-Cross rules to naval warfare. The conference opened its session on May 18th, and should have risen at the end of June or the beginning of July, according to the original programme.

The Liberals have decided, it is said, to organize a grand demonstration on the 4th of August in honour of the operation of the Revised Treaties. The head-quarters of the Party have issued a circular to all the local offices throughout the empire, instructing them to take the lead in arranging for a general rejoicing.

The *Yomiuri* reports, on the authority of a telegram from Taipeh, dated the 9th instant, that a strong agitation is on foot in Formosa to obtain the removal of Mr. Goto, chief of the Bureau of Civil Government. The principal local and police officials are said to be acting conjointly for the purpose of bringing about that result.

General Zurlinden's retirement from the Governorship of Paris is another evidence that the anti-Dreyfus tide has turned. No officer's name has been less enviably connected with the arbitrary features of this extraordinary case, and some of the epithets applied to him even by sober English journalists have been almost passionately condemnatory.

Baron Kodama was entertained in the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo on the 10th instant by the Formosa Society (*Taiwan Kyokai*), which was originally promoted by Mr. Mizuno, and consists chiefly of officials who have served in Formosa. Nearly all the Ministers of State were present, and the attendance is said to have numbered over two hundred.

There is a prospect that the Government's ultimate attitude towards private education will be more liberal than might have been inferred from the proposals recently submitted to the High Council on Education by the *Mombusho*. It is said that the Cabinet and the Legislative Bureau have had the matter under consideration, and that a measure will probably result radically different from that which the public has been led to expect. But this is all conjecture.

A Mr. Yamashita Kanekichi, described as a paper-hanger of Toshima, is reported to be the possessor of many rare paintings by the celebrated masters Buncho, Yosai, Chinzan, Kwazan, and others of their era. His house is frequently visited by connoisseurs, and it has occurred to him that he would be conferring a benefit on the public if he exhibited the drawings publicly in Tokyo. Steps have been taken for that purpose, and it is stated that the display will take place in the Fine Arts Gallery in Uyeno Park for one week, commencing from the 18th instant.

There has been no announcement of Court mourning in Japan on account of the death of the Czarevich. It is stated that the Emperor despatched a strongly worded message of condolence to the Czar, but that as Russia is one of the Powers which have not yet made arrangements with Japan for reciprocity in these matters of international etiquette, the latter country does not adopt official mourning.

The projected school for prison-police is to be in the buildings of the former Kyododan (School for Non-Commissioned Officers). There will be 290 pupils, of whom 270 have already been selected and the remainder are under examination. A German instructor will be appointed, and the German Representative in Tokyo has been approached on the subject, but some difficulty is said to have arisen with regard to emoluments and other points, so that the school will probably have to be opened before the arrival of any foreign instructor.

The Diet, last session, passed a law dispensing with the use of stamps in the case of foreigners attesting legal documents. The stamp has hitherto taken the place of a signature in Japan, but it is a troublesome device, lending itself readily to fraudulent abuse, and involving much trouble in the matter of verification. Foreigners do not use stamps corresponding in any sense with the Japanese *in*, and it would therefore be out of the question for them to fall in with the Japanese custom. It is now announced that the law exempting them from any such obligation will go into force from the 17th instant.

The Tokyo City Council has rejected the application presented by Mr. Asano for permission to reclaim the foreshore at Shinagawa. We did not suppose for a moment that the Tokyo City Council would do anything else. The general public does not know anything of the merits of Mr. Asano's scheme, but the general public has learned by this time that individual enterprise is effectually tabooed in Tokyo; that nothing is accomplished because everyone wants to accomplish everything on his own account to the exclusion of his neighbour, and that the city is fast becoming a proverbial type of backwardness and a by-word among the capitals of the world.

Local sportsmen must be looking forward with pleasurable anticipation to the next shooting season. It has long ceased to be possible to obtain good sport within Treaty limits, whereas an abundance of birds with a sprinkling of big game may be found in the interior. We see no reason why Japan should not become a favourite shooting ground for foreigners, whether visitors or residents, during the next ten or twenty years. A Japanese winter presents nothing deterrent in the matter of climatic rigour, the scenery is exquisite, and the accommodation obtainable at provincial inns is not likely to provoke any complaint on the part of sportsmen. Every part of the country will be open to the holder of a game license next season, and we expect that some very delightful experiences will be recorded.

Marquis Ito has consented to proceed to Utsunomiya on the 16th instant for the purpose of delivering an address. The step appears to have been decided on at the instance of Mr. Hoshi Toru, and the Opposition journals find much material for criticism in the fact that the Marquis has been persuaded to make a journey to Mr. Hoshi's electoral district for the sake of speaking there. They endeavour to prove

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that the Marquis has allowed himself to be made the instrument of the Liberal leader. Marquis Ito must be flattered by the keen competition of political parties for his favour.

Viscount Aoki has left the capital for Kobe and Osaka. It was His Excellency's original intention to extend his journey to Nagasaki, but it is understood that he has abandoned that part of his programme, as he desires to be in Tokyo on the 17th instant. Yesterday evening the Viscount entertained at dinner in the Oriental Hotel the Foreign Consuls, the principal officials of the Prefecture, and the leading members of the foreign and Japanese commercial communities.

Some idea of the exceedingly petty nature of the transactions that take place in connexion with the spring fine-art exhibitions in Tokyo may be gathered from the fact that at the last Uyeno Exhibition, which opened on June 1st and closed on June 30th, only 128 pictures were sold at a total price of 1,394 *yen*. Out of these, the Imperial Household Department purchased 41 pictures for 827 *yen*, so that the general public's expenditure was 565 *yen*, for 87 pictures, an average of 6½ *yen* per picture, approximately. This is described as a very fine result, compared with last year.

The Authorities have wisely decided that although the privilege of mixed residence does not properly accrue to French citizens or Austro-Hungarian subjects before the 4th of August, no attempt shall be made to discriminate between them and the subjects or citizens of other States whose revised treaties go into operation on July 17th. Such discrimination would scarcely be possible, and any attempt to make it would probably involve serious trouble. The local officials have therefore been instructed not to undertake any scrutiny into the nationality of foreigners visiting their districts.

Ex-Chief-Judge Takano's claim, now preferred in the law courts against the Minister of Justice, is not formidable so far as the pecuniary amount is concerned. He asks for only 750 *yen*, or two months' salary. On the 1st of October, 1897, he received notice that he had been placed on the Retired List, and on the 29th of that month, an inspector of police arrived at his office and compelled him to make room for his successor. Then, on December 18th, he was gazetted out of the Judicial service altogether. Hence he demands his salary for November and December. We should have thought that he would raise the general issue of the Government's right to remove him from his post, but he seems to confine himself to the plea that the Authorities had no power to place him on the Retired List. Twenty-one barristers appear as his counsel.

We are inclined to endorse the view entertained in some quarters that no occasion exists for any hasty settlement of the question of admitting foreigners to membership of Japanese Chambers of Commerce. But the only argument in favour of deliberation is Japanese unreadiness, and it must be confessed that Japanese unreadiness is rather surprising. A Chamber of Commerce is not the repository of any secret information the possession of which confers special tradal advantages on its members. It has its conveniences and its benefits, but one of its principal functions is consultative. The members hold council to determine what measures, whether official or private, are best calculated to promote the interest of trade. If the Japanese do not think that the presence of foreigners at such councils would greatly increase their useful potentialities, the Japanese are not as enlightened as we believe them to be.

The Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce is said to have addressed to the recent meeting of Local Governors some statements which have considerable interest. Speaking of foreigners' engaging in agriculture after the inauguration of mixed residence, he said that, as the Treaties contained no special reference to this matter, it would be in the power of the authorities to restrict the privilege at any time, but the Department to which he belonged saw no reason to impose any veto or limit at present. These remarks applied to Japan proper. Concerning Hokkaido, the Department of Home Affairs had doubtless made its own investigations, but the Department of Agriculture and Commerce thought that the northern island might be placed on the same footing as the rest of the empire in this respect. In the case of State lands, there did not appear to be any objection to granting emphyteutic privileges to foreigners, and the same liberal policy might be adopted with regard to forestry and marine products. Mr. Fujita alluded also to veterinary surgeons, and said that holders of diplomas granted by competent foreign institutions would be allowed to practise on the same footing as Japanese subjects.

We presume that the action of the Oldham constituency, as reported by the telegraph this morning, may be interpreted in the light of a protest against the Government's Transvaal policy. The late Mr. Robert Ascroft was a Conservative, and so is Mr. Jas. Francis Oswald, Q.C. In the last general elections Mr. Ascroft was returned by 13,085 votes against 12,465 cast for his Conservative colleague, Mr. Oswald, and 12,249 obtained by the Liberal candidate, Mr. Adam Lee. Of late the Liberals have been taking a very decided line with regard to South African affairs. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's uncompromising denunciations of the Cabinet's doings were followed by a resolution of the executive committee of the Liberal Forwards, "condemning the secret and corrupt methods now being employed to force a quarrel upon the Republic of the Transvaal and earnestly warning all true Liberals against the specious mixture of democratic arguments to justify a war of aggression." At nearly every crisis in English history politicians have been found to condemn the Government's doings, but it must be confessed that the particular question at issue in the Transvaal ought to appeal to the sympathies of the average British elector, since he is invited to assist in securing equitable and rational treatment for a number of his countrymen in a foreign land. Of course the result of the Oldham election may have no connexion with foreign politics, but the public will certainly associate the two things.

PRINCE HENRY'S VISIT.

Saturday, July 8.

Prince Henry and his suite arrived at Yokohama at 3.10 p.m. on Friday, and were met at the Station by the German Consul-General, Mr. Coates, the Secretary of the Kanagawa Kencho, Mr. Rinoiye, and others. The Prince went on board the *Deutschland*, and there received a small party of distinguished Japanese guests, including Princes Komatsu, Arisugawa, Kanin, and Yamashina. The forward deck of the *Deutschland* had been very beautifully decorated, being transformed into a flower garden, with shrubs and parterres, and even a fountain. The Prince in the evening attended a garden party given in his honour by the German community of Yokohama at the Bluff Gardens.

Tuesday, July 11.

Prince Henry arrived at Yokosuka on the *Deutschland* on the 8th instant, and, in spite of the deluges of rain that were falling, landed and went steadily through his programme of inspecting the Dockyard and all the works. His Royal Highness lunched on board the Japanese warship *Fuji*, in company with H.I.H. Prince Kacho, E.H. the Minister of State for the Navy, and Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito. That evening the Prince entertained his hosts of the morning at dinner on the *Deutschland*. According to the original arrangement the Prince should have left Yokosuka on the 9th instant, but he refrained from putting to sea in the teeth of the typhoon, and deferred his departure until the 10th at 10 a.m., by which time the gale had somewhat abated. The *Deutschland* was accompanied as far as Tateyama by the Japanese men-of-war *Yashima*, *Naniwa*, *Akashi*, *Takasago*, *Chinyen*, *Matsushima*, and *Akitsushima*.

PERMANENT PRECAUTIONS.

The Home Office has issued a notification with reference to the adoption of permanent sanitary precautions at certain ports. We alluded to this matter in a former issue. The present system is to announce the enforcement of medical inspection and disinfection as soon as the existence of danger has been practically demonstrated, a plan which savours of shutting the door after the steed has escaped. Henceforth the system will be permanently applied at Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki and Kuchinotsu, as well as at such other places as may be subsequently designated. The diseases against which precautions will be adopted are cholera, small-pox, scarlet fever, pest, and yellow fever, but this list is subject to extension. The cost of disinfection will have to be borne by the owners, the master, or the agents of a ship: they are fixed at 10 *yen* for a vessel of less than 100 tons; 20 *yen* for a vessel from 100 to 999 tons; 30 *yen* for a vessel from 1,000 to 1,999 tons, and 10 *yen* for each additional 1,000 tons above the last figure. There is also a charge of 10 *sen* per package for disinfecting cargo, 1 *yen* per head for 1st and 2nd class passengers or members of the crew having a corresponding status, and 10 *sen* per head for third-class passengers. The charges in connexion with detention or medical treatment at the disinfecting stations are to be subsequently determined. Finally, it is provided that vessels of Japanese build do not come within the purview of these regulations.

Particulars of the destructive fire at Arai-machi, Echigo, are to hand. The flames broke out in the house of a man named Wada Motozo, Kamimachi, at about 12 p.m. on the 8th. A strong south wind was blowing at the time, and this assisted to spread the fire. Sparks from the burning houses were carried to Hita, a village a mile away, and to Nishisato. Despite the strenous efforts of the firemen the fire was not brought under control till upwards of 300 houses had been destroyed, including a police office, the offices of the Marine Company, the Tobacco Joint Stock Company, etc. A fireman was burnt to death.

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A DEFENDER OF THE JEWS.

WE publish in our correspondence columns a letter which can only be designated as extraordinary. About its tone we need scarcely say anything. It is obviously written under the influence of feelings which produce unconsciousness of the ordinary dictates of politeness. Such a communication has no sort of title to be admitted to the columns of a newspaper, but we nevertheless admit it, for the subject is of sufficient importance to over-ride the style. Mr. WITKOWSKI charges us with "continued exhibition of anti-Jewish feeling," and declares that no disclaimer we may now make will count for anything in the light of what we have just written and what we have previously written. It is the fate of all men who act any public part to be from time to time the target for false accusations. But we doubt whether in the whole history of slander a libel so ludicrously baseless was ever advanced as that of Mr. WITKOWSKI. To charge us with prejudice against the Jews is about as rational as it would be to charge us with hating our own countrymen. Since, however, Mr. WITKOWSKI has announced his intention of paying no attention to anything we may now say, and is determined to rely solely upon what we have already said, we willingly meet him upon that ground. His words are:—"Former articles and paragraphs by you, which showed the same tendency in such a pronounced way that they were commented upon by your contemporaries, so that you thought it necessary to publish some sort of a disclaimer, lead me and others to believe that you pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation which simply awaits the time and opportunity to throw off all disguise." That is explicit enough. Nothing could well be more explicit. "Former articles and paragraphs" of ours prove that we "pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation"—a "mischievous and malicious agitation" as our correspondent elsewhere calls it. Now during the whole of this year, more than half of which is already passed, we have made two editorial allusions to the Jews. We do not here go back further than the present year, but we shall do so presently. Two allusions, then, during the past six months constitute the matter upon which we are to be judged for the moment. Two allusions constitute the "articles and paragraphs" which show that we "pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation," a "mischievous and malicious agitation" simply awaiting "the time and opportunity to throw off all disguise." The first of these allusions appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of March 4th. Here it is:—

> But when we remember that Dreyfus was originally tried by a tribunal whose members, had they been disposed to lean in either direction, would have inclined to acquittal, and that Minister of War after Minister of War, five Ministers in succession, have examined the proofs of the man's guilt and have publicly ranged themselves on the side of conviction, it is impossible not to sympathise with the indignation felt against the Jews to whose money and efforts the agitation is mainly due. The nineteenth century closes with a very dark prospect for the Jews. In Russia, in Germany, and in France they are the objects of a feeling which threatens to repeat some of the incidents of mediæval history.

The plain object of this paragraph was to construct a conception of the feeling of the French people. But we need not offer any explanation of it. That was done in another paragraph—the second of the two allusions—which appeared in the *Japan Daily Mail* of March 9th. Here it is:—

> So many letters have reached us with reference to our recent remarks on the Dreyfus case that we are led to suspect the foreign community of being almost as much excited over this strange business as the folks at home. We perceive, also, that our own position in the matter is misunderstood. It appears to be thought that we firmly believe Dreyfus guilty; that we accuse the Jews of being mainly responsible for the complications which have ensued; that we blame them for the stand they have made, and even that we sympathise with the persecutions to which they are subjected. No description of our views could be more incorrect. Nothing seems to us to disgrace the nineteenth century more than the recrudescence of racial antipathies which its closing years witness. In our mental vista the Jew is as good as the Christian. If Continental Europe, to its shame, turns its back on him, we are proud to think that he will always find a welcome in England, and that England will benefit largely by his presence. For the part he has played in the Dreyfus drama, we have only praise, so far as he has been instigated by impulses of justice and fair play. But it is idle to pretend that the Jews are in no sense responsible for the prejudice which has been developed against them in France, in Germany, and in Russia. There is something in their method of life or their manner of doing business that provokes the hostility of the peoples among whom they sojourn. It may be their exclusiveness, it may be the peculiar aptitudes which harsh restrictions have developed in them; but whatever it be, the folks whom it revolts are not swayed by the vertigo of racial prejudice only. These things must be taken into account when we attempt to cast up the rights and wrongs of the singular struggle now convulsing French society; a struggle which, for aught we know, may be destined to leave an indelible mark on the history of Europe. The Jews did not make their *début* upon the Dreyfus stage after his trial and conviction only. They were dragged upon it even before his arraignment by that curse of modern times, the journalistic agitator. Rochefort, Drumont, and the crowd of sufferers from hysterical epidemic whom they lead sought, from the very outset, to inflame popular passion against Dreyfus because he was a Jew. In justice, therefore, we must admit that the Jews did not strike the first blow. But in justice also we must try to place ourselves in the position of the average Frenchman, and to estimate the aspect which this affair presents to him.

These two allusions, we repeat, constitute, so far as 1899 is concerned, the "articles and paragraphs which convict us of pursuing a systematic anti-Jewish agitation, a mischievous and malicious agitation, simply awaiting the time and opportunity to throw off all disguise."

Passing to the period before the present year, what we have to say to Mr. WITKOWSKI is this. On January 1st, 1881, the present writer became editor of the *Japan Mail*. That is 18 years prior to last January. Now we challenge Mr. WITKOWSKI to quote from the *Mail's* editorial utterances during those 18 years so much as a single paragraph, a single sentence, or a single line which betrays the smallest evidence of anti-Jewish feeling. We do not ask him to quote several paragraphs, several sentences, or several lines, though his language can not be justified without numerous corroboratory quotations. We ask for only one paragraph, or one sentence, or one line. Mr. WITKOWSKI declares that he has "often been on the point of addressing a letter to us on our continued exhibition of anti-Jewish feeling." Nevertheless we shall be content if he can adduce one solitary exhibition of such feeling during the eighteen years of our editorship. We have shown that during the present year our only detailed reference to the Jews was couched in terms of thorough friendliness; that we declared "the Jew as good as the Christian" in our opinion; that we expressed "a proud conviction that if Continental Europe, to its shame, turned its back on him, he would always find a welcome in England and that England would benefit largely by his presence," and that we denounced as the greatest disgrace of the 19th century the recrudescence of racial antipathies which its closing years witness. To charge the writer of such words with entertaining or fomenting anti-Jewish feeling is one of the grossest libels ever formulated, and unless Mr. WITKOWSKI can adduce from the pages of the *Mail* during the preceding 18 years one at least of the "articles and paragraphs" which have "often" prompted him to pen a protest, he will have no choice but to publicly avow himself a false accuser. We ourselves have not consulted the back files of the *Mail*. We have not consulted them because, knowing that our sentiment towards the Jews has been uniformly friendly, we know that we can never have written anything unfriendly.

As to the immediate cause of Mr. WITKOWSKI'S letter, it amounts simply to this, that whereas we defended the Parsee against a Tokyo newspaper's attack, we did not defend the Jew. From our silence Mr. WITKOWSKI infers endorsement of the attack in the Jew's case. Our answer is very simple. We saw no occasion to defend the Jew against a vague general accusation. The Jew needs no such defence. If Japan thinks herself so well furnished with financiers and statesmen that she does not require a GOSCHEN or a DISRAELI, she is to be pitied. But the Parsee had never before been journalistically introduced to Japanese notice, so far as we knew, and we thought it right therefore to protest against our Tokyo contemporary's erroneous estimate of his character. That is the whole story. Mr. WITKOWSKI may construct something very different by "reading between the lines," but we are not responsible for the creations of his imagination. He has now a very plain and imperative duty to fulfil. He has to adduce one paragraph, or one sentence, or one line, from the *Japan*

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Mail's columns during the past eighteen years in proof of his sweeping assertions that we have long "pursued a systematic anti-Jewish agitation," that he has "often been on the point of addressing a letter to us on our continued exhibition of anti-Jewish feeling," and that we carry on a "mischievous and malicious agitation." When he has offered the smallest tittle of evidence in support of that charge, he may claim some consideration for his other monstrous accusations.

NOTIFICATION OF THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE.

THE Representative of the United States in Japan has performed a most graceful and tactful act. His Notification to his nationals on the eve of the operation of the Revised Treaties, will not only produce an excellent impression on those to whom it is directly addressed, but will also be keenly appreciated by the Japanese. After referring to the recently issued Imperial Rescript and Ministerial Instructions, Mr. BUCK says :—

"In like spirit attention is called to the duty which, I trust, will be the pleasure of the citizens of the United States, under no circumstances to give any cause of complaint either to Government officials or other Japanese subjects. In their relations with the people of this country they should show at all times, by their demeanour and by their every act, such sentiments of regard for those with whom they will necessarily be associated and for all laws, regulations and customs, as will demonstrate that reciprocal friendship reasonably expected of them in response to the kind, considerate and just treatment enjoined on all Japanese subjects by His Imperial Majesty and by the high officials of the Government."

These eloquent words have all the ring of sincerity and kindly feeling. They come aptly from the Representative of a country which uniformly distinguished itself during the past forty years by an attitude of thorough amity and sympathy towards Japan, and which has won in the hearts of the Japanese people a place of permanent trust and affection. The Prime-Minister, Marquis YAMAGATA, in his recent Notification, observed that Great Britain had led the way in raising Japan from the grade of international inferiority to which the old treaties condemned her. Mr. BUCK now notes that the United States was the first of all the Powers to draw Japan from her long seclusion, and pledge her to intercourse which has now secured for her a rank never before attained by an Oriental State. Mr. BUCK might have said much more about his country's share in the approaching consummation, but he doubtless felt that no words of his were needed to recall the facts to the minds of the Japanese. It is not a mere coincidence that the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race occupy a place of honourable co-operation in the drama of Japan's new career. We will always be loved and respected.

DR. EDWARD DIVERS.

DR. EDWARD DIVERS had the honour of being received in audience by the Emperor on Wednesday, preparatory to his departure for England. Some twenty-five years have elapsed since Dr. DIVERS came to Japan to fill the post of Professor of Chemistry in the Engineering College. Subsequently, when that institution was amalgamated with the Imperial University, he accepted the chair of chemistry in the latter, so that his period of continuous service in Japan extends over a quarter of a century. It is scarcely necessary to say anything of the distinction Dr. DIVERS has attained. He long ago received the blue ribbon of science when he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and his fame is not limited to Great Britain or Japan, but has extended to the Continent of Europe also, where he is known as one of the greatest chemists of the era. His work in Japan has been above all praise. That a man whose heart is unreservedly given to the science which he has so signally advanced, should have been a splendid guide and instructor to Japanese students, goes without saying. But what has been especially admirable in Dr. DIVERS' methods has been the spirit of original research he has infused into his University pupils, and—if we may be permitted to say so—the admirable example of self-effacement he has shown in all his labours. Numerous contributions have been made by him to the Journal of the College of Science in the Imperial University and to the proceedings of learned societies in England, but in almost every case he has taken care that the names of his Japanese co-workers should receive as much prominence as his own, and that they should have a generous share of the credit. We expect that kind of magnanimity from a genuine devotee of science, but we admire it none the less in the rare instances of its full display. It is a matter of sincere satisfaction that Dr. DIVERS' great qualities are appreciated in this country: There is no real opportunity for any foreigner to gain high distinction in Japan. That will come by-and-by perhaps, but the prospect is still far distant. Dr. DIVERS has gone as near attainment as it is possible to go at present, and a sense of his worth has induced the Faculty of the University to take steps for enriching that institution with a permanent memorial of his long labours on behalf of scientific progress in this country. It is our hope that, although he now severs his connexion with the University and returns to Europe to put the last touches to his *magnum opus*, the memory of the warm friendships he has formed during the twenty-five years of his residence in the Japanese capital, may ultimately draw him back to Tokyo, where he will always be loved and respected.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In No. 16 of the *Shinseiki*, Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi, the editor, in an article entitled "The Distinctive Character of Religion," contends that Christianity in Japan is wanting in the essential elements of the creed. We give the gist of the article only:—Foreigners complain that the Japanese are lacking in seriousness and that they are fickle. I am inclined to think they are right. Although Christianity has been in this country thirty years one looks in vain for any signs of its having obtained a solid foundation in the life and thoughts of the people. The series of meetings held by the Fukuin Dōmeikai a few months ago furnish an illustration of what I mean. Any one who attended those meetings could see that what most pleased the audiences were allusions to the moral reform of society, to the remodelling of the Japanese home. The Gospel message pure and simple was not what the people wanted to hear, and that the speakers seemed to know. Outsiders frequently speak of our Christianity as Confucian in character, or as closely allied to politics. Is it any wonder? As long as men's thoughts are only occupied with the uses to which religion can be put they are far from comprehending what is its real essence. It is the truths themselves, and not the good they effect or the evil they avert, that the nation needs to hear about. From very early days in this country Christianity was presented to the people in an entirely wrong light. It was argued that if people accepted Christianity the treaties would be sooner revised, or that Christianity was part of European civilisation and hence it should be accepted. To become Christian and to be occidentalised meant the same thing in many minds. The ill effects of this method of preaching Christianity are felt to this day. It even gave rise to the modern reaction against Christianity. Men said, "this occidentalising creed is denationalising our people: why should we as an Oriental people consent to the proposed transformation?" Thus the association of Christianity with things from which it is in reality entirely separate has again and again retarded its progress. It is the absoluteness of Christianity, its entire independence of place and time that is its real essence. But of this the majority of Japanese who have heard about Christianity know nothing. While boasting that our creed is not of this world nor principally for this world, we have done nothing but lay stress on the uses to which it may be put and the temporal advantages which its acceptance will ensure. . . . Reviewing the state of thought among Christians in Japan to-day, there is nothing that causes more sorrow to the well-wishers of their country than the instability that is everywhere manifest. The cause of this is to be sought in the shakiness of the doctrines which have been made to do service for the unadulterated gospel of Christ. The house built on ever shifting sand is soon destroyed.

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The *Chūō Kōron* (中央公論), which is the *Hansei Zasshi* under a new name, has an article on "The Actual Powers of Religion in the Provinces," in which it is maintained that there is no comparison

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between the good effected by the Shin sect and that accomplished by other Buddhist bodies. The Shinshū is the ultra-Protestant sect of Buddhism. The sect not only discourages superstition of every sort, applying all kinds of condemnatory epithets to it, but it resembles certain Protestant sects in the minor importance it attaches to mere ceremonies and the value it places on the oral teaching of converts. Divination, the vain repetition of prayers and the like are condemned. It was on this very question of the use of divination and the saying of prayers that Shinran (A.D. 1173—1262) the founder of the sect differed from his son Zenran to such an extent that estrangement followed. The Shin sect preaches justification by faith in Buddha alone—salvation without works. Implicit faith in the man whom they believe to be the Saviour of the world is all that is required for discipleship. Many of the methods adopted by the priests of this sect in instructing the people resemble those of earnest Protestant bodies. The priests preach from village to village during the times of the year when the farmers are most at leisure, and when staying in villages encourage inquirers to visit them privately. Then they have those popular hymns know as 和讃 *Wasan*, which, in addition to expressing noble sentiments, are written in language that combines beauty and simplicity in a rare degree, and they constantly listen to the 81 passages known as Rennyo, which have been rendered into a semi-colloquial and semi-classical style that makes them as popular among the lower orders as were Luther's hymns among the peasants of Germany.

* * *

The Shintōists seem to live in a little world of their own. Their periodicals contain no such essays as are constantly found in Buddhist and Christian magazines, and as for the priests, for the most part they fail to realise that they are being left behind in the race of modern Japanese life. Every now and again one of the Shintō organs comes out with some new specific for reviving the dying patient. A case in point is furnished by a recent number of the *Kyōrin*, which informs us that interest in Shintō would revive if the virtues of the gods could only be made known. The worship at the temples is mere blind worship, says the *Kyōrin*. Few people know what are the distinctive merits of the various divinities that constitute the Shintō pantheon, and not a few are the cases where men are found praying to the wrong gods for what they want, farmers asking the God of War to give them good crops and the like. But, says the *Kyōrin*, it is a great mistake to suppose that the chief object to be attained by worship is the gratification of worldly desires.

An article in the *Rikugō Zasshi* on Shintō contends that nothing can save it from oblivion but its recognition by the State as a special cult, neglect to maintain which would be showing disloyalty to the Throne. Considered as a religion, says this writer, Shintō has not a chance of success in competition with such highly developed creeds as Buddhism and Christianity.

* * *

The *Tōyōtetsu-gaku* is of opinion that the friction between the liberals and conservatives in Buddhist and Christian ranks is more manifest than it has ever been before. In both instances, says this organ, the conservatives possess the most money and the greatest prestige. In the case of Christians, the type of Christianity which the conservative party are seeking to perpetuate is American, as also are the methods of evangelising followed. That men should earnestly contend for the principles at stake is natural enough, says the *Tōyōtetsu-gaku*, but what is to be regretted is the amount of ill-feeling that exists between the rival parties. This is intensified by the conviction which the liberals have that their form of Christianity is in harmony wirh Japanese customs and institutions, while that of their opponents is an attempt to occidentalise the nation even in the matter of forms and ceremonies.

* * *

The magazine quoted above, observes that modern Buddhists may be divided into two schools. (1) Those who base religion on the State, who maintain that religion and good government are inseparable from each other; and (2) those who say that religion has a purely spiritual basis and is entirely independent of State aid of any kind. Dr. Inouye Enryō is considered to be the leading advocate of the former theory and Mr. Sawayanagi Masatarō of the latter. The carrying out of the former theory must end in secularising religion more than is desirable, and the logical issue of the latter view will certainly be the over-spiritualization of religion—the creation of recluses, hermits and other world-renouncers, says the *Tōyōtetsugaku*. The first theory is based on the notion that the principal function of religion is to help the state—the nation at large, the second is the idea that the chief rôle it has to play is to comfort and to save individual souls, each of which lives its own life unspotted by the world.

* * *

Dr. Hōzumi contributes to the *Nihon Shugi* a long article in defence of ancestor worship in Japan. He gives instances of the wide prevalence of the practice in other lands, and argues that no laws sanctioned in this country should be allowed to interfere with the sacredness of those family relationships on which the stability of government principally rests. He evidently regards certain parts of the new codes with mistrust. He thinks that there is no guarantee that Japan will be as easily governed under a foreign system of laws as she has been under laws that grew out of her own family life.

* * *

The *Taiyō* contends that the series of meetings held by the Fukuin Dōmeikai, referred to at some length in our last Summary, did no good. Such gatherings, the writer says, are poor imitations of the great congregations of Whitfield and Wesley. They resemble the attempts of politicians and worldly Buddhists to stir up interest in some special question. The chief object gained, says the *Taiyō*, seems to have been the gratification of the pipers at the excitement of those who danced to their music. All this commotion is not conducive to Christian devotion and faith. The kingdom of heaven is like sowing seed in a field. It must be allowed to grow naturally and to ripen at its own time. Artificial attempts to hasten the harvest are as foolish as they are useless.

* * *

The *Taiyō* draws attention to the wonderful persistency with which Mohammedanism holds its own among Eastern nations from generation to generation, showing a record which Buddhism has never even approached. The *Taiyō* says that among the 200 million Mohammedan converts 60 millions are Africans; 700,000 Europeans; and about 130 millions are Asiatics. The latter, according to the *Taiyō*, are distributed as follows:—Central China, 40,000; Mongolia and adjoining provinces, 598,000; Siberia, 73,000; Asiatic Russia, 6,478,000; Afghanistan and Belochistan, 5,500,000; British India, 49,550,000; various East Indian Islands, 31,700,000. While Buddhists are wrangling in Japan over State patronage and such like questions, the creed of the great prophet of Mecca retains its hold on the minds of millions of devotees without any State aid whatever, and shows itself to be stronger than any of the Governments with which it comes into contact.

* * *

In reference to Mr. Kimura Takatarō's essay entitled *Yasokyō Kōnin Kahiron* (The Public Recognition of Christianity—the Pros. and Cons.), the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* says that the author's views may be stated in a very few words. He contends that neither in Europe nor America is the religion of Christ faithfully followed by any Government. No amount of twisting of the meaning of texts would suffice to prove that the American worship of the almighty dollar, or that the seizure of territory practised by Europeans is Christian. It amounts to this then, that in the West the Christian religion is followed when it does not come into conflict with State interests, but no further. When Christ's commands and the exigencies of modern politics are in direct opposition to each other the former have to give way.* With Christianity in Japan the same rule will doubtless be followed, says Mr. Kimura, and hence there is no real objection to Christianity being publicly recognised subject to the above condition.

* * *

Dr. Murakami has published the 2nd volume of his "Concise History of Buddhism," Vol. I., which was issued last year has had a large circulation and has been adopted as a text-book in many Buddhist Schools. Vol. II. sells at 70 *sen* per copy at the Kinkōdo. The Hakubunkan, under the title of *Rekishi Monogatari*, has published the following little books: "Life of Shaka," by Takayama Rinjirō; "Life of Confucius," by Yoshikuni Tōkichi; and "Life of Christ" by Ueda Bin. The *Tōyōtetsugaku*, criticises the two first works unfavourably and while approving of the matter published in the "Life of Christ," thinks the style unsuitable for the youthful readers for whom the above works are said to be designed.

* * *

The *Rikugō Zasshi* condemns the decision of the Young Men's Christian Association in reference to Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki. It seems that the managing committee have taken action that has resulted in Mr. Matsumura's sending in his resignation. His address, noticed in our last Summary, was highly disapproved of by the committee. The *Rikugō* thinks the committee are entirely in the wrong, and that in alienating Mr. Matsumura they are robbing

* An eminent church divine put this idea in a nutshell when he said that were the Bible to say one thing and the *Times* another, the majority of Englishmen would believe the *Times*.

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themselves of the best man they possess for addressing large audiences in an effective manner. It is reported that Mr. Matsumura is heretical, says the *Rikugō*, but if so, he has not given utterance in public to any doctrines that could offend orthodox people, and as for his lectures, they are permeated with Christian thought. The Young Men's Society is neither a church nor a school, and there is no need for requiring that its members should think alike. The present committee, the *Rikugō* maintains, are a blind set that do nothing but temporise and object to everybody who follows a fixed policy and displays unusual zeal.

* * *

The *Rikugō Zasshi* predicts that endless trouble will be involved in the perpetuation of the scheme of government interference with religion known as the Kanchō system. If Christian sects be brought under the control of the Government in this way, the confusion will be considerable, as there are at least 30 or 40 sects to be represented. The only safe course for the Government to take, says this organ, is to cut off its connection with all sects and to leave them to manage their own affairs. There is no call for the State to do anything but guard public peace, and that it can do without interfering with the organisation and the teaching of religious bodies.

* * *

In the pages of the *Shakai*, Dr. Katō Hiroyuki discusses the policy to be pursued by the Japanese Government in reference to the religious instruction given in prisons. The conclusion Dr. Katō reaches is that the wisest plan to pursue would be to exclude strictly religious instruction altogether and confine the teaching to morality only, which, Dr. Katō thinks, is all that is required. To try and frighten criminals out of crime by threatening them with either the Buddhist or the Christian hell, or to try and entice them to be virtuous by promising them rewards in a future world, may answer in the case of very ignorant persons. But such a basis for morals is bad, says Dr. Katō. Let those who are versed in ethics place before the prisoners the various benefits which they will confer on themselves and others by leading upright lives, let the prisoners hear what reason has to say on the subject of virtue and vice. The effects of this kind of preaching may not be so striking as that of the zealous Buddhist or Christian chaplain, but they are likely to be more lasting, because based on what is real and not on what is imaginary.

* * *

It is reported that the American Episcopal Church of Japan strongly disapproves of the theological views of Dr. Sugiura and that he is to be tried for heresy. The subject of Dr. Sugiura's views on Christology has been warmly discussed in several Christian journals for some months past. The *Shinseiki*, No. 13, has an article entitled, "Dr. Sugiura's Christology of St. Paul" on which the following short account of his opinions is based. Dr. Sugiura in the essay which has caused so much stir states that he confines himself to proving from the genuine writings of St. Paul what was the belief of the apostle as to the personality of Christ, and that he does not pretend to say that the same view was held by the rest of the apostles or that this view represents the belief of the early Christians. Dr. Sugiura protests against his essay being considered to be an enunciation of his own individual belief as to the divinity of Christ. The two epistles to Timothy and the epistle to Titus Dr. Sugiura does not quote from, on account of the doubts thrown on their genuineness by a large number of competent critics. Dr. Sugiura sets out by observing that a reader of the writings of St. Paul cannot but be struck by the paucity of the allusions to the words uttered by Christ and to the various acts of his life. There are, says Dr. Sugiura, passages in St. Paul's epistles where his arguments, it seems to us, would have been rendered much more convincing had they been backed by direct quotation of Christ's words or reference to his conduct. It is quite evident that St. Paul had his own special views in reference to the personality of the historical Christ. As to the actual details of Christ's life the information at his disposal was very scanty. The figurative expressions made use of by St. Paul in reference to Christ are, rightly interpreted, not such as to lead an unbiassed reader of his writings to think that he believed in the divinity of Christ. His calling him the "Second Adam," drew attention to his human kinship and was evidently not intended to suggest any divine origin. He believed him to be the Messiah who was descended from the house of David. Of any miracle that preceded or accompanied his birth he says nothing. Some argue that Christ's divinity rests on the miraculous nature of his birth. Paul could evidently think of Christ as the Son of God without attaching any such meaning to this term as was given to it by subsequent Christians. St. Paul knew that Christ's descent from David was in accordance with Jewish law, through his father, Joseph, and not through his mother, Mary. The Greek term σπερματος used in Rom. I. 3, cannot possibly refer to anything but male descent, say the best critics, and this fact taken in connection with St. Paul's other allusions to the birth of Christ show that the traditional account of Christ's birth was either unknown to him, or that it was known and rejected. Dr. Sugiura cites and discusses several passages from St. Paul's epistles which at first sight would seem to lend support to the orthodox notion in reference to the miraculous birth of Christ, and shows that, taken with their context, the words used were not designed to convey the meaning they have since been made to bear. In 1 Cor. XV., St. Paul makes an express declaration of the Gospel which he was commissioned to preach. In that statement there is no allusion to Christ's divinity, miraculous birth, or to any of the miracles of the Four Gospels, with the exception of those which concerned Christ's rising from the dead and his appearances to his disciples. Christ's title to honour, says Dr. Sugiura, in St. Paul's mind, rested entirely on the fact that he died for the sins of mankind and rose from the dead. St. Paul regarded Christ as appointed by God to fulfil a certain mission to the world, and he speaks of Christ as destined to lose his identity when his work is completed. "And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all."

Dr. Sugiura's views are no doubt perfectly familiar to many of our readers, but it seems to us worthy of record that a very prominent member of an orthodox Protestant Church has come forward as a champion of these opinions in a most public manner. Dr. Sugiura has been attacked on all sides. But he is no mean opponent. He has been educated in America, has a good knowledge of Greek, and has read very extensively on the subject under debate. In the pages of the *Shinseiki*, a duel is going on between a Mr. Yoshimura Danjirō and Dr. Sugiura. There are few churches in Japan that are not invaded by heresy and scepticism, and it would seem that before many decades are past there will be materials enough in this country to satisfy the mind of a Mosheim, should the world produce another such patient chronicler of the endless vagaries of theological speculation.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* quotes and replies to a very long article that appeared in a recent number of the *Chū-ō Kōron* on the causes of the spread of Christianity in Japan and of the checks to its progress. The following reasons are given in the *Chū-ō Kōron* for the amount of prosperity that Christianity enjoyed for many years: (1) Christianity was introduced into Japan at a time when the old feudal life was broken up, involving much distress and willingness to receive pecuniary help from whatever quarter it might come. (2) The Missionaries were backed by the funds of their Societies. (3) Christianity enshrouded itself in the halo of Western civilisation. (3) The inauguration of a new era in education, which favoured the acceptance of new views on all subjects. Christianity became the head-quarters of education, as it were. (5) The Missionaries took the lead in female education. (6) In all departments of education our weakness gave the missionaries opportunities which they promptly made use of. (7) The advocacy of popular rights was associated with Christianity, and the cause of Christianity was considerably advanced by this association with popular feeling. (8) Young men and women, fond of novelty, took delight in the new kind of meetings introduced by foreigners. (9) Evangelists and pastors were raised socially by their connection with the Church. This led to a large demand for employment in these capacities. (10) The foreign policy of the Government was such that western institutions, laws, and methods were held in high esteem, and among them Christianity had its share of public favour. The alleged causes given above of the spread of Christianity in Japan resemble in one respect those given by Gibbon. They attribute nothing to supernatural influence of any kind. As to Gibbon, so to the writer in the *Chū-ō Kōron*, the reasons specified no doubt seem quite ample to account for the spread of Christianity. The causes given for the alleged arrest of the progress of Christianity are:—(1) The downfall of the Ito Cabinet and the reaction against the pro-foreign policy he adopted. (2) The rise of the nationalistic party. (3) The revival of the power of Buddhism and Shintō consequent on the conservative trend of public opinion. (4) Col Olcott's visit to Japan did much harm to Christianity. (5) The increase of boys and girls' schools on every hand took education out of the hands of the missionaries to a large extent. (8) The youthful desire for novelty died out and there was no longer such a rush to preaching services. (9) Men of influence who had been connected with missions found that they could make a

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living in a manner more agreeable to themselves by pursuing other callings. (10) The organisation of a number of associations which absorbed the interest of persons who had hitherto devoted themselves exclusively to the spread of Christianity. (11) The decidedly nationalistic tone of the language used in the Imperial Rescript on Education. (12) The disrespect shown to the Emperor's picture by certain Christians. (13). The conflict between Christianity and education carried on by various controversialists. (14) The reduced efficacy of missionary education. (15) The representation of Buddhism at the great religious conferences of the world and the consequent increased prestige given to that religion. (16) The increase of Japanese patriotism caused by the victories in China.

Commenting on the above the *Kirisuto-Kyō Shimbun* says that, though there is some truth in the allegations of the *Chūō Kōrōn*, many of the reasons given for the progress and the decline of Christianity are superficial and some of them are the exact opposite of the truth. To say that the Church has been the refuge of the poor and the ill-to-do is a gross misrepresentation as regards most Protestant sects. To pretend that the men who have acted as pastors or evangelists have risen in the social scale thereby shows great ignorance of facts. In the majority of cases the reverse has been the case, and as for the workers' having found ease and comfort, in most instances they have had arduous duties and have hardly known how to make two ends meet. At the commencement of Christian work a good deal of pecuniary help was received from foreign boards, but in recent years evangelisation has been carried on by a large number of self-supporting bodies. The allusion to the harm done by Col. Olcott and to the effect of Buddhist representation in Foreign Religious Conferences, is, the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* says, too silly to need refutation. Our own opinion is, says the organ we are quoting, that the decline of Christianity is to be attributed to theological causes such as were fully discussed by Mr. Kosaki in the *Shinseiki* in February last (reproduced in these columns), but in various Churches there are signs of returning activity.

INSTRUCTION CONCERNING TRAVELLERS, LODGERS, ETC.

HOME DEPARTMENT: ORDER No. 32.

Art. 1.—The proprietor of an inn or any person who provides lodging for others must send to the local police office information on all points as determined by the orders of *Cho*, *Fu*, or *Ken*.

The above mentioned information may be conveyed to the policeman at the police-stand or police-station, or to the police-officer on his official round, except in special cases defined by the orders of *Cho*, *Fu*, or *Ken*.

Art. 2.—The lodger, at the request of the owner of the house, or the manager, shall give all particulars required, either verbally or by filling in the paper handed to him by the owner or manager.

Art. 3.—A foreigner who resides in a separate house, with the intention of stopping for more than ninety days in the same city, town, or village, shall send, within ten days from the time of his arrival, information regarding himself and the family accompanying him, stating names, nationality, professions, ages, residence, date of arrival, previous residence, residence in his native country, and the relationship of each of his family accompanying him.

A foreigner who has resided for more than ninety days in the same city, town, or village, if the preceding clause is not applicable to his case, must send information as determined above within ten days from the last day after the above mentioned ninety days.

In case a foreigner does not keep a separate house, the person who lodges him, or in case a foreigner resides in a house rented from another, the owner, or agent of that house, must attach his signature to the information required in the two preceding articles. Those who have lost Japanese nationality but still live in the same place are exempt from sending information as mentioned in this article.

Art. 4.—When a foreigner who has been registered in the register-book mentioned in Art. 7, removes, information must be given, within ten days from the day of his removal, to the local police office by the person mentioned below respecting the date of removal, and the place to which he has removed:—

N.B.—If the person who removes sends the information, he shall give it to the authorities at the place to which he has removed.

1. By the person lodging the foreigner on his removing.

2. By a foreigner keeping a separate house, when his family has removed.

3. When a foreigner keeping a separate house himself removes, leaving his family behind, information shall be given by a person of legal age at the head of the family, or, if there is no head, by the eldest among the persons of legal age in the family.

4. By a foreigner keeping a separate house and owning it, when he removes with all his family.

5. By the owner of the house or its manager in any case not included in any of the above clauses.

Art. 5.—When a foreigner or any of his family, registered in the register-book mentioned, has changed his name or nationality, the head of the family must give information accordingly to the police office within ten days from the time such alteration was made.

Art. 6.—Census officers, on registering the personal status of a foreigner, shall advise the local police-office of the place where the foreigner resides and furnish all particulars. A report concerning a foreigner's personal status must mention his residence.

Art. 7.—At the police-office shall be kept a register book in which all particulars received are entered according to the 1st and 2nd clause of Art. 3, Art. 4, and Art. 5, as also particulars alluded to in Art. 6.

The same must be done with any facts registerable under Art. 9.

Art. 8.—Any person can ask to see the register-book, or ask for a copy or extract from it.

Application to see the register book is granted on payment of 10 *sen* as fee, and copies, or an extract, are charged for at 10 *sen* per sheet or part of a sheet.

N. B.—The number of sheets is counted according to the pages of the original book. The above-mentioned fee is payable in revenue stamps affixed to the application.

Art. 9.—Questions demanding information under Art. 1, or with reference to registration, under Art. 7, and all other matters regarding which inquiry is made by the police officer respecting a foreigner, his family, or his lodger, must be answered. Foreigners must show passports or certificates proving nationality to the police-officer on demand.

Art. 10.—Persons refusing to answer police inquiries under Art. 9, or making false answers, or not complying with the request, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 20 *yen*, if the refusal does not come within the purview of the Criminal Code.

Art. 11.—Persons not sending in information according to Art. 1, 1st and 2nd clause of Art. 3, Art. 4, and Art. 5 shall be liable to a fine of not more than 1 *yen* 25 *sen*, and persons giving false information shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 20 *yen* unless the offence comes within the purview of the Criminal Code.

Persons violating Art. 2, or the 3rd clause of Art. 3, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *yen* 25 *sen*.

Art. 12.—Respecting information to be given by a foreigner residing within the limits of this empire at the time this regulation comes into force, the term for giving information required by the 1st or 2nd item of Art. 3 is to be counted from the date on which this order is enforced.

Art. 13.—This Order comes into force on and after the 17th day of the 7th month of the 32nd year of Meiji.

PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY LEFT BY A FOREIGNER.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT: ORDER No. 40.

By the second clause of Article 209 of the Law of Proceedings on Non-contentious Matters, proceedings must be taken as follow with respect to the preservation of property left by foreigners.

Art. 1.—The District Court is the proper Government Office at which to give information of the death of a foreigner, according to the articles of the treaty, to receive such information, or to take steps with regard to the preservation of properties left by a deceased foreigner.

In case of a foreigner who has died outside the limits of the Empire, the proper Government office is the district court in the place where his properties should be left.

Art. 2.—All matters regarding the process of preserving property left after death by a foreigner are entrusted to this Department.

Art. 3.—On a police officer ascertaining the fact of a foreigner's death, he shall report at once the nationality, residence, or locality, name, and age of the deceased, as well as the place and date of his death to the District Court mentioned in the first clause of the first article.

Registrars on registering the death of a foreigner shall at once send a copy of the registration to the District Court above named.

Art. 4.—In cases under the Treaty where the presence of officials of the District Court is required at the time of sealing or unsealing the property of the deceased, a judge or a secretary shall be present and a Procurator may attend.

Art. 5.—When by virtue of the treaty, the duty of the proper Government office is to make an inventory of properties of the deceased to send to his Consulate, the District Court shall elect and appoint a trustee, who shall produce a copy of the inventory to be sent to the Consulate along with other documents as provided for by the Treaty.

Art. 6.—When public notice is given of the properties of a deceased foreigner under the 70th and 69th article of the Law of Non-contentious Proceedings, or under the 1057th article of the Civil Code, the District Court shall inform the Consulate accordingly.

Art. 7.—This Order comes into force on and after the 17th day of the 7th month of the 32nd year of Meiji.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT: INSTRUCTION No. 36.

To Hokkaido *Cho*, *Fu* and *Ken*: Concerning weights and measures used by foreigners (to make, repair, or sell, as well as those employed for trading purposes, which must be examined under the regulations of the Law of Weights and Measures, No. 3 of 24th year of Meiji) their inspection is postponed until the last day of the 12th month of the 32nd year of Meiji.

The *Times* in its article on the Birthday honours says:—Mr. Thomas Jackson's knighthood is a recognition of the good work done for the Empire in the Far East by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

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VISCOUNT AOKI IN KOBE.

In pursuance of the programme already spoken of in these columns, Viscount Aoki entertained about 30 guests at dinner in the Oriental Hotel, Kobe, on the 11th instant. The Foreign Consuls, the princial local officials, the Mayor of Kobe and the leading foreign residents were among the guests. Viscount Aoki, in his speech, alluded to the uncertainty that seemed to have been felt about the date of the operation of the Treaties, and expressed an earnest hope that the friendship between foreigners and Japanese would be greatly promoted by the pending changes. The French and Portugese Consuls and the Chairman of the Municipal Council replied. After dinner Viscount Aoki repaired to the Club, and on the following day he inspected the prison that has been specially prepared for use after July 17th.

Everybody must be conscious of the exceedingly unfortunate impression conveyed by the constant references made to prisons in speaking of the operation of the Revised Treaties. One is led to suppose that the first effect of the new regimen will be to place a number of foreigners in durance vile. However, the state of the prisons has been so much discussed by foreigners themselves that this unhappy association of ideas is inevitable.

NEW PORTS OF EXPORT.

In accordance with the discretionary power vested in it by the Diet last session, the Government has declared that from the date of the enforcement of the Statutory Tariff, namely, the 17th instant, the following places shall be added to the list of harbours open for export:—Shimizu (in Suruga); Taketoyo (in Owari), Yokkaichi (in Ise); Shimonoseki (in Nagato); Moji (in Buzen); Hakata (in Chikuzen); Karatsu and Kuchinotsu (in Hizen); Misumi (in Higo); Izugahara, Sasuna and Shikami (in Tsushima); Nafu (in Rinkiu); Hamada (in Iwami); Sakai (in Hoki); Miyatsu (in Tango); Tsuruga (in Yechizen); Nanao (in Noto), Fushiki (in Yetchiu); Otaru (in Shiribeshi); Kushiro (in Kushiro), and Muroran (in Iburi), 22 ports in all. It is provided that the exports from Muroran shall be limited to barley, coal and sulphur, and such other articles as the Minister of Finance may designate; and that should the value of the goods exported from any of these places during the second year after its opening, fall short of 50,000 *yen*, the port shall be closed, notice to that effect being given three months in advance.

EXCURSION TRAINS.

It is announced that excursion trains will be run upon the Tokaido Railway every Saturday and Sunday during the summer. The tickets will include the return journey and will be available for 3 days. The rates are to be as follows:—

FROM SHIMBASHI—FARES IN YEN.

To and from	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Fujisawa or Kamakura	2.16	1.26	0 70
Hiratsuka	2 87	1.64	0.93
Oiso	2 92	1.72	0.98
Kozu	3.36	1 96	1.12

FROM YOKOHAMA.

To and from	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Fujisawa or Kamakura	1.06	0.62	0 35
Hiratsuka	1.61	0 94	0 53
Oiso	1.78	1.04	0.60
Kozu	2 33	1 31	0 75

Excursion trains will be run on the Nikko line also every Saturday and Sunday, but the particulars are not published.

The U S. transport *Hancock*, now in harbour, is the Northern Pacific steamship *Arisona*. She has 1,400 troops aboard of the Nebraska and Utah volunteers, returning home from Manila. Most of the men look very much pulled-down.

CORRESPONDENCE.

JEWS AND PARSEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 7th inst. you reproduce a paragraph from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* in which attention is directed to "three conjunctures" or "perils that are to be dreaded by Japan" in the sequel of the revised treaties," the first of which is stated to be "an invasion of Chinese cheap labour; the second, an invasion of Jews, and the third, an invasion of Parsees." In the same paragraph it is also stated that the latter two "perils" can not be averted and that the character of the Jews is well known, but that it is not so well known that Parsees are close-fisted, cold, calculating speculators, whose presence in a country is anything but a blessing, so that Japan has her trials before her.

Had the paragraph in question been published without any of your comments at all it would have been simply a piece of news illustrating the terror that a section of the Japanese people have of all intelligent and energetic competition; of all competition, indeed, that does not allow itself to be led blindfolded. But you say: "We (*Japan Mail*) do not recognize the type of Parsee described by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The Parsee of the British Colonies is an excellent subject and by no means a bad fellow."

The natural and logical inference of this comment is that so much cannot be said of the Jews, so that you tacitly, between the lines—and what you really wish to say is very often to be read between the lines—endorse the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* insulting terminology and statements that "an invasion of Jews" is a "peril" which Japan has to "dread" but cannot avert, and that the character of the Jews is so well known that their presence in Japan is to be dreaded. You will admit, I presume, that, in the context, no other construction is possible.

I therefore make the most emphatic protest against the gratuitous and unwarranted insult of Jews who now are in Japan, or may come to Japan, and you are not so ignorant of the meanings of words, but that you must know that the paragraph in question and your comments must have the effect to stir up racial antagonism that eventually may lead to such occurrences as of late years have disgraced civilised Europe. Former articles and paragraphs by you, which showed the same tendency in such a pronounced way that they were commented upon by your contemporaries, so that you thought it necessary to publish some sort of a disclaimer, lead me and others to believe that you pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation, which simply awaits the time and opportunity to throw off all disguise.

It is also you to whose incessant irritation of sore, or tender spots, in the feelings of the Government and people on national and international questions, much of the ill-feeling and misunderstanding between Japanese and Foreigners is due, so that even now—after nearly half a century of international intercourse—the Emperor himself and his Ministers of State have found it necessary to issue instructions regarding the treatment of foreigners by Japanese. Those instructions go down even to the children in school, and in plain English mean simply that foreigners must not be insulted and assaulted.

I and others therefore consider your activity as an utterly mischievious and pernicious one, that threatens to assume a more than usually dangerous form, utterly at variance with the Imperial and Ministerial Rescripts, the honesty of whose sentiments is beyond all question. You will probably disclaim any intention to insult the Jews, or to incite race hatred, but when a dozen or more intelligent and educated people can only read what you write, especially in the light of what you already have written on the same subject, in the same way and arrive at the same conclusion, your disclaimer will count for nothing. Nothing you may say can explain away the impression you have created, and, I am convinced, intended to create.

As a business man my time does not often permit me to write letters to newspapers, although I must say that I have often been on the point of addressing a letter to you on your continued exhibitions of anti-Jewish feeling, and continued immunity from protest may have given you the idea that none would be made. But you have gone too far, and I am determined that, so far as you are concerned at least, this mischievous and malicious agitation shall stop.

I am, Sir, Yours truly, J. WITKOWSKI.
No. 44, Bluff,
Yokohama, July 8th, 1899.

A VILE EPITHET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I call your attention to the vile language which appears from time to time in the *Yorozu Choho*? In to-day's issue is an article which refers to the Japanese consorts of foreign residents, and they are branded with an epithet (*rashamen*) which would be filthy on the lips of the lowest of coolies, and which even the least reputable of papers should be reluctant to use. The pure-minded *Yorozu Choho* is of course entitled, if it chooses, to criticise the morality of these unions, but to apply the term to which I refer is not only a cruel insult to the woman but an affront to her foreign patron. No civilised journalist would think of employing such a word.

Yours, &c., OBSERVER.
July 7th.

[The *Yorozu Choho* is not a civilized paper. It would disgrace the most uncivilized journalism. The only thing that could shame a respectable Japanese is to be praised in its columns. It does more to drag Japan's name in the dirt than any political or economical failure she could make.—ED. *J.M.*]

INFORMATION WANTED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—What will a foreign householder have to do on or before July 17th so as not to incur the risk of unwittingly breaking the law? I am not so much afraid of the errors of commission as of those of omission, through ignorance of laws, which, so far as I know, are not yet obtainable in English text.

I refer more particularly to municipal and local police regulations, and the local rates and taxes residents will have to pay.

It is strange our Consul has not issued any circular on this point. He collected the Poll-tax in full for 1899, and yet hands us over on July 17th. I think we are, however, entitled to a little information on these points.

Yours, A BRITISHER.
July 12th.

CHRIST CHURCH.

A meeting of Christ Church seat-holders was held on Wednesday afternoon at Keil's Building. Mr. James Walter presided, and there were also present the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, Messrs. J. F. Lowder, James Dodds, E. A. Leather, H. J. Sharp, W. K. Wilson, and T. Thomas.

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr. Lowder had kindly made enquiries and found that it was necessary under the deed of trust that there should be four trustees. Mr. John Rickett and Mr. J. A. Fraser, who formerly held that position, had left the country, and it now became necessary to supply the vacancies. Mr. Lowder had also gratuitously enquired into the question of settling the titles of the lots sold and the lot for the new Church.

On the proposition of Mr. LOWDER, seconded by the Rev. E. C. IRWINE, Messrs. James Walter and W. F. Mitchell were elected trustees.

This was all the business.

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THE BOOK-SHELF.

The Globe Edition of the Poetical Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson: London, MacMillan & Co., Ltd.; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh. Price, *yen* 2.

Messrs. MacMillan have added the poetical works — the dramas alone excluded — of Alfred Lord Tennyson to their now well-known Globe Library. When this Library was first started it won golden opinions from all the leading reviewers for the admirable editing of the volumes, the biographical excellence of the books, their compendious form, and above all for their wonderful cheapness; and as the years go by the reputation then made has been more than sustained. It is truly marvellous value for the money that this new edition of Tennyson gives. The binding is in the now long familiar and well-loved green cloth-boards, the shape of the page is the same as in the more costly editions, while the Index to "In Memoriam" at the end will be found of great value to students as well as to the ordinary reader. We can recommend the edition to all lovers of Tennyson and are glad to learn that Messrs. Kelly and Walsh have laid in a goodly stock of it.

The British Empire Dictionary of the English Language, Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd. Price, *yen* 2.

This is a portly volume of 836 page, crown octavo, and bound in cloth. We gather from the Publisher's announcement that the Editor has aimed at including within its compass all words which are likely to be required in daily use by the business man, the ordinary reader, and, indeed, all who do not need a dictionary of purely technical terms, or of etymology. A special feature is the size of the type—larger than is usual in a book of its size and kind—obviating that close scrutiny or use of glasses which is so exasperating to anyone who desires to consult a dictionary on the spur of the moment. The omission of compound words, the meaning of which is perfectly obvious, is also a characteristic of the present volume. By this plan many words which could not been included in the space at disposal are given.

I, Thou, and the Other One, by Amelia E. Barr, London, Fisher Unwin. Price 2/6.

Miss E. Amelia Barr has long attained to an honoured place in the ranks of the story-tellers of Great Britain. Her pen has ever been devoted to the production of sweet-distilling, clear-souled writing, which, if it does not approach a high standard, judged solely as literature, yet possesses the power of delighting that large army of readers who want nothing finer for their spare half hours than a healthy, cleanly, love-picture framed in English scenery. In the queerly titled story under review we are taken back to the early years of the century, when George the Fourth lay a-dying and the first Reform Bill struggles were beginning—those struggles in which Peel, at first an opponent of the measure, turned at last into its most enthusiastic advocate. The principal characters are nicely drawn and one feels a generous liking gradually growing up for sturdy Squire Athelng and his broad-minded, high-spirited helpmeet. In quieter tones, yet none the less pleasing, are filled-in the Squire's daughter Kate and her wooer, the young Lord Exham. The stirring days of the "Reform Bill of the 30's" and the Corn Laws are vividly depicted as the story runs its course, but they are not allowed to intrude unduly upon the love interest. Altogether it is a most pleasant book.

America in the East, by Rev. W. E. Griffis; New York, A. S. Barnes & Co. Price, $1.50.

This volume, which is of the illustrated pot-boiler order, purports to be "a glance at our history, prospects, problems, and duties in the Pacific Ocean." It is to be obtained locally.

The Naval Annual for 1899. Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh. Price, 9.50 *yen*.

This publication, edited by Mr. T. A. Brassey, is really a monumental work. It is most carefully and accurately compiled, and the whole of the contributions are from the pens of men who are complete masters of their special subjects. The articles on the British Navy should appeal to all who take an interest in Great Britain's first line of defence; they are admirably written, and give a most lucid idea of what our great Navy costs us, the work it has do, the responsibilities devolving upon it, and its immense superiority to any other fighting machine on the seas.

The important subject of the manning of the Navy is considered in a special article in which the writer points out the true significance of the dearth of merchant seamen who might in time of need be called on to serve in the Navy. "Recent changes have not," says the writer in the "Annual," "tended to the improvement of the merchant marine as a reserve for the Navy. The Suez Canal and the consequent rapid increase in steam tonnage have produced a marked effect in increasing the proportion of foreign seamen in British vessels. A Board of Trade return of March, 1896, gives the statistics of the position. It is shown that while 180 366 seamen were employed in British ships no less than 27,446 were foreigners and 27,911 Lascars. Comparing 1891 with 1896 British seamen had diminished by 6 570, while foreigners had increased by 1,037." The "Annual" points out that the total strength of officers and men in the Navy has been raised from 62,400 in 1888 to 106,300 at the present time, and that the gross expenditure on personnel has increased from £5,060.000 in 1866 to £8,896,000 in 1897 98. The crushing expense of adding great numbers to the active list is strikingly illustrated by these figures, and the writer points out that the best plan of meeting the difficulty is to improve the mercantile marine as a nursery for seamen of the Navy, to look to the fishermen and longshoremen, 100 000 of whom are employed in the fisheries of the United Kingdom, and to raise a Colonial Naval Reserve. There are 50 000 hands employed in the Canadian fisheries, and the number engaged in maritime pursuits in Australasia is estimated at 32,510. From such a body a Naval Reserve could be recruited sufficiently strong to complete the crews on the most distant stations.

There is a most interesting article on Shipbuilding, by Lord Brassey, in which a reply is offered to recent criticisms of the latest English designs for battleships and cruisers. It is pointed out that formerly smallness of target was the object chiefly in view. Ships were constructed with low freeboard, and their guns were comparatively low. In smooth water, vessels of this kind had a certain advantage, but in a sea way the want of free board involved loss of speed and inability to fight the guns. Recent ships have more freeboard, and the guns are carried at a greater height above water. The advance in speed is a notable feature in recent battleships. Taking those laid down from 1889 onwards we have 17 ships with natural draught speeds of 16½ knots, two with speeds of 17½ knots, and 10 with speeds of 18 to 18½ knots. Of the cruisers of recent design 14 have natural draught speeds ranging from 20½ knots to 22½ knots, 69 from 18½ to 19½, and 14 from 17 to 17½ The table of comparative strength shows that both in the Channel and the Mediterranean the British fleet has an overwhelming majority over the French in battleships, while Great Britain's cruisers far outnumber those under the French and Russian flags. On foreign stations, while France has not been so weak for years as at the present time, the British squadrons have never been so strong. Lord Brassey, in short, takes a most roseate view of British naval prospects, and expresses the opinion that while Continental alliances are weakening, the consolidation of the British Empire is progressing as it never did before.

It is impossible to do justice in a short article to the contents of such a veritable storehouse of information as this "Annual." Articles, accurate and exhaustive, on the navies of every nation in the world; accounts of all new inventions in connection with warships and guns; a criticism of the Hispano-American war; a most thoughtful and suggestive article on coast defence; a discussion of the merits of triple and twin screws, water tube boilers, fuel, turbine motors, nickel steel, and other questions which skilled engineers alone have a title to discuss; some most interesting chapters on guns and armaments; and, finally, a complete list of the naval forces of all nations, corrected to date, are but a small portion of the mass of information contained in the 480 pages of this invaluable work. The "Annual" is copiously illustrated; the maps and diagrams are of the best; and altogether its make-up is an entire credit to the publishers. No one who feels any interest in the premier service of Great Britain should neglect to have a copy on his book shelf.

The Game and the Candle, by Rhoda Broughton; London, Messrs. MacMillan & Co.: Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

Miss Rhoda Broughton's latest novel has not been long in finding admission to the ranks of Messrs. MacMillan's Colonial Library. The book deserves its place, for undoubtedly it reaches a higher mark than many of the works turned out of recent years by this popular novelist. To begin with, the story is written in a totally different vein to "Fair as a Rose is She," by which Miss Broughton is so favourably known to many readers: it is a much more serious contribution to the bookshelf than that book, and is undoubtedly the outcome of years of experience and training by an unusually gifted observer of the drama of human life. There are few characters in the book—half-a-dozen at the most—but the central figure, which rivets attention from the outset, overshadows them all. This is the heroine of the story, Jane Etheredge. A woman in the early spring-time of life, she is called upon to make a promise against which her moral nature dissents, and she refuses. The consequences of her refusal are manifold, but the principal is the loss of a considerable fortune and its attendant worldly station. But she reasoned then along the same lines as those pursued by the poet who declared "the world's well lost for love." Poor Jane Etheredge! Ere a year had flown she learnt that the Hebrew Preacher was the truer guide when he wrote, "Vanity of vanities; all is vanity." The idol she had set up in her imagination had feet of clay; the lover she worshipped so devoutedly was unworthy of even a tithe of her regard—the sacrifice was altogether out of proportion to the result achieved. This is, of course, the general answer to the riddle of life—but it is depressing nevertheless, however well presented. Still Miss Broughton's book deserves reading. Here and there are traces of hurry in clumsily constructed sentences; while the sudden transitions from the present to the past tense is very irritating at times.

The Captain of the Locusts, by A. Werner; London, Mr. Fisher Unwin, the Overseas Library.

The second volume of Mr. Fisher Unwin's new Over Seas Library has reached us. It deals exclusively with South and West African Studies, and the volume, like all collections of the kind, varies in interest, literary ability, and realism. One of the best tales is that entitled "The Leper of the Mission," and we think it should appeal to many readers in Japan.

The Honourable Mr. Beveridge was received in audience by the Emperor of Japan on the 12th instant. Mr. Beveridge is the youngest Senator in the United States. His election is quite recent, and he seems to have seized the opportunity of paying a visit to Manila and the Far East during the interval between the sessions of Congress. His investigations in the Philippines, China, and Japan will lend special authority to his utterances in the Senate on subjects connected with those countries.

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YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON-WORKS, LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Engine and Ironworks, Limited, was held at Keil's Building on Friday afternoon. Mr. J. F. Lowder presided, and there were also present: Messrs. James Dodds, B. Gillett, F. Gillett, F. Giusanni, J. T. Johnstone, Alf. Woolley, James Walter, F. S. James, and J. W. Arnould.

THE COMPANY'S POSITION.

The CHAIRMAN presented the report and accounts, which have already been published. He then said: It will be remembered that at our last annual meeting some fear was expressed with reference to the year that is just past. It is satisfactory to know that these fears were unfounded, as is shown by the accounts now presented to you. Comparing the accounts now before the meeting with those at this time last year it is observable that there is an increase of some 4000 *yen* in the profits, and that has enabled us to recommend a dividend for the whole year of 30 *yen* per share as against 25 *yen* for the corresponding period of last year. That is very satisfactory. Comparing the gross savings of the two years we find they have been almost the same—I forget the exact figures—but savings have been effected in the wages and working expenses; those of this year are 107,000 *yen* against 113,000 for the year ended 31st May, 1898. It is also desirable that you should be informed that proper steps are being taken to comply with the requirements of the laws of Japan with reference to registration and other matters. I find that it will be necessary for articles of association to be drawn up in Japanese, and also to appoint two inspectors whose duties will be similar to those of auditors, but somewhat more onerous. Those matters will be attended to by the directors, but if necessary a meeting of shareholders can be called. I have to inform you with regret that since this report was issued we have lost the services of a very old servant, Mr. Charlesworth, who has been secretary ever since the company was first formed, and I am sure every body who has been on the Board will recognise what faithful and excellent service he has rendered. He is now obliged to send in his resignation on account of failing health. We shall take good care that his services will be acknowledged in a more tangible form (hear, hear). I will now ask you to proceed to the election of directors for the coming year. No names have been put forward by any of the shareholders, and the retiring directors, Messrs. Johnstone and Walter, are eligible for re-election.

Mr. F. GILLETT proposed, and Mr. JOHNSTONE seconded, the re-election of the retiring directors, and it was carried.

AUDITORS.

On the proposition of Mr. GIUSANNI, Mr. F. J. Hall and Mr. Fearon were elected auditors at a remuneration of 100 *yen* each.

DIRECTORS' REMUMERATION.

The CHAIRMAN then asked the meeting to fix the remuneration of the directors. He was sorry that there had been up to the present perhaps an irregularity,—he was not quite certain, but it looked as if there might have been an irregularity—and he would therefore ask them to name the sum to be allotted this year, and also to vote an indemnity for all sums that had been disbursed heretofore in payment of the directors' fees. The directors had heretofore received,—when they did receive any fees, for in several years they did not receive any at all—200 *yen* per annum each. According to the rule in Article 4 it was provided that the directors might with the sanction of the shareholders each year set aside a sum of money for the remuneration of the directors to be divided among them as the Board shall determine. Heretofore there had been five directors—there were now six—and the remuneration had been 1,000 *yen*.

Mr. B. GILLETT proposed that as there were were now six directors 1,200 *yen* should be set aside for their remuneration, and that a vote of indemnity be passed for all sums heretofore expended in payment of directors' fees.

This was carried.

DIVIDEND.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the declaration of a dividend. The directors recommended a final dividend of 8 *yen* per share. He did not think it could be paid immediately, but it would not be very long before they would be in a position to pay it if the suggestion of the directors were adopted.

On the motion of Mr. GIUSANNI, seconded by Mr. ARNOULD, the dividend was declared.

The meeting then terminated.

JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY.

STATUTORY MEETING.

The first Statutory Meeting of this Company was held on Thursday afternoon. Mr. James Dodds, Chairman of Directors, presided, and there were also present, Messrs. W. R. Bennett, F. S. James, M. Kirkwood, O. Haynemann, Y. Duer, Z. Wheeler, W. Sutter, F. Cummings, and J. Stewart (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN read the notice convening the meeting and then proceeded:—

GENTLEMEN,—This is a statutory meeting called to comply with legal requirements and with the provisions of Art. 52 of our Articles of Association reading as follows:—"The first general meeting shall be held at such time (not being more than 4 months after the registration of the memorandum of association of the company) and at such place as the Directors may determine." Art. 53 provides for subsequent general meetings. The business before you to-day is essentially of a formal and uninteresting character, being limited to the mere fixing of the Directors' remuneration and to hearing any expression of shareholders' wishes in an informal way. It gives, however, the Directors and shareholders an opportunity of meeting each other, and it gives me the pleasure of occupying for the first time the chair in the new re-constructed company. It affords occasion also for my being able to say to you a few words about the business of the old company—its winding up and reconstruction and the future that lies before us. I am perhaps better able to do so than generally falls to the lot of a Chairman on such occasion, because it happens that owing to your kindly sufferance I am not only not new to the position in which I find myself, having been your Chairman in the old company, but as one of the Liquidators have helped to bridge over that space between the winding up of the old and the bringing to life of the new concern. At an extraordinary general meeting of the old company held on 30th April and confirmed on 25 May, 1898, in compliance with a requisition of certain shareholders, it was resolved that the then existing capital of 1,500 shares of $100 each should be converted into 3,000 shares of *yen* 50 each, and also that the capital be increased to *yen* 600,000 in *yen* 50 shares, £300,000 of this increase to be raised at once leaving the balance to be dealt with subsequently. On steps being taken to effect the changes in the denomination of the capital and the sub division of the shares it was found that such were legally impossible, and that the only method of meeting the shareholders' wishes were by winding up the old Company and forming a new one with the capital treated as desired. The Directors with this in view prepared a scheme, which of course involved the framing of a new memorandum and Articles of Association, as well as of a re-construction agreement between the old Company and the new, under which Messrs. J. Dodds and J. Stewart were nominated Liquidators. These were submitted at an extraordinary general meeting held on 6th March and confirmed on 29th March, 1899, and, being duly adopted, the old Company proceeded to wind up its affairs and the new Company (which had been duly registered) took up the business as from 1st April, the change of course causing no interruption whatever in the working of the Brewery. The necessity of communicating with some shareholders residing in Europe and of thence-after sending schedules to Hongkong for registration by the Colonial Government Offices there has occupied some time, but the Liquidators have now practically completed their work, and they expect shortly to be able to report its final conclusion. The new capital issued, viz. 300,000 *yen*, was all taken up by the old Shareholders entitled to it, and all instalments have been paid. The payments, as is known to you, were made in *yen* but as the capital of the Company was still in dollars a return of the difference between these currencies amounting at an average rate of 4.35 per cent. to *yen* 13,050 had to be made, and at same time interest at 15 per cent. per annum on the instalments up to 31 March amounting to a further sum of *yen* 18,614 was paid to the shareholders. The purpose for which the new capital had been raised, viz., the extension of the Brewery, had been well in hand for some time previously, and I can now report that very considerable progress has been made. The new buildings are well advanced and they will probably be completed, as buildings, by the end of October. The machinery which is designed for a brewery with an output three times that of the present brewery, has all arrived, and under the superintendence of an expert furnished by the manufactory in Germany, a start has been made in fitting it up. With continued progress it is expected that beer may be brewed, practically with the new plant, from about the beginning of March, possibly before that time. Three new strong cellars, together with additional fermentation and working cellars, were completed last autumn as part of the extension scheme, and 2 of them having been filled with beer during the cool weather the Brewery has been able to keep sufficient stocks in hand to meet whatever demand there may be this summer—a marked improvement on what was the case during the last two summers when orders could not be filled for lack of matured beer. The new company may now be said to have been successfully launched, and I hope it may have a prosperous career before it. It is not part of the business of this meeting to consider the account and report of last year; the responsibility for these rested with the liquidators, but there are one or two points that I should like to refer to in connection with them and our future. The working account showed approximately the same net profit as the preceding year; it would have been higher had we not had to meet, as the report mentions, considerably higher prices in wages, coals, and materials and many small changes; but it is satisfactory to your Directors to know that prices last year seem to have touched their maximum. The fall in the price of rice should prevent any further present rise in wages, but, wages having once risen, you are aware by personal experience how difficult it is again to effect any reduction; indeed in such a business as ours, it is no economy to have any but the best workmen and they are deserving of their hire. With respect to materials the tendency is steady or even downward, and with respect to coal prices have cheapened considerably. Moreover, we are sanguine that our new plant, being provided with all the latest improvements, will be able to do much more work than the old at a certain proportionate reduction in price. In connection with our brewing department we have during the last year increased our staff from two to three German brewers and have in place of Mr. Heekert, who resigned, had the good fortune to secure in his place as chief brewer, Mr. Kayser, who is no doubt well known by name and repute to many of you. With respect to the future, we start the new company with a good credit balance to profit and loss of over *yen* 40,000, and with close on *yen* 78,000 in reserve, our first 3 months' working (April, May and June) show larger sales than the same 3 months last year, and we hope that future months may do the same. The present month promises to be the biggest on record. It now only rests with the Directors to watch over your interests carefully and energetically, for the brewers to keep up the good reputation and popularity of Kirin, and for you as shareholders to push the interests of the Company in every way you can.

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION.

No remarks followed the delivery of this address, and the CHAIRMAN called attention to the next item of business the fixing of the directors' remuneration for the current year.

Mr. W. SUTTER proposed, and Mr. CUMMINGS seconded, that in view of the increased labours of the Board 2,500 *yen* be set aside for the current year.

This was carried.

The CHAIRMAN explained that with regard to the next item on the agenda—voting an allowance for the remuneration of the directors of the late company for their work in its reconstruction—the matter was not proposed directly from the Board, but was inserted in deference to the opinion of the shareholders. It was for the consideration of the meeting what remuneration, if any, should be paid to the old directors in respect of the work of reconstruction.

Mr. SUTTER proposed that in consideration of the heavy labours of the directors of the late company a sum of 1,000 *yen* should be

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set aside for their remuneration over and above their ordinary fees of 1,500 *yen*, and that this sum, if possible, should be included in reconstruction expenses.

Mr. CUMMINGS seconded.

Mr. HAYNEMANN proposed that the sum should be 1,500 *yen*.

The CHAIRMAN said the directors felt deeply gratified by what had been said. He did not wish to minimise the duties, which were arduous and onerous, but they would be perfectly satisfied with the figure Mr. Sutter had named.

Mr. HAYNEMANN therefore withdrew his suggestion, and the original proposition was passed *nemine contradicente*.

The meeting then terminated.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The order issued on May 29th amending the civil-service rules had been expected for nearly a year, says the *Literary Digest*, and as long ago as last October the National Civil Service Reform League sent an earnest protest to the President against the expected changes; yet if the order had been totally unanticipated it could hardly have stirred up more comment. The Democrats and most of the independent papers consider the President's action a "backward step"; the strictly Republican papers, those which comment at all on the order, either express regret, or point out particular features which may result in improved service. The order removes thousands of places from the jurisdiction of the civil-service rules, and permits transfers in the service on a non-competitive examination—a feature which, some think, "throws the door wide open to the spoilsmen." Friends of the Administration point out that many of the places included in the order are those of confidential clerks, deputies, and men in like close relations with their superiors, so that the superiors will themselves see to it that the appointees are capable. The Administration's critics turn their attention to the fact that many of the offices in Alaska and the Indian department, which have already suffered greatly from the spoils system are taken from the civil-service list. The order affects practically every department except the Department of State and the Navy Department, which are left untouched.

One of the suggestions laid before the executive committee of the Pan-American exposition in Buffalo, is for the holding of a municipal congress, which it is hoped will be attended by not less than 10,000 men interested in the betterment of the human race, and in connection with which there would be exhibits of general information and statistics of the systems of governments and the methods and expenses of administration of city departments, representing the leading cities of the world; also a display of those things which go to make up a modern municipality, such as the most improved street pavements in their various forms and stages, with the machinery for making and laying them. What a sorry figure the Tokyo Commissioners would cut at such a meeting.

Mr. Richard Weightman, who contributes some interesting Washington notes to the *Nineteenth Century*, throws some light on the recent "campaign" against Mr. Secretary Alger. He says:—There is a pleasant little spice of gossip in the prevailing clamour against the Hon. Russell A. Alger, the Secretary of War. But for that very interesting rumour I should be at a loss to account for an outcry so vicious and so insensate. I have never known a kinder-hearted, more sympathetic, or more amiable man than General Alger. That he had great executive ability is sufficiently proven by the success with which he has conducted vast financial operations for many years past. That he is honest is the universal testimony of his neighbours, his associates in business, and the standing he occupies in the world of money. And yet here are four or five score of frantic newspapers demanding his removal by the President, and setting up a thousand arguments, every one of them disparaging and [illegible]

Much has been learned at the New Jersey experiment station in contradiction of the widespread theory that the milk from tuberculous cows is the cause of much of the consumption among human beings. For some years the station officials have had under close observation several tuberculous cows, formerly part of the station's general herd. When the animals reacted under the delicate tuberculin test, they were segregated and studied. The information obtained is valuable, and reassuring. An editorial correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker* says that "the milk from these cows has been tested and analyzed again and again, but thus far no germs have been found in it. So far as science can determine, these cows have produced clean and healthful milk."

Mr. Tesla has a rival in Herr Orling, a Swede, who has invented a torpedo which can be steered from the ship from which it is sent by means of a beam of light. The light, directed on the torpedo by a reflector, after the manner of a search-light, falls on two pieces of selenium. This mineral has the property of losing resistance to the passage of an electrical current through it when the light falls on it. Consequently, at such a time it allows the passage of an electric current through it. Given a piece of selenium on board the torpedo, and a set of accumulators connected to it, one can see how the light falling on the selenium can make the current work an electric motor connected with the rudder. With two pieces of selenium, two batteries, and two motors one can turn the rudder to right or left, and keep the torpedo in the proper course.

Wittenberg College, at Springfield, O., one of the oldest Lutheran educational institutions, has decided to admit women to the theological seminary, and upon completion of the course to confer the degree of B.D. upon them.

Mr. Benjamin Ide Wheeler, Professor of Greek at Cornell, has been elected President of the University of California to succeed Prof. Martin Kellogg. The University board has fixed the salary of the President at $10,000 a year.

On June 11, Mr. Ed. O. Kragness, of the Olympic Club Wheelmen, lowered the American record for 200 miles on the road by four minutes. He covered the distance in two hours thirty-seven minutes less time than any other Californian rider. The route over which he rode was the carefully measured course of the California Associated Cycling Club's relay race. Kragness rode the reverse way of the course, starting and finishing in Alameda.

The final details have been arranged for the laying of the cable between the United States and Germany, the last step being a satisfactory arrangement concerning government messages and rates of cable tolls. The actual work of laying the cable will begin during the present summer months, so that the first message may pass over the line some time in the coming fall. In this connection it is denied in official quarters that Germany reciprocated the courtesy of allowing this cable to land by granting a similar right to land an American cable line on one of the German possessions, the Carolines.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Sir Samuel Samuel, of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., who is now travelling in the East, is expected at Yokohama shortly.

A Yamagata despatch, dated July 6th, states that the evening of the preceding day a hurricane blew down and demolished three peasants' houses and damaged 11 others.

The total income of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the half-year is 1,714,000 *yen*, while the expenditure has amounted to upwards of 1,120,000 *yen*. A sum of 220,000 *yen* is to be allotted for dividend.

Three house-breakers who had the appearance of artisans or jinrikishamen entered a pawn-broker's house at Ichigaya, Ushigome, during the small hours on Thursday, and one of them threatened the family with a sword, while the other two stole 29 *yen*. After this the audacious fellows dined in the house, making a stay of over two hours.

Judgment was given in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday morning in the case brought by Messrs. Singleton, Benda & Co., against Wakabayashi Mosaburo, a silk-buyer of Motohamacho, for the sum of *yen* 99, with interest thereon at 6 per cent. from May 1st to June 22nd, 1899.

A few days ago a foreigner was discovered lying on some heaped up straw in the premises of Asiyama Bunkichi, at Araimura, Ebara district, Tokyo. He was arrested, and was found to be a deserter from the Austrian warship *Kaiserin Elizabeth*, now lying at anchor at Yokohama. He was sent back to the ship.

Miss Ada Wallace, a young lady of 18 summers, living at 13, Albany Road, Shanghai, lost her life under sad circumstances on July 3rd. With her brother and some friends she had been visiting a yacht on the Pootung side, and while boarding a small skiff to return home was precipitated into the water. Her brother made a desperate attempt to rescue her but was unsuccessful.

On the afternoon of the 5th, a terrible thunder-storm prevailed in Kamikita District, Aomori Prefecture, and lightning struck a house occupied by a man named Akaishi Tetsuzo, Misawa village, three times. A female employe and two children belonging to another family, who happened to be in the house at the time, were killed, while Akaishi's grandchild, who was visiting, lost conciousness.

All doubts as to the future of the Cricket ground at Yokohama are set at rest by a proclamation which has just been issued by the Governor of Kanagawa Ken. His excellency declares that the public park, with the exception of that central portion which has been lent to the foreign community, in other words the Y.C. & A.C., comes under the jurisdiction of the City authorities. They are to maintain it as a public park in perpetuity and are to gradually improve it, so that it may become worthy of the leading commercial port of this part of Japan.

A recent visitor to Yokohama writes as follows to the *China Mail* of Hongkong:—"I don't know of a better way of getting at the Japanese Customs officials than by a few lines in your columns. These gentry strike me as most painfully stupid, and grossly ignorant of their daily duties, for incredible as it may seem it is nothing unusual to dance attendance at the Customs for a whole day to get one's personal effects through. I experienced the annoyance, with my guide, of being sent all over the Customs compound to find one official who knew enough to pass my boxes, and I am informed this is the usual treatment meted out to globe-trotters, who should be welcomed instead of being treated in this stupid fashion."

We are asked to give notice that the concert originally advertised for July 1st, by the Meiji Ongakkwai, will be given without fail

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on the evening of the 15th, at the Hall of the Y.M.C.A., in Kanda, Tokyo. The postponement was caused by a circumstance which the society could not control. Several members of the orchestra belong to the band of the Household Department, which was unexpectedly detailed to perform, on the evening selected, at the Palace in which the German Prince was sojourning. The order was issued at so late an hour that no change of date could be publicly announced. The Department has of course the first claim upon the services of these musicians, but its demands very rarely conflict with the plans of the society, and certainly will not do so on the forthcoming occasion.

The Yokohama Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on Wednesday received a wire from the Hongkong office, informing them of the result of the half-year ending 30th June last. Subject to Audit, it will be as follows:—Dividend, 30s. per share; add to Reserve, dollars 10 lacs; carry forward, dollars 9½ lacs; written off property dollars 2½ lacs.

The projected entertainment on August 5th to celebrate the operation of the Revised Treaties is growing in dimensions. The chief promoters are the Economical Society, but large support is said to have been promised from many quarters. Viscount Aoki has contributed a sum of 500 *yen* towards the expenses. We do not yet know the form the celebration will take, but an *al fresco* fete of some kind seems most likely.

The *Nagasaki Press* records the death of Mr. W. H. Devine, which occurred on July 7th at his residence at Akunoura. Mr. Devine had been in ill-health for some time, but this did not necessitate his absence from office, in which he continued working up to Monday last. Mr. Devine was an old servant of the Mitsu Bishi Kaisha, in whose service he has been for more than thirty years.

An explosion took place at the Itabashi Military Gunpowder Manufactory a few days ago. Fortunately all the workmen were away at meals, except a man named Toyoda Kyujiro (30), who sustained serious injuries to his arms and thighs. He is now is a critical condition at the Eijutsu Hospital at Kojimachi. Three years ago, on the same day of the same month, a similar accident took place, killing a man.

In the scheme of educational expansion contemplated by the Authorities, it is provided that two high schools, the Sixth and Seventh, shall be added to the present number, and that their localities shall be, the former at Okayama and the latter at Niigata or Nagano. It does not appear that there is any dispute about the propriety of this choice in the case of Okayama, but Niigata and Nagano are urging their rival claims with great vehemence. Local patriotism, if we may use the term, is very strong in Japan.

The death is announced at Zurich, Switzerland, on July 10th, of Mr. C. Brennwald, of the firm of Messrs. Siber, Bennwald and Co. Mr. Brennwald arrived in Yokohama on April 19th, 1863, as Secretary of the Swiss Embassy to Japan, returning to Europe in 1864 after the signing of the treaty. He joined the firm of Messrs. Siber and Brennwald in 1866 and returned to Japan in 1867. He was Consul and afterwards Consul-General for Switzerland, being *doyen* of the Consular Corps for several years. Mr. Brennwald returned to Europe in 1878, but up to the time of his death was an active partner in the firm.

Reuter has not of late been sending from Shanghai news of the Australian cricket team's tour through England, our latest news not going beyond June 26. From the Shanghai papers we gather, however, that in the third Test Match, fought at Bradford, the Australians made 172 runs in the first innings and England 220. In the second innings the Australians made 224 runs, and England 10 for no wicket. The match had then to be abandoned on account of rain. Playing at Nottingham on July 3rd against Nottinghamshire, the Australians had to be content with a draw.

We have spoken in previous issues of the troubles of the Shinagawa Tram Company, and of the arrangement made for merging the concern in the Tokyo Tram Company. A meeting of the former company was held on the 7th instant for the purpose of winding up its affairs. Things did not pass off at all quietly. Several shareholders declared that the terms made with the Tokyo Tram Company were unfair to the Shinagawa concern, and others vehemently attacked Count Goto, president of the latter company, on the ground that he had received a large sum in connexion with the amalgamation. Count Goto made no secret of having received thirty thousand *yen*, but insisted resolutely that he had an unassailable right to such consideration in his individual capacity. We do not understand that he adduced any arguments which would be intelligible to the general public, but he carried the majority of the shareholders with him, and the plan submitted by an overwhelming vote.

Mr. John I. Plummer, writing to the *Daily Press* from Kowloon Observatory, as one of the few who were eye-witnesses of the marvellous meteoric shower of 1866, says the phenomenon in most of its features may be expected to be repeated this year. "The shower of 1866 lasted about 5 hours and might be considered to have maintained its full splendour for about half that time. Whether it will be seen here depends mainly on the question whether during that 2½ hours the sun will be below the horizon, and the constellation of Leo, from which the meteors emanate, above it. If the exact position of the meteor stream in space were known it would be easy to predict this, but unluckily such is not the case, and there is a doubt of as much as 40 or 50 hours as to the actual time when the earth will encounter the stream. It will therefore be necessary to have observers on the look-out in different longitudes around the world, and to secure this Prof. E. C. Pickering, of Harvard College, Mass., U.S., has furnished instructions and star maps, so that the observations of inexperienced observers may be useful. I believe he is willing to supply these to all would-be observers. Should the eastern portion of Asia be so favoured as to see the coming display, observers will be well rewarded for some patient waiting. Judging from 1866, from 50 to 80 meteors per minute may be anticipated, and these all of the brightest class, with trains marking their courses for many seconds after their passage, and all radiating from a constant point in Leo. In grandeur they far exceed the feeble showers connected with Bicla's Comet or the Perseids. I do not think that amateur photographers will be very successful, as an equatorial mounting for the camera, driven by clockwork, would be necessary in order to get any useful results."

H.B.M'S. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before His Honour Judge WILKINSON.
SATURDAY, July 8th.

THE RULE OF COMMISSIONS.

G. M. dos Remedios v. R. A. Wylie.—Claim *yen* 99 99 alleged to be due for commission on rents collected.

Mr. F. J. Lowder appeared for defendant, and asked his Honour to make an order on plaintiff for security for defendant's costs. His client entertained great doubt whether he would be able to recover anything from plaintiff if he won his case.

His Honour declined the application on the ground that the amount involved was so small.

Plaintiff, who was allowed to read his evidence, said in February and March last year Mr. J. Puigh, agent of the Compania General de Tobaco de Filipinas, was in want of an office and godown, and mentioned the matter to witness. Witness suggested the offices at 30 Water Street, formerly occupied by witness, and belonging to defendant. Witness had an interview with defendant, and the rent was fixed at 175 *yen* per month, which Puigh accepted. Witness mentioned to defendant a commission of 5 per cent, and defendant agreed to it, but remarked that he could not very well add it to the rent then. Mr. Puigh afterwards mentioned to witness that he would require another godown for sugar, and witness told defendant, who had it built. The rent was 200 *yen* a month, including witness's commission of 5 per cent, this making the total rent 375 *yen* a month. The war suspended all business with the Phillipines, and Mr. Puigh had no need of the godowns, and two days before the new one was completed, the defendant told the plaintiff that his employers, Messrs. Cornes and Co., would require the new godown for tea, and that he could not rent it to Mr. Puigh. In December, 1898, plaintiff sent in his account—5 per cent. on *yen* 1537·50, being rent received by the defendant from April 1st to December 31st, 1898, (*yen* 76.88), and cost of three padlocks, *yen* 6. Defendant refused this. Plaintiff prayed that defendant might be ordered to pay *yen* 103.12 as per debit note annexed, commission for rent from 1st April, 1898, and 31st March, 1899, and all subsequent commissions, as the premises were still in the occupation of Mr. Puigh.

It appeared from the correspondence put in by plaintiff that defendant, while disavowing liability, sent plaintiff a cheque for 30 *yen*, which he refused to accept.

In cross-examination by Mr. Lowder plaintiff adhered to the statement concerning the five per cent. commission. He procured the premises for Mr. Puigh; defendant had not asked him to get a tenant. He was not a broker by trade, but anything he could do to make a dollar he did like anybody else.

Mr. Lowder—So if I were to ask you the way to the nearest chemist's shop and you were to take me there, would think you were entitled to a commission from the chemist?

Plaintiff (after hesitation)—I think so.

You consider that anybody who takes the trouble to introduce one man to another is entitled to commission from the third person, whether he has been asked to do so or not?

Plaintiff was understood to assent. He had not received anything from Mr. Puigh. It was not for Mr. Puigh to pay him commission, as Mr. Puigh paid and did not receive the rent. It was the custom for the seller to pay commission and not the buyer.

MONDAY, July 10th.

Mr. J. F. Lowder, who appeared for the defence, suggested that as the decision must be based on the evidence of the plaintiff and the defendant only, and there was no evidence on either side to alter the balance, the decision of a Jury might be accepted. He (Mr. Lowder) was precluded by the Order in Council relating to cases in which foreigners were engaged from making an application for a Jury unless there was agreement among the parties as to this step. If it were competent for him he should ask for a Jury. But it was competent for the Court, if his Honour thought it necessary, to direct a trial by Jury.

His Honour explained the position to the plaintiff, and asked him if he agreed to submitting the case to a Jury.

Plaintiff—This is a summary case. I have to conduct my own case, whereas defendant has counsel. I think this case could be settled if you allow me to put the defendant a few questions. I have been examined and cross-examined, but I have not been able to question defendant.

His Honour—Then I think it would be better to go on with the case a little further before I decide.

Mr. Lowder then proceeded with his cross-examination, but plaintiff adhered to his original statements. He said when he made his first negotiations with Mr. Wylie he mentioned his commission, and Mr. Wylie asked him what he wanted. He replied 5 per cent., and defendant made no objection, but said he could not then include it in the rent. Afterwards Mr. Puig wanted the second godown, and witness had another interview with defendant. To the best of his recollection defendant figured out the 5 per cent. commission when he made his calculations as to the rent. He was speaking from memory, but was sure as to the facts.

His Honour (to Mr. Lowder)—The question is whether in my discretion I shall order a Jury. Perhaps it would be more convenient if Mr. Wylie goes into the box for plaintiff to ask the questions he referred to just now.

The defendant, Richard Aspinall Wylie, was then called. He said in answer to plaintiff that he was satisfied with his tenant, the rent was being paid, there was no trouble in collecting it, and Mr. Puig had occupied the premises since April last year. He had received no notice from him so [illegible]

His Honour (to plaintiff)—Is that all?

Defendant—Yes.

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His Honour—I shall have to ask a few questions myself.

Defendant then, in answer to his Honour, emphatically denied that any arrangement was made as to paying plaintiff a commission. Plaintiff met him in the street afterwards and mentioned that he wanted a commission, but witness told him he could not pay it.

His Honour—I think upon the facts I might arrive at a conclusion, but I consider it is only right under the circumstances that there should be a Jury.

Mr. Lowder—I quite agree.

The hearing was fixed for Thursday.

THURSDAY, July 13th.

The following were sworn in as Jury:—Messrs. E. G. Fradgeley, G. C. Booth, T. H. Box, H. J. Owen, and W. Goddard.

Mr. J. F. Lowder represented defendant.

His Honour explained the case to the Jury, pointing out that there was a conflict of evidence and as there was no corroborative evidence on either side he (His Honour) had considered the submission of the case to a Jury advisable.

Guilielmo Maria dos Remedios, the plaintiff, produced the statement he had already made at the previous hearing. He corrected a mistake which he had made as to the rent of the second godown referred to in his evidence. He had said it was 200 *yen* per month, whereas he now understood it was only 150 *yen*. The agreement, however, as to the commission, was the same.

The correspondence in the case was then read.

In answer to Mr. Lowder, plaintiff said defendant had never asked him to find him a tenant. Witness went to him at the request of Mr. Puig, who was anxious to obtain these premises. Witness had written to defendant before asking him the rent of the premises. Witness must have been present at the interview between Mr. Wylie and Mr. Puig, on March 9th, because he took Mr. Puig there to introduce him. It was either the Monday or Tuesday before that that the 5 per cent. commission was arranged between witness and defendant.

Plaintiff here indicated by diagram the position where plaintiff was sitting in the office at the time of this interview.

Further cross-examined, plaintiff said he was not a broker at the time. He named 5 per cent. as a commission that he felt was just and reasonable. He was doing nothing at the time. He was hard up, and wanted to earn a few dollars. Mr. Wylie promised him a commission on the rent. No length of time was mentioned. Witness's idea of time was according to the custom of the place; he believed it was a year in Yokohama. His claim was for commission on a year's rent. Witness waited till the end of the year, and then sent in his account to the defendant. He made no demand before that because he had got into a situation, and besides the commission month by month would have been too trifling to collect. He had never asked defendant in the street for a commission. Before December 30th last year he had never spoken to Mr. Wylie about the commission. Some time early this year he met defendant in the street, and asked him to settle "his account," but he declined to pay any commission. Defendant afterwards wrote to him denying liability, but enclosing 30 *yen*, which witness refused. The second godown was commenced after witness's interview with defendant; witness was sure it was not in course of construction at the time.

Mr. Lowder called attention to a letter of plaintiff's of March 10th, in which he referred to the godown as "in course of construction."

Plaintiff said the ground had been pegged and lined out, but denied that work had actually been commenced.

Plaintiff had never been paid similar commissions before, but he had paid commissions to other people for similiar services. Mr. Jones had brought him a tenant, and had asked for commission, which plaintiff had paid. Mr. Jones was a recognised broker. Plaintiff's claim was not made as a broker; but on the understanding given him by Mr. Wylie. He had known Mr. Wylie for 27 years but had had no dealings with him before. He had not thought it necessary to put the matter in writing, as he had every confidence in the defendant.

Mr. Lowder—I suggest that you never spoke of of commission till a month afterwards. Mr. Wylie will say that. What do you say?

Plaintiff—I deny it.

The Court shortly afterwards adjourned.

On resuming, Mr. Lowder was about to address the Jury when His Honour suggested that as there was only a question of fact between the parties he thought Mr. Lowder might refrain from addressing the Jury.

To this Mr. Lowder assented.

Defendant was then called and stated that he had resided in Yokohama 35 years, and owned property which he let. He had known plaintiff some years, but never knew him as a broker.

Witness remembered having an interview with plaintiff on 5th March, 1898, and he denied there being any mention of a commission. The question of commission was never mentioned till months afterwards, when he met plaintiff in the street. Witness repudiated the claim, and referred plaintiff to Mr. Puig. He positively denied having made any arrangement to pay commission. He had not asked plaintiff to get a tenant. When the account was sent in witness called at plaintiff's office and again repudiated the claim. Witness denied the conversation he was alleged to have had with plaintiff as to the second godown. Before the interview with Puig the walls of the second godown were six or seven feet high. A commission was never mentioned with reference to this transaction.

By plaintiff—Witness made all the arrangements with Mr. Puig direct. Plaintiff was there. Mr. Puig spoke in English; he knew enough of English to conduct the business. The day after the first interview Mr. Puig spoke English when he went round the property. Plaintiff might have been there too.

Plaintiff—Mr. Puig only knows a very little English, and it would be very dangerous for him to conduct business in English.

Defendant said plaintiff was present at the first interview, but afterwards witness conducted his own correspondence with Puig direct.

Plaintiff said Puig would be in Yokohama that day and he would be able to tell the Court as to his (plaintiff's) share in the transaction. The negotiations were chiefly carried on by himself.

Defendant admitted that he had a good tenant and that he paid him the rent asked for. He thought he was doing perfectly right in availing himself of plaintiff's offices.

Plaintiff told His Honour that Mr. Puig could testify as to his (plaintiff's) part in the transaction.

His Honour asked what light Mr. Puig could throw on the case, not on custom or usage, but on a promise of commission which he alleged defendant made him. If Mr. Puig could say anything that would show that such a promise was made that would have a bearing on the case.

Plaintiff—I don't even say it was a promise. I mentioned the commission, and he did not make any objection. He said, "It is now too late for me to add it to the rent." I could not have invented that out of my head.

His Honour—I suppose you would argue that silence gave consent.

Plaintiff—Yes, if he had objected there would have been an end of it. As he didn't, I thought it was agreed. He said, "I can't very well add it to the rent now." I took it that he meant if I had mentioned it before he would have added it to the rent.

His Honour—Well, Mr. Wylie denies this. Can Mr. Puig say anything with regard to that.

Plaintiff—He does'nt know anything about the commission.

His Honour put the question to the Jury whether they would like to hear, Mr. Puig, but they replied in the negative.

After a few questions from the Jury, his Honour summed up. He pointed out that the only question for the Jury to consider was—did the conversation as to the commission take place, and did Mr. Wylie consent to the payment of the commission? He also impressed on the Jury the fact that the burden of proof lay on the plaintiff.

Mr. Owen asked if, supposing the Jury found that no specific promise was made, they could take into consideration the defendant's service.

His Honour said as plaintiff simply based his case on the alleged promise, the Jury could not take other circumstances into consideration in regard to their verdict. Any representation they might make as to plaintiff's title to remuneration was valueless as a legal pronouncement, though Juries did make such representations and they might have their own weight.

The Jury retired for about 20 minutes, and on their return into Court announced that they found that—"No express promise had been made by the defendant."

His Honour gave judgment for the defendant accordingly.

The Emperor telegraphed his condolences to the Russian Imperial Family, on the death of the Czarewitch.

Mr. Peter Williams, of the firm of Freshfield and Williams, solicitors, has been appointed Director of the P. and O. Company, in the room of the late Mr. Duncanson.

THE PFOUNDES-ROZARIO CASE.

The editor of the Kobe *Shipping News*, Mr. A. Rozario, has been sentenced to eight days' minor confinement for defamation of character, and has appealed from the judgment. The finding of the Court—the Hyogo Local Court—as translated by the *Kobe Chronicle*, is as follows:—

The Defendant, Rozario, has had the private control of the newspaper called the *Shipping News*, published in Kobe, in Hyogo Ken, and whilst he was engaged in editing the said newspaper, he inserted in the issue of March 30th, 1899, an article with the object of injuring the reputation of C. Pfoundes, a British subject, residing at Kitano, Kobe. In the article in question the Defendant described the Plaintiff as "a smart rogue" who had defrauded a poor man by using the names of honourable men in order to obtain certain goods; and, further, that he (the Defendant) could not find in the dictionary a word which could "fitly describe the character of *Captain* C. Pfoundes, member of ——, &c. &c., who goes about with badges and medals, and who came to me and obtained goods under false pretences. . . . . That is Pfoundes, member of——&c., &c., who has robbed me in Kobe in this year of grace, 1899." By making public such a statement the Defendant defamed the character of the Plaintiff. The statement is inserted at the bottom of the fourth column on the first page of the newspaper. Defendant admitted that the statement referred to the private and personal wrong-doing of the Plaintiff; but pleaded that Plaintiff, in fraudulently obtaining the printing, without paying for it, lost by that act his good repute, so that he had none when the article in question was published. Therefore, the Defendant pleaded, he did not injure the Plaintiff's character. He considered it to be for the public benefit to expose this conduct on the part of the Plaintiff, in that it would be a warning to others to avoid being misled by him.

But in the eyes of the law every individual is assumed to have honour or character, apart from that honour which is regulated by the moral sense. Failure to pay the cost of goods ordered may reflect upon a man's good name in a moral sense, but he does not thereby lose his character in the eyes of the law; and Mr. Pfoundes was entitled to have his personal reputation protected by the law the same as other people. The publication of the statements that the Plaintiff is "a smart rogue"; that he has "fraudulently obtained goods by using the names of reputable men"; that he has "robbed" the Defendant, was calculated to defame the character of the Plaintiff and to cause the public to lose confidence in him. Such statements must affect the Plaintiff's intercourse with other people. Defendant pleaded that he published the statement for the public benefit; but he personally resented the non-payment of the money due to him for goods supplied. He intended to censure the Defendant for this reason, which had no connection with the public interest; it was a private and personal matter. From his own deposition it is clear that the Defendant admitted that in writing the article it was his intention to expose Mr. Pfoundes' character to the public; and from the indictment drawn up on information supplied by the Plaintiff it is also clear that the Defendant had libelled the Plaintiff.

It is provided in the Press Law that when a libellous statement is published in a newspaper, the defendant in the action shall be allowed to prove justification if the statement exclusively concerns the public interest: and, in the event of the truth of the statement being established, the Defendant will be exempted from punishment for libel. But in this case the libel is of a personal and private character, and therefore the law does not require evidence of its truth or falsity. The action is one which the Court has to deal with under the Criminal Code.

Our first judgment has been given by a Court of Law upon a charge of wrongful conduct, a

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man must be regarded as innocent, and it is contrary to that principle to publicly defame the man's character; and a person who does this is liable to the punishment provided in Art. 358 of the Penal Code. Defendant having caused a statement to be printed and circulated containing a libel upon the Plaintiff, he must be punished according to Clause 2 of the said Article. But, as there are extenuating circumstances in his favour, under Articles 89 and 90 of the Criminal Code, the punishment will be reduced by two degrees. Defendant is sentenced to eight days' detention in prison in accordance with Art. 71 of the Criminal Code. The newspaper containing the libel, handed in to the Court, will not be confiscated, but returned (to the Plaintiff) in accordance with Art. 202 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

(Signed)

Nozoye Soso, Public Procurator.
Oshima Tsunejiro, Presiding Judge.
Ozawa Kiichi, Assessor.
Tanaka Hansei, Assessor.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By Homer B. Hulbert, A.M.

CHAPTER XI.

The King re-enters Soul — temporary palace—a royal lament—a profligate prince—imperial rebuke—"the flying general"—uneasiness in Soul—revenue reform—reforms in the army—King refuses to make peace with the Japanese—the Chinese retire—plot against Konishi—Japanese envoy in Nanking—robbers put down—a good man ruined—Japanese trickery—a patient envoy—he absconds—his flight covered by his second—homesick Japanese—Konishi sarcastic—Chinese envoy in Japan—Korean envoy—Japanese army leaves Korea—prince refuses the crown—rebellion—death of a loyal general—envoys ill-treated in Japan—return.

It was on the fourth day of the tenth moon of the year 1593 that the King re-entered the gates of Soul after his long hard exile in the north. But he found the city well-nigh a desert. The palaces were burnt and the ancestral temple was level with the ground. Under the circumstances he decided to stop for some time in that part of the city which is called Chong-dong, the present foreign quarter, near the West Gate. Here there had been for many years the grave of one of the wives of the founder of the dynasty, but her body had long ago been disinterred and removed to a place outside the North-east Gate. So the King took up his quarters at the Myung-ye-gung. It is the exact spot where the King of Korea lives to-day. A considerable tract of land about it was surrounded by a stake fence, with a gate at the east end and one at the west. This royal residence was named the Si-o-so, or "Temporary Residence." Here the King lived thirteen years while the palace now known as "The Old Palace," really the Chong-dok kung, was being built. The King was desirous of rebuilding on the spot where his palace had stood before, the Kyong bok-kung, but he was told by the geomancers that it would be an unpropitious site. In order to build the new palace a tax of half a piece of cotton cloth was levied upon each man throughout the country. In some cases rice was accepted as a substitute.

After the King had entered the city one of his first acts was to go to the site of the ancient Confucian Temple and, standing on the melanchoiy spot, utter the following lament:—"The spirit of Confucius permeates space as water permeates the soil beneath our feet. If my faithfulness is great enough let the spirit of Confucius rest upon this spot." He noticed that none of the people were in mourning and so ordered that all those who had lost parents in the war should assume the mourner's garb.

At this time a strong faction arose whose wish was to see the King lay aside his royal prerogative in favour of his son. This prince was a son by a concubine, for the queen had no children. He was an ambitious but profligate fellow and had in his heart no loyalty for his father. Some of the courtiers went so far as to memorialise the King to the effect that it might add to the contentment of the people if the King should put the reins of government into the hands of his son. He hesitated to do this, for he knew the young man and how unfit he was to rule. At the suggestion of Song Eung ch'ang, the Emperor sent to the King, appointing the Crown Prince to the governorship of the southern provinces in conjunction with the Chinese general, Yu Jung. The prince was delighted at this and hastened to his post at Chun-ju. He practically took the whole jurisdiction of the south out of the hands of the King and even held the competitive examinations for literary degrees, which was an exclusive royal prerogative.

Another of the Chinese generals accused the King before the Emperor of effeminacy and love of luxury and suggested that one of the best of the Korean generals be elevated to the throne in his place, but General Sok Song, who was very loyal to Korea, induced the Emperor merely to send a letter upbraiding the King for his love of luxury and claiming that this was the cause of the Japanese successes in the peninsula. The letter ended with an exhortation to arouse himself, work up a competent army and complete the work of driving out the Japanese. The envoy bearing this missive was met at P'a-ju by General Sungnyong and an escort. The Chinaman told him that his arrival in Soul would be the signal for some very important disclosures. General Yu and General Ch'ok conferred together about this matter and decided that the King must in any event be prevented from abdicating, for their official heads depended upon his retention of the reins of power. They also pursuaded the envoy to their view, so that when the King read the letter and declared his intention to abdicate the envoy objected that this could not be done until he had sent a letter to Emperor and obtained his consent.

Meanwhile there was going on in the south a sort of guerilla warfare against the Japanese. It was led principally by Kim Dok yong, a self-made man who had the confidence of the prince. This man had put his whole fortune into the cause and had himself fitted out 5,000 men. His method was to pass from place to place with great rapidity and strike the enemy when they were least expecting attack. In this way he earned from the Japanese the name "The Flying General." He is said to have been uniformly successful.

Of another ilk were Song Yu jin, Yi Neung-su and Hyun Mong. These gathered about them bands of desperate men and went about the country looting and burning. In Soul there was consternation. At any moment one of these bands might enter the city and work their will. The Crown Prince, a cause of great uneasiness, was still at Chun-ju and for aught anyone knew he might be plotting the overthrow of the government. In fact this impression was so strong that the highwaymen dared to write to him complaining of the King and asserting that they were going to make a clean sweep. The implication was plain, that they intended to put the prince upon the throne. The solicitude of the people in Soul took form in the rumour that Yo Dok-hyung himself, the Minister of War, was in league with the rebels. For forty successive days this injured minister went and knelt at the palace gate and begged that the King would have him executed, as he could not endure the charge of unfaithfulness.

It was customary for the Emperor to nominate an heir apparent for the Korean throne, but at the beginning of this war it had seemed necessary to appoint one immediately and so the King had informally promised the prince that he should be King. The latter now demanded that this be confirmed by the Emperor and a messenger was sent to the Chinese court for that purpose; but as the Emperor had no son himself except by a concubine and was loath to put him on the throne of China, so he was unwilling to see this prince put on the throne of Korea. The result was that he sent back a prompt refusal, which for the time dashed the hopes of the ambitious prince.

It appears that the rebuke which the Emperor administered to the King was in some way deserved. The King, after all his wearisome exile in the north, probably paid more attention to the pleasures of peace than was for his own good or the good of the country. If so, the rebuke had its effect, for the King immediately roused himself and set to work reorganising the finances of the country and putting the army on a better working basis. Hitherto the revenue had all been collected in rice but now he allowed the revenue to be collected in any kind of produce, and the collection of it was farmed out to various individuals, a practice which at the time may have had its good points, but which at the same time had within itself very bad possibilities. The reorganisation of the army was a matter of great importance, and the King set himself to it with a will. Heretofore each general had had his own following and there was no central power nor seat of authority. Each body of troops followed the caprice of its leader with no reference to any general plan. Before the Chinese general Yi Yo-song left, he put into the hands of the King books [illegible] treating of the art of war, a work written by Co'ok kye-gwang. This book the King put into use, and appointed Cho Gyung and Yu Sung-nyung to have charge of the whole matter of military reorganisation. In order to put the new plan into operation a large number of poor and destitute soldiers were gathered. They had to pass a physical test which consisted in lifting a rice bag full of earth, and of leaping over a wall as high as their heads. In ten days two thousand men were found who endured the test. The drill consisted of three parts, (1) firing with guns, (2) shooting with bow and arrow, (3) using the battle axe. In time these men became the royal guard and escort. The number gradually increased to 10,000; 2,000 being attached to each of the government departments. The whole force was divided into two sections, and while one was drilling in the city the other was set to work farming in the suburbs. In this way they raised the food necessary for the sustenance of the whole force. The plan was extended to the country soldiers. It became a species of militia. From this time the quality and discipline of the Korean army improved in a marked degree.

It appears that the Koreans were not the only people who suspected General Yi Yo-Song of showing favours to the Japanese, for the Emperor took notice of it and deprived him of his high rank. He was supplanted by General Ko Yang-gyum. The new appointee advanced toward the border of Korea as far as Liao-tung, and from that point sent a letter to the King saying that the Chinese had already lost enough men and treasure in the war and that the King had better hasten to make friends with the Japanese and induce them to come and do obeisance to the Emperor. It appears plain that this man wanted peace to be patched up before he should be called upon to do active work in the field. When the King saw this letter he said, "When the Crown Prince becomes King he can do as he pleases, but as for me I will never make peace or friendship with the Japanese." But Yu Sung-nyong urged the helplessness of Korea alone and the need of securing China's help at all hazards. Song Hon urged the fact that the new Chinese general had a large force in hand, and he must be conciliated at any cost. So the King reluctantly sent an envoy to China asking that overtures of peace be made with the Japanese. Even while this envoy was on the way, the Emperor, apparently thinking the war at an end, sent an order commanding the immediate return of General Yu Jung with all his forces, from the province of Kyung-sang. The Crown Prince sent begging him not to go. The people all about the country were in distress about it. He was believed to be the only hope against the Japanese. The command of the Emperor, however, was law and the general was forced to obey. Taking his army, together with the wives and children of those who had been married to Korean women, he went back to Liao-tung. It is said that over 10,000 of the Chinese took back Korean wives to China, but six years later they all returned to their native land.

Kato was desirous of meeting and having a talk with the Korean General Kim Eung-so, the General of Kyung-sang Province. To this end he sent a Japanese named Yo-si-ra to arrange a meeting, and in course of time they met at the town of Ham-an and had a conference. Kato opened the conference as follows:—"If Korea will help us to become the vassals of China we will remove all our troops from Korea immediately and we will also consider it a great favour." But General Kim, who knew of the enmity which existed between Kato and Konishi, waived the main question by asking, "Why is it that you and Konishi cannot agree? It is plain that so long as he is here such a plan as you recommend cannot be carried out." Kato answered, "I have long wished to make an end of him, but can never get a chance. If in some way we could work up a charge against him and circulate it among the troops we might be able to get all the army removed to Japan." As to the further deliberations of these two men we are not informed, but we judge from this passing glimpse that Konishi, the younger man, was so firmly intrenched in the affection of his troops that Kato despaired of making head against him until that affection was in some way alienated, In this Kato acknowledges his virtual defeat at the hands of his youthful rival.

The Emperor was not as anxious as his Generals to make peace with the Japanese, and when he heard that his new appointee to the peninsula was in favour of a treaty with the invaders he promptly ordered his retirement and General Son Gwangz was sent to take his place. Hardly had this transpired when the envoy Ho Ok, from the Korean court, arrived, asking that a treaty be made with the Japanese. When his message was delivered all the court was in favour of the plan; but the [illegible] minister said that as they had been deceiv-

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ed once by the Japanese General So So-bi, who had accompained General Sim Yu-gyung from P'yeng-yang on a similar errand before, it would be well to test them with propositions; (1) We will invest the King of Japan. (2) Every Japanese soldier must leave Korea. (3) The Japanese must promise never to disturb Korea again. This plan pleased the Emperor, and General So So-bi was sent for, that he might appear before the Emperor and acccept these conditions. On arriving at Peking the Japanese readily acceded to the terms and exclaimed, "We will gladly agree to this, and will swear by heaven to abide by the terms." Thereupon Sim Yu-gyung, who had always had a strange leaning toward the Japanese, now exclaimed, "Japan now evidently desires to become China's vassal. An envoy must be sent to Japan to invest Hideyoshi with the royal insignia, and all this trouble will end." But Ho Hong-gang had a truer estimate of the visitor and remarked, "The Japanese are a subtle people and all this talk of becoming vassals of China is mere pretence. There is no use in sending an envoy to Japan." General Sok Song said, "This man seems to be honest in what he says. General Sim Yu-gyung should accompany So So-bi back to Korea and there confer with the Japanese leaders, and then arrangements can be made for investing the King of Japan." The Emperor so ordered, and at the same time appointed Yi Jong-song as envoy extraordinary to Japan to perform the ceremony of investiture. Yang Bang-hyung was appointed his second. These events all occurred in the latter part of the year 1594.

As the new year opened the political sky was dark enough. Not only were the Japanese intrenched in the south, but predatory bands infested the country and the Government troops had all they could do to hold them in check, let alone make any offensive operations against the Japanese. However, after a hard chase, a large band of the miscreants were brought to bay at Hoemun Mountain and cut to pieces. At this time also the King sent again to Nanking, asking that his successor be nominated, but again he was refused.

The career of General Kim Dok-yong, whom, as we have seen, the Japanese had dubbed "The Flying General," affords us another example of the fatal weakness of Korea, in the envy excited against any really successful man; for even while General Kim was successfully combating the Japanese in his own way, his very successes aroused the spleen of General Yun Geun-su, who accused him to the King of having killed plenty of Koreans, but never a Japanese. On the strength of this groundless charge, and without questioning its truth, the King brought General Kim to So-ul and imprisoned him a year. And so a man of highest loyalty, of such unselfish patriotism as to devote the whole of his private fortune to the fitting out of soldiers to fight his country's foes, was dragged away from a successful field of work to languish in prison simply because a less successful man begrudged him his fame.

And now began an amusing comedy between the Chinese, who took the Japanese seriously, and the latter who were merely playing off the Chinese in order to save time.

In the fourth moon of 1596 the embassy from China to Japan arrived in Soul, and immediately General Sim Yu-gyung posted southward to see Kato and tell him that the Chinese embassy had already come and that he must hasten to get all the Japanese troops out of the country before the embassy should arrive at Fusan. To all this the wily Kato answered gravely, "You had better stay here a few weeks while I take a run over to Japan and ask Hideyoshi about it, and if he gives the order to take the troops back it can be done immediately." When he came back, instead of answering the main question he said that it would be well for a Korean to accompany the envoy to Japan. Meanwhile, the Chinese envoy Yi Jong-song, in Soul, sent messenger after messenger urging the speedy removal of the Japanese troops from the peninsula; but Kato kept putting it off on one ground or another, and made no move to go. When, however, this part of the comedy had proceeded to such a point that the Japanese began to fear the Chinese would see that it was indeed a comedy, Kato took a few regiments of men from Ung ch'un and Ko-je and made preparations as if to depart, meanwhile sending General Sim to Soul to say that he was waiting for the envoy and his suite to come south and accompany the departing army to Japan. Five months had already elapsed since the envoy had arrived in Soul, and he therefore determined to accept this invitation. Moving southward, he came to Nam-wun in Chul-la Province, where he stopped, fearing to go directly into the Japanese camp. While there he gained the Gaelic sobriquet of "ho-geater," for he was so fond of the flesh of that reptile that he compelled the people to hunt for and procure this delicacy.

General Son Gwang, from his comfortable quarters in Liao-tung, sent him a letter charging him with cowardice and ordering him to proceed at once on his way. Under this stimulus he made his way to Fusan; but Kato would not come to see him, saying, "I must receive instructions from Japan before I can take you across the straits, so I will cross once more and find out the will of my royal master in regard to the matter." After an absence of two months he came back and opened another act of the comedy by asserting that he must first take General Sim across to Japan and arrange the ceremony of investiture, and that the envoy proper might follow when all was ready. By this time, what with the fear of the Japanese and bewilderment at the intricacy of Japanese diplomacy, the poor envoy was well-nigh distraught. When, therefore, with the beginning of the new year 1597 a Chinaman named So Hak-myung came from Japan and informed him that Hideyoshi had not the remotest idea of becoming a vassal of China and that if the Chinese envoy should cross to Japan he would never come back again, it capped the climax, and that very night the wretched envoy, taking only one servant and a few clothes tied up in a cloth, made his escape from the Japanese camp and fled away northward. He travelled by night and hid by day, until at last he arrived at Soul, and so the curtain drops on another act of the comedy.

When the Japanese found out that the envoy had made his escape they were in a quandary, fearing lest they might be punished for letting him go and so spoiling the fun. They therefore gave chase, but, not being able to overtake the light-footed envoy, they contented themselves with surrounding the house of the vice-envoy Yang Bang-hyung. The latter knew of his chief's flight, but to draw away suspicion from himself pretended to sleep late that morning and feigned to know nothing about the matter. When at last he was told of it by the Japanese General Kuroda, he said quietly, "Well, he was a young man and a little nervous. He should have gone to Japan long ago instead of waiting around here. It wore on his nerves. It will be of no use for you to chase him." He then deliberately arose, went to the room lately occupied by his chief, took possession of the Emperor's letter, and returned to his own apartments. By this coolness and presence of mind he allayed the excitement of the Japanese and perhaps saved his own life.

The Japanese soldiers who had been detailed to return to Japan were of course delighted to go back to their homes and were eager to set sail from Fusan. They had their baggage all on board and were hoping to start at any moment. But when they heard of the flight of the Chinese envoy they knew there would be a long delay and they were sorely disappointed; so much so, in fact, that many of them wept aloud. It is probable that every Japanese soldier in the peninsula would have been glad of an opportunity to return to Japan. Only the severe discipline of the Japanese army and the lack of boats prevented them from deserting in large numbers; at least, we may gather as much from the frequent references to the home-sickness of the Japanese soldiers.

Yang Bung-hyung called the weeping soldiers before him and said, "We have waited here so long that my chief got tired and went back. But I remain and the imperial missive is with me. He has fled only to Nam-wun and if you send there you will doubtless find him." This led them to believe that their fond hope of returning home would soon be gratified.

All this time the young Konishi, the rival of Kato, sat disdainfully silent, watching the empty game which his unpopular rival was playing with the Chinese. When he heard of the flight of the envoy he laughed and said, "I knew he was no genuine envoy from the Emperor, for if he had been he would not have dared to show his heels like this." This remark was intended to imply that while Kato had been trying to hoodwink the Chinese they on the other hand had hoodwinked him.

Yang Bang-hyung lost no time in informing the Emperor of the perfidy of his chief, and the Emperor immediately ordered the recalcitrant official to be caught and imprisoned. He raised Yang Bang hyung to the position of Chief of the Embassy, and appointed Sim Yu-gyung as his second. We will remember that Sim Yu-gyung, whose name is sometimes written Chin Ikei, had already gone to Japan with Kato, bearing the imperial gifts, which consisted of a royal robe with the embroidered design of a dragon, a jade belt, royal head-gear, a map of China, a book on war, and various other kinds of treasures. He there married the daughter of a Japanese named Arima, and is said by the Koreans to have become a regular Japanese. This may have been part of the game he was playing, and we may see the fruits of it later.

Kato was determined that a Korean envoy should accompany the Chinese to Japan, and to this end he told one of the Korean officials, "If a Korean envoy does not accompany the Chinese embassy to Japan the peace will be only between Japan and China, and Korea will have no part in it. This will lead to grave troubles." General Sim also sent his nephew back from Japan to ask that a Korean envoy accompany the Chinese embassy, So the King appointed two men, Whang Sin and Pak Hong-jang, to this work, conferring upon them the title of T'ong-sin-sa, or "Faithful Messenger."

In the fifth moon of this year 1597 General Konishi massed his troops in forty-six regiments on the southern coast, and, leaving only four regiments to guard Fusan, set sail for Japan. With him went all the envoys, both Chinese and Korean.

Now that lasting peace seemed to be assured the King no longer hesitated to hand over the reins of power to the Crown Prince. He accordingly sent the royal insignia south to him and so doffed the responsibilities as well as the prerogatives of royalty. But, strange to say, the prince strenuously refused to accept them, insisting that he had no desire to take the sceptre from his father's hand. Seven times he sent to his father protesting his unwillingness to have the honour thrust upon him. But the King would not listen. It was only after the courtiers had assembled before the palace for twenty days in succession and besought him to retain the sceptre that they finally prevailed and he consented to continue in the exercise of the royal prerogative.

Yi Mong-hak, an unprincipled ruffian, ignorant but ambitious, had joined the forces of General Han Hyun and had fought during the war. Now he started out on an independent line. Gathering a force of over ten thousand men, he attacked and took Hong-san in Ch'ung-ch'ung Province, and followed it up by taking Imch'un, Ch'ung-san, and Hong-ju. Yi Mong-hak had been deceiving his followers by saying that General Kim Dok-yong was interested in this scheme. But now they found that this same General Kim was arrayed against them and they saw they had been duped. That night every man deserted the adventurer, and the next day he fell into the hands of the loyal troops and his head was forwarded to Soul. This shows the extremely unsettled state of the country, and how any unprincipled man with money and effrontery could make serious opposition to the government.

Here again we find a striking example of that petty jealousy which deprived Korea of most her capable men. This General Kim Dok-yong was a celebrated man. He was known throughout the Korean army for his strength and prowess. It is said of him that single-handed he would attack a tiger and pin it to the ground with a spear. They also say that he rode into battle with an iron mace of a hundred pounds weight in each hand and he gave the Japanese so many hard knocks that they gave him the name of "The General from under the Rock." The ministers at Soul were suspicious of his rising fame and went their ways to have him dragged down. They charged him with having been in league with Yi Mong-gak, and won the King over. He was arrested and brought to Soul, where, after a most disgraceful trial, he was put to death. The Japanese had such a high opinion of this man's parts that Konishi sent and had a portrait made of him. When he saw the picture he exclaimed, "This man is indeed a General." When his death was announced the Japanese held a great feast in honour of the event. This was just on the eve of their departure for home.

As we have seen, it was in the summer of 1597 that the Chinese and Korean envoys crossed to Japan with the returning army of invasion. When they were brought into the presence of Hideyoshi he treated them with scant courtesy. When asked why he did not bow before the imperial missive he replied that he had a sore leg and could not. He treated the Korean envoy much worse than the Chinese and said to him, "I sent back the two princes as I agreed, but your King never so much as thanked me. He has now sent as envoy a man of inferior rank on purpose to insult me. I believe the original Chinese envoy ran away at the instigation of your King. I will treat the Chinese envoy civilly, but as for you I shall send another army and be avenged on you." After this there was but one thing to do. Both the envoys packed up their effects and started back home. When the Chinese envoy arrived at Nanking bringing insult instead of submission from Japan the Emperor was in a terrible rage and charged Sim Yu-gyung with having betrayed his country. The envoy was executed and the official who had ad-

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vised the sending of an embassy was thrown into prison and starved to death, but Sim Yu-gyung in some way escaped with his head.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, July 9th :—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up		30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders		15,563,220
Amount of convertible notes issued		188,626,245
Government deposits		44,102,293
General deposits		17,443,061
Exchange liability		61,752
Total		295,796,571
	Cr.	
Discount notes		39,975,173
Foreign discount notes		10,827,641
Loan to Government		22,000,000
General loans		64,611,320
Exchange liability		2,285,315
Government bonds		48,587,217
Property		1,872,639
Bullion and Specie		105,637,259
Total		295,796,571

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those	190,185,059

Bullion and Specie :—

Gold	101,229,780
Silver	
Total	101,229,780

Securities :—

Government bonds	35,539,955
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	7,584,097
Commercial notes	25,570,322
Total	88,543,540

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	411,739	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	4,927,666	—
Government deposits	—	3,478,330
General deposits	8,534,185	—

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

Shanghai, July 7, 1.11 p.m.

The President of the Orange Free State, in his speech closing the Raad, stated that he still hoped for a peaceful settlement of the Transvaal question, but that, if war came, it would not be the fault of the Transvaal.

Shanghai, July 9, 3.04 a.m.

Lord Wolseley is completing the organization of a large force for service in South Africa in the event of the failure of the negotiations with the Transvaal. Eight special service officers have been ordered to South Africa for the purpose of organizing local forces at various points along the frontier.

The Volksraad has adopted an amended project of Law conferring the franchise forthwith upon all Uitlanders who have resided for nine years in the Transvaal, and upon all future new-comers after seven years' residence. The law further provides that the representation of the Gold Fields shall be increased by four additional members.

Shanghai July 12, 12.19 p.m.

The Council of the Uitlanders assembled at Johannesburg, has declared that the concessions proposed by the Transvaal Government are derisory.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to a question put by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman in the House of Commons, said that it was still uncertain what would be the practical effect of the new scheme proposed by the Transvaal Government, but that, judging from present information, it appeared that no immediate effect would be produced on the representation of the Uitlanders.

Five batteries of Artillery are now under orders for South Africa.

Queensland has offered 250 mounted infantry and New South Wales a detachment with a field-gun for service in the Transvaal.

The Lancers at Aldershot have volunteered for South Africa in the event of hostilities.

TEN VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

An order has been issued by the Washington Government for the enlistment of ten volunteer regiments to serve in the Philippines.

ENGLISH BYE-ELECTIONS.

Two Liberals have been elected at Oldham in the place of Mr. Robert Ascroft (deceased), and Mr. J. S. Oswald, who has resigned his seat.

THE EMPEROR'S RESCRIPT.

The *Globe* eulogises the Rescript recently issued by the Emperor of Japan, and hopes that His Majesty's timely words will be taken to heart.

THE GOLD STANDARD FOR INDIA RECOMMENDED.

Shanghai, July 10, 3.04 p.m.

The British Indian Currency Commission recommends the adoption of a gold standard for India with the sovereign (pound sterling) as legal tender, and fixing the rupee at 16 pence.

CANADA AND ORIENTAL EMIGRATION.

The Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier and President of the Privy Council, speaking in the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa, on the question of disallowing the British Columbian measures dealing with Japanese and Chinese emigration, said that the Dominion and Imperial authorities were prepared to deal with Chinese emigration in accordance with the views of the British Columbians, but that Japanese emigration was governed by Imperial considerations; and added that if circumstances should precipitate war in the Orient, Japanese support would be of great importance to Great Britain.

LAUNCH OF THE "YAKUMO."

The Japanese cruiser *Yakumo* has been launched at Stettin. She was christened by the wife of the Japanese Minister, Madame Inouye.

BRITONS AND MILITIA SERVICE IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

The Hon. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, replying to a question put by Lord Charles Beresford in the House of Commons, said that British subjects would be liable to serve in the militia in the Dutch East Indies.

[We presume this refers to the "Schuttery," which is a local military force raised in the larger towns of the Dutch East Indies, for the purpose of co-operating with the regular Army in maintaining the peace in times of emergency. It consists of 4,000 men, mostly Europeans, and the officers receive their commissions from the Governor-General.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE BRITISH MILITIA.

The Marquess of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, introducing his measure providing for the provision of a ballot for the militia, said that he did not expect it to pass, but he wanted the country to understand that provision should be made for compulsory service in case of emergency.

[Lord Wolseley, the British Commander-in-Chief, has long been an advocate of conscription for Great Britain and Ireland; the younger men in the War Office are in favour of the scheme; but the great bulk of public opinion is still opposed to compulsory service, and there are few journals that have declared in its favour.—Ed. *J.M.*]

DEATH OF THE CZAREWITCH.

Shanghai, July 11.

The Grand Duke George, Czarewitch of Russia, is dead.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the *Standard* says that the franchise concessions adopted by the Volksraad are profoundly disappointing to the Uitlanders who anxiously await the action of the Imperial Government.

THE COLONIES AND BRITAIN.

Shanghai, July 15.

The British Government have replied to the offer made by Queensland, saying that they appreciate its patriotic spirit, and that, while they hope that the occasion referred to will not arise, they will gladly avail themselves of the offer if necessary.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

RUMOURED RETIREMENT OF GENERAL ZURLINDEN.

Saigon, July 7.

Rumour has it that General Faure-Biguet will replace General Zurlinden as Governor of Paris, and that General Zurlinden will take command of an army corps.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF PARIS.

Saigon, July 8.

General Brugère, Commander of a *Corps d'Armée* and formerly chief of the military staff of President Carnot, has been nominated Governor of Paris. The present Governor, General Zurlinden, remains a member of the High Military Council. Admiral Caillard has been appointed Chief of the General Staff of the Navy.

THE KAISER AND FRANCE.

The Emperor William paid a visit at Bergen to the French training-ship *Iphigènie*. His Majesty telegraphed to President Loubet, praising the demeanour of the young cadets. He called them sailors worthy of their noble country, and added that his heart as a sailor and a comrade had been charmed by the welcome they gave him. M. Loubet expressed his warm thanks for the honour paid to France's sailors.

Saigon, July 9.

The whole press of Paris emphasises the importance of the visit paid by the Emperor of Germany to the training-ship *Iphigènie*.

Saigon, July 10.

The officers and forty cadets of the training-ship *Iphigénie* at Bergen were present at a fête given by the Emperor William on board his yacht the *Hohenzollern*.

Saigon, July 11.

The German and Russian journals comment favourably on the visit of the Emperor of Germany to the training-ship *Iphigénie*.

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ATTACK ON KING MILAN.

At Belgrade an individual fired several shots from a pistol at King Milan, but did not hit him.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, July 12.

The French journals publish a report of the Prefecture of Police, dated in the month of March, alleging that the Royalist Party sent money to the Nationalist Party and to the anti-Semites. M. Waldeck-Rousseau, Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, has ordered an inquiry into this publication.

THE LATE CZAREVITCH.

The Czarevitch died yesterday morning at Abbes-Touman of violent hemorrhage of the throat.

DREYFUS.

Saigon, July 13.

Dreyfus continues to confer with his counsel. The study of the *dossier* is far advanced, nevertheless the date of the trial is not fixed yet.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

SÖUL-WIJU RAILWAY.

Söul, July 10.

The Korean Government has granted the concession for the construction of the Söul Wiju Railway to the Korean National Railway Company on condition that no sale of the concession to foreigners shall take place.

In case of a violation of this stipulation the Company is liable to severe punishment.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

THE KOREAN PORT QUESTION.

Söul, July 8.

The Korean Government has announced to the foreign representatives its intention to open to foreign trade Yong-chi-kyo instead of Sok-ho-chong, as a substitute for Phyong-yang. The Ministers are not all in agreement as to this offer, and will probably send in protests.

THE RUSSIAN RAILWAY DEMAND.

Peking, July 10.

The Tsung-li Yamên is disposed to grant the Russian demand for a concession to extend the proposed line as far as Peking.

THE OUTRAGE ON A FRENCH SUBJECT.

Peking, July 10.

The Mengtze affair will probably be settled by the burnt French Consulate being reconstructed at the expense of the Chinese Government, and by compensation to individuals who suffered loss of property.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla 1	M. July 17
Hongkong	I. K. K.	H'kong Maru 2	M. July 17
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 24
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	Tu. July 25
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 3	Tu. July 25
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 4	W. July 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. July 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. July 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 2
America	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Aug. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Aug. 3

1 Left Nagasaki on the 12th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 14th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. July 19
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. July 19
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	W. July 19
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. July 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. July 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th. July 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. July 28
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. July 29
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 3
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Aug. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 5

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

Solution of Problem No. 428.

By Ladislav Vetesnik.

A Prize-Problem in the *Aftonbladet* Tourney.

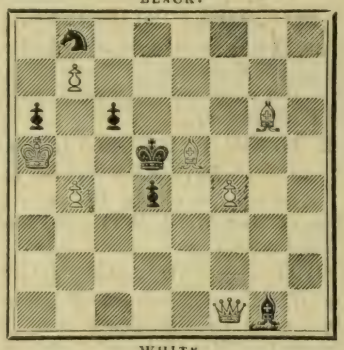
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 4	1—P takes Q
2—P to Q 7	2—Any
3—P to Q 8 (Q) mate	
	1—P takes Kt
2—Kt takes P	2—B moves (must)
3—Q to Kt 8 mate	
	1—B to Kt 7
2—Kt to K 6	2—P takes Q
3—Kt to B 7 mate	if 2—P takes Kt
3—P to B 4 mate	if 2—K takes Kt
3—Q to Kt 8 mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, and W.D.C.

Problem No. 431.

By Max J. Meyer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 525.

Played in the recent telegraphic chess match between San Francisco and Seattle.

White—Lovegrove. Black—Dickey.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 Kt K3!	R Kt4 (e)
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	19 P KB4	R Kt3
3 B QKt5	P QR3	20 P KKt3	B Q3
4 B QR4	Kt KB3	21 K B2	QR QKtsq
5 Castles	KtxP	22 QR QKtsqP	KR4
6 P Q4	B K2	23 K KB3	P QR4
7 Q K2	P Q4 (a)	24 P QB3	R K-q
8 BxKt ch	PxB	25 R K2	R K5
9 KtxP	B Q2	26 QR Ksq	R Ktsq?
10 R K-q(b)	Kt B3	27 Kt B5	RxR
11 B KKt5	P KR3	28 RxR	R Kt3
12 BxKt	PxB (c)	29 P QKt4!	PxP?
13 KtxB	QxKt	30 PxP	R Ktsq(f)
14 Kt QB3	K Bsq	31 P QR4	P KR5
15 Q KB3	KR Ktsq	32 P KKt4	R Rsq
16 Kt Q-q(d)	Q Kt5	33 P QR5	K Ktsq
17 QxQ	RxQ	34 R K8ch	Resigns (g)

Notes by Dr. Lovegrove.

(a) The proper move here is P QKt4, followed by the text move.

(b) This move is very confining, as it prevents the black K from castling (10 castles); 11—P to K B3, Kt Q3 best; 12—Kt takes Q B P (not B) and wins a P.

(c) If B takes B, Kt takes Q B P dis. ch. winning Q.

(d) Anticipating what follows.

(e) If R takes P (Q4); 19—Kt to B5, R K5; 20. R takes R, P takes R; 21—QR to K sq regaining P with winning pawn position.

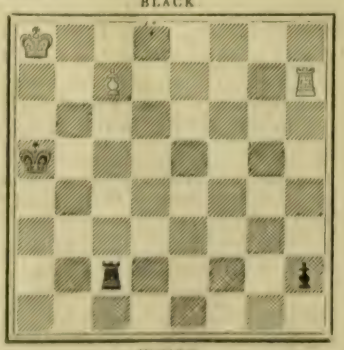
(f) If B takes QKtP; 31—R to Q Kt2 winning B.

(g) White's P Wins Q; after K R2; 35—R takes R ch.; K takes R; 36—Kt takes B, etc.

End Game.

An instructive ending by Lasker, the world's champion:—

BLACK



WHITE.

In this position, bring White's turn to move, the game was continued as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 K Kt7	R QKt7ch	6 R R4ch	K R6
2 K R7	R QB7	7 K Kt6	R QKt7ch
3 R R5ch	K R5	8 K R5	R QB7
4 K Kt6	R QKt7ch	9 R R3ch	K Kt7
5 K R6	R QB7	10 RxP and wins.	

Game No. 526.

A Novelty.

The following suggestive analysis has recently been made in reference to the new gambit invented by Professor Rice, of New York:—

RICE GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 5	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P	7—B to Q 3
8—Castles	

Attention should be directed to this move, which, it is said, is sound and good. It constitutes the Rice Gambit. The moves which follows are suggested as best for both sides. Professor Berger (G āz) plays for Black 9—K to B sq, which is best, but it does not avail against White's continuation as here analysed:—

	8—B takes Kt
9—R to K sq	9—K to B sq
10—B takes B	10—Kt to Q B 3
11—P to Q 4	11—Kt takes R
12—P takes Kt	12—Kt to R 4
13—Q to Q 4	13—Q takes R P
14—Kt to Q 2	14—Q to K 8 (ch)
15—Kt to B sq	15—P to Kt 6
16—B to K 3	16—Q takes R
17—P to K 6	17—P takes B
18—Q takes R (ch)	18—K to K 2
19—P to Q 6 (ch)	19—P takes P
20—P takes P	20—B to K 3
21—Q takes R	21—K takes P
22—Q takes Kt P (ch)	22—K to B 3
23—Q to B 3 (ch)	23—K to K 2
24—Q takes Kt	24—B takes B
25—Q to R 4 (ch)	25—K moves
26—Q takes B and White wins.	

Game No. 527.

We clip from the New Orleans *Times Democrat* this short, but brilliant game, which was played some twenty years ago between H. E. Bird and W. Steinitz.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Bird. Black—Steinitz.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—P to K 5	5—Kt to K 5
6—Kt takes P	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Kt takes Kt
8—Q takes Kt	8—K to B 4
9—P to K B 4	9—P to Q Kt 3
10—P to B 5!	10—Kt to Kt 6
11—Q to K 4	11—Kt takes R
12—P to B 6	12—B to B 4 (ch)
13—K to R sq	13—R to Q Kt sq
14—P to K 6!! and Steinitz resigned.	

The London International Tournament.

Of the three Americans who are competing in the international tourney which is now being played in London, Pillsbury, says an American exchange, is the only one who has thus far made any show of strength, and he promises to be well in the front rank at the close of the contest. Janowski, who proved himself while in America to be the inferior of Showalter, strange to say, is now heading the list, but it is more than probable that the lead will not be maintained. Maroczy and Lasker are too formidable to be passed over and the winner of the contest is pretty sure to be one of a trio made up of these two men and the young champion of the United States.

In consequence of the withdrawal of Teichmann at the close of the fifth round and the application of the rule of the tourney which provided that all unplayed games should be scored against the retiring player, the present score of the competitors does not bear any relation to the number of games actually played.

The standing of the players after the ninth round is given below:—

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	Won.	Lost.
Bird	1½	7½
Blackburne	4	4
Cohn	5	5
Janowski	7½	½
Lasker	6½	2½
Lee	2½	6½
Maroczy	6½	1½
Mason	3½	5½
Pillsbury	7	2
Schlechter	5½	3½
Showalter	5	4
Steinitz	4	4
Teichmann	2	12
Tinsley	3	6
Tschigorin	4½	3½

Chess and Whiskey.

Blackburne's strange assertions that whiskey clears his brain and that he never kew a master chess player who was tetotaller, are sufficiently explained by the fact that this statement originally appeared in a journal published in the interest of the liquor trade. Upon this statement the *Hereford Times* chess editor makes the following comment:—Whiskey, when well seasoned and mixed with boiling water, sugar, and lemon, is a most consoling and comforting medicine, if taken in moderation. Nor will Scotch cold, or with soda or other mineral waters do harm to well balanced persons who know when they have had enough. But whiskey and chess, when taken together, agree with very few. We have never seen Lasker, or Pillsbury, or Tarrasch, or any other player of the very front rank sip whiskey when engaged on games to which they attached any importance. Steinitz occasionally consumes a small quantity of brandy while playing a match game, but the quantity of water which he consumes the while completely drowns the spirit, so as to leave little else than the flavour. With most chess players the imbibing of spirits during serious play would almost certainly be productive of blundering. And even Mr. Blackburne himself seldom takes anything but coffee in the early stages of a match game, although he may take a little whiskey towards the finish. This no doubt, is what Mr. Blackburne wished to convey, when he told his interviewer that whiskey sometimes clears his brain. It would be a grievous error to let it go forth to the world that chess-playing encourages an appetite for strong drink. The majority of chess players, expert and amateur alike, are, we are happy to say, abstemious people, and the great majority of them, much prefer coffee, or tea, while playing their favourite game to alcohol. We are moreover convinced that in a contest for supremacy at chess, all other things being equal, that the coffee or tea drinking player has in the long run the advantage over the consumer of alcoholic stimulant.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 6th July,—Otaru via ports, 2nd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 7th July,—Kobe, 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, W. Thomson, 7th July,—London via ports,—Kobe, 6th July, General.—Cornes and Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 7th Jul.,—Hakodate, 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 7th July,—Shanghai via ports, 1st July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005. Goodwin, 8th July,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 7th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 8th July,—Yokkaichi, 7th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 8th July,—Moji, 5th July, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 9th July,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 9th July,—Otaru 6th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 11th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 10th July, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 11th July,—Yokkaichi, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 12th July,—Otaru via ports, 6th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 12th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 12th July,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 11th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 12th July,—Otaru, 8th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 12th July,—Hakodate, 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rasboinik, Russian gunboat, 1,500, 17 guns, Com. Kassowich, 12th July,—Honolulu.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,992, Steeves, 13th July,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 11th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Natuna, Danish steamer, 458, G. Peterson, 13th July,—Hongkong, Teakwood.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Ellen Rickmers, German steamer, 2,096, Jakobs, 13th July,—Hamburg via ports, Tsintau, 8th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hancock, U.S. Transport, 2,657, C. W. Ames, 13th July,—Manila via Nagasaki, Nagasaki 10th July, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, C. Olsen, 13th July,—Kobe, 11th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 13th July,—Hakodate, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 13th July,—Hakodate, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Rogliano, 13th July,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 12th July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Hertha (34), German cruiser, 6 000, Capt. von Usedom, 13th July,—Kobe, 12th July.

DEPARTURES.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 7th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1 900, H. Kirchner, 7th July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 7th July,—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 7th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, P. H. Going, 7th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 7th July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 8th July,—Yokkaichi and Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Iwanaga, 8th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 8th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Deutschland (35), German flagship, 7,676. Capt. Muller, 8th July,—Yokosuka.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 10th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 10th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Relief, U.S. Hospital steamer, 1,987, Capt. Frank Harding, 11th July,—Honolulu and San Francisco, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 12th July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 12th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Mau, Japanese steamer, 871, T. Kuwabara, 12th July,—Yokkaichi, Generals.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 12th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 13th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 13th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 13th July,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General,.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 13th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, A. E. Moses, 13th July,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 13th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 13th July,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 13th July,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Consul-General Odagiri, wife and two sons, Mr. E. Berard, Mr. L. Grass, Mr. H. C. Emechiel, Rev. R. Watt, Dr. A. Haberer, Mr. P. Beretta, Mrs. W. Church, Mrs. Mansfield, Mrs. Meyerink, Mr. F. W. Horne, Master T. Gotch, Captain Nagao, and Mrs. H. Kondo, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Kee and 1 servant, Mr. Hartley, Mrs. Chow Loang, and Mr. S. Suyeyoshi, in second class; 32 Japanese, and 7 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mrs. Miller, Miss Miller, Miss M. Miller, Miss E. Miller, Mr. Black, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Norcock, in cabin; Mr. Hellenbrand, and Mr. Mackie, in European steerage; 19 Chinese, and 1 Japanese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. W. Whiley, Miss M. F. Whiley, Miss N. B. Dunn, Mr. Geo. A. March, and Mr. H. J. Bathgate in cabin; Mr. C. W. Tripp in European steerage. For San Francisco:—Miss Edna Johnson, Mr. Earl Johnson, Miss E. Bashford, Mr. Herbert Price, and Mr. Chang Tien-Lien in cabin; Messrs. E. K. Cheadle, C. G. Dunn, C. M. Burton, D. H. Bright, W. White, W. S. Lafans, H. Warren, F. H. Snow, H. Gilbert, Link F. Kelly, J. T. Walker, W. Zillios, C. H. Kuennemann, W. K. Bowling, H. Belmont, P. E. Blandell, J. McParlin, Erick Dahl, J. C. Summitt, and W. Seymour in European steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Ishikawa, in cabin. For Seattle Wash.:—Mrs. Chu May Yaw and child, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Fearon and child, in second class; 73 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. E. Jansen, Miss Jansen, Miss Mabel Jansen, Miss Kate Jansen, Miss Law, Mr. P. Savio, Miss E. Sadler, Miss C. E. Johnston, Mr. W. J. Russell, Mrs. W. J. Russell, Mr. G. Hendesk, Mrs. Moore, Mr. D. Forbes, Mr. A. F. Lightbody, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. L. S. Little and amah, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Miss Hogg, and Miss Hogg, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. W. Bain, Mr. J. Behrend, Miss E. A. Lyon, Mr. Wong Quai Moon, and Mr. Lee Tun and servant, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Ellen Rickmers*, from Tsintau:—Mr. Horst von Tippelskirch and servant, Mr. Feldwebel Vetterick, and Mr. Schmidt, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—H.E. Jonkeer C. J. Testa, Mr. Hayashi and valet, Mr. J. Puig, Mr. L. Revenga, Mr. Harden, Mr. J. F. Noble, Mr. Silsa, Mr. Gutierrez, Mr. G. Leighton, Mr. Langlois, Mr. C. B. Kobiar, Mr. and Mrs. Dukerts, Mr. and Mrs. Page, Miss E. Page, Mrs. Langlois, Miss Guillard, Mr. N. Weinberger, Mr. G. Weinberger, Mrs. Weinberger, Mrs. Edwards, child and amah, Mr. Boissiere, Mr. Centerwall and servant, Mr. E. H. Kuster, Mr. Gysin, Mrs. Gysin, child and amah, Rev. W. R. Weakley and valet, Mr. Litmineff, Mr. Ossipoff, and Mr. Kronlikowski, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. M. Ossorio, Mr. and Mrs. W. George, Captain Alexis Kuyleu-tierna and native servant, Mrs. Memer, Mrs. Seaman, Mr. R. A. Ainsworth, Mr. A. J. Meldrum, Miss Dalley, Mr. C. Schilling, Mr. J. D. Atkinson, Mrs. E. Morrison, Mr. C. B. Gould, Mr. A. S. Goodwin, Mr. R. C. Baldwin, Mr. P. R. Goedkoop, Mr. and Mrs. Beaton, child and nurse, Mr.

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N. Baldwin, Misses Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Epperley, Mr. Z. Oppenheimer, Mr. F. G. Blom, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Campbell, two children and amah, Mrs. E. W. Tilden, Miss P. M. Turre, Mrs. Rivers, Mrs. Rodriguez, Mrs. C. B. de Par, Mr. P. H. McKay, Mr. R. Campbell Davidson, Mr. MacLindskog, and Mr. E. Bethell, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. O. Fischer, Mr. R. Ehlers, Mr. Kruse, Mr. Bockelmann, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Widdecke, Mr. E. Ganther, Capt. A. J. Jackson, Mr. W. Grant, Mr. H. Green, Mr. White, Mr. Gowings, Miss Garrison, Mr. P. A. Slawna, Mr. Mr. H. Lucke, and Mr. J. Lutcke, in cabin; 10 seamen, I.G.N., and 2 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* for Vancouver B.B.:—Capt. A. S. Barker U.S.N., Mr. C. G. Beard, Miss A. E. Belton, Consul General Brenan, Mrs. Brenan, Mr. W. J. Burns, Mr. Burnett, Mr. G. Butler, Mr. A. J. Carlill, Mr. H. Cordes, Rev. L. A. Core, Mrs. L. A. Core and 3 children, Miss S. M. Couch, Mr. W. L. Crow, Rev. W. N. Crozier, Mrs. Culver, Miss Culver, Mr. B. B. Culver, Mr. K. K. Culver, Mr. K. Doi, Lieut. E. H. Eberle, U.S.N., Mrs. Evatt, Miss Evatt, Mr. H. Flagler, Mrs. H. Flagler, Mr. Flanagan, Miss Flanagan, Mr. A. Ford, Dr. V. Forster, Mr. Sergey and Valet Friede, Mr. P. McG. Grant, Mr. Haynes, Miss Haynes, Miss O. Haynes, Rev. J. Hayes, Mr. A. H. Heath, Mr. K. Hashimoto, Baron von Heyking, Baroness von Heyking and maid, Mr. G. E. Hartwell, Mr. Mr. J. W. Hepworth, Mr. J. D. Hutchinson, Miss Ella Houston, Mr. H. J. Hunt, Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Prof. C. Hozumi, Mr. E. T. Irvin, Lieut. Kehrl, Mr. F. S. Kelly, Maj.-Genl. Kincaid, Mrs. Kincaid, Mrs. Knight, Miss Knight, Mr. H. L. Kingsford, Rev. L. Lawson, Mr. W. Lethbridge, Comdr. Luzzatti, Dr. J. H. Macartney, Mrs. J. H. Macartney and 2 children, Mrs. Macaulay, Mr. J. H. MacMichael, Mrs. J. H. MacMichael and child, Col. R B Mainwaring, Mrs. Mainwaring, Mr. Matsuki, Mr. S. H. Matsubara, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Mitchell and maid, Miss A. Mitchell, Miss C. F. Mitchell, Mr. J. B. Millet, Mr. K. Murai, Mr. Y. Murai, Miss Morse, Mr. Nordlinger, Mr. E. Owen, Mr. K. Ogata, Mr. W. L. Palmer, Mrs. F. Palmer, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Parrott, Mr. Arthur Payne, Mrs. Arthur Payne, Signor Pratesi, Mr. Prentice, Capt. Pust, Capt. Rabiger, Mr. Le Prince Ringuet, Mr. T. H. Redpeth, Miss Rickett, Mrs. Rhees, Miss Rhees, Mr. Sanson, Miss Sasaki, Mr. J. Sasaki, Miss Sands, Lt. Comdr. Singer U.S.N., Miss Singh, Mr. F. Hope Simpson, Mr. M. Schwarz, Mr. T. Shibuzawa, Mr. A. F. Smallpiece, Mrs. W. C. Smallpiece, Mr. W. Smith, Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Rev. G. B. Smyth, Mrs. G. B. Smyth and 3 children, Miss Smyth, Mr. J. E. Stearns, Mrs. J. E. Stearns, Miss Stearns, Mr. E. Soulter Mr. T. Swainson, Mr. Tanakawa, Mr. A. S. Trever, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Waddell, Mrs. Waddell, Miss Waddell, Mr. H. Wicking, Mrs. H. Wicking, Mrs. Wheen and child, Mr. J. Martin White, Mrs. J. Martin White, Dr. E. J. Woods, Mrs. E. J. Woods and 3 children, Master H. Woods, and Master Woods in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. J. Blackhall, Mr. L. Peck, Mr. K. Shimamura, Hon. G. Hamilton, Capt. and Mrs. Lawson, maid and servant, Mr. C. Boyd, Lord Huntingdon and valet, Lady Huntingdon and maid, Mr. W. Wilson and valet, Mr. C. Wilson, Mr. H. Wilson and valet, Miss Wilson and maid, Mr. T. Blandford, Mr. G. Harmer, Mr. H. Davis, Mr. W. S. Harrison, Mr. G. Lazavet and child, Mr. J. D. Smart, Mr. Fred. Riley, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Mr. E. Achilles, Mr. B. C. Strauss, Mr. E. des Voeux, Mr. A. Woolley, and Mrs. Ah Sam, in cabin; one European, and two Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. G. E. Boardman, Mrs. D. E. Beatty and child, Miss E. Bashford, Mr. Walter Delmar, Miss M. P. Freeman, Mr. J. H. Hart, Mrs. J. H. Hart, Miss Johnson, Mr. E. Johnson, Mr. Chan Tien Lien, Mr. O. H. Mordaunt, Mr. T. Osada, Miss A. B. Pratt, Mr. H. Price, Rev. J. M. Russell, and Mr. J. R. Thornett, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Mawson, Mr. and Mrs. Reece and infant, Mr. Y. Nakamura, Mr. T. Yamamura, Mr. Y. Nakaye, Mr. H. Miura, Mr. G. Kawahara, Mr. H. Hashiguchi, Mr. J. W. Deacon, and 4 Chinese, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Mr. B. M. Stiebel, Mr. V. M. Sale, Miss A. Sale, Mr. T. Aoki, Mr. K. Kato, Mr. Y. Ito, Mr. Y. Hironaka, Mr. W. Robinson, Mr. K. Suzuki, Mr. T. Yendo, Mr. K. Hashimoto, Miss Pasley, Mr. C. Britton, Mr. T. W. Spencer, and Mr. T. Sato, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Captain Baesens, Mr. A. W. Bain, Mr. J. Nehuend, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Beveridge, Mr. C. Beresford, Mrs. H. C. Bryer and two children, Mrs. H. Cook, Miss Callaghan, Miss Davis, Mr. I. P. Eppinger, Mr. J. S. Fassett and valet, Mrs. John Gibson, Mrs. R. T. Hall, Mr. C. J. Kuhn, Mr. J. F. Lawrence, Miss E. A. Lyon, Mr. F. Matsuoka, Mr. H. Mizuno, Mr. T. Neudeck, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Pfingst, Miss E. A. Preston, Mr. Wong Quai, Mrs. G. B. Ransom, Master Ransom, Mr. E. H. Dean Smith, Miss Stainton, and Mrs. Lee Tim, child and servant, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK & EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Hongkong ...	968	—	14	—	—	982
Amoy	551	519	4,257	—	—	5,327
Foochow	1,410	444	—	—	—	1,854
Shanghai ...	623	382	—	—	—	1,005
Hankow	2,197	—	—	56	—	2,253
Kobe	784	427	428	—	—	1,639
Yokohama ...	2,887	—	—	—	—	2,887
Total	9,420	1,772	4,699	56	—	15,947

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL BALES.
Hongkong and Canton	249	—	249
Shanghai	23	—	23
Yokohama	105	—	105
Total	377	—	377

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

All lines are quiet. Quotations at last week's figures.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches.....	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Pilots—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.28 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0 75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches...	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42 00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 00 to 41 00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain.....	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain.....	80.50 to 81.50
Nos 2 100, Plain	102 00 to 103.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed.....	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18 00
Chinese	20.00 to 20 75

METALS.

The high prices check business, but there are signs that buyers are beginning to recognise the inevitable, and see that they will have to pay the equivalent of home rates.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward ...	4 90 to 5 30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet Iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.70 to 12 00
Wire Nails, assorted	7 00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	2.35 to 2.40
Hoop Iron (⅛ to 18 inch)	6.25 to 6 50

KEROSENE.

There is the usual summer slackness about the market.

American	$1.30 to 2 35
Russian	2 20 to 2.25
Langkat	2 10

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao.....	$5.90 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.25
Brown Daitong.....	4 35 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6 80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Some business has been put through, though holders are still disposed to ask more than buyers are inclined to give in face of the American and European demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse.....	$1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1120 to 1130
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine.....	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1070 to 1080
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1100
Re-reels—No. 1½.....	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal 1050
Kakedas—No. 1.....	Nominal 1040
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nominal 1020
Kakedas—No 2	Nominal 980
Kakedas—No 2½	Nominal 940

WASTE SILK.

The market is quite lifeless.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best.....	$90 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

New crop leaf has been in active demand. Prices are about as last quoted.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium.....	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common.....	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 13.

London silver ⅛ lower and Shanghai sterling ⅛ lower have not affected rates, which remain steady with a hardening tendency as regards private paper. To-morrow the Foreign Banks all close for the French fête.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0 9/16
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 5/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 2½
On America—Bank Bills on demand .	50
— Private 4 months' sight...	51⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight.	214 to 213⅛
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight.....	4½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight ...	75⅝ to 6
On India—Bank sight	153⅛
— Private 30 days' sight ...	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/16

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 13.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 175. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 200, Club Hotels are offering at *yen* 85, Laundries at *yen* 77.50, Bretts at *yen* 9½. Grand Hotels are wanted at *yen* 230. Y. U. Club Debentures and Brewery Debentures are wanted at *yen* 108, Oriental Hotels have buyers at *yen* 125. Bretts & Co. Debentures are wanted at par.

Hongkong wires as follows:—H. & S. Banks 312 per cent. prem. Sales; National Banks 22 Sales,

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China Fires 88½ Sa., Hongkong Fires 310 Sa., Hongkong Docks 402 per cent. prem. S., Hongkong Wharves 96, Dauglasses 57½ S., Indo-Chinas 62 Sa., Punjom 14¾ S., Raub Mines 73 B., Hongkong Lands 100 Sa., Union Insurance 235 B., China Traders 32 Sa., Straits Insurance 6½ B.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	...	200 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	4...	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100		230 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	1...	85 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	2...	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Vdrs.), $125		450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100		60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., $100		200 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10		9.75 Sa
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100		150 B.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	3...	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	...	77½ Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50		50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100		108 S.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100		100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100		100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,208.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 13.

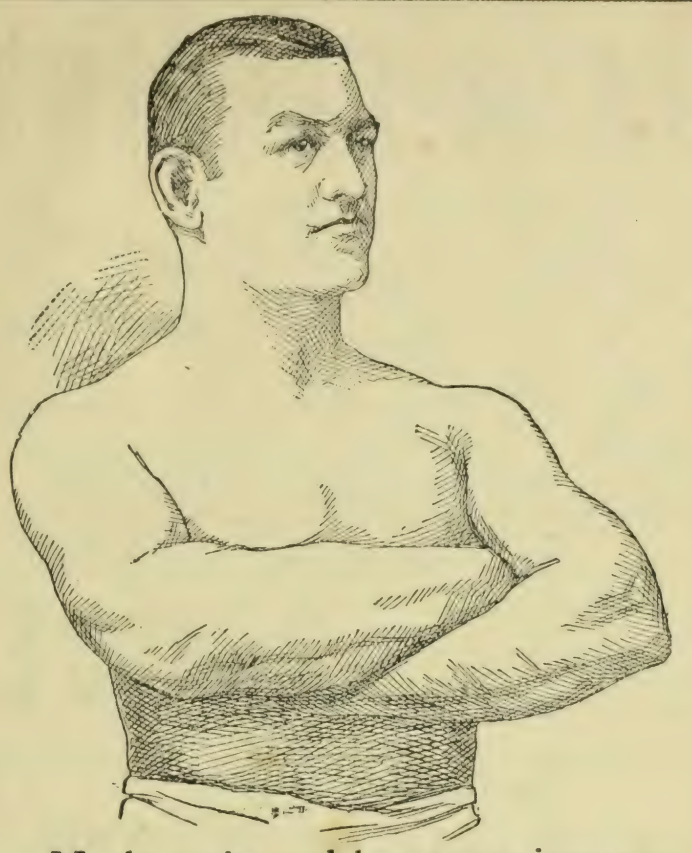
Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, have buyers at *yen* 125. Bretts & Co. Debentures have buyers at *yen* 100. Y. U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108. Japan Brewery Debentures are wanted at *yen* 108 Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 150. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 200. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 77.50.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	...200 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	.....230 Buyers.
Club Hotel	..... 85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	.....125 Buyers.
Langfeldts & Co.	.....150 Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co.	.....175 Sales.

Tokyo, July 13.

Redemption Loan Bonds	1...	96.20
War Loan Bonds	1...	96.20
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		98.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		287.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		52.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100		260.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75		258.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50		65.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50		65.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100		108.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25		26.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		73.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 42		59 50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		24.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	108.10
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	72.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		58.70
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		48.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		66.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		50.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		89.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28		62.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		92 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		21 00

† Ex dividend.



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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged, in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 22ND, 1899.

BIRTH.

On Wednesday, 12th July, at 142 B Bluff, the wife of A. C. HUTTON POTTS, of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A NUMBER of goods cars were derailed on July 13th between Arai and Sekiyama on the Shinyetsu line.

THE authorities of the Yokohama City Assembly are disposed, subject to certain conditions, to sanction an electric railway through the city.

MARQUIS ITO has been delivering a political address at Utsunomiya, Mr. Hoshi Toru's constituency.

A GYMKHANA was held on the race-course, Yokohama, on Friday afternoon and proved very successful.

AT the general meeting of the Oji Paper Mill Company on the 15th inst. a dividend of 4 per cent. per annum was declared.

MR. WAKAO IKUZO has been selected as manager of the Yokohama Five Staples Exchange in succession to Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, deceased.

THE last of the victims buried in the accident at the Hokoku Colliery was dug out on the 17th inst. The total number who lost their lives is thus 208.

THE leading men of Osaka intend holding an international social meeting on Aug. 7th. Over 60 foreigners in Osaka, Kobe, and Kyoto will be invited.

ACCORDING to official investigations made at the end of last month, the total number of Japanese residents in Shanghai was 650 males and 372 females.

II YOSHINOSUKE, attached to the Osaka City Office, has been arrested at Bakan on suspicion of having absconded with Government money to the amount of upwards of 10,000 *yen*.

THE Yokohama Foreign Fire Brigade has been taken over by the Japanese authorities. The foreign subscribers will be represented henceforth by two Advisors elected by themselves.

OWING to the coming into force of the new American treaty, a convict in the U S. gaol at Yokohama, undergoing a seven-year sentence for homicide, was released on Sunday midnight.

THE SHINAGAWA Police a few days ago examined the drinking water supplied in ice-shops and others places, and found that 90 out of 300 bottles were of bad quality; flies, ants, fleas, etc., being among the impurities.

A GHASTLY triple murder, involving the death of a young American man and two Japanese women, was discovered early on Monday morning in a low grog-shop in Yokohama. An American sailor has been arrested in connection with the affair.

THE American authorities have entirely surrendered jurisdiction over their nationals, but the other Treaty Powers do not surrender their rights under August 4th. The British and German Courts have a lot of litigation to clear off yet.

ON Monday the foreign concessions at Kobe and Osaka were formally handed back to the Japanese authorities. Some excellent speeches were made by Mr. Lucy de Fossarieu, French Consul, Dr. Hail, and the Governors of Osaka and Hiogo.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank is about to increase its capital from 12,000.000 *yen* to 24,000,000 *yen*. The portion of the additional capital immediately required will be subscribed in two instalments, the first in December and the second in March.

SPEAKING in the Volksraad the other day, President Kruger stongly advocated an amendment of the Franchise Bill in the sense of reducing the residential qualification for the franchise to seven years, with retrospective reckoning. He described this measure as righteous and reasonable, and alleged that it would remove the basis of the English objections. The Raad adopted the amendment with only five dissenting voices.

OSAWA SHIN, Manager of the Yokohama Boyeki Soko Kaisha (Yokohama Godown Company) is suspected of having embezzled nearly 10,000 *yen* belonging to the Company.

THE question having been raised in the House of Commons of Canada about offering troops from the Dominion for service in South Africa, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that he hoped the Transvaal Government would submit without hostilities being resorted to.

MR. KIRKWOOD, the holder of several debentures in the Public Hall Association, has suggested that the affair should be liquidated and a new Company started with a capital of *yen* 30,000, which shall take over all the old liabilities. Public opinion in Yokohama is against the scheme.

MR. TANAKO SEN, son of Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, has been invested by the University of Paris with the degree of Doctor of Politics and Science—his discourse entitled "The Constitution of Japan" having obtained the highest marks at a recent examination.

The Times, in a leading article, says that Japan takes her place as an equal among civilized Powers. It congratulates Japanese statesmen on the achievement of their great task, and adds that they have gained their end because they deserved to be successful. It expresses the opinion that the new regimen will probably strengthen many ties uniting Englishmen and Japanese.

OFFICIAL accounts of the railway accident on the Hokuetsu line state that a down train left Kakizaki station for Shinden at 4.10 p.m. on the 16th. The ballast about two miles from the latter place had been washed away by rain to a length of 10 feet, and on the train reaching this point it was derailed. Several passenger and goods cars were upset, and one person was killed, while 7 were seriously injured and 9 slightly.

As a coachman employed by Mr. Mitsu Yonosuke, of Tokyo, was driving over Kakihama bridge, Nihonbashi, on Tuesday morning the over-hanging boughs of a willow frightened the horses, and they jumped into the water dragging the carriage with them. A passing *jinrikisha* and its drawer was also forced into the moat by the horses. All were got out safely.

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PRINCE HENRY returned to Osaka from Nara on Saturday afternoon, accompanied by Mr. Nagasaki, Master of Ceremonies, the German Consul, and others, and was received by Commander Ogawa, and Governor Kikuchi. After accepting the hospitality of the Governor, His Highness visited the Tenshudai and other places of interest. He afterward left Umeda Station for Kobe at 4.37 p.m. and returned to his ship. Prince Henry has given *yen* 250 to Kyoto City and *yen* 50 to the Military Virtues Society. His Highness also presented his portrait and a letter of thanks.

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PERSONAL REGISTRATION.

A Notification just issued by the Ministers of Home Affairs and of Justice with reference to personal registration, looks a somewhat formidable affair, and has evidently caused some perturbation, for a local contemporary publishes a long article on the subject, and assures its readers that very evil days are before them, that they are about to be the objects of most objectionable espionage, and that the regulations embodied in the Notification are based on the principle that every one is a criminal requiring police surveillance. Were the facts understood these objections and apprehensions would be immediately dispelled. The system of personal registration has always been carefully followed in Japan, and has been found highly conducive to the preservation of good order. It is not founded on any such notion as that all persons are criminals, or criminally inclined, but rather on the doctrine that all good citizens are under an obligation to render assistance in the administration of police affairs. The regulations, as we have said, look formidable, but they amount simply to this, that each householder is expected to furnish to the police information about the personnel of his household, so that certain particulars about every unit of the community may be in the possession of the Authorities. It is nothing more than a continuous census. This system is in operation now in Japan and has been in operation for many years. It works quite smoothly and has not proved the slightest source of annoyance or trouble to private individuals. There is, however, a difference between the new arrangements with regard to foreigners and the arrangements pursued in the case of Japanese. The latter send their reports to the Local Authorities whereas the former will have to furnish them to the police. It will undoubtedly be found more convenient to work with the police, since they have a large staff at their command, and are better qualified to give information. The filling of the first forms must, of course, be slightly irksome, but we do not see that to write down the names of one's family and household on an official paper is such a very terrible affair. It is what British subjects have had to do every year at the Consulates of their nationality, and they have been obliged to pay for the privilege of doing it, into the bargain. Only permanent residents have to furnish the information, and the test of permanent residence is a minimum domicile of 90 days. Travellers, or temporary sojourners, will be asked by landlords of inns to write their names in a book, just as they are in all Western countries. Some persons seem to be perpeturbed about the punitive clauses of the Regulations—a fine of 1.25 *yen* for failure to furnish information within the specified period, and a fine of 20 *yen*. for furnishing false information. They allege that it will be necessary to procure details as to family, &c., from their native countries, a step requiring months whereas days only are allowed; and they further point out that inadvertent errors may be construed as false information. We can confidently affirm that these apprehensions are groundless. If delay is required, there will no doubt be the least difficulty in obtaining it, and as for the quantity and quality of the information furnished, everybody may take it for granted that what he does not know about himself and the inmates of his household, the Japanese Authorities have no desire to know. Experience will show that there is nothing formidable about this business. It is perfectly simple and will not involve any special trouble. We can not but repeat our constant comment that it is a pity to stir up agitation and apprehension about the prospect awaiting us after to-day, when there is no real reason for concern or fear, and when we are merely asked to do what every Japanese subject has been doing for years.

MARQUIS ITO.

There is a rumour that Marquis Ito has been solicited to pay another visit to China. His Excellency is scarcely likely to comply, we imagine. The time is not opportune for his presence in Peking. All accounts go to show that the familiar palace intrigues are once more prevalent. It is true that Li Hung-chang has again acquired considerable power. Indeed, he ranks now with Prince Ching and Jung Lu as one of the great triad of political magnates. From that point of view Marquis Ito might expect a fine reception in the Chinese capital, for his relations with Prince Ching have become almost as intimate as his relations with Li. But until the supremacy of the Ching party is fully established, Marquis Ito could not expect to accomplish any thing. Jung Lu is said to be an inveterate foreign-hater. He is splendidly ignorant of foreign affairs, and if he had his way, he would once more enclose China within the four walls of arrogance, self-sufficiency, exclusiveness, and conservatism that encompassed her during so many centuries. Prince Ching, though two years ago no one would have ventured to call him a liberal statesman, had, at any rate, a mind open to conviction, and all his recently acquired convictions are said to be in favour of progress. Thus, by scarcely perceptible stages, he seems to have formed a camp opposed to Jung, and the Empress-Dowager also is reported to have become apprehensive lest the large measure of authority she has vested in the generalissimo should be abused so as to involve foreign complications. Li Hung-chang's influence must be supposed to be on the side of Ching, but there is much reason to suppose that Li's chief title to present consideration is based on his relations with Russia. He is believed to be the only Chinese statesman competent to deal with the great Northern Power, though in truth his method is very simple—perpetual concession and uniform complaisance. It is to be hoped, and perhaps it may be assumed, that Ching and Li will gain the ascendancy, for though as Englishmen we should be glad to see the old Viceroy permanently removed from official life, we can not deny that his presence in the political circle makes for China's progress. The Empress-Dowager, it is rumoured, is now beginning to incline towards the progressive ideas she found so offensive a year ago, but her record stands, and she can scarcely venture to change it conspicuously now, for all her great courage. We do do not see that Marquis Ito would be well advised to enter such an arena. His reputation forbids it.

KOBE ON THE EVE OF THE NEW ERA.

There has taken place at Kobe a social function somewhat similar to that recently held in Yokohama with reference to Treaty Revision, the difference being that in Yokohama the foreign community entertained the Japanese, whereas in Kobe the Japanese local officials entertained some of the foreign community, a difference very natural having regard to the circumstances. The only non-official speaker was Mr. Groom, and his language was cautious, though, on the whole, the general tone of his speech was calculated to reassure his fellow-residents as to the prospect before them. The Kobe International Committee, of which Mr. Groom is chairman, has evidently been working diligently to smoothe the path for the changes that have now been inaugurated, and it is satisfactory to learn that its efforts have been seconded by the Japanese Authorities and have resulted in a useful understanding on many points of importance. M. de Lucy-Fossarieu, Consul for France, spoke as Doyen of the Consular body. He probably considered that his representative capacity did not permit much latitude of expression, for he confined himself to a few graceful words of welcome to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the guest of the evening. Captain de Moraes, the Portuguese Consul, made some interesting remarks. Speaking on behalf of the only European community that has hitherto had practical experience of Japanese jurisdiction, he said that the record of seven years enabled him "to testify to the strict sense of equity and impartiality invariably displayed by the Japanese Courts whenever any of his nationals had come under the criminal jurisdiction of the Empire, and to express his conviction, based on the results of his lengthy experience, that foreigners will soon discover that under such jurisdiction they will find the same safeguards and guarantees, the same fair-minded and unbiassed treatment as they have hitherto enjoyed under the application of their own law and the jurisdiction of their own Courts." These remarks contrast rather curiously with some of the journalistic comments that have appeared from time to time about the treatment of Portuguese subjects by Japanese Law Courts, but we presume that the Consul's statements may be regarded as conclusive.

INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The first *bonâ-fide* introduction of foreign capital without official intervention is announced by vernacular newspapers. The amount is said to be one million *yen*, the interest 6 per cent., the selling price of the bonds 92, the period prior to redemption 10 years, and the total period for repayment, 36 years. It is for the Kobe Water-works that the money is required. The municipality desired to borrow 1,940,000 *yen*, but the American Trading Company, by which the loan has been arranged, would not guarantee more than one million, half of which was to have been paid on the 15th instant, and the remainder by December 15th. It is stated that the American capitalist concerned is Mr. Pierpont Morgan.

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THE SEVENTEETH AND THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The leading vernacular journals all devote their editorial columns, as might have been expected, to the consummation of the great work of Treaty Revision. The *Asahi* notes that the exclusion of two Powers, France and Austria-Hungary, from the general arrangement has been a source of much perplexity, but, at the same time, expresses gratitude to the Governments of those two States for the steps they have taken to smoothe the difficulty as far as possible. Referring to the probable results of the change, the *Asahi* thinks there will be cause to regret, not that foreigners flood the country, but that they come in very small numbers. At an earlier period in Japan's career foreign capital would probably have been invested, and at a later period also it will find opportunities. But this is just the transition era, and foreigners will hesitate to embark in any large enterprise.

The *Mainichi* calls the 17th a day of festival unprecedented in the twenty-five centuries of Japan's national existence, and adds that the history of the Orient presents no parallel. Japan is the first Oriental State to obtain admission to the comity of Occidental Powers on equal terms. It is to be observed, too, that, with the exception of Korea, other Eastern countries have had much longer intercourse with the West than Japan has had, but there is no appearance of their attaining the goal that she has reached. Of course the explanation is that, whereas she has not hesitated to adopt the best elements of Occidental civilization, they have pursued a different course. The *Mainichi* reminds its nationals that the competitive struggle now before them will tax all their energies, for, if the 19th century has been an age of steam, the 20th will be an era of electricity.

The *Jiji* thinks that, while Japan owes much to her own efforts, she is also greatly indebted to the fair and liberal view that foreigners have taken of her progress. It is also a matter for congratulation and gratitude that the attitude of the foreign residents at this juncture is thoroughly friendly and considerate. The Japanese Authorities have been greatly assisted thereby. No more convincing proof could have been afforded of the fine spirit animating foreigners than the Notification issued by the United States Minister. If in the face of such an attitude on the foreign side and of the steps taken by the Sovereign and the Government of this Empire, there should be found even one Japanese who behaves rudely or violently, not only will the Emperor's purpose be contravened, but the country will be discredited in the eyes of foreigners.

The *Chuo Shimbun*, though it lends its voice to swell the chorus of general rejoicing, reminds its readers that Japan has achieved only the outward semblance of equality with Occidental States. She has now to face the task of accomplishing the reality. The revision of the Treaties has not conferred any new strength upon her, though it has imposed new obligations. The business before her is to prove by solid progress that she is entitled to the place she has gained. It is to be much regretted that she has departed from the due order of development by putting military expansion before commercial growth, and she must spare no effort to correct the defects incidental to that state of affairs.

The *Jimmin* is particularly complimentary to England, which took the lead in placing Japan on a footing of equality with Western States. Doubtless the British Government appreciated the progress Japan had made, but its action is not the less deserving of this country's profound gratitude. The Liberal organ then passes to the Notification of the United States Representative. It says that one rises from the perusal of that document with a feeling such as would be produced by pleasant and gentle spring zephyrs blowing abundantly into all the chambers of one's house. America was the first to draw Japan from her seclusion, and she crowns her work by her unequivocally friendly attitude towards the Japanese at the moment of their success. England was the Power which finally enabled Japan to achieve success. The Anglo-Saxon cousins figure well in this drama. It is now only to be hoped that the Instructions issued by the Ministers of State, especially that of the Minister of Education, and the Injunctions of the high prelates of Buddhism will not become so much waste paper.

The *Kokumin* calls the consummation of Treaty Revision the greatest achievement in Japanese history, and trusts that this country, while fully discharging the duties that now devolve on it, will not sacrifice its own status and interests. It expresses the nation's strong sense of the good will of foreign Powers, and notes with much satisfaction the admirable spirit displayed at this juncture by Western Governments, Western Representatives in Japan, and the Western residents in the Settlements. With reference to the last point it quotes a leading article from *The Times* of June 5th. commenting on a letter from the latter's Tokyo correspondent, and says that *The Times* may be regarded as the mouth-piece of the educated classes in Europe, especially where it says that "it rests largely with the foreign resident to assist the conciliatory and enlightened policy of which the ruling class in Japan has given substantial proofs."

The *Shogyo Shimpo* echoes the universal sentiment of satisfaction. It considers that Japan has now at length completed the great work of the Meiji era, and it trusts that the nation will celebrate the event with not less fervour than it showed on the occasion of the promulgation of the Constitution.

FORMOSAN FINANCE.

The figures relating to Formosan finance during the past four years, as quoted by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, point to a time in the near future when the island will be self-supporting. This is the table :—

Year (fiscal.	Revenue. Yen.	Contribution from Treasury in Tokyo. Yen.
1896 7	2,711,872	8,041,906
1897 8	5,324,243	5 951,048
1898-9	5,096 618	3 984,543
1899 0	12,857,625	3 000 000
1900-1	14,245,626	2.598,611

The figures for 1900-1, we need scarcely explain, are taken from the estimates now before the Cabinet.

THE TRANSVAAL.

It is tolerably evident that the Boers do not mean to fight. They are playing a very petty part, tinkering and soldering their franchise proposals, and making with the most graceless reluctance concessions which might have won credit for them had a little magnanimity been shown at the outset. Even now, however, it is impossible to interpret the telegraphic news with any certainty. The Uitlanders have insisted throughout that a residential qualification longer than five years would not remove their grievances, and five years was the term proposed by Sir Alfred Milner at the Bloemfontein Conference. Seven years is therefore a compromise between President Kruger's nine-year scheme and Sir Alfred Milner's five-year demand. Naturally England will not draw the sword on account of a difference of two years. But it remains to be seen whether the seven-years concession is not accompanied by conditions which would render it illusory in practice. That has been the case with all previous programmes of the Boers, and it is very possible that they are now endeavouring to "hedge" by means of some obnoxious saving clause. President Kruger is believed to be the only man capable of inducing his nationals to take a reasonable course, but we doubt whether even President Kruger can have persuaded the Volksraad to vote, with virtual unanimity, a franchise bill providing no device to save the situation. It will be found, we imagine, that a little more climbing down is necessary.

JAPANESE EMPLOYES IN JAPANESE STEAMERS

A strange announcement is made by a Tokyo contemporary. The Directors of the *Toyo Kisen Kaisha*, we read, have determined that the officers and crews of their steamers shall be altogether foreigners. Hitherto they have employed foreigners in the capacity of captains, pursers, chief engineers, and navigating officers, the remainder of the crew consisting of Japanese. But the arrangement has not proved satisfactory, owing to the fact that the Japanese *employés* have developed a spirit of insubordination and roughness which, if left unchanged, would soon prove fatal to the passenger traffic. The directors apparently see no hope of correcting matters, and have accordingly come to the conclusion that there is nothing for it but to get rid of the Japanese altogether, and to engage European or American officers, filling up the lower ranks with Chinese. That is a courageous resolve, and the public will be curious to see how it is carried out. We believe that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha would gladly have taken some step of the kind long ago, not as a permanent measure, but as a means of restoring discipline. The Japanese make excellent sailors, and we all know how courteous and obliging they can be. But after the war with China the men employed in steamers carrying foreign passengers made themselves exceedingly obnoxious, and had it been convenient to replace them by Chinese or Lascars recourse would certainly have been had to that expedient. Complaints have not been heard for some time now, but apparently their absence must not be interpreted too favourably.

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THE TELEPHONE IN TOKYO.

Everybody knows that the provision made by the authorities for supplying telephones to the citizens of Tokyo does not nearly suffice to meet the demand. There are only 4,171 telephones installed in stores, company's offices and private houses, and there are 3,582 applications waiting to be granted. In fact, it is possible to sell for a sum of from 200 to 300 *yen* the privilege of possessing a telephone, though the holder of the privilege did not pay a *sen* originally for the installation. At the outset the charge for a telephone was only 40 *yen per annum*, but it was increased some time ago to 66 *yen*. The increase exercised a slightly deterrent effect for the moment, but soon the demand became as brisk as ever. The Authorities have been for some time engaged in carrying out a scheme of expansion, which they expect to complete by the end of 1902. It will then be possible to supply telephones to ten thousand persons. One of the difficulties now standing in the way of speedy expansion is that a great deal of labour has to be devoted to moving telephones from place to place to suit the convenience of their owners. The average of such operations is 54 per month. Steps are now being taken to double existing lines, and it is expected that, by the end of this year or the beginning of next, it will be possible to supply 3,400 additional telephones. The use made of the line between Tokyo and Osaka is not, as yet, very great. Only a hundred messages are sent daily. The number is said to be increasing, however. There were 467 miles of overhead line laid in Tokyo at the close of last year, and 8 miles, approximately, of underground, and the number of messages sent in the year was 17,545,945, or a little more than one message per second.

THE ADVANTAGES OF MIXED RESIDENCE.

The *Nippon* joins its contemporaries in expressing joy at the consummation of Treaty Revision, but desires to point to a cause of congratulation which seems to have escaped their attention. It is that with the advent of foreigners there will arise additional reasons for circumspection on the part of the police and for independence on that of the Judiciary. Rumour says that the Minister of Justice has instructed the police to deal lightly with the offences of gambling, secret prostitution, and abortion, inasmuch as too close scrutiny into such matters is sure to involve undue interference with the liberty of the subject. Mixed Residence thus confers indirect benefits on the nation. Our contemporary might have elaborated this theme very considerably, but is probably restrained by tactful considerations.

FOREIGNERS AND MUNICIPAL TAXES.

It is stated that, in consideration of the fact that the revised treaties with France and Austria-Hungary do not go into force until August 4, the foreign residents will not be considered liable for local taxes prior to that date. An instruction in that sense has been issued to the local authorities in Tokyo, and we may assume that the rule will be uniformly applied.

THE BUDDHISTS AND TREATY REVISION.

The High Prelate of the Western Hongwan-ji, who may be called the Primate of Japan, has addressed to the priests and adherents of his sect a strongly worded Injunction with reference to the Imperial Rescript on the subject of Treaty Revision. The injunction is not signed by Count Otani himself. It bears the name of the *Shūgyo-cho* (Chief Vicar) who, however, declares himself simply his superior's spokesman. The Injunction sets out by reminding its readers of their duty in carrying out the Imperial behest, and goes on to say that any rude or violent behaviour or language in intercourse with foreigners will constitute an act of criminality not only towards the State but also towards the sect. Freedom of conscience having been granted by the Constitution, no distinction must be made between the liberty enjoyed by alien and native creeds, and, the treaties having guaranteed to foreigners the same rights and privileges as those enjoyed by Japanese subjects, that fact must be recognised in the conduct of all Buddhist priests no less than in that of laymen. The tenets and rules of the Sect of course call for strict observance, but such observance must on no account be carried to the extent of encroaching upon the rights and privileges of foreigners merely because they profess an alien creed. The Injunction concludes by exhorting all adherents of the Sect to respect the earnest desire of their Prelate (*Daihassu-den*) and to assist him to the utmost of their ability in giving full effect to the Imperial will.

The Shin Sect, of which Count Otani Koson is chief prelate, occupies in Japan almost the same position towards other sects of Buddhism that Protestantism holds in England towards other forms of Christianity. The issue of this Injunction is, therefore, a matter of much importance, and is regarded as such by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which justly calls it a most enlightened and liberal document. Indeed, when we consider what dimensions the spirit of religious intolerance usually takes, this act of Count Otani's strikes us as a very remarkable display of magnanimity. Few parallels could be found for it in the history of other countries. The *Nichi Nichi* notes that, although Buddhism is an alien creed from a Japanese point of view, it has been adapted to the spirit and idiosyncracies of the Japanese nation, as have all the many borrowings made by this country from abroad. From that point of view Buddhism only obeys its long-acquired principles when it reflects the sentiments of liberality now permeating the Japanese nation.

An Injunction similar to that emanating from Count Otani has been issued by the Chief Prelate of the Shingon Sect, Mr. Mikami Kaiun. The Shingon Sect has its head-quarters at the celebrated monastery of Koya, and possesses a very large following among the people. We presume that the prelates of the other great sects will follow these excellent examples, though we frankly admit that foreigners can not reasonably claim anything of the kind at their hands.

A CHOICE CHARGE.

The Foreign Missionaries, writes the *Asahi Shimbun*, are so anxious to show a large number of converts that they have of late begun to enlist idle and illiterate folk without any discrimination and to spend considerable sums just for the sake of getting people to recite "Amens." Fellows that have no means of subsistence attach themselves to the missionary merely to get a mouthful of rice, or to make a little money, or to have an opportunity of learning a foreign language without incurring any expense. When the missionaries and their wives retire into the hills at Arima or Karuizawa to escape the summer heat, all these temporary limpets will loosen their attachment and drop back into their old places of unbelief.

The above sounds to us very like a specimen of the scavenger journalism to which we lately alluded. But the *Asahi* is a newspaper of high standing which would not wittingly lend its columns for the discrimination of any falsehood. It is therefore just possible that there may be a grain of truth in these statements, and if so, they will doubtless receive consideration from the missionaries.

CHINESE COMMERCIAL COMMISSION.

There are now staying at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo a number of Chinese gentlemen who have come to Japan ostensibly to investigate the state of commercial affairs in this country. It is believed, however, that their visit has a political object. Experience has taught the Chinese that the more they rely on Western countries, the more expensive does such reliance prove; that, in short, to enlist the assistance of one European State against the aggressions of another means a larger payment ultimately to the former than the concessions which the latter would have exacted. So they have decided at last to turn to their neighbour, who is bound to them by ties that ought to stand a heavy strain. Such is the construction put upon the visit of these Chinese merchants by the vernacular press. It seems to us that to infer the sentiments of such a nation as the Chinese from the sayings or doings of a few merchants is a little too previous.

THE BUST OF DR. DIVERS.

We understand that considerable progress has been made with the bronze bust of Dr. Divers which is to be set up in the Imperial University. Two sculptors have been engaged on the work, Mr. Naganuma, professor of sculpture in the Art School, and Mr. Okuma, who is now giving the finishing touches to the equestrian statue of Prince Arisugawa. The clay models are to be viewed by the Committee in a few days, when a choice will be made. The one selected will be subsequently cast in plaster, and finally in bronze by the *cire perdue* process. It is stated that both sculptors have been very successful, especially Mr. Okuma.

We observe that after Dr. Divers' presentation to the Emperor on the 12th instant, when His Majesty thanked him warmly for his long and able services in Japan, Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education, entertained the distinguished chemist at his official residence. Dr. Divers leaves Japan by the *Doric* on the 5th proximo.

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INSURANCE BUSINESS UNDER THE NEW REGIMEN.

A correspondent, writing with reference to insurance business under the new regimen, states his belief that foreign agencies will not be recognised as such for the purposes of the Business Tax, but will be regarded as branches. The point is of considerable importance, for whereas a branch (*shiten*) has to pay tax on its capital, its premises, and its employés, an agent's tax is limited to one per cent. of his commissions and 1 *yen* per head on its employés. We have examined all the laws and ordinances bearing on this subject, and we can find nothing that supports our correspondent's contention. Moreover, we have inquired in official quarters, and are assured that no change has been made, or could have been made, in the law. An agency (*dairi-ten*) will be treated as an agency, not as a branch (*shiten*).

It becomes important in this context to determine what is meant by an "agent." The 36th article of the Commercial Code answers the question. It says:—

An agent is a person who, without being an assistant, habitually acts on behalf of a particular trader as his representative or intermediary in commercial transactions belonging to the branch of business carried on by such trader.

There can be little doubt that this definition includes practically all the foreigners engaged in insurance business in Japan. They are simply the representatives or intermediaries of companies in Europe or America, and they habitually act on behalf of such companies in commercial transactions. Some of these representatives—especially those engaged in marine insurance business—are not authorized to issue policies, their functions being merely to settle claims in connexion with policies payable in Japan, to inspect damages, and generally to watch the interests of the companies they represent. It has been suggested that such intermediaries, inasmuch as they are not competent to transact any new business, need not pay taxes or even register. But that view would not be legally recognised, we are persuaded. The law would regard them as agents, and the tax-collector would expect a payment of one per cent. of their commissions.

The commoner and more comprehensive class of duties includes the issue of fire policies, and the reception of proposals for life insurances, the ultimate decision as to granting or refusing the latter being determined by the Company itself. Persons conducting such business are obviously agents, and are therefore absolved from any obligation to pay a tax on the capital their principals employ in Japan, or to render any returns of capital.

This question of capital appears to be causing much concern. Foreigners are anxious to do exactly what is right, and not to evade their legal responsibilities in any way. But in the case of most of the insurance branches established in Japan, no capital is actually employed. The branch does not handle money further than to collect premiums and remit them at intervals. When claims for losses have to be met, funds are obtained by drawing bills on the head office. Still there can be no doubt that a part of the Company's capital is involved in the business in Japan, and the question arises, how is that part to be estimated? At first sight it appears easy to find the ratio between the premiums collected in connexion with Japan and the total premiums collected by the Company, and to divide the capital in that ratio. But the custom of reinsurance complicates the calculation. Few companies accept the whole of the risks appearing in their names. It is usual for several companies to agree as to a division of all risks, *in posse* as well as *in esse*. Thus, when a policy is issued in Japan for a certain amount in the name of a certain company, the actual share of the company is not the amount declared in the policy but only a portion of that amount. The local branches, however, have no more knowledge about the method of division pursued by the Company than about the profits or losses resulting from the business initiated or transacted in Japan. It is obviously impossible for them, therefore, to make any accurate returns for the purposes of the Business Tax. But we do not see that any special difficulty need be experienced on that score. If the necessary returns can not be furnished here, they can be procured from the head office, supposing that a branch, not an agency, is in question. The Commercial Code went into operation on June 16th, and an interval of 6 months from that date is allowed for satisfying the requirements of the law. We are further assured that, if the interval prove inadequate, an extension can easily be obtained, and no obstacle will meanwhile be offered to the continuance of the company's local business. The head offices, however, will probably be able to make the needed calculation at once. Thus, if F be the total invested fund of a company, including reserves, P the total premia collected, deducting re-insurances, and f the total premia received in connexion with Japan, then $\frac{F}{P} \times f$ will be the capital employed in Japan. For example, if a Company with invested funds aggregating 10 millions sterling (say 100 million *yen*) has a total premium income of 2½ million sterling (say 25 million *yen*), and if its premium income for Japan be 20,000 *yen*—sums paid for reinsurance being, of course, deducted—, then the capital of the Japan branch is $\frac{100}{25} \times 20{,}000$, or 80,000 *yen*. But, after all, the method of calculation is for the company itself to determine. It may be taken for granted that no frivolous objections will be raised or vexatious scrutiny instituted by the Japanese Authorities.

The Registration Law also seems to be giving some trouble. We have heard it stated that some companies would be likely to close their agencies in Japan rather than go to the trouble of preparing the numerous and intricate documents required. But it is chiefly a matter of filling in forms. Articles of association, indeed, will have to be copied and translated, a lengthy task in some cases. Ample leisure will be given, however, and, after this initial trouble is surmounted, the rest should be plain sailing. We sincerely hope that, in the interests of tradal and industrial development, Japan will soon repeal the Business Tax and greatly modify the Registration Tax Law, but in the interval some inconvenience must be borne.

Perhaps it may be advantageous to add that all necessary information and assistance can be obtained from Mr. Saito, Chief of the Finance Bureau in the Kanagawa Prefectural Government.

BONDS AND TAXES.

Another correspondent addresses us on the subject of the taxation of Japanese bonds held by foreigners. He says:—"More than once the *Mail* has spoken of foreign holders having already had to pay income tax. That is a mistake. It has only been necessary for the banker or agent of the holder to certify that the latter was a foreigner, whereupon the dividends were paid in full." In spite of this denial we must adhere to our assertion that the tax has been actually paid by foreigners. We know of two cases. Possibly the fault may have rested with the agent employed by the foreigners. If so—and we note that our last correspondent speaks from actual experience—, it may be presumed that those who have unduly paid the tax will be able to recover their money. The fact is that in the case of unregistered bonds it is impossible for the authorities to discriminate, unless some special assistance is rendered by the holder. They simply levy the 2 per cent. provided by law.

The fixed rate of 2 per cent. for bonds gives rise to a curious complication which was noted by a member of the House of Peers last session. Suppose that a man has an income of ten thousand *yen* annually. Then, according to the taxation schedule, he has to pay 300 *yen* by way of income tax. But if he invests 100 *yen* of his income-producing property in bonds, so that his income is reduced to 9,995 *yen* from various sources and 5 *yen* from public bonds, then he escapes with a payment of 249.875 *yen* (2½ per cent.) on his general income, and 10 *sen* on his bonds, his total payment thus becoming 249.275 *yen*, so that he saves 50.025 *yen*. People having incomes of 5,000 *yen* or over will find temptations to invest in bonds, if such a course be possible.

NATIONAL EXPANSION.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* remonstrates with its countrymen on the tendency they show to neglect their opportunities in the north through respect for an irrational theory that Japan's expansion must take place in a southerly direction, and that she must be content with a defensive attitude in the north. A nation's expansion should take place along the line of least resistance and wherever most profit presents itself. Hokkaido fulfils these conditions at present. People complain that 70 millions of *yen* have been expended on it, but they forget that splendid results have been obtained and that the island now gives promise of great development. But the Government seems to have grown weary of Hokkaido. A great fuss is made about railways in Formosa whereas no official interest whatever is taken in the Kanson Railway (Hakodate to Otaru) which may nevertheless be called the vertebral line of Yezo. And not merely in Hokkaido but also in northern China and Siberia great fields of enterprise offer where, as yet, there is no competition, but the Japanese seem bent upon turning southward where opportunities are few and competition is keen.

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JAPANESE WOMEN.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has long been a staunch advocate of woman's rights, at least to the extent of effecting some marked improvements in her status in Japan. But, on the whole, the modernized Japanese woman does not find great favour in the eyes of the strong sex. She is said to be parody of a man (*hensei danshi*); to be without gentleness or refinement, and even to carry her forwardness to the length of talking law and politics. In short, she is summed up as "a sickening sort of person." Strange to say, the *Jiji Shimpo* does not deny these charges. The defence it offers is that no system should be condemned because a few of its results are bad. In the days when the *Kinno* (honour the Sovereign) agitation was carried on, it betrayed some of its promoters into acts of disgraceful violence, and when the first political party was fighting for representative government, excesses were committed which no one could defend, yet the conclusion was never drawn that the Restoration should not be consummated or that the grant of a Constitution would not be a blessing. So the process of the new woman's evolution may be disfigured by some accidents, but there can be no doubt about the result. But the fact is that the unsightly spectacles of which the critics complain are to a large extent subjective. It is the novelty of the thing that surprises them, not its intrinsic defect. The new woman stands out with objectionable salience because her environment is so colourless. She is like the bat in the birdless village of the proverb.

MILITARY SECRETS AND SLAVISHNESS TO THE LETTER OF THE LAW.

The Diet last session passed a law for the better preservation of military secrets, and, according to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the law has been applied in an almost ludicrously stringent manner. Facts which in Western countries are public property have to be rigorously concealed in Japan, and it is impossible to obtain information which in reality need not be withheld at all. We can not discover the exact reasons for this complaint, but it is impossible not to endorse the criticism of the *Kokumin* that excessively strict attention is paid to the letter of the law in this country, and that wise discrimination is not exercised in applying its provisions. Perhaps to expect anything else would be premature. When men are required to administer new laws which are entirely strange to them and which represent a system altogether beyond the range of their experience, it is natural that they should cling to the exact text of every regulation rather than risk disaster for themselves by making any departure from it. Time will mend that fault. A story is told of a Japanese station master who would not allow a small boy to enter the train because he carried a miniature crab dangling from the end of a string. The sapient official pointed to a regulation forbidding passengers to take live animals into railway carriages. Such extreme cases are rare, but they illustrate the general tendency.

"DANJURO."

Ichikawa Danjuro, the great Japanese actor, will doubtless be interested to learn that his name "Danjuro" is adopted as a *nom-de-plume* by the writer of the dramatic notes in the columns of the latest addition to English journalism, *The London Letter*. Very clever notes they are too. Indeed we may say of the *Letter* that it promises to take high rank. Its matter is admirable, and the choice of subjects, as well as their arrangement, could scarcely be happier.

THE BOOKSHELF.

In Guiana Wilds, by JAMES RODWAY (The Overseas Library—T. FISHER UNWIN).

THE third volume of the Overseas Library is apparently the work of a pen not greatly practised in the story-teller's art, but a pen, nevertheless, wielded with considerable vigour. Mr. Rodway is a man evidently who knows and feels what he writes. His knowledge of the tropical forest, the Georgetown settlement, the white man's life and lusts, is not the book knowledge of a suburban Cockney, nor the hasty, ill-formed, and perspectiveless impression of a literary globe-trotter. He realises for us the mysterious depths of the equatorial swamps and thickets, all the more impressive because of their contrast with the sordid villages established here and there in the wild corners of the earth by the superior white man—places where he can trade, make money, die of fever, and "convert" the natives from the glorious neutrality of plain savagery to a caricature of civilisation. Mr. Rodway has seen Georgetown; he has been up the Demarara; he knows the idle, shiftless "boviander" of mixed English, Dutch, Indian, and negro blood; his Chloe, the dusky magnificent daughter of such a mean lounger, is evidently a real woman, and not a novelist's creation; and so is the Arawak girl with whom the hero forms his second *liaison*. Allan Gordon, the said hero, is a young dry goods clerk newly arrived from Glasgow. He meets with Chloe, whose splendid comeliness conquers him, during a trip into the forest. It is a wooing in keeping with the burning sun, the superabundant life, the rich and vivid colouring of the tropics. The whole episode is described in a manner which to our mind approaches in vividness, if not in beauty, the description of Amyas Leigh's temptation in "Westward Ho." Gordon, less valiant than the young hero of Devon, yields, and when he awakes again to reason he finds himself tied to a creole in whom new vices and inherited weaknesses begin to manifest themselves daily. And this is the kind of dialogue that passes between husband and wife—not largely different perhaps, from such dialogues in all parts of the world, but with a certain piquancy of its own:—

"Oh, Chloe! How can you say such things? so wicked."

"Not mean it! Of course I mean it, and that you will soon see if you bother me too much. You don't know me! I can be a blackguard if I like! Wasn't my great grand-mother black? And don't you know that black women fight with their men? But you poor cowardly whites can't lift a finger to a woman. We can beat you, and we do it too. Poor, miserable, stingy wretches you are. Look at your sickly white faces! My face always looks the same; when you get fever we can't bear to look at you. Don't think I am going to nurse you; I would scorn to go near you."

In short, Chloe the dusky goddess becomes Chloe the shrewish virago, with propensities and peculiarities of her own, and the tongue of a demon. Chloe's evolution is the most interesting feature of the book, though the latter is called "a study of two women." The other woman is an Indian, barbarian *pure et simple*, and therefore less interesting than the racial hodge-podge represented by Chloe. Of the hero's adventures after parting with Chloe, his wanderings, and his discoveries we need not speak. We refer readers to Mr. Rodway's interesting story, and to the sequel which he promises us.

MARQUIS ITO AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES.

One result of Marquis Ito's care not to identify himself finally with any political party is that all the parties are struggling to obtain his cooperation. It has seldom fallen to the lot of any statesman to occupy such a high position in the opinion of every section of a nation. There is absolutely no voice raised in Japan against the Marquis. The people are unanimous in regarding him as the ablest and most trustworthy publicist that the country possesses. It is not surprising, therefore, that his recent visit to Utsunomiya and his delivery of a speech at a meeting convened by the Liberal leaders, should have attracted great attention. But it is surprising, in our opinion, that any doubt should exist as to the Marquis' ultimate proclivities. Marquis Ito, though he did not actually join the Liberals in 1896, made use of them to pass his *post-bellum* programme through the Diet, and publicly acknowledged the value of their cōoperation by resigning office when the Liberal leader could not be induced to remain any longer in the Cabinet. With such a record behind him, he can not pass into a camp opposed to the Liberals. He may, indeed, refuse to take his stand on any party platform, and persist in maintaining his independence. There would be just grounds for such a choice in view of the present state of the Liberals. But if he ever does identify himself with a party, it will be with the Liberals. We can not discover any other issue. The *Nippon* observes with much truth that if the Liberals imagine they can use Marquis Ito for their own ends, they will find themselves vastly mistaken. They are much more likely to be used by him. He is too old now to take any risks. If he consents to lead another Cabinet, it will only be under circumstances fully adapted to the consummation of his aims. Our contemporary thinks that the reality of party Government will then be achieved, for if the Marquis goes with the Liberals, several Satsuma statesmen will throw in their lot with the Progressists. Therefore the wisest plan for the latter is to abstain from all attempts to erect a partition between the Marquis and the Liberals.

Marquis Ito, speaking at the meeting of Liberals in Utsunomiya, said that the policy indicated by the Emperor in his celebrated "five-article declaration" (*go-kajo no goseimon*) at the beginning of the *Meiji* era had been steadily pursued by successive administrations. The gist of that policy was intercourse with the outer world so as to secure the independence of the country and increase its reputation. If feudalism had been abolished and the people admitted to a share in the administration of State affairs, it was in order that Sovereign and subject might work together in the cause of national progress, and the national strength be effectually united. Henceforth there devolves upon Japan the duty not merely of preserving peace and order within her own realm, but also of stepping out boldly into the world and en-

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deavouring to augment the national strength and wealth. The strength of the people is the strength of the country. There is an abstract element of that strength and there is a concrete element. The concrete element is capital; the abstract element, ability. The former is an outcome of material progress; the development of business and the increase of those engaged in it. The latter is the result of education. Of both these elements the foundations have now been laid, and the time for actually building on them has come. The way to do that is to enter into active competition with the countries of the world. Competition does not mean contention. The day is past when Europe and America fought simply for territorial aggrandisement and national glory. They now engage only in a peaceful struggle for profit. To obtain profit is the true test of practical progress. In plain language, what has to be sought before everything is the development of trade, agriculture, and industry. Agriculture grows within domestic limits, but the pursuit of commerce and manufacturing involves competition with foreign peoples, and the field for expansion is virtually unlimited. Whether the object be to complete the military defences, or to extend the benefits of education to all classes, or to promote general enlightenment, what has to be done first is to foster trade and industry. The great struggle of the era is the struggle of trade and industry. Unless material prosperity accompanies military expansion, the latter can not be utilized. It comes to this, that military expansion can only be effected with the profits derived from commerce and manufacture. Japan now possesses constitutional institutions. Her next business is to develop her natural strength. Differences in administrative theories are the origin of political parties, but the objects that the country as a whole keeps before its eyes should be quite independent of political parties. Public opinion may be divided, political parties may be broken up, but the national aims should remain unshaken. It is not altogether wrong to say that the Peace Conference now sitting is a proof that the principles of political economy are receiving fuller recognition. The nations are beginning to appreciate the wastefulness of the immense burdens with which they have saddled themselves. Certainly if a State desires to be beyond the reach of all foreign influences, it must possess powerful armaments. That means increased taxation, and taxes can not be increased unless there is a reserve of financial strength to draw upon. The long and short of the matter is that, if the national strength is to be increased, the first thing to do is to develop trade and industry, and to carry them not merely into domestic fields, but also into the European and American arena.

AN OPINION ON THE RELIGIOUS QUESTION.

It is somewhat of a surprise to find the *Nippon* advocating the State recognition of Buddhism. Three long articles are devoted by our contemporary to the subject, but their gist can be compressed into a small compass. Shinto is dismissed by the *Nippon* as not a religion at all, in the proper sense of the term. It may be justly designated a cult of retrospect. Religious creeds, as we know them, are concerned chiefly about a future state, but *Shinto* has to do with the past and the past only. It rivets a man's attention on the graves of his ancestors and does not ask him to give any thought to what lies beyond his own grave. Buddhism, on the contrary, answers all the requirements of a religion, and has the immense advantage of having been long ago adapted to Japanese customs and traditions. It was, in fact, the religion of the State in pre-Restoration days, and it has every title to be restored to its old place. There are certainly some sects of Buddhism—*e.g.*, the *Remmon-kyo*—which deserve to be interdicted rather than sanctioned, but to discriminate against these abuses would be a mere matter of judgment. Coming to Christianity, the *Nippon* emphatically denies the expediency of extending to it any measure of State recognition. That the Christians should enjoy perfect freedom to profess and practise their faith is a constitutional principle. But there can be no question that the tenets of Christianity are opposed to the traditions which form the bases of Japanese nationalism, and that such a creed could not be officially recognised without doing violence to much which the nation cherishes. Besides, there is reason to think that official recognition of Christianity would involve complications with foreign Powers. Official recognition carries with it the duty of inspection, and occasionally of interference. It is not in the genius of Christianity to endure interference of any kind. All intrusions of officialism would be resented, and the sequel would be troubles not unlikely to involve foreign intervention. "We do not," says our contemporary, "object to the doctrine of Christianity, (*kyogi*) but we maintain that its forms (*kyotai*) have not been naturalized in Japan."

We (*Japan Mail*) reproduce these remarks without comment of our own.

MARITIME ENTERPRISE.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha appears to be throwing a great deal of determination into its conduct of the Yangtze navigation scheme. The Manager, Mr. Ishiwara, returned lately from a tour of inspection in China, and his report is now under consideration. He estimates that to construct suitable wharves and warehouses at Shanghai, Hankow, and Ichang, a sum of about seven hundred thousand *yen* will be required, and that three steamers of at least 1,500 tons must be built, if efficient competition is to be carried on with the companies already engaged in the trade. Altogether, some two million *yen* must be provided. Mr. Ishiwara suggests that the necessary funds be borrowed for the time being, and that the shareholders be asked next year to add 2½ millions to the capital, thus bringing it up to 8 million *yen*. He further advises the establishment of a service between Hongkong and Tientsin, to make connexion with the steamers now plying between Japan and China.

RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO KOREA.

It is alleged that the Cabinet has decided to suspend the operation of the recently issued Urgency Ordinance restricting the travel of Japanese subjects to Korea. The Ordinance was issued in connexion with the news of dynamite outrages in the Korean capital. Some Japanese subjects were supposed to be implicated in the trouble, and the Japanese Government, doubtless influenced by the experience of 1886 adopted precautions which were subsequently shown to be excessive, for investigation proved that no Japanese had been connected with the affair. It is now an open secret that the Foreign Office in Tokyo strongly opposed the issue of the Urgency Ordinance, but other members of the Cabinet took a different view. Naturally the Ministry have been much ridiculed for their nervous precipitancy, and they are now again sharply censured in connexion with the expected suspension of the Ordinance. All that can be said is that superfluity of caution is a very venial sin.

A NAIL FACTORY.

We read in vernacular newspapers that the nail factory established two years ago in the Fukagawa district of Tokyo by Mr. Yasuda Zenjo is now doing a large business. For many years, imported nails were preferred to those made in Japan, and the quantity bought from England, America, and Germany rose to 300 000 barrels yearly, the weight of each barrel being 133 lbs. Mr. Yasuda thought that Japan might produce these articles for herself. He therefore despatched an engineer to the United States to study processes, and, though detailed information proved very difficult to obtain, it was found possible to start a factory in Furuye-cho. Last year, the quantity manufactured there was 140,000 barrels, and a good market was found in Japan, Formosa, Korea, and China. There are two American experts and 150 workmen now employed at the Fukagawa establishment, and, after the arrival of some new machinery which has been ordered, it is expected that the output will suffice not only for Japan's needs but also for export abroad. Mr. Yasuda is said to look forward to finding a market even in Europe.

THE JAPANESE LOAN.

The following paragraph, which we take from the *London and China Express* of June 2nd, and which relates to the events of the week prior to the issue of the Japanese loan, confirms the truth of the statements transmitted to the Tokyo Government from London, namely, that the difficulty of inducing the general public to subscribe for the loan was mainly due to intrigues set on foot with the object of discrediting the transaction:—

It would seem from statements circulated this week that a clique has been trying to do what it can to damage the prospects of the loan. First we were told that the negotiations had broken off and that it would be withdrawn or reduced. When this proved false by a completion of the arrangements with the Japanese Government on 29th ult. we were told that there were hitches in the underwriting. As a matter of fact the whole sum has been underwritten, and more could have been done if required. Finally it was put forward as a heinous offence that Parr's, which is one of the issuing banks, had been guilty of taking millions of the issue "firm." Had they indeed done this they would have deserved what was said, but the whole story is a misapprehension of the facts. The four banks already named joined as agents in the issue of the loan, but they have not bought it, which is what "taking it firm" means. All they have done is to sell it, and this they have done so successfully that it is more than covered by the underwriters. The mere mention of these facts shows, however, that some have been trying their little best to disparage the issue.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, July 15th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,298,232
Amount of convertible notes issued...	197,085,589
Government deposits	42,700,540
General deposits	7,485,119
Exchange liability	60,645
Total	293,620,126

CR.	
Discount notes	39,186,309
Foreign discount notes	9,951,795
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	67,003,970
Exchange liability	3,222,736
Government bonds	43,984,297
Property...	1,883,767
Bullion and Specie	106,380,749
Total	293,620,126

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes those ...	196,926,610
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	102,267,183
Silver	
Total	102,267,183
Securities:—	
Government bonds	28,710,455
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	7,762,997
Commercial notes	25,189,966
Total	94,659,418

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	625,664	—
Silver	2,392,650	—
General loans	—	—
Government deposits	—	1,401,752
General deposits	—	9,967,941

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE PUBLIC HALL.

A good deal of sentiment was imported into the debate on the question of the Public Hall last Tuesday. Some of the speakers animadverted very severely on the conduct of Mr. KIRKWOOD, their remarks being couched in terms which represented him as having engaged in a speculation to enrich himself at the expense of an institution designed for the comfort and convenience of the community at large, and never contemplated in the light of a money-making concern. We can not find in Mr. KIRKWOOD'S correspondence any justification for such comments. As our report of the proceedings did not include the correspondence, we have applied to Mr. KIRKWOOD for copies, and have received with them his written assurance that the letters cover the whole situation, and that no verbal communications of any kind have taken place :—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Tokyo, July 19, 1899.

Sir,—In reply to your request for a copy of the correspondence that has passed in relation to the Public Hall, I have the pleasure to now forward it to you. It consists of 8 letters. Beyond these not a word has passed either in writing or verbally between myself and the Directors or myself and Mr. Lowder.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Tokyo, July 6th, 1899.

To the Chairman and Directors, Public Hall Association, Yokohama.

Dear Sirs,—I should be obliged if before the 17th instant you would cause to be paid me the arrears of interest due on the 23 debentures I hold, issued by the Association, and which arrears now amount to *yen* 1,288.

I have not seen the accounts of the Association for the last financial year, no annual general meeting having, so far as I know, been held, and consequently I am not aware whether the balance to profit and loss admits of the payment of the capital also. Should this not be the case, the Debentures after the 17th instant will have to be registered as a mortgage in the Japanese registers.

But it has no doubt occurred to you, gentlemen, that the Association must, in some form or other, pass under Japanese law and in some form or other be registered. In its present form of constitution it complies with none of the requirements of the law for partnerships and companies, and I venture, therefore, as a shareholder to lay before you the following suggestions.

The shareholders and debenture-holders of the Association supplied their money and have seen nothing for it. It is only fair that, if they can in some form or other get it back, that they should do so. The property of the Association has no doubt greatly appreciated in value. Its only debts are a loan of $9,500 and the debentures.

A fair and equitable solution of the whole financial question might, I think, be easily arrived at.

Let the present concern be wound up and all its assets and liabilities be taken over by a new company properly formed and registered with a capital of, say, 30,000 *yen* in 50 *yen* shares. Let each holder of a share in the old, who applies within a reasonable time, have issued to him a share in the new.

Let each debenture-holder be paid what is owing to him by shares in the new.

Let the remaining shares be put, so far as required, on the market and the loan of $9,500 be paid off.

With a capital of 30,000 *yen*, there is no reason why the company should not pay 5 per cent. interest. Yokohama is a growing place. If some such scheme be carried out, I am willing to collaborate and to take shares, besides those coming to me as a shareholder and debenture-holder, to 1,000 *yen*.

I solicit the favour of a reply. Yours faithfully,

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Yokohama, July 7th, 1899.

M. KIRKWOOD, Esq., Tokyo.

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant.

The matter you submit requires consideration by the Board of Directors, and a meeting has been called for Monday next.

As you say you had no knowledge of an annual meeting being called, nor of the last annual accounts of the Association, I beg to enclose one of the post cards calling the annual meeting for Friday, the 26th May last. These notices were sent by post to all shareholders on the list in Tokyo as well as in Yokohama.

At the time and place for the meeting there was present only one shareholder in addition to the Directors, and consequently there was no meeting then, nor at the adjournment a week afterwards.

The annual accounts were published in all the local newspapers in Yokohama.

I am, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. O. GAY,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

No. 75, Yokohama, July 11th, 1899.

Dear KIRKWOOD,—I have been asked by Mr. Gay to ascertain from you what is the lowest sum you are prepared to accept in discharge of the 23 debentures held by you in the Public Hall Association, and in satisfaction of the interest due thereon. I am also to enquire what you would take for your shares.

Yours truly, (Signed) J. F. LOWDER.

Tokyo, July 13th, 1899.

Dear LOWDER,—I yesterday received a letter from you in which you say that you are asked by Mr. Gay to ascertain at what price I am willing to part with my Public Hall shares and debentures. I presume that this letter is an outcome of one I wrote to the Public Hall Directors a few days ago, in which, whilst bringing to their notice my claims, I made a proposal for the winding up of the present so-called Association and starting in its place a properly organized company in conformity with the requirements of the laws we are soon to be under. I pointed out that the cash required would be very small, as all shareholders and debenture-holders—myself amongst the number—would no doubt be willing to exchange paper for paper, *i.e.*, to accept shares in the Company in exchange for their present shares and the settlement of their Debenture claims, and that only money to pay off the $9,500 mortgage would be necessary. I added that, should some such scheme be carried out, I would, in addition to the shares coming to me in the above capacities, take up a further 1,000 *yen* of shares in cash. The capital of such Company need not be fixed at more than 30,000 or 35,000 *yen*, and there are, I believe, assets of fully that value in the land and buildings of the Public Hall. I asked for an expression of opinion from the Directors on this proposal, which seemed to be an easy and proper way of placing the Public Hall Association or Company on a legal footing, whilst at the same time starting afresh with all existing liabilities wiped out. Pending a reply from the Directors, I can only say that I am not desirous of selling either debentures or shares. As a leading member of the community, although not perhaps a great play goer or patron of balls, I hope you will give my proposal your support. Something should be done to have the Public Hall put on a proper footing and more interest taken in it than at present.

I am not quite clear in what capacity you wrote me, but if your letter be in any way publicly referred to I must ask that this reply be also made public.

Yours truly,

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Tokyo, July 13th, 1899.

Dear Sir,—I have received a notice that a Special General Meeting of Shareholders of the Association is called for the 18th instant to consider a demand for payment of interest by a holder of 23 debentures.

I presume this refers to the claim preferred in my letter of the 7th instant, which you acknowledged on the 8th, but to which I understood you would reply after a meeting of Directors to be held on Monday last. No reply has, however, so far reached me.

I beg that at the meeting you will be so good as to inform the shareholders by reading to them the whole correspondence (this and my previous letter) of the suggestions and proposals I have made and which I now repeat, and that you will at the same time mention that you have sent me no reply.

The proposals I made would not only put the Public Hall Association or Company on a level footing, but would at the same time start it afresh with all existing liabilities wiped out, whilst the only money that would be required would be the taking-up of shares in cash sufficient to pay off the mortage of $9,500 and to these I offered to subscribe to the extent of 1,000 *yen*.

I regret that I should have been under the erroneous impression that no general meeting had been held this year.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

To A. O. GAY, Esq.,
Chairman, Public Hall Association,
Yokohama.

July 13th, 1899.

Dear Mr. KIRKWOOD,—Please excuse me, but I forgot to write to you after the meeting of the Board of Directors.

All that was done at that meeting was to decide to call a meeting of shareholders for the 18th. Yours truly,

(Signed) A. O. GAY.

Yokohama, July 14th, 1899.

Dear Mr. KIRKWOOD,—I do not find a copy of my official letter to you of the 7th instant.

It was either not copied by my boy, or I have mislaid the copy.

Will you, therefore, kindly send letter to me and I will return it immediately, and oblige,

Yours sincerely, (Signed) A. O. GAY.

Tokyo, July 15th, 1899.

Dear Mr. GAY,—I enclose you a copy of your letter to me of the 7th, and I hope that you and the other Directors will see your way to bring forward with your recommendation some such scheme as that I proposed. It simply means paper in exchange for paper unless the mortgage is to be paid off, and if that is to be discharged then shares to the amount of some 10,000 *yen* would have to be taken up in cash. The capital should be 35,000 *yen*, I think, not 30 000 *yen*.

It may perhaps be said that the Public Hall can be treated as a club. I do not share that view. It is distinctly a commercial undertaking, and comes, so far as I can judge, under Com. Code Art. 264 (1) "the letting of things thus acquired or hired."

Yours truly,

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

I think it may perhaps be of use to you to have a clear type copy of my letters, so I enclose a type copy of all the correspondence, as you may wish to read it.

It will be at once seen that Mr. KIRKWOOD'S object in preferring a demand for interest on his debentures was simply *pro formâ*, and that he made it merely for the purpose of introducing a reconstruction scheme. He does not ask for any payment in money. His proposal

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is that the present Association be wound up and all its assets and liabilities taken over by a new company, duly organized and registered according to legal requirements, each of the present debenture-holders being paid what is due to him, not in cash, but in shares of the new company, and each shareholder of the Association receiving a corresponding number of shares in the re-constituted concern. With regard to the mortgage debt of 9,500 *yen* now carried by the Association, Mr. KIRKWOOD suggests either that it be registered as a mortgage on the property of the new company, or that additional shares be issued for the purpose of paying it off. In the event of the latter plan's being adopted, he offers to purchase 1,000 *yen* worth of the additional shares. In fact, his proposal, put into the briefest terms, is simply to have his present debentures and shares re-written in the name of a newly organized company, and, so far from asking for money, he offers to contribute a thousand *yen* towards paying off the debt now carried by the Public Hall. Truly we fail to see how such a proposal can be condemned as a "a disgraceful piece of finance," or regarded as "showing that its framer has no feeling whatever for the use of the Hall or for the people of Yokohama."

After all, it must not be forgotten that the great majority of the persons now benefiting by the Public Hall never contributed anything to its establishment. The founders—men who may be said to belong to the past generation—put up twenty thousand dollars. They did not regard the project as a business enterprise in any sense, and they were content to lend their money without interest. Still the Hall and the ground on which it stands are their property. Of that there can be no question. And during all these years, while the holders of shares and debentures have left their money without any return, the value of the buildings and of the site has appreciated, so that it is now estimated at some 35,000 *yen*. It is quite true that the security would be a bad one in the open market, because, as Mr. JAMES WALTER pithily put it, there is an element of sentiment which would effectually prevent foreclosure. But that point does not enter into the programme at all. There is no question of realizing. Reconstitution alone is on the *tapis*, as well as the payment of the mortgage debt of 9,500 *yen*. The present community might fairly be asked to pay off that debt. Probably some of the old shareholders or debenture holders would assist, following Mr. KIRKWOOD'S example, but certainly the present generation of residents should contribute. It appears to us that something will have to be done, for the Association, as at present organized, does not satisfy legal requirements, and, however munificent or public-spirited the holders of shares and debentures may be, they ought, as business men, to place the enterprise on a footing recognisable by law. There is a difference, too, between debentures and shares. Many of the debentures were undoubtedly subscribed in the belief that they represented a safe investment and that the interest on them would be forthcoming. Nevertheless their holders made no demand for payment so long as assets were not in sight, and their forbearance strengthens the argument in favour of securing them now, as far as possible, by such measures as shall give the Association a legal status. In Art. 264 of the Commercial Code it is provided that "transactions whose object is either the acquisition for value or the hiring of movables or immovables with the intention of letting them, or *the letting of things thus acquired or hired*," are included among commercial transactions. That would seem to cover the case of the Public Hall. The Directors will have to consider the matter seriously. Mr. KIRKWOOD will no doubt decline to receive the interest on his debentures. It is evidently his purpose not to have any discrimination made in his favour, but merely to propound a scheme of reconstruction, the effect of which, so far as he himself is concerned, would be, not to put money into his pocket, but, on the contrary, to require a further disbursement of a thousand *yen*, and to substitute new paper for the old he now holds.

THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

THE Representative of the United States may certainly congratulate himself upon the effect produced by his recent Notification. The note of reciprocity that it strikes has evidently caused profound satisfaction in Japan. There can be no doubt about the excellent spirit by which all Japanese officials, and, we may add, all Japan publicists, with exceptions so rare as to confirm the rule, are animated towards foreign intercourse. But a feeling of which the display is entirely on one side is apt to lose its caloric. The EMPEROR, the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Education, Communications, and War, and the Chief Buddhist Prelates, have all issued notifications inculcating the duty of treating foreigners with the utmost consideration and courtesy. Does that mean that the obligation is entirely upon the Japanese side, or that no share of blame attaches to the foreigner for any friction or unpleasantness that may have arisen in the past? Surely not. None among us is so blinded by prejudice or racial exclusiveness as to be unaware that a great deal of fault is on the foreign side, and that by frequent displays of rude masterfulness and imperious indifference to the customs of the country, foreigners of the lower classes have brought upon the heads of their nationals a great deal of dislike and resentment. The *Kokumin Shimbun* discusses this subject with its usual moderation and good sense, but one can not read the words it writes without appreciating its conviction that the question of Japan's intercourse with foreigners has an aspect not represented in the Imperial Rescript or the Departmental Instructions which followed it. When you are in Rome, you must do as the Romans do, says our contemporary. Some time ago, a Roman Catholic priest visiting Ise displayed towards the Shrines an attitude of reverence such as a Japanese would have shown. It was a small matter, but it produced a deep effect upon the Japanese. So did the reception given to the EMPEROR on the occasions of his recent visits to Kobe and Yokohama. The Japanese nation, whose reverence and devotion to the Throne are well-known, was profoundly touched by such conduct on the part of foreigners. Is it not to be greatly regretted that all classes of foreigners do not follow the excellent example thus set to them by their best men, and endeavour to cultivate a spirit of respect for the manners and customs of the Japanese? It is a small matter to take off one's boots before walking over mats, or to avoid obtrusive and rude encroachments into places where the Japanese tread reverentially; or to remember that Japanese occupants of an inn have some title to consideration. Yet, attention to these trifles constitute the whole difference between courtesy and discourtesy, between pleasant relations and mutual umbrage.

Between the lines of the *Kokumin's* writing it is easy to read a suggestion that the United States Minister is not the only Foreign Representative who might have recognised the spirit of the EMPEROR'S Rescript and of the Ministerial Instructions following it, by issuing some public reminder of the reciprocal duty devolving upon all foreigners. We can not deny that unpleasant inferences may be drawn from the contrast. But we do not admit their justice. It must be remembered that foreigners have of late given several unequivocal displays of the excellent temper with which they approach the new regime. Had there been any spirit of truculence or resentful discontent, it must have found expression long ago. For there is no denying that, whatever confidence the average foreigner may have in the good intentions of the Japanese, and even in their capacity to carry their ideas into practice, he can not but have felt some alarm and uneasiness in the face of the numerous ordinances and notifications that have been piled up for his bewilderment during the past two months. He probably looks to the immediate future with considerable trepidation, and wonders how to disentangle

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himself from the obligations that seem to be gathering about him. Yet he has made no complaint, nor taken any step calculated to mar the harmony of this prefatory time. Further, the demonstration made by Yokohama, with extraordinary spontaneity and remarkable munificence, on the occasion of the EMPEROR'S progress through the Settlement in May, was conclusive of the community's good-will, and if to this we add the action of the International Committee, the entertainment given by the foreigners to the Premier and other Ministers of State, and the public exchange of sentiments which then took place, we have a record that can not be mistaken. In the face of such evidence the Foreign Representatives may well have doubted the necessity of addressing an injunction to their nationals. The temper of the latter is unmistakable, as the *Kokumin* and other Japanese journals will readily recognise if they consider the facts.

TRANSLATIONS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE AS TO LAND.

We have received for publication from the Chairman of the International Committee, the following documents translated by Dr. Lönholm :—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 329 OF JULY 7TH, 1899.

1.—If a right in an immovable which might be set up against third persons has been duly acquired by an alien or a foreign juridical person before the time fixed in the Imperial Ordinance No. 251 of the 32nd year of Meiji, * but has not been registered before the said time, it cannot be set up against third persons unless it is registered within one year from such time.

2.—For the immovable mentioned in Art. 1 special Registry Books shall be opened and kept at the respective Offices within whose jurisdiction the places are where such immovables are situated.

3.—Each folio of a Registry Book mentioned in the preceding Article is divided in a column for the number of registration, a division for the designation of the immovable, and four sections headed respectively Kō, Otsu, Hei, Tei.† The division for the designation contains a column for the description and a column for the number of description. Each of the four sections contains a column for the subject matter of the registration and a column for the number of the order.

In the column for the number of registration as to each piece of land or building is entered the order in which it has first been registered in the Registry Book.

In the column for the description the land, buildings, or out-buildings are described and alterations of the same are entered. In the column for the number of the description the order of priority of the matters entered in the column of description is entered.

In the column for the subject matter of section Kō are entered :

a. In the Land Registry Book matters relating to superficies ;

b. In the Building Registry Book matters relating to ownership.

In the column for the subject matter of section Otsu are entered matters relating to preferential rights, pledges, and mortgages.

In the column for the subject matter of section Hei are entered matters relating to leases ‡

In the column for the subject matter of section Tei are entered matters relating to rights not mentioned in the three preceding paragraphs.

In the column for the number of the order is entered the number indicating the order of priority of each matter registered in the column for subject matters.

4.—When an application for registration is made, all facts which can be set up against third persons must be mentioned in the application, and the documents necessary to prove such facts must be annexed.

5.—A copy of the Registry Book of a Foreign Consulate relating to an immovable mentioned in Art. 1 has the same effect as the Registry Book.

When an application for registration as to an immovable registered in a Foreign Consulate is made after this Ordinance takes effect, the provisions Art. 163 ‖ of the Law Concerning the Registration of Immovables apply correspondingly.

The Minister of Justice may make necessary rules in regard to matters mentioned in the foregoing two paragraphs.

6.—As to matters not provided for in this Ordinance the provisions of the Law Concerning the Registration of Immovables apply correspondingly.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION.

This Ordinance takes effect on July 17th, 1899.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 333 OF JULY 7TH, 1899.

1.—When a Japanese subject or Japanese juridical person acquires a superficies or lease intended to be perpetual, which has been created for an alien or for a foreign juridical person in land which belongs to the Government, such person acquires the ownership of the land.

2.—If in the case mentioned in the preceding article the land does not belong to the Government, the superficiary or lessee may acquire the ownership of the land on paying a proper sum to to its owner.

If a superficiary or a lessee on the demand of the owner gives notice of his intention not to acquire the ownership as above provided, or if he does not within one year after such demand proceed as specified in the foregoing paragraph, the owner may apply to the court to have the duration of the superficies or the lease determined in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Code on paying a proper indemnity.

3.—The provisions of the preceding two Articles shall not affect any rights which third persons may have in such land.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION.

This Ordinance takes effect on July 17th, 1899.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SHIPS.

NOTIFICATION No. 26 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

July 14th, 1899.

ART. I.—When a vessel arrives at a port where medical inspection is in operation, she shall hoist the flag prescribed by the international code of signals, approach the guardships or the look-out, and be ordered to stop temporarily, after which the following information shall be obtained with regard to the master and each of those on board :—

1. The name of the port of exit.
1. The name of any ports of call.
3. Whether there is any person actually suffering from a contagious disease or whether any person has died of such a disease.
4. Whether on the voyage, or during stay in ports of call, there has been any case of sickness or death from contagious disease.
5. Whether any communication has been held with a vessel in which there has been a case of sickness or death from contagious disease.

Vessels which are clearly known to be navigating home waters shall not be required to stop, or furnish information, as prescribed in the above clauses.

ART. II.—When, in consequence of the roughness of the sea, a ship can not be visited, the above information shall be obtained by the aid of the international code of signals, and, if medical inspection is necessary, the ship shall be required to anchor outside the harbour, and wait until the sea has subsided, after which she shall be visited.

In the event of a ship's disobeying the order to anchor outside the harbour, or continuing her voyage without regard to the signals, she shall be required to put back, and to furnish the required information or undergo inspection. In such a case, the fact shall be communicated to the office of harbour affairs and to the police station.

A ship arriving after sunset, provided she is not a mail steamer or has no special reason for despatch, shall be required to anchor outside the harbour, and to furnish the required information or undergo inspection the following morning.

ART. III.—In the case of a ship as above coming from a foreign port or from Formosa, written forms as prescribed shall be handed to the master or to one of the officers and they shall be required to fill in the required information. At the same time, the whole or a part of the passengers and crew shall be ordered to assemble upon the deck, and, after the written forms have been received, all these persons, as well as the cabins, shall be inspected. Should the inspection reveal nothing unusual, a permit shall be handed to the master or to his representative.

ART. IV.—With regard to the ships mentioned above, the following procedure shall be observed :—

1. When there is actually on board a persons suffering, or a person who has died, from a contagious disease, or when there has been a case of illness or death from contagious disease on the voyage or while in a port of call, the process of disinfection shall be carried out, and the ship shall be detained, unless the disease is small pox or scarlet fever.

2. When a ship has sailed from an infected port, or has called at such a port, or has had communications with an infected ship, or when there are doubts as to these points, the process of disinfection shall be carried out, and she shall be required to stop, unless the disease is small-pox scarlet fever.

3. Vessels coming within the purview of Art. VI of the Open Port Regulations need not undergo disinfection.

In the case mentioned in this clause, information shall be given to the harbour office, the custom house, the post office, and the police.

ART. V.—Should a ship belonging to the category of clause 1 Art. III , have on board a person suffering from, or the body of a person who has died of, a contagious disease other than those enumerated in Art II. of the Regulations for Carrying out Medical Inspection in Open Ports, a report must be sent to the police office of the district.

ART. VI.—A passenger or member of the crew who has come into contact with or who is suspected of having come into contact with, a person suffering from, or the body of a person who has died of, pest, cholera, or yellow fever, shall be required to move to the quarantine station.

ART. VII.—In the case of a foreign or native man-of-war, the information detailed in Art. I shall be obtained in writing from the commander or the medical officer. Under such circumstances, the usual written forms need not be employed nor need a permit be given.

ART. VIII.—When a ship of war, foreign or native, falls within the category of the 1st clause of Art. IV, she shall be disinfected, after consultation with her commander.

ART. IX.—When ships or articles are disinfected, the following provisions shall be observed :—

(Here follow seven clauses setting forth the process of disinfection in detail).

ART. X.—When the passengers or crew of a ship are detained, inspections shall be made from time to determine the state of their health, and medical examinations may be carried out should such a course appear necessary.

FOREIGN COMPANIES IN JAPAN.

The following Imperial Ordinance was published on the 15th June, 1899 :—

We hereby give authority with reference to branches of foreign companies, and to companies and associations established by foreigners. (Sign Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

(Countersigned.) { Minister President. Minister of Justice. Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

* That is the time fixed for the taking effect of the new Treaties, either the 17th of July or the 5th of August, 1899.

† That is A, B, C, D.

‡ Properly "hiring," Absolutely.

‖ That article relates to the forms on which registrations are to be made in the Registry Book.

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ORDINANCE No. 272.

Art. I.—A Foreign Company established in Japan prior to the operation of the Commercial Code, must, within six months from the day when that Code went into operation, according to the provisions of Art. 255 of the Code, register the establishment of a branch, and the name and domicile of the company's representative in Japan.

The provisions of Art. 257 of the Commercial Code, and of Art. 202 of the Law of Procedure in Non-contentious Matters, shall be applicable to a foreign company as mentioned above.

Art. 255 of the Commercial Code says :— "A foreign commercial company which sets up a branch office in Japan must make the same registrations and public notifications as a Japanese company of the same kind or the kind most resembling it. In addition, a foreign company which sets up a branch office in Japan must appoint a representative residing in Japan, and must register his name and domicile at the same time with the registration of the branch office."

Art. 257 of the Commercial Code says :— "When a foreign commercial company first sets up a branch office in Japan, other persons need not recognise the existence of the company until it has been registered at the place of such branch office."

Art. 202 of the Law of Procedure in Non-contentious matters says :— 'If an application for the registration of a foreign company which has established a branch office in Japan is made, the representative of such company must insert in the application the name and the domicile of the representative of the branch office and annex the following documents :—

1. A document sufficiently showing that a principal office exists.

2. A document showing the character of the representative as such.

3. The company contract or a document sufficient to show the nature of the company.

The foregoing documents must be certified by the proper authority of the country to which the foreign company belongs, or by a consul of such country residing in Japan."

Art. II.—In the case of a company established by foreigners in Japan prior to the operation of the Commercial Code, the regulations of the company must be compiled in accordance with the provisions of that Code, and its establishment must be registered within six months from the date of the Code's operation.

Art. III.—Should a Company violate the provisions of the preceding Articles, a court of law, at the instance of a public procurator, or of its own motion, may order the dissolution of the company.

A law court issuing such an order of dissolution shall make a decree in accordance with the procedure laid down for decrees on cases of registrations.

The provisions of the 1st clause of Art. 126, those of the first and second clauses of Art. 134, and those of Art. 135 of the Code of Procedure in Non-contentious Matters shall apply to the above case.

[These Articles refer simply to legal procedure. Trans.]

Art. IV.—Should foreigners have established in Japan, prior to the operation of the Commercial Code, an association of persons owning property independently, the organization must be changed and the association must be formed into a company in accordance with the Commercial Code, within six months from the date of that Code's operation.

The provisions of Articles II. and III. shall apply to such an association.

This Ordinance shall take effect from the day of the operation of the Commercial Code. —(*i.e.* June 16th, 1899. Trans.)

FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The following Imperial Ordinance was issued on June 15th.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 273.

Art. I.—A foreign company establishing an agency in Japan for the purpose of carrying on insurance business, must appoint a representative in Japan.

The provisions of Art. 62 of the Commercial Code shall apply correspondingly to the above representative.

[Art. 62 of the Commercial Code says :— "The partners entitled to represent are authorized to do all acts in or out of court relating to the business of the partnership.]

Art. II.—The foreign company must make known to the Japanese Government the name and domicile of its representative in Japan.

Art. III.—The provisions of Arts. 95 and 97 to 101 of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code apply correspondingly to the above foreign company.

Art. IV.—Should the Government judge that the continuance of a foreign company's business is endangered, or should a foreign company contravene the Government's orders, it shall be competent for the Government to order the suspension of the business of such company or a change of its representative.

Art. V.—A foreign company, whenever it makes an inventory of its property and a balance-sheet, must without delay submit these documents to the Government, accompanying them with a business report, an account of profits and losses, and its proposal for dividing profits.

Art. VI.—A foreign company which has established a branch or an agency in Japan prior to the operation of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code, must obtain a permit from the Government six months from the taking effect of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code.

The second clause of Article 95 of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code shall apply correspondingly to the foreign company mentioned in this Article.

The provisions of Art. 126 (clause 1), Art. 134 (clauses 1 and 2), and Art. 135 of the Law of Procedure in Non-Contentious Matters, shall apply correspondingly to cases where a foreign company is forbidden to carry on its business.

Art. VII.—The provisions of Arts. I., II., IV. and V. of this Ordinance, as well as those of Arts. 98 to 101 of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code, shall apply correspondingly to foreign companies which have established branch offices or agencies in Japan prior to the operation of the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code.

This Ordinance shall take effect from the day when the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code takens effect.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

Mr. Watanabe, Director of the Yokohama Branch Office of the Government Tobacco Monopoly, sends us for publication the following "Directions to be observed by exporters of leaf tobacco, manufacturers, and dealers."

GENERAL RULES.

1—The Government alone has the right of a monopoly of leaf tobacco.

2—No person can import any leaf tobacco from abroad, except the Government.

EXPORTATION.

3—Leaf tobacco intended for exportation may by permission of the Government, be sold to other parties without being given up to the Government.

4—The Government will take charge of all leaf tobacco for exportation.

5—The leaf tobacco in custody of the Government may be bought or sold with certificates of custody.

6—The leaf tobacco in custody, if not exported within a year, may be collected by the Government against remuneration at a proper rate.

7—The leaf tobacco in custody will be delivered to the exporter at the time of exportation.

8—The expenses of storage and transportation must be borne by the holders of certificates of custody.

9—If any additional preparation, such as selection of leaves and repacking, is necessary, the owner should present a statement showing the reason, place and time of such preparation, together with the certificates of custody, and obtain approval from the local monopoly office.

10—Having finished the aforesaid preparation, the owner should return the leaf tobacco, together with all waste leaves, stems, &c., to the local monopoly offices for custody and disposal.

11—The expenses of storage and transportation should be paid and the certificates of custody be returned before demanding delivery of leaf tobacco for exportation.

12—Any certificate of custody, if injured or stained, may be exchanged for a new one, on application to the local monopoly office.

13—If the certificates have been lost, the leaf tobacco may be delivered on deposit of money, or national bonds, equal in amount to the value of the leaf tobacco, otherwise two or more persons will be required to stand as security against any loss. These persons must have sufficient property and be approved as competent by the monopoly office.

MANUFACTURE AND TRADING.

14—Any person desiring to engage in the manufacture of tobacco or to deal in leaf tobacco must apply to the local monopoly office and obtain a license on payment of an annual fee as under :—

	Yen.
For a manufacturer, per factory	50
For a dealer	50

Any person desiring to discontinue the business will have to report the fact.

15—Leaf tobacco is sold by the Government according to fixed prices but when necessary it may be sold by auction.

16—No person except a manufacturer or dealer can buy or receive leaf tobacco. An exception is made to leaf tobacco bought as samples under permission of the authorized officers.

17—No manufacturer can make use of any material other than tobacco in manufacturing, nor can a dealer buy or sell any material other than tobacco, with the object of supplying it for the manufacture of tobacco.

18—Any manufacturer or dealer who has any leaf tobacco placed in warehouses outside his establishment must send a report countersigned by the proprietor of such warehouses to the local monopoly office, indicating the location of warehouses and quantity of each different kind of leaf tobacco. This report must be repeated whenever the places of storage are changed.

19—Manufacturers and dealers must keep books and enter therein particulars of all business transactions to be submitted to the examination of proper officers who will visit them from time to time.

20—Any leaf tobacco not sold by the Government if found in the possession of any manufacturer or dealer, will be collected by the Government, to whomsoever it may belong, and remuneration will be paid at the proper rate.

21—The Government can inspect warehouses or any place of storage of tobacco belonging to any one whatsoever, and the officers authorized can enter any place where tobacco is kept or supposed to be kept and take necessary measures for proper supervision. If possible, in course of transmission, tobacco can be examined on the spot.

PENALTIES.

22—Any manufacturers or dealers who have knowingly bought or received any smuggled goods or leaf tobacco from any unlicensed or unknown persons will be fined a sum between 10 and 300 *yen*, with confiscation of the contraband tobacco if it exists, but if transferred or consumed, the amount of the value will be levied.

23—Any person who has, not being licensed, engaged in the manufacture or trade will be fined a sum not less than double, nor exceeding 5 times the amount of the license fee, with confiscation of contraband tobacco, if it exists, but if not, the amount of the value will be levied.

24—Manufacturers who have made use of any material other than tobacco in manufacturing, and dealers who have bought or sold any material other than tobacco intending to supply it for the manufacture of tobacco, will be fined a sum between 10 and 100 *yen*, with confiscation of the contraband manufacture or material if it exists, but if not the amount of the value will be levied.

25—Those who have kept other's leaf tobacco without reporting to the Government will be fined a sum between 3 and 30 *yen*. The leaf so kept will be collected by the Government against a remuneration at proper rate.

26—Manufacturers or dealers who have neglected to make proper entries in their books or have made false entries will be fined a sum between 3 and 30 *yen*.

27—Those who have made false declarations or neglected to make declarations to the Government or answer the interrogations of the authorized officers will be fined a sum between 3 and 30 *yen*.

28—At the time of inspection of tobacco and books, those who have refused or avoided or obs-

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fructed officers in the execution of their duty will be fined a sum between 2 and 20 *yen*.

29.—When the family, lodgers, representatives, or employes of a manufacturer or dealer, in course of their avocations, have offended against the foregoing provisions, the manufacturer or dealer can not escape from the penalties provided, though he had no cognizance of the offence.

THE NEW TREATIES.

MEETING OF FOREIGNERS AT KARUIZAWA.

A number of the foreign summer residents of Karuizawa met on Monday, July 17th, to pray for Divine blessing on this nation, in view of the beginning of mixed residence.

Dr. De Forest of Sendai, the leader of the meeting, said: "The recent history of Japan seems to me to be full of the Providence of God. Dr. Wells Williams, foreseeing the necessary opening of Japan, peaceful or otherwise, learned what he could of the Japanese language from five shipwrecked sailors, and thus became Commodore Perry's interpreter. We may almost say that, without the providential means of a mutual understanding, this nation must have suffered the common fate, and have been entangled in wars with western powers.

From that time to this, the history of Japan abounds in events in which the finger of God is as plain as the hand of man. And among them all there are three that stand out high above the rest. The first is this—that Japan is the only great nation that has gained international intercourse without war. Next, Japan is the only non-Christian nation that has outgrown exterritoriality and stepped forth as a political equal of Christian nations. Then, of all the nations of the earth, none has ventured, with so brief a discussion and without shedding of blood, to recognize the constitutional right of the people to religious liberty—a step that several so-called Christian nations have not yet had the courage to take. These, to my mind, are the three great events that not only mark the unparallelled progress of the nation, but, to the Christian mind, show the wonderful leading of God.

In many of the leading events of modern Japanese history it will not be boasting to say that the missionary has been no insignificant factor. It was a missionary that God raised up as the interpreter of Commodore Perry. While we freely acknowledge all that diplomacy has accomplished, and the helpful influence of expanding commerce, I believe it is safe to affirm that the large missionary body, scattered from north to south through this empire, studying the people sympathetically and publishing their views in papers, magazines, and books, has had no small part in creating a faith in Japan on the part of leading western nations, that has made it easier for them to recognize the political equality that begins to-day. Only suppose that the hundreds of missionaries in this land had been hostile to treaty revision as some of the open ports were, and had thrown their influence solidly on that side. Who can doubt that, in that case, the abolition of exterritoriality would have been postponed for years, and that a feeling of bitterness would have been engendered which might have taken generations to forget. We missionaries have been profoundly interested in this question, and more than once, when anti-treaty revision was at its height, we put ourselves on public record to the effect that justice to Japan and international righteousness required such a revision as should recognize her claim to political equality.

Thus it is fitting that we meet here to-day to thank God that now Japan has been added to the progressive nations of the world, and is casting its powerful influence on the side of peaceful international intercourse and of true civilization.

Again, we foreigners may well rejoice over His Majesty's recent Rescript, so exceptionally full of a thoughtful purpose to do everything possible to promote international friendship, and so well calculated to disarm the lingering suspicions of many of his subjects who have been disturbed by fears of national disasters that might come from the unchecked entrance of foreigners to the same privileges as Japanese enjoy. This Rescript cannot fail to have a broadening effect, especially upon the common schools, where a narrow and dangerous patriotism has been so widely taught. In this connection, you will be pleased to hear what the U.S. Minister, Col. Buck, recently said to his nationals in Sendai. His emphatic words in substance were that the Emperor of Japan is one of the ablest and wisest of living rulers. Most certainly, His Majesty's early Rescript of Five Articles, in which he pledged himself to establish representative government and to seek for wisdom in all the earth, together with these his last words, shows him to be a truly noble and gifted ruler, under whose government we may live with no more anxiety than under our own. And we may pray that this unique Imperial Line may continue through ages to come, blessed of God in the future as in the past, and that it may become an example to the nations, of purity of family life in accordance with the universal light of the Gospel of Christ.

Are there then no difficulties in the way of the successful operation of the treaties? Yes, there are two that cannot be overlooked. On the side of the Japanese there is a lack of the consciousness of the Almighty Creator and Father of all men. However far short of Christian standards so-called Christian nations fall, none the less is it true that their great statesmen, their great philosophers and poets, their great scholars and warriors, have, as a rule, a profound sense of their dependence on God. But here, Japan's greatest statesman boasts that he has no religion and no need of any. Here, Japan's most influential educators argue in captivating style against any such thing as a Creator, and tens of thousands of bright Japanese youths are caught by the brilliancy and boldness of these writings and are carried off into virtual atheism. Yet the great recent essentials of modern civilization, so far as they are being realized, have gained their life and power undoubtedly from the teachings of Christ. Not until the One Almighty God and Father of all men was believed in, was it possible that there could be the International Law of to-day. Treaties are good, but it needs faith in one God, to whom all are answerable, to make them progressively effective. Commerce is powerful, but it tends as often towards war as towards peace. While we rejoice in the equality of nations, let us pray that this gifted peole may speedily be led to see whose kind Providence it is that has been over them in these crises, and whose divine love it is that can redeem from sin.

Another obstacle to the successful operation of the treaties lies in the fact that Christian nations are not nearly as Christian as they should be, and that they tend to exalt might rather than right. We need to pray for the nations we represent, that they may overcome their glaring defects, and become more sensitive to righteous dealings, so that the great East and the powerful West, now coming together for the first time in abiding intercourse, may both be led by Him who alone gives wisdom and national greatness."

THE TSUKIJI SETTLEMENT.

The Tokyo Municipality has now taken over the Tsukiji Settlement and the foreign cemeteries at Aoyama and Somei. But the Governor of Tokyo, doubtless because he sees what very bad care the Municipal Authorities take of the districts already under their charge, has sent a notice to the Mayor saying that, as it would be a disgrace to Japan were the Settlement and cemeteries kept in bad order, the Central Government will, for the present, subscribe to their maintenance to the extent of 325 *yen* for lighting, 607 *yen* for street repairs, and 780 *yen* for the cemeteries.

Prince Charles of Denmark is shortly coming on a voyage to the East in a warship commanded by his uncle, Prince Waldemar. During his absence from home his wife, Princess Maud, is to stay in England with the Princess of Wales.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A REPLY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The great length of your leading article of the 11th inst. under the heading, "A Defender of the Jews," makes it impossible for me to enter upon all its details. I shall only endeavour to limit myself to the points at issue. I am but ill-versed in the art of beating about the bush, which requires both inclination and practice, neither of which I possess. If my plain statements in plain words, therefore, strike you as lacking politeness, I shall offer no defence, and I may candidly tell you that I did not mean to be very polite, but in your reply you are still less so. You evince so much temper and irritation, indeed, that you have left no doubt in the minds of your readers of the fact that the shaft went home. Yet a public writer should, above all, be able to keep his temper, and you especially, for I must say that I do not know any public writer who has been so continuously as yourself the target of what you are pleased to call "false accusations." Nor has any public writer been so frequently "misunderstood" by his contemporaries and others as yourself. This is a misfortune, and no doubt it must often lead to galling reflections. In some way or the other your contemporaries seem to have a way to express themselves which does not require subsequent commentaries. I admit the admirable logic of your statement, referring to a paragraph in the *Mail* of March 4th, that you need not offer an explanation of the same, because that was done in another paragraph. This is as plain as the proverbial pikestaff, and if the explanation referred to had the same degree of plainness and did not require a further explanation, then your clients ought to be highly gratified to have such an able constructor of a conception of their feelings. But I shall show that the explanatory paragraph—which you also reproduce—is as bad as the first. In any case it shows that "many letters" reached you on the subject of your remarks, and, if that fact has not conveyed any meaning to you, I feel that any attempt on my part to do so would have no better result. In the so-called "explanation," then, referring to the Jews, you say: "There is something in their method of life or their manner of doing business that provokes the hostility of the peoples amongst whom they sojourn.....,but, whatever it be, the folks whom it revolts are not swayed by racial prejudice only." Are not the paragraph which provoked this explanation" and the "explanation" itself evidence of anti-Jewish agitation; is not the paragraph which led to my first letter a fitting link in this chain? To be sure you refer me to 18 years' files of the *Mail*, you ask me to peruse 5,400 copies of the *Mail* for evidence. I think the public will absolve me from that task. In the first place neither I nor anyone whom I know has got those 5,400 copies of the *Mail* treasured up like pearls of great price, and, if they were within my reach, why, I think I need not give any reasons why I would not wade through them. You might as well ask me to describe and identify all the particular mosquitoes that have stung me during the last 18 years. I am only surprised that the irrationality of such a request has not struck you. You are good enough to say in the same paragraph that "a Jew is as good as a Christian." That is simply running with the hare, while, a few lines further down, you hunt with the hounds. It's pay your penny and take your choice. Well, I have paid my penny and taken my choice, and in the choice I have arraigned you at the bar of public opinion.

The two "allusions" which you admit, and the recent paragraph, would be quite sufficient to establish the belief that they are evidences of anti-Jewish agitation, especially in the light of what I shall presently have to say on the contents of that paragraph as compared with the original. You now profess friendly sentiments for the Jews, although one of the two allusions just referred to brought you so many letters? If you entertain such sentiments, I can only

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regret your inability to express them in such a way as to leave no one in doubt as to what they really are. The public does not expect to find cryptograms in daily papers. I see no reason therefore to change my opinion.

To be still more sure of my ground, however, I have had three translations made of the offensive paragraph of the 7th inst., and two foreign competent experts have also compared them with the original. The result proves that the sneering remark, "the character of the Jews is well known" does not occur in the original, but is a condiment added in your office to an article which would otherwise not have called for any special attention. The paragragh in question, therefore, received its specific anti-Jewish colouring in your office before it went to press and the responsibility for this sticks to you, whatever you may say.

Turning now to your paragraph of the 14th inst. the latter teems with so much passion and invective that I refrain from any comment. You talk about "Jewish firms" as though they represented a special nationality, and that little straw, too, shows the current of your ideas. Why not, then, also make a distinction between Methodist, Baptist, Prebysterian, Lutheran, Catholic, Quaker, etc., firms? "Jews" have fought and bled on every battlefield of America and Europe for the countries to which they belonged, and feel themselves as much Americans, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, etc., as others who pray to the Lord in a different way. But let that pass. Your passion carries you quite beside yourself, so that in one breath you utter threats, profess to find matter for laughter and merriment, and proclaim yourself the best friend of the Jewish race. If you were only to realize that a galimatia, such as your paragraph of the 14th inst., is read by cool passionless people, to whom you thus only show how hard you are hit, you would have thought twice before publishing such an ill-jointed article. You lay yourself open to many a thrust and galling reply, but to make that reply would render the controversy a personal quarrel, to which, as I have already stated, I shall not descend and which is not my object. I could not and would not make a return in kind, therefore, but for the same reason you will understand, or if you do not, the public will, that, so far as I am concerned, I cannot enter upon any further correspondence with you on the subject.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

J. WITKOWSKI.

Yokohama, July 15th, 1899.

[It is just as we supposed. This gentleman can not produce one single line from the *Japan Mail* in support of his charges that we "pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation." He can not quote a single one of the "former articles and paragraphs which have led him and others to believe that we pursue a systematic anti-Jewish agitation, a mischievous and malicious agitation, which simply awaits time and opportunity to throw off all disguise." He dwells upon an alleged discovery of a mistranslation made a week after he had preferred the above charges, and on our use of the term "Jewish" four days after he had preferred them. These incidents he advances in defence of previously formulated charges and, at the same time, he tells us that he is "ill-versed in the art of beating about the bush." He complains of the "great length of our article" in reply to his attack, and the consequent impossibility of entering into all the details, yet the article proposed to him one simple task and one only, namely, to quote even a single line from the *Japan Mail* in justification of his sweeping accusations. He can not quote one line. He can not adduce even one of the "former articles and paragraphs" on which he avowedly based his wholesale charges. He endeavours to shirk that plain responsibility by talking of wading through 5,400 copies of the *Mail*, of identifying the mosquitoes that have stung him during a twelvemonth, and so forth, and yet he declares that he is "ill-versed in the art of beating about the bush." He attempts to find an exit from his dilemma by quoting our own statement that a number of letters reached us, whereas, in point of fact, only one of them referred to the Jews. No doubt he will think us very passionate, very prone to invective and so forth, but we must nevertheless tell him that so far as this controversy is concerned he has proved himself a mendacious slanderer without any adequate perception of truth and honesty.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE SUGAMO PRISON LIBRARY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The many friends who contributed towards the library for Mr. Tomeoka will be glad to know that about two hundred and fifty volumes of Japanese books and about thirty volumes of English books have been purchased, and are being used by the prisoners at Sugamo. Mr. Tomeoka has left the Sugamo Prison work to teach in the Prison Warden's school which the Government are about to start. His name is stamped in all the books, and they will be used in the Sugamo and other prisons and also in the school in which Mr. Tomeoka is to teach. The books already purchased cover a wide range of subjects, such as Mental Philosophy, Ethics, Sociology, History, Zoology, Religion, and Christianity.

The following are the titles of some of the English books which have been purchased. Torrey's What the Bible teaches; Harris' Philosophical Basis of Theism; The Treasury of Biography; Bain's Moral Science; Maudsley's Body and Mind; Geikie's Life of Christ; Porter's Elements of Moral Science; Æsop's Fables; God in His World; Young's The Christ of History; Gordon's The Ministry of the Spirit; Pilgrim's Progress; Robertson's Modern Humanity; Barnes' General History; Bible Models; The Story of the Bible; Abbott's Commentary on Matthew; Wallace's Ben Hur. The books are being bought gradually, and some of the money will be reserved to purchase new books in the Japanese language as they come out from time to time. The folllowing is the statement of Dr. Greene of the purchases up to June 22nd.

RECEIPTS.

Mar. 14	Received of Rev. J. D. Davis	571.79	
June 15	Interest on bank account to date	6 06	577 85

DISBURSEMENTS.

Mar. 17	To Rev. Henry Loomis, for books	51.05	
Apr. 6	To Keiseisha, for books ...	31.76	
Apr. 26	To Keiseisha, for books ...	102.74	
Apr. 27	To Z. P. Maruya & Co., for books	7.75	
May 11	To Keiseisha, for books ...	18.10	
May 24	To W. J. White, Sec. Japan Book and Tract Soc....	14.80	
June 19	To Noda Shoten	2.50	
June 22	Balance with Mitsu Bishi Goshi Gwaisha	367.15	577.85

(Signed) D. C. GREENE, Hon. Treas.

Tokyo, June 22nd, 1899.

Thanking you in advance for the insertion of the above.

I am very sincerely yours,

J. D. DAVIS.

Kyoto, July 14th, 1899.

THE PARSEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It appears from a recent edition of your paper, that the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* dreads an influx of Parsees into Japan, after the new Treaties come into operation, who, he thinks, will be attracted to this country "by its beautiful scenery and pleasant climate." He further designates the Parsees as "close-fisted, cold, calculating speculators," and speaks of them as "a people whose presence in a country is anything but a blessing." Now, Mr. Editor, I cannot make out whether these baseless charges are an outcome of crass ignorance, or are only made by way of letting off the exuberant exultation in which the Japanese, mightily elated at the new Treaties, have been lately indulging. If the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, before putting his rigmarole into type, had consulted a man who knew anything about the Parsees, he would have learnt that the number of Parsees in the whole world does not exceed 75,000, and that, therefore, they are too small a community to "invade" the shores of Japan in very large numbers. Moreover, the Parsees of Bombay are a wealthy, enterprising, enlightened, and prosperous people, to which fact any man who has stayed in Bombay even for a day will bear testimony. It is evident, therefore, that the "beautiful scenery and pleasant climate" of Japan cannot be a sufficient inducement, in themselves, to make the Parsee leave his happy and comfortable home under a most benign and intelligent government. As for the Parsee being "close-fisted, cold, and calculating," no accusation could be so very wide of the mark. "Charity, thy name is Parsee" is a phrase that has passed into a proverb in Western India, since it was uttered thirty years ago by the then Governor of Bombay. The Parsee has many faults, for no man is all good nor all bad. But, whatever his faults may be, take my word for it he is not a skinflint and a miser. He is as warm-hearted and wide-souled a specimen of humanity as you will ever discover in a day's march. The large number of benevolent and charitable institutions in Bombay are a proof of his public spirit and self-sacrifice. And lastly, as regards the charge that the "presence of a Parsee in a country is anything but a blessing" perhaps the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not know that his Government thinks otherwise. For the services rendered by Mr. I. N. Tata, of the firm of Messrs. Tata and Co., Kobe, in giving a new direction to the course of N.Y.K. steamers six years ago, the Japanese Government have conferred on him the distinction of *Kun nito zuiho sho*. And, seeing that the number of Parsees at present between Yokohama and Kobe is only twelve, this distinction is the more creditable to this wide-awake, practical, and level-headed people. I trust the above answer will make it clear to the Japanese editor that there is not a grain of truth in his wholesale and sweeping charges. In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I must thank you on behalf of all the twelve Parsees in Japan for putting in a good word for our community.

Yours truly, A BOMBAY PARSEE.

Kobe, 17th July, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Parsees living in Japan—and they are not more than a dozen—must surely be grateful to you for protecting them against the quite unjustifiable attacks on them by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Had the writer of the article in that journal taken the trouble of learning a little of the history of the Parsees, he would not have scribbled such nonsense. He calls them close-fisted, cold, and calculating speculators whose presence in a country is anything but a blessing. This is simply absurd. I would recommend the writer to go once to Bombay and inquire whether the Parsee is such a person as he depicts him to be, and whether Bombay does not owe much of its prosperity to the presence of the Parsees. I have mentioned Bombay, as it is the chief place where you can find them in great numbers, and where they have made their influence felt. We are told to be prepared for the invasion of Japan by the Parsees. Invasion forsooth! There are on the face of this earth about 80,000 Parsees, of whom only 12, as I have said, are now in Japan. It is very doubtful whether they will come in any large number after the operation of the revised treaties.

The article in question is written in great ignorance and is calculated to discredit the Parsees in the eyes of the Japanese. I therefore shall thank you if you will insert this letter in your valuable paper. I enclose my card.

Yours truly, PERSEPOLIS.

Kobe, July 17th, 1899.

PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read the report of the general meeting, and the correspondence that took place, and, as a member of the foreign com-

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munity, I desire to express my surprise at the action of the Board of Directors.

The whole position is obviously stated in the correspondence, and I would ask every member of the community, who may, like myself, take an interest in the Public Hall, to carefully consider that correspondence and the proposals that have been made.

These proposals are that the Association should be put on a sound basis, that old shares should be exchanged for new shares, that debentures should be exchanged for shares, the holders thereby giving up all preferential claims and becoming no longer creditors but shareholders, and that by raising 9,500 *yen* by the issue of further shares the mortgage should be paid off.

Mr. Kirkwood plainly states that he does not want a cent of money. He is willing to take shares in the place of debentures, shares which the Directors intimate, bye the bye, would be valueless, and in addition to this he volunteers to subscribe 1,000 *yen* towards paying off the mortgage.

This must strike every impartial person as a very liberal offer.

It is quite obvious that if 9 other members of the community would come forward and make an equally liberal offer, the Public Hall would find itself with only shareholders, that the debentures and the mortgage would be wiped out, and that the Public Hall would start afresh absolutely free from all liabilities and would be financially 10 000 *yen* better off than it has ever been before.

Why was it, then, that with these proposals before them, as shown by the published correspondence, the Board tried to suppress them, the Chairman saying that the Board did not consider it necessary to lay the correspondence before the meeting? This strikes me as having been a very unfair proceeding not only to the proposer, who specially requested that the correspondence should be read, but also to the community, who would wish to form a fair and unbiassed opinion on the situation.

And why were not these proposals discussed at the meeting, or any reply sent to Mr. Kirkwood with regard to them?

In conclusion, I can only say that there is in my mind not the least doubt that it is in the interests of the community that the scheme brought forward should be adopted.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, "CIVIS."

A NEW LAUNCH.

The steam launch *Mikage*, built to the order of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha by the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, went on her trial trip on Thursday morning to the Lightship and back. A small party of gentlemen interested in the Ironworks and the Shipping Companies were on board, and the trip proved most enjoyable, as well as successful as far as its immediate object was concerned, for the launch did her ten-and-a-half knots an hour easily, at the same time displaying great steadiness and good sea qualities. This is the fifth launch built by the Iron Works to the order of the N. Y. K., and is really a model of what such a vessel should be, and an entire credit to the company, by whose experts she was designed, engined, and built. She is 53 feet in length over all, her beam is 10 feet, and her mean draught 3 feet 6 in. Her engines, which are beautiful specimens of marine mechanism, give her 38 indicated horse-power, she can carry two tons of coal in her bunkers, and a ton of water. She is very prettily painted and neatly decked, and the cabins fore and after are most comfortably appointed. She can carry below twenty-two or twenty-three persons, but altogether nearly a hundred could be accommodated on board. The launch more than satisfies the requirements demanded by the Japanese authorities, which, it may be observed, are more stringent than those of the British Board of Trade.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Viscount Shinagawa has been appointed a Privy Councillor. The Viscount has not held office since he was last a member of the Cabinet. He was supposed to be more or less occupied with politics in his capacity of leader of the National Unionist Party which has now been dissolved.

It is stated that the Mitsubishi Company have secured a charter for their reclamation scheme at Wada-no Misaki. They expect to reclaim an area of 28,155 *tsubo*, for the purpose of building docks. The work is to be commenced in 5 months and finished in 3 years.

Baron Ito Myoji has been allowed to resign his seat in the House of Peers, presumably because of his appointment to the Privy Council. On the other hand, the Emperor has nominated three new members of the House, namely, Baron Ito Shunkichi (formerly Vice-Minister of the Navy), Professor Hozumi and Mr. Akizuki Shintaro.

The Progressists have determined to organise a congratulatory entertainment in connexion with the operation of Treaty Revision. Considering the large share they have taken in bringing it about—a statement which applies with special force to their distinguished leader Count Okuma,—they certainly act wisely in not allowing themselves to be effaced at this juncture.

Mr. Kawara Yeijiro is credited with the invention of a new machine for refining sulphur, which has the great advantage of being durable. The machine now in use does not last more than two or three weeks, and it becomes necessary, in consequence, to use only the richest types of the mineral. But Mr. Kawara's machine has now been at work for 150 days and shows no sign of becoming unfit for use. He has applied for a patent.

The *Official Gazette* of the 13th instant contains several Ordinances relating to the international protection of industrial and literary enterprise. It is unnecessary to translate these or speak of them in detail. They merely embody Japan's announcement of her adhesion to the union formed by Western Powers and the conventions signed by them for the mutual protection of patents, trade marks, copyright, and so forth.

The Tokyo Municipal Council have decided, it is said, that no time must be lost in removing five of the *masu-gata* gates of the old palace in Tokyo. The gates (*mitsuke*, or watch-places) are called *masu-gata* because the space enclosed by two of them and their flanking ramparts resembles a square corn-measure (*masu*). The gates that are doomed are those standing in places where the traffic is greatest, namely, Yamashita, Kaji-bashi, Kanda, Hitotsu-bashi and Gofuku-bashi.

In an interview accorded a member of the press yesterday afternoon at the British Consulate, Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., H.B.M.'s Minister, said that the British Court retained judicial control over British subjects in all matters relating to minor criminal offences until the 4th August. In all other respects British subjects passed under Japanese jurisdiction on the 17th. We understand that the British Court has continuing civil cases that will keep it busily employed till the close of this year.

The *Koko* Club—an institution of which we now hear for the first time, but which appears to be a species of general social association—had a very warm wrangle at its meeting on the 12th instant, with reference to the question of allowing the privilege of mixed residence to the Chinese. The old members, as Mr. Hanai Takuzo, Mr. Asakura, Mr. Miyake Yujiro and so on, were in favour of a liberal policy, but some of the new members adopted the opposite view, and the discussion almost ended in an appeal to physical force. The exertion spent in avoiding that consummation exhausted the meeting so thoroughly that the question in dispute remained unsettled.

The law is to be invoked to settle the affairs of the Shinagawa Tram Company. It is claimed by the shareholders that the arrangements which the Directors have made for merging the concern into the Tokyo Tram Company are culpably careless of their—the shareholders'—interests. They are especially irate against Count Goto Motaro, son of the late Count Goto Shojiro—, who received thirty thousand *yen* on his own account from the Tokyo Tram Company. That transaction is denounced as a fraud, and criminal proceedings have been instituted.

The total number of cases of dysentery throughout the country has been 10,054 since the commencement of the year. Gumma prefecture takes the lead with 1,056 cases; Yamanashi comes next with 792; Kanagawa, 735; Fukushima 731; Shizuoka, 651; Aichi, 595; Saitama 605; Tokyo, 491; Chiba, 434; and Kumamoto 471. In Nara, Shiga, Miyagi, Aomori, Akita, Ishikawa, Tottori, Shimane, Tokushima, Sakai, etc., the figures do not exceed 30. The Prefecture of Toyama is said to be the only one free from contageous disease.

The Cabinet, it is stated, adopted at its last meeting a set of rules with regard to the control of Private Schools. They are based on the draft submitted by the Department of Education to the High Educational Council, but are said to have been considerably modified in a liberal sense. A rumour from the same source alleges that the Cabinet, in considering the Budget, has rejected all the Educational Department's schemes for new universities and high schools, and has also decided to defer until 1901 the transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury.

Tokyo newspapers speak of a new foreign enterprise on a large scale. It is the establishment of a clock factory in Nagoya by American citizens. The capital is said to be 2 million *yen*. There are already several Japanese clock factories in Nagoya, and, for a time, they did a good business, gaining ready access to both domestic and foreign markets. But they soon yielded to that unhappy proclivity which seems to be the stumbling block of the average Japanese manufacturer—they scamped their work and lost credit. It is now stated that they are much disturbed by the prospect of American competition and that they talk of combining to compete with the over-sea capitalists.

Very keen competition seems to be going on between the Douglas Company and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha in Formosan waters. Previous to the competition, the third class fare between Kelung and Amoy was 2.50 *yen*, but the *Shosen* Kaisha's boats are now taking passengers for 50 *sen*, and the Douglas steamers have reduced their charge to the merely nominal rate of 5 *sen*. A Japanese traveller, quoted by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that neither company shows any sign of yielding, though it is evident that they can not continue long in their present course. The advantage, he says, is greatly on the side of the Douglas steamers in point of accommodation and general organization.

An unvarying campaign is kept up by the *Jiji Shimpo* to induce the Educational Authorities to adopt a more liberal attitude towards private education. For all the anti-foreign feeling throughout the country our contemporary holds the Educational Department responsible. It declares that the policy pursued by the Department for the past twenty years has been to lay a veneer of German philosophy on a basis of ancient Chinese and Japanese learning, and that the false ideas entertained by students and their rough, rude conduct are direct results of that policy. The recently issued Imperial Rescript must have opened the eyes of educationists, and it is to be hoped now that they will abandon the illiberal sentiments betrayed in their proposed legislation about private schools.

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HORRIBLE CRIME IN CHINA TOWN.

MURDER OF A FOREIGNER AND TWO JAPANESE WOMEN.

A terrible crime was discovered about 7 30 a.m. on Monday in China Town, Yokohama, a young American named Nelson Ward and two Japanese women, Tonooka Sue (24), and Suzuki Hatsu (20), being found murdered at a low saloon called the Rising Sun, at No. 133. The Japanese police were speedily informed of the facts, and enquiries lasting most of the day were made by the officials, the result of the investigations being the arrest about one o'clock of a man named Miller, an ex-sailor, who is well known in the saloons and low resorts of China Town.

The story of the crime is a peculiarly horrifying one. The murdered man Ward had already made himself somewhat notorious in Yokohama, and in point of fact would probably have been arrested, had he lived, on various charges of forgery. He was an American and apparently a man of some education, smart in appearance, with a certain affectation of gentility—altogether a character by no means rare in ports like Yokohama. He lodged at a boarding house on the Creekside, and was an *habitué* of the saloons of Honmura Road and the vicinity. It is stated that he was a native of Abingdon, Virginia, and was a medical student.

Rumours as to the motives and circumstances of the crime are more plentiful than facts, but it would appear that Ward, in the intervals of his other occupations, paid his court to the Japanese woman Tonooka, who was virtually the proprietress of the Rising Sun. Tonooka is a native of the village of Inasa, Kamo district, in the province of Ise, and her mode of life since she wandered into the squalid precincts of China Town may be imagined. She had been the mistress of several foreigners, and finally invested her savings in the grog-shop at No. 133.

One of her former patrons was Robert Miller, the man now under arrest. Miller is a man of middle age, an American by nationality, a sailor by calling, and apparently a lounger by inclination. He deserted from an American sailing ship some time ago, and has since been hanging about the back streets of the Settlement. Some three years ago he cohabited with the woman Tonooka, but finally left her without money, and naturally enough she turned to other directions for her support

Since his return to Yokohama, Miller has, it appears, paid visits to Tonooka, with the idea of regaining her favour, and on Sunday he went into the saloon and asked for drink, which was refused him. He appears to have become very angry at this rebuff, and probably the knowledge that Ward was on particularly good terms with the hostess kindled his fury against both the man and the woman. Ward, indeed, was spoken of as likely to take over the business and have it registered in his name.

Though the house where the crime was committed is in a most crowded quarter, no sound seems to have been heard by the neighbours during the night. Early in the morning—about six o'clock—the *momban* of the next house saw Miller leaving the place in company with a Japanese gambler, and an hour or so later a female servant, going to her duties, was shocked on entering the Rising Sun premises to find the body of Ward lying in the bar near a sofa, his throat cut, and a pool of blood round him. Upstairs an equally ghastly sight met the eye. The two Japanese women were lying, one on the floor and the other in a European bed, cut and stabbed about the head, one of them—Tonooka—having an ear cut off. It was quite evident, from the nature of the wounds, that the murder could not have been perpetrated more than three hours before the discovery of the crime. The motives of the murderer, whoever he may be, it is impossible to guess. Especially mysterious is the killing of the girl Suzuki, who was simply a waiting maid. The only theory is that she awoke to detect the assassin at his work, and paid the penalty of her watchfulness.

A garment belonging to Miller is said to have been found stained with blood, and there were, it is said, traces of blood on clothes he had taken off before he was arrested, but we cannot vouch for the truth of these statements. It appears, however, that quite early in the morning Miller entered another saloon called Jim's Place, No. 136, and in a very excited manner asked for a drink, vowing that he would shoot the bar-keeper if he were refused. He also asked for a room, with which he was accommodated and he there changed his clothes, afterwards going to sleep. From his peculiar conduct and from other clues suspicion at once fell on him and after being kept under surveillance all the morning he was arrested about one o'clock. When a representative of this journal visited the Kagacho Police Station, Miller was lying apparently asleep on a bench.

Information of the crime was given to the Police at about eight o'clock, and Mr. Ikariyama, Superintendent of the Kagacho Police Station, at once took the matter in hand. Later Mr. Tsutsumi, public procurator, and Mr. Miyajima, Judge for Preliminary Examinations, accompanied by Dr. Fujii, investigated the matter, and they were occupied in the enquiries till late in the afternoon. As result of the inquest, we understand the police have decided to send Miller for trial on a charge of homicide The body of the murdered man was definitely identified by Mr. G. H. Scidmore, of the American Consulate. Cards bearing his name found in his pocket also left no doubt as to the matter. The remains have been cremated and the ashes will be sent to the United States.

The police are following up the Japanese with whom Miller is alleged to have been leaving the house, and who is supposed to have been his accomplice.

An American missionary, Mr. Smelser, visited the Kagacho Police Station on Thursday to present, through the police authorities, a New Testament to Robert Miller, now detained in Negishi gaol on a charge of murder. The book was conveyed to the prisoner through the proper channel.

The case of the man now lying in Negishi jail under suspicion of a triple murder naturally attracts a great deal of attention, as he is the first Occidental to be brought within the purview of Japanese law since the inauguration of the new system. It is, of course, impossible to learn anything about the evidence that the police have collected for or against Miller, such matters being kept absolutely secret in Japan. But his treatment in jail is accurately described by the *Asahi Shimbun*. It appears that he has been placed in one of the cells specially prepared for the accommodation of foreign prisoners, and that a diet of meat, bread, and tea is provided for him at a cost of 30 *sen* daily, which figure, though it seems to show that there is nothing lavish in the expenditure of the prison authorities, is nevertheless four times as large as the sum devoted to the maintenance of a Japanese prisoner. Miller has a bed, a chair, and a table in his cell, which measures 15 square yards. He is allowed to take exercise once a day, but he asks for greater latitude in that respect. His conduct, however, is excellent. As for clothes, he is still wearing those he had on when arrested, but some Japanese garments also have been supplied, as he complained of cold on the first day of his incarceration, the result, probably, of his previous debauch. He speaks of himself as a suspect only, but we are told nothing of his mental attitude towards the events of the 17th instant.

NOTES FROM KOREA.

The following notes are from the *Korean Independent*:—

"Some time ago a company was formed to float a lottery, to which thousands of Koreans contributed. After some disappointment through the breaking of the machine, the final "draw" came off on the 3rd July, with the result that fifteen of the promoters were winners of the first fifteen prizes. This, to the simple Korean, looked like foul play, and a riot occurred. The machine was examined and found fault with, and it is said that arrangements were made with the machine maker to "place" the numbers. Now the police have taken over the whole thing and are distributing the money among the people who bought chances. The twenty thousand dollars paid the Government for the privilege of floating the thing has been returned, and the two leading men have been banished for three years. Choi Young Ha, financier of the Imperial Household department, has been dismissed because when he was Governor of Söul he sanctioned the formation of the lotteries."

Quite an interesting little squabble has taken place between the ex-Commissioner of Police, the Commissioner of Police, and the Assistant Commissioner, out of which a nice little game of "squeeze" has been revealed. While the former was Commissioner he undertook the service of a debt collector on his own account, and thrust several debtors into prison, among whom was one man who owed $60c. When the present incumbent took office he released the debtors, but kept the proof of their debts. The man who owed the large amount mentioned endeavoured to obtain possession of the incriminating paper, for a consideration. The bait not being tempting enough, it was let alone until it grew. In the meantime the assistant commissioner wanted to take the bait, and, becoming intoxicated, went for his superior officer in fine style, within the Palace precincts, which brought down punishment from the Emperor, who ordered that the chief's salary be stopped for a period of one month.

There is some quarrel going on in the Pedlar camp just now as to who is the principal party. It appears there is a Southern party and a Northern party, and the latter imagine they are on top because they have been chosen to guard the City. Consequently they are receiving "wine money" when it comes round. This is not according to the ideas of the Southerners, who want to share in the spoils when there are any. They have therefore called a general meeting of all the Pedlars to be held in Söul as soon as they can be gathered together. This having come to the ears of the Government, three of the Southerners have been imprisoned and the whole party threatened with disbandment. If this comes about it is likely that the old adage may be fulfilled, "When rogues fall out honest men come by their own."

Im Pyang Kil, one the many who have been arrested in connection with the explosions in Söul, has confessed under torture that he himself caused one of the bombs to explode at Pyong Han Duk's house. He has also given the names of three hundred others implicated with him. It is added that the man was so terribly tortured with kerosene oil that he has since died. The arrest was considered important, and the soldier who effected it was promoted to the rank of captain. It has since turned out, however, that this honour was ill-deserved, as the "soldier" proved to be a common thief.

Yun Ki, the man who was appointed to the post of Chief Inspector of South Chulla, had to pay sixteen thousand *yen* for the appointment in two instalments of eight thousand *yen* each. In orders to raise the wind he pawned the permit given to him on the payment of the first half, with a Japanese. Very shortly after, an edict was issued dismissing all the inspectors, which caused some consternation in the mind of the money-lender, and now the chief inspector is wondering how he will get back his money.

An important discovery from the Korean astrologer's point of view has been made in Chulla Province, in the shape of a monument which is said to have been erected some long time back. The characters on it number fifty-two. It was discovered, while some excavation was going on, preparatory to laying the foundation for a monument which the present Emperor is erecting in memory of his ancestors. The find is looked upon as a good omen.

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NOTES FROM CHINA.

Chinese papers assert that the Chinese Government intends to establish independent Legations with regularly accredited Ministers at the Courts of Vienna and Rome, these duties having hitherto been attended to by the Ministers to Berlin and London, respectively.

The property on the Shanghai Bund of Messrs. Dent & Co., for long the leading British firm in North-China, has been bought, the terms being kept private, by the Russo-Chinese Bank. The portion sold extends back from the Bund to the premises occupied by Messrs. Barlow and Co., and comprises eight *mow*. If is stated, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that the price is Tls. 40,000 per *mow*.

A recent examination of the Kiutoan Flats shows that great changes are still going on there, but the channel across them is narrow and still carries only 14 feet of water. The locality has not yet attained a normal condition of stability. The channel over the *Fairy* Flats, as marked by the light-vessel *Kiutoan*, is consequently still the best channel.

News comes from Hankow of the capture there, on the 1st inst., of two notorious kidnappers who have been sentenced by the Hankow magistrate to be starved to death while enclosed in wooden cages. When the condemned men were placed in front of the magistrate's *yamén* they were subjected to every indignity and torture by the enraged populace. A terrible fate in all verity.

The *Hupao* states that both the brothers Li Han-chang and Li Hung-chang have been recently buying up, through their agents, considerable landed property in Wuhu, near the foreign Settlement. The reason for this seems to be that it is intended by the Chinese Government to open a "commercial" port there, on similar lines to Woosung, and, knowing this the shrewd brothers have bought up all available property within the proposed new port.

The Acting Coast Inspector, Mr. W. F. Tyler has issued a Notice to Mariners announcing the change of the character of the light at Turnabout. The new light is dioptric, occulting, of the first order, showing a fixed *white* light varied by an eclipse every 15 seconds, and should be visible in clear weather for 23 nautical miles. All navigators on the China coast speak most highly of the new lights that have been put up by Mr. Harding.

The Kiaochou Custom House was formally opened at Tsingtao on the 1st of July by Mr. Ohlmer, Commissioner of Customs, in the presence of the Governor and his staff. The ceremony of unfurling the Chinese flag was gracefully performed by the Baroness von Lilienceron.

SPORTS.

BICYCLE RACES.

The bicycle races on Friday afternoon were generally voted rather "slow," for the programme, a rather short one originally, was still further curtailed by the fact that the match between Tsuruta and Vaughan, and the final of the one mile championship—two of the principal features—did not take place. The waits between the races, too, were long and tedious, and as the attendance was not very large the social side of the affair did not make up for the lack of interesting sport. Owing to poor handicapping, the French Cup race was not so interesting as it should have been, Vaughan being penalised to such an extent as to make the contest hopeless from the first. Several of the other races, of which details appear below, were organised on the ground, and were necessarily of a scratch character. One of the most attractive features of the afternoon was an exhibition of trick riding by Mr. Vaughan, who did some very wonderful things with his wheel. The prizes, mostly the gift of the French residents, were distributed by Madame de Micheaux. The officers of the day were:—Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Mr. W. A. Matteson, Mr. D. H. Blake, Mr. E. J. Dyer, Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. E. Edwards, Mr. C. M Duff, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Mr. C. Thwaites, and Mr. E. Adet. Details:—

CHINESE RACE—Two Miles.

Ah Whai	1
Ah Kon	2
Ah Fong	0
Ah Koung	0

Time 7 5.

Ah Koung and Ah Fong did not finish, the latter having a fall in the third lap. A good race ensued between Ah Whai and Ah Kon, the former winning by several lengths.

FRENCH CUP—Two Miles Handicap.

H. Y. Irwine, 15 yards...	1
W. B. Mason, 200 yards	2
W. C. Vaughan scratch	0

Time 6.48½.

Vaughan, seeing his handicap left him without any chance of success, gave up half-way. Mason led till the fourth lap, when Irwine drew up level, finally coming in by two or three lengths.

SCRATCH RACE.—Two Miles.

W. C. Vaughan	1
H. Y. Irwine...	2
W. B. Mason	0

Time 6 10.

Vaughan made the pace, and the trio kept together till the last lap but one, when Vaughan came away from the rest, and won by two lengths.

NOVICES RACE—One Mile.

C. G. Gibbs	1
A. Kingdon	2
P. Launay	0
Carillon...	0

Carillon led the first three laps, but was left on the final spurt, Gibbs winning easily by several lengths. Launay was out of the race quite early.

TWO LAP RACE.

R. Ward...	1
P. Launay	2

Ward won by many lengths.

YACHT RACES.

A programme of yacht races was held on Friday afternoon, under the auspices of the Yokohama Yacht Club, the prizes being presented by French residents. The first was for 17 raters—over a course of 5½ miles round a flagboat off Mandarin Bluff, round Honmoku Lightship, and back through the Harbour entrance. The following were the results:—

	Rating.	Finish. h m.s.	Allowance Club Time. m.s.	Corrected Club Time. h m.s.
Eclair	17	3.22.31	—	3 22.31
Coogee	17	3 31.14	—	3.31.14
Daisy May	17	3 24.32	—	3 24.32
Oscar	17	gave up	—	3 26 35
Bonito	16½	3 27 52	1.17	3 21.28
Wettinge ...	17	3 21.28	—	3 30.46
Devonia ...	16½	3.32 03	1 17	—

Wettinge, 1st prize and 2 record points; *Eclair*, 2nd prize and one record point.

The 12 raters raced over course No. 9, no time allowance being made. The result was:—

12 Raters.	Finish. h.m.s.	12 Raters.	Finish. h.m.s.
Waratah	3.07 50	*Suzume*	gave up
Titania	3.05.40	*Dora*	3 10 20

Titania, 1st prize and 2 record points; *Waratah*, 2nd prize and 1 record point.

MOSQUITO CLUB.

The Mosquito Club had a race for the Commodore's Cup. The result was as under:—

	Start. h.m.s.	Finish. h.m.s.
Sodeska	3.30 21	4.43 57
Abunai	3.30 31	4.45 26
Nandeska	3.31 51	4.47.58
Kodesu	3 30.30	4 46 52

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

A programme of yacht races took place on Saturday afternoon in splendid weather, and the results were as follows:—

Cruising class. Prize, the *Surprise* Cup, presented by Mr. H. McArthur.

	Rating.	Finish.	Allowance Arbitrary Allows.
Svanhild	29	3 41 45	2
Daimyo.....	29	3 40 40	10
Mosquito	26	3 54 00	10
Molly Bawn.....	25½	3 52.15	2

Daimyo, 1st; *Svanhild*, 2nd.

17 raters. The Irish Prize (a handsome marble clock).

	Rating.	Finish.	A'wance Club time.	A'wance arbitrary.
Eclair	17	... gave up.....	—	.....0.30
Daisy May	17	.....3 59 50.....	—	.....1.30
Wettinge.....	17	.....4 00.12.....	—	.....2.30
Coogee	17	.....4.04.00.....	—	.....2.30
Bonito	16½	.....4 30.00.....	1.24	.....2 30
Devonia	16½	.....4.10.15.....	1.24	.....2.30

Wettinge, 1st; *Daisy May*, 2nd. *Eclair* fouled *Wettinge*, and had to return. *Daisy May* led round the course, but was nearly caught by *Wettinge* at the finish. *Wettinge* saved her time, and so won.

The Irish prize was presented to the winner, Mr. Clausen, by Dr. Wheeler, and cheers were given for the latter and for Ould Ireland at the close of the ceremony.

21 raters (prize, the *Waratah* Cup, presented by Mr. Rose).

	Rating.	Finish.	Allowance Club Time.	Allowance Arbitrary.
Yugao	20	5 00 10	—	1.30
Vixen	19½	4 45 02	1.40	allows
Abunai ...	19½	4 52.20	1.40	2.30

Vixen, 1st; *Abunai*, 2nd. It was an easy win.

BASEBALL.

PENNSYLVANIA v. YOKOHAMA.

The baseball match between a nine of the Y.C. & A.C. and a team from the Pennsylvania 10th regiment—now passing through Yokohama on the transport *Senator*—attracted a good attendance to the Cricket Ground on Saturday. For the first three innings the local team just about held their own, the score then standing 2 runs each. Then the military romped away and gradually piled up a big score, the game ending—Pennsylvania, 15; Yokohama, 5. Blake pitched for Yokohama till the sixth innings, when he was relieved by Cameron, Darragh, the visitors' pitcher, sent down really capital balls the whole match. Score:—

10TH PENN.		Y.C. & A.C.
Boyle	...Catcher... ...	...Ellis.
Darragh ...	...Pitcher	...Blake.
Eichet	...Short Stop ...	...Cameron.
McKeown ...	...1st Base ...	...Thompson.
Curran	...2nd Base ...	...Sutliff.
Duffy	...3rd Base ...	...Vaughan.
Jolliffe	...Left Field ...	...McChesney.
Gamble... ...	...Centre Field	...Onderdonk.
Mitchell ...	...Right Field ...	...Merriman.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Pennsylvania	.2	0	0	4	1	4	0	4	0	=15
Yokohama...	...1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	= 5

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Dr. Lönholm has been appointed Legal Adviser and Translator of Japanese Documents to the International Committee from the 1st July.

Dr. Papellier is one of the passengers expected at Yokohama by the *Prinz Heinrich*. The *Hiogo Evening News* understands that the Doctor has come out to take up a position in the High School at Kumamoto.

The Aomori Local Court has sentenced James Scott, the Eurasian charged with an armed burglary in that prefecture, to 12 years' hard labour. His accomplice, a Japanese named Otsuka, under age, had been sentenced to ten years' minor imprisonment.

The new torpedo-destroyer *Shiranui*, which is now *en route* for Japan, arrived at Lisbon on the 15th instant, and was expected to resume her voyage on the 16th. The armoured cruiser *Yakiwa*, built in England, arrived safely at Yokosuka at 7 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The Japan Railway Company has announced its intention of running excursion trains to

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Nikko every Saturday and Sunday until further notice. The hours are :—From Uyeno (Tokyo) 6.30 a.m., reaching Nikko at 9.50 a.m. ; from Nikko, 4.25 p.m. reaching Tokyo at 8.40 p.m.

A religious service was held in the chapel of the Russian Legation on the 16th instant for the repose of the soul of the deceased Czarevich. It was attended by a representative of the Emperor, by the Ministers of State, by the Foreign Corps Diplomatique and many o her notables. All were in full uniform and the ceremony was of a most impressive character.

Mr. Frederic Denis, Captain of the Japan Red-Cross Society's ship *Kosai Maru*, now staying at Yokohama, was robbed on Thursday of a gold watch and chain valued at 300 *yen*, which he left in his cabin. The thief, who is a coolie named Yamada Kakuzo, aged 17, was arrested by the Water Police on the morning of the following day in the compound of the Yokohama Dock Company.

The British cruiser *Bonaventure* went on the rocks in the vicinity of Korniloff Bay in the first week of June. The entire squadron tried for three days to get her off, but finding all efforts unsuccessful, the Admiral despatched the cruiser *Iphigenia* to Vladivostock for assistance. The summer cruise of the squadron has, for the present, been abandoned.

Count Matsukata was reported to have met with an accident yesterday morning. He slipped, the rumour said, while crossing his bathroom and fell heavily, receiving a shock which was sufficient to prevent him from attending the usual Tuesday meeting of the Cabinet. The accident was supposed to have happened at the Count's Mita residence, but on making inquiries by telephone we learnt that the Count has not suffered any injury whatever.

Fujita Umekichi (21), bird-cage maker, in the employ of Watanabe Uokichi, Sumiyoshicho, Yokohama, attempted to commit *jôshi* in a house of ill-fame known as known as Kaiseiro, Eirakucho, about 4 a.m. on Tuesday, in company with a woman named Shinobu (24). They drank a dose of muriatic acid, and the youth then cut his throat and abdomen with a knife. Their cries attracted other inmates to the room, and medical assistance was immediately called, The doctor says both will probably recover.

The first-class cruiser *Tokiwa*, built at Elswick to the order of the Japanese Government, is a sister ship of the *Asama*. Tokyo journals contain long accounts of her dimensions, armament, &c, but the most interesting point is her speed. The original idea was to obtain a speed of 20.32 knots with 14,500 horse power, but the latter figure was ultimately raised to 18,000, and the ship developed a speed of 23 knots on her trial trip.

Her Majesty the Empress attended the graduation ceremony at the Nobles Female School on the forenoon of the 18th instant. The celebration followed the usual routine and occupied about an hour and a half. Miss Inouye Umeko was chosen to reply, on behalf of the graduates, to the address of Marquis Hachisuka, President of the School ; and the Misses Asano Yuki and Toyozumi Yoshi had the honour of playing a duet on the piano in Her Majesty's presence.

A somewhat serious riot took place in Negishi Jail on the 13th instant. One of the warders, Mizushima, discovered two prisoners smoking cigarettes. The warder is said to be a particularly unpopular person, and the two prisoners were notoriously insubordinate fellows. They took the warder's reproof with a bad grace, and proceeded to thrash him, in which pastime they were speedily joined by about 40 of their comrades. The warder drew his sword and slashed one of his assailants over the head. It was a hot fracas, but order was soon restored.

The damage done by the recent typhoon in Tokushima prefecture seems to have been much worse than the first reports suggested. Exact details are not yet forthcoming, owing to the interruption of communications, but the Governor telegraphs the following facts :—

Number of persons killed	46
Number of persons wounded	5
Number of cattle killed.....	35
Number of houses wrecked or washed away	774
Number of houses inundated, or partially wrecked	8,128
Embankments washed away.....	75 places making a total length of 5,240 yards.

Professor Dewar on June 7th entertained the learned *savants* of the Royal Institution with some interesting experiments with liquid hydrogen. This product may fairly rank among the most astonishing discoveries of recent science. To produce it an intensity of cold is required which comes within 21deg. Centigrade of the absolute zero, or equal in the common Fahrenheit scale to 421deg. of frost. At the absolute zero all heat would be exhausted, the rarest bodies would be solid, and all molecular motion would cease. The professor plunged liquid air and oxygen into the fluid hydrogen, and they became almost instantly a solid like ice.

Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Limited, have sent the Shanghai press the following extract from the *Seattle Post Intelligencer* :—San Francisco, 30th May.—The Merchants' Exchange has received from Captain Thunnell, of the American schooner *Hermann*, a clue to the missing steamer *Pelican*, which left Puget Sound for China in the early part of last year. In a letter dated Kodiak, 18th May, Captain Thunnell says that he picked up a bottle on the shore of Portage Bay, containing a slip of paper, on which is written :—"Lat. 50 North and 175 West. The ship is sinking. We are leaving it in frail boats. M. T. Pattieson, first officer." The *Pelican* was never heard of after her departure, and it was supposed that she was blown out of her course and foundered. The small boats were doubtless swamped and the crew lost.

The Chinese quarter of Yokohama was thrown into a state of extraordinary excitement on Saturday morning by an alarm of fire at No. 147 Settlement. The alarm was given just after ten o'clock, and the scene of the conflagration proved to be a sugar store occupied by Kwong Man Tai. By the time the Kagacho Fire Brigade had arrived on the spot the flames had gained a firm hold of the building, the upper part of which was blazing fiercely. The neighbourhood is very closely built, and as there was rather a strong southerly breeze blowing at the time it appeared probable that the fire might spread to a disastrous extent. The whole district was in a perfect panic, and the Japanese and Chinese inmates of surrounding houses, fearful of the flames spreading to their premises, hurried about excitedly with *tatami*, *hibachi*, and other portable household belongings, adding greatly to the general confusion. For a time pandemonium held full sway, but eventually the police succeeded in roping off the immediate vicinity of the fire, and this greatly assisted the efforts of the firemen. Finally, after an hour and a half's hard work, the flames were got under, but not before two buildings had been gutted. Fortunately most of houses near were brick-built ; if they had been of more imflammable material the damage would have been enormous. As it was the loss is estimated at 20,000 *yen*.

In the German Consular Court on Thursday morning, before Vice-Consul Hagen and Messrs. Dankwerts and Orth, Assessors, Mr. F. W. Wenyon, the General Representative for the East of the Central Agency, Limited, of Glasgow, manufacturers of Coates' Spool Threads, etc., sued Messrs. Koch & Co., the local Agents of the Company, for delivery of all goods still held by them and any monies received by them for goods sold, and a general statement and settlement of accounts since May 31st. The suit arose out of Messrs. Koch & Co.'s refusal to surrender the Agency upon Mr. Wenyon's request. Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. F. Schroeder for the defendants. A long discussion took place in regard to the legality of the respective powers-of-attorney put in by either side, and eventually the Court was adjourned till the 24th inst., by which date Mr. Wenyon will have ascertained by what mail-steamer his attested power-of-attorney had left England ; and Mr. Schroeder was ordered to put in a legalized power-of-attorney drawn up in the German language.

YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

ITS WORKING UNDER THE NEW TREATIES.

A meeting of subscribers to the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on Wednesday at Keil's Building to consider proposals for the future working of the Brigade. Mr. James Walter presided, and there was a large attendance of insurance agents, of whom the subscribers now entirely consist.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he had had an interview with the *Kenri* (Governor Asada), who had informed him that the Brigade could no longer exist as at present constituted, and had drawn up the following memorandum for their information :—

1.—One or two foreigners most interested in the present Fire Brigade might, should they desire, when the new Fire Brigade shall have been organized by the Municipality, be invited to become Honorary Advisers.

2.—The general duties of these Advisers shall be as follows :—

a. To sign the annual report of the Fire Brigade which may eventually be necessary, to be distributed amongst the subscribers.

b. To give their advice with reference to the actual work and to financial matters or to the maintenance of the establishment, and also to receive consultation in those matters, should it be necessary, from the Municipal or Police Authorities from time to time.

c. To collect annual subscriptions and hand over to the Municipality.

3.—All foreigners presently engaged in the Fire Brigade shall be re-engaged, as members of the staff of the new Fire Brigade, organized by the Yokohama Municipality, after the dissolution of the Yokohama Foreign Fire Brigade in the Settlement, under the supervision of the Police Authorities.

4.—All the subscriptions shall be annually handed over to the Yokohama Municipality as a donation just as it has been done up to the present and all the buildings, apparatus, engines and other properties now used by the Fire Brigade shall be handed over to the Yokohama Municipality without remuneration or lent free of charge as long as that establishment is maintained.

The Fire Brigade Committee had carefully considered the matter, and had embodied their views in the following document :—

It has become necessary, in consequence of the operation of the new Treaties, for the Yokohama Fire Brigade to take steps, either

1.—To cease its functions entirely, or

2.—To so alter its method of existence (in accordance with requirements of Japanese law) as to enable it to continue its undeniable career of usefulness.

The Japanese Law does not recognise the establishment of any fire brigade not in accordance with that law, and it appears unavoidable that the Yokohama Fire Brigade must cease to exist in its present form.

While the strict carrying out of the Japanese Law on the subject makes it almost impossible for the Insurance Companies to continue their contributions to the funds for the support of a Fire Brigade established or continued under the Municipality of Yokohama, the following arrangements might be made.

1.—That the Yokohama Fire Brigade cease to exist under that name.

2.—That the Municipality establish immediately on its cessation a Fire Brigade, the features and scope of which will be as similar as possible to those of the former Yokohama Fire Brigade, with these exceptions :—

a. A proportion of the funds hitherto contributed yearly shall be handed over to the Municipal Authorities to enable them to defray the

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cost of working the Fire Brigade, employing the same number of foreign and native hands at the same salaries as heretofore.

The term of employment of foreign hands to be for three (3) years and that of the Japanese employes at monthly notice or otherwise.

b. A certain proportion of the funds, though nominally handed over to the Municipal Authorities, shall remain in the hands of some (not less than two) foreign representatives of Foreign Insurance Companies, duly elected by the latter with the approval of the Municipality (this for the sake of form); and this proportion shall be applied, after consultation with the Municipality, for the sole purpose of entertaining and keeping in proper repair and order the buildings, engines and gear of the Fire Brigade.

c. This gear (including buildings, engines and hose, &c.) shall be lent free of charge by the ceasing Yokohama Fire Brigade to the Municipality on certain reasonable conditions to be agreed upon.

d. Ownership of Fire Engine Lot to revert to Japanese Government.

3.—The Municipality shall admit to all consultations and meetings having reference to the existence or maintenance of the Municipal Fire Brigade those foreign representatives of the Fire Insurance Companies (not less than two) who may have been duly elected in the capacity of "Honorary Advisers" to the Municipality in all matters pertaining to the Fire Brigade.

a. Their duties will be to hand over to the Municipal Authorities at stated periods of the year that proportion of the funds, already limited, for salaries collected by them.

b. They shall render an account of the receipts and disbursements on account of maintenance and repair, at certain periods, to the Municipality.

c. They shall, in conjunction with two (same number) members of the Municipality, audit the total accounts of the Municipal Fire Brigade, and in conjunction with them, sign the yearly accounts to be distributed in accordance with the requirements of the Foreign Insurance Companies contributing funds.

d. If absent for any length of time, one or both of the Foreign Honorary Advisers are to be replaced by others selected by Foreign Insurance Companies and approved of by the Municipality.

e. Their term as "Honorary Advisers" to extend to the length of the present arrangement, viz. for three years.

4.—The control of the Fire Brigade is to be exercised entirely by the Municipal Authorities, who shall however in all matters—more particularly concerning fires within the area of the hitherto existing "Foreign Settlement"—take into consideration the wishes and experience of the "Honorary Advisers."

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY proposed that the Fire Brigade Committee be continued, to collect subscriptions and disburse such sums as were necessary, and that the Committee be empowered to carry out all necessary arrangements.

Mr. F. GILLETT seconded. He considered this the best way to deal with the matter. There would be dissatisfaction with the Home Offices if matters were left wholly in the hands of the Japanese.

A little later, Mr. GILLETT asked if it were not possible to make the Brigade a juridical person. The Cemetery had been made a juridical person.

The CHAIRMAN—We have been told we can not do that. It goes directly under the Japanese police.

In answer to a further questions, the CHAIRMAN said the Japanese police would certainly not allow the Brigade to be run as a Volunteer Brigade. That was out of the question.

The motion was carried.

On the suggestion of Mr. Flint Kilby, Messrs. Grauert, Kern, and Kingdon were added to the committee—in place of Messrs. C. K. M. Martin, J. P. Mollison, and H. Bachi—which now consists of those gentlemen and Mr. James Walter, Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. James Dodds, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, and Mr. J. D. Hutchison.

A private meeting of agents was afterwards held.

At the general meeting of the Oji Paper Mill Company on the 15th inst. a dividend of 4 per cent. per annum was declared.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER XII.

A NEW INVASION DETERMINED UPON—COMPARISON OF JAPAN AND KOREA—JAPANESE SCHEME TO GET ADMIRAL YI INTO DANGER—ADMIRAL YI DEGRADED—SECOND INVASION—CHO-RYUNG PASS FORTIFIED—CHINESE GIVE AID—ADMIRAL YI'S SUCCESSOR A FAILURE—GREAT NAVAL VICTORY FOR THE JAPANESE—ADMIRAL YI REINSTATED—SIEGE AND FALL OF NAMWUN—KOREAN NAVAL VICTORIES—ADMIRAL YI'S POLICY—JAPANESE ADVANCE CHECKED—REJOICING IN SOUL—SEIGE OF UL-SAN—SEIGE RAISED—ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES—THE JAPANESE ARMY—THE "EAR AND NOSE MOUND"—NUMBER OF CHINESE—A JAPANESE SETTLEMENT—CHINESE ADMIRALS—ADMIRAL YI'S DIPLOMACY—GENERAL YANG HO RECALLED—THE KING ACCUSED—THE DEFENCE.

We have now reached the half-way point between the two invasions, or rather between the two parts of the double invasion. Hideyoshi was still furious over the failure of his great plan of invading China, and he must needs find some way to vent his spleen. He determined upon a second invasion of Korea, not this time with a view to the invasion of China but with the more modest desire to punish Korea, though what Korea had done to deserve punishment it would be hard to say. To be sure she had proved an obstacle to his vaulting ambition, for had Hideyoshi's original army sailed straight for China instead of landing at Fusan it probably would have overthrown the Chinese capital. We must notice the changed conditions which existed between the two countries. Korea had now experienced the worst possible at the hands of the Japanese, and knew what to expect. Their soldiers had felt the prick of Japanese swords and had in turn tasted the delights of victory. That terrible glamour which surrounded the dreaded islanders upon their first appearance had worn off and some sort of equality had been effected between them. The Koreans had meanwhile become possessed of firearms and were measurably skilled in their use. They had learned never to trust themselves to open battle when guerilla warfare was feasible. They had demonstrated their great superiority on the sea in the person of Admiral Yi. When therefore we remember that the Japanese had to leave their base of supplies and live on what they could forage in the peninsula, it appears that in spite of their prowess they had not much advantage over the Koreans. But before making this second descent upon the shores of Korea it was necessary for the Japanese to get the redoubtable Admiral Yi Sun-sin out of the way. No fleet from Japan would risk an encounter with him in his "Tortoise Boat." The Japanese had seen how the mutual jealousies of the Koreans worked in their favour and they determined to use this in getting Admiral Yi removed. So one day a Japanese named Yo si-ra made his appearance at the camp of General King Eung-so, saying that he was tired of being a Japanese and that he wanted to become a Korean. He dressed in Korean clothes and kept going back and forth between the Japanese and Koreans giving the latter what seemed to be much valuable information. He seemed to be devoted to the Korean interests. One day he came, in a state of great excitement, and said that the Japanese General Kato was coming to Korea with a great fleet and that, as he was to pass a certain island off the coast, Admiral Yi ought to be sent to lie in wait there and drive the invading fleet back or to sink it. So General Kim wrote to the King about it and asked for orders. The King, trusting in the prowess of Admiral Yi, gave his consent; but when that officer received these orders he promptly replied that it was a trick to entrap him and thus clear a way for a descent upon the mainland of Korea. He therefore declined to run the risk, especially as the place mentioned was studded with sunken rocks and was very dangerous for navigation. But the Japanese Yo-si ra kept urging General Kim to see to it that the plan was carried out, and at last the General wrote to the King saying that Admiral Yi declined to go. As may be supposed, Admiral Yi had enemies at court who could not let such an opportunity pass of getting him into trouble. Consequently the iniquitous decree went forth that Admiral Yi be seized and brought to Soul and that Wun Gyun be put in his place. The King intended to put Admiral Yi to death, but one of the officials urged his former services in palliation of his present offence and so the punishment was commuted to loss of position alone. So it was that Admiral Yi, the best soldier that Korea contained and to whom the King owed his crown twice over, was degraded to the ranks and became a common soldier. But, most remarkable of all, he made no complaint, but went quietly about his work as if nothing had happened.

In the first moon of the year 1597 the Japanese fleet set sail from Japan. This army was led by Kato and Konishi, although the nominal commander in chief was a lad of seventeen named Hideyaki. It is said that it took a thousand boats to bring the army across the straits. Had Admiral Yi Sun-sin been at his old post this fleet would never have touched keel on the Korean coast, but as it was there was no difficulty; and the entire army landed safely at So-sang Harbour and immediately threw up fortifications and went into camp.

The first thought of the Koreans was to fortify Cho-ryung Pass, the one break in the mountain chain which the Japanese must pass if they wished to march on Soul. General Kwun Ryul with 23,000 men, and other generals with troops hastily gathered from various districts, hastened to that important pass and put the fortifications in good order, and the King forthwith sent Kwun Hyop as envoy to Nanking to implore the intervention of China. And now we see the evil results of Hideyoshi's ill-treatment of the Chinese and Korean envoys in Japan; for instead of making the Koreans send time and again asking for help the Emperor was eager to send troops into the Peninsula to avenge himself upon the Japanese. The Chinese army was put in charge of three men; General Yang Ho with the rank of Military Commissioner; General Hyong Ga as general-in-chief; and Admiral Ma Gwi as commander of all the naval forces. Under these were Generals Yang Wun, O Yu-ch'ung, U Bak-yong, Chin U-ch'ung, So Eung-gung, Chin Hyo, and Tong Han-yu. General Yang Ho came no farther than P'yeng-yang, his duties not requiring his presence on the field of battle. Admiral Ma Gwi and all the others came on to Soul. From that point they branched out in several directions, one going to Nam-wun in Chul-la Province, another to Sung-ju in Kyung-sang Province, another to Chun-ju in Chul-la Province, and another to Ch'ung-ju in Ch'ung-ch'ung Province.

Admiral Wun Gyun, who had supplanted Yi Sun-sin, went to Han-san, where Admiral Yi had worked so diligently to build barracks with the proceeds of salt manufacture. His first work was to overthrow all the rules and regulations which his predecessor had so wisely promulgated. He then drove away all who had been at all intimate with the former admiral, who was now a common soldier under Kwun Ryul. He then built a paling about the council-hall that Yi Sun-sin had built, and there he housed his harem and spent his time in revelry and feasting. He would frequently have innocent men called up and severely punished for mere amusement. And thus he soon alienated the goodwill of all the troops stationed there.

But Kato, the astute Japanese general, through his tool Yo si-ra, kept at General Kim, urging him to have a fleet sent to intercept a fleet of Japanese boats. He named a day on which the Korean fleet would be sure to intercept a fleet of the enemy. At last the order was given for Admiral Wun Gyun to carry out this manœuvre, and, though he had no stomach for the enterprise, he could not well demur, for this was the very thing that had cost Admiral Yi his position. So he got his boats together and sailed out to Chul-yung Island (Deer Island) off Fusan. But a strong breeze sprang up and the sea was rather rough, and in the darkness of night the Korean fleet became scattered. The next day the larger part of them rendezvoused at Ka-dok Island, where they unexpectedly met the Japanese fleet and were vigorously attacked. Almost immediately all Admiral Wun's forces deserted him, and his only recourse was flight. Reaching his boat on Ch'il-ch'un Island, he landed and drew about him what remnants of his force he could find. When General Kwun Ryul heard of this he sent a stern order demanding that the Admiral should come out and fight. That valiant man first filled himself with wine and then sallied forth, only to be deserted again by his men. So the doughty Admiral again ran his boat aground and took to his heels. He was so fat, however, that he could not run far, so he sat down under a tree to get breath. There the Japanese overtook him and carried away his head in triumph. The second in command, Yi Yo-geui, fled by boat after burning all the barracks and provisions that were stored at Han-san.

When these events became known the whole country was in consternation. Yi Hang-buk, the King's trusted councillor, said, "Yi Sun-sin must be reinstated in his former position." It was a case of dire necessity, and so the King sent and conferred upon that faithful man his former office.

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The trusty Yi set out on foot and rested not day nor night until he reached his former position, Han-san. On all sides he met the scattered and flying remnants of his former force. He rallied them about him, promising that the Japanese should still be held in check.

But before Admiral Yi arrived on the scene of action a tremendous force of Japanese, both military and naval, had landed on the southern coast. Their objective point was Nam-wun, where the Chinese General Yang Wun had pitched his camp. Upon the approach of the Japanese the latter burned all the houses outside the wall to prevent their offering cover to an attacking force; but the Japanese soon built a rough fence or palisade about the town, from behind which they picked off the Chinese soldiers on the wall, at leisure. The Chinese attempted to make a sortie, but in their eagerness to get out of the gate they became jammed in it and were mown down by the long swords of the besiegers. Unfortunately for the Chinese and Koreans the following night was full moon and the Japanese cut down every man that attempted to escape. To the line of stakes which they had planted about the town the Japanese fastened swords, and when the people from the town tried to make good their escape they found themselves impaled upon these weapons. The Chinese commander, Yang Wun, rode at this barrier and his horse was so impaled but he succeeded in getting over and making good his escape. The Japanese attacked the wall in its weakest point and forced an entrance. The massacre within the town beggars description. The Korean Generals Chong Geui-wun, Yi Bong-nam, O Eung-jung, Kim Gyong-no, Sin Ho, Im Hyun, Yi Dokwhe and Yi Wun-ch'uo were all killed, which indicates how sanguinary must have been the fight.

Immediately all northern Chul-la was in confusion and the troops everywhere began to fall back toward the north. In Sŏul itself there was consternation. The King called his officials about him and asked what should be done. They all urged that the King must stay in the capital. The Queen and the Crown Prince, however, were sent to Su-an, in Ham-gyung Province, and the King prepared to move whenever it should seem necessary.

But by this time Admiral Yi was again on the stage of action and as alert as ever. He had as yet only ten boats under him, but he had no lack of men, for the people all along the coast, when they heard of his reinstatement, flocked to him. He drew up his little fleet of ten boats in the shadow of a mountain on Chin-do (island) and sent out reconnoitering boats which returned just at night saying that the Japanese were approaching. As the moon dropped behind the mountain it left the Korean fleet in complete darkness, and soon the Japanese boats came sailing along in single file. Admiral Yi deployed his boats in a line, and suddenly they all raised a loud shout and fired point blank at the unsuspecting Japanese. The latter thought they had run into a powerful fleet and so scattered in all directions. The next day there was more serious work, however, for a fleet of several hundred boats appeared. The Koreans were in some trepidation, but the fearless Admiral made straight for the enemy, and, though soon surrounded, he succeeded in sinking thirty of the enemy's boats. The rest evidently recognised the master hand of Admiral Yi and turned and fled. He gave chase, and before the battle ended the Japanese commander Ma-da-si was killed. Returning from this remarkable fight, Admiral Yi proceeded to Han-san and set to work rebuilding the barracks and making salt. It is said that in two months' time he stored away 20,000 bags of rice. His former captains and soldiers came back to him in "clouds." He also found another source of revenue. The wealthy men all through the south desired to get away from the disturbed districts and so loaded their effects upon boats and sailed away. Admiral Yi, however, stood in the way and made them pay a toll of from one to three bags of rice for each boat. From this source alone he collected above a thousand bags of rice. He used this revenue in the purchase of copper for cannon, and for the building of boats. Thousands of people who feared to live on the mainland came and built huts about his camp, until the island actually became too small to hold more.

After the fall of Nam-wun the Japanese, flushed with victory, started northward toward Soul, thinking without doubt that they would have as easy a victory as before. But General Yang Ho, hearing of the defeat of the Chinese, came post haste from P'yeng-yang and severely upbraided the generals and charged them with lack of bravery. Without an hour's delay it was arranged that Generals Ha Sang, U Bak-yung, Yang Deung, and P'a Sa should take a strong body of troops and move southward to Ch'ung-ch'ung Province and intercept the Japanese. This was done and the army ambushed at Keum-o p'yung in the district of Chik-san. Soon the Japanese came streaming along, neglecting all precautions, for they had no idea of meeting an enemy. When therefore the ambuscade opened fire on them it took but a few moments to throw them into utter confusion. In the rout which ensued an enormous number of the Japanese were killed. On the following day the Japanese, who had mended their broken ranks as best they could, came on to the attack, but their losses had been so great that in spite of wonders of bravery which they showed they were again crushed. The remnant of their force fled southward to Mok-ch'un and Ch'ung-ju. This was one of the three great battles of the war, and in importance it was exceeded by none; for, though the forces engaged were not so numerous nor the number of slain so great, it broke once for all the self-confidence of the Japanese, and they never again had the hardihood to attempt the approach to Soul. By this battle the war was defined to the southern provinces. The Commissioner Yang Ho suggested to the King that he should go and survey the battlefield, and so the royal cavalcade rode out of the South Gate. One of the Chinese Generals suspected that the King was something of a coward, and so, to test him, he gave the horse the King was riding a sharp cut with a whip. The horse leaped into the air with terror, but the King held his seat and showed no sign of fear. The Chinese were pleased at this and their respect for the King was visibly increased.

Soul gave itself up to universal rejoicing for the victory, for it was still fresh in the minds of many how Soul had fared before at the hands of the invaders.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

A NEW FRANCHISE LAW.

Shanghai, July 14.

The Volksraad is debating a new franchise law. It has passed the preamble. The Capetown branch of the Africander Bond has approved the new proposals. There is also a plan for arbitration by judicial experts to settle the differences that have arisen about the London Convention.

[The last part of this telegram is somewhat obscure. The exact words of the message are, "also arbitration judicial experts differences convention," which seem to refer to the London Convention but may signify the drafting of a new convention.—ED. *J. M.*]

Shanghai, July 15, 12.52 p.m.

The question having been raised in the House of Commons of Canada about offering troops from the Dominion for service in South Africa, President Laurier said that he hoped the Transvaal Government would submit without hostilities being resorted to.

The text of the new proposals submitted by the Transvaal Government contains most complex concessions hedged round by elaborate limitations. *The Times* describes them as a mockery. The *Daily Telegraph* calls them a rigmarole of inconsistencies. The *Daily Chronicle* says that they are curiously complicated.

Sir Alfred Milner, in his speech at the opening of the Cape Parliament, merely said that the relations between the States and the Colonies were friendly.

Shanghai, July 17.

Fifteen officers and 213 engineers of the Army Service Corps sailed for the Cape on Saturday, the 15th instant.

The local foundry at Johannesburg is casting mortars for firing dynamite shells.

The Afrikanders are holding meetings in the Cape Colony approving of the franchise proposals.

[There is nothing to indicate what proposals are here referred to.—ED. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, July 18.

Mr. Balfour has promised to set aside a night for debating the South-African question, which step is considered essential under present circumstances.

Mr. George Wyndham has explained that the batteries of Royal Artillery sent to the Cape are for reliefs; but that the batteries which they are to relieve can remain there if required.

Shanghai, July 19.

Speaking in the Volksraad to-day, President Kruger strongly advocated an amendment of the Franchise Bill in the sense of reducing the residential qualification for the franchise to seven years, with retrospective reckoning. He described this measure as righteous and reasonable, and alleged that it would remove the basis of the English objections. The Raad adopted the amendment with only five dissenting voices.

Shanghai, July 20.

The Volksraad has passed several clauses of the Franchise Bill embodying slight amendments. It is understood that the Transvaal Government intends to abolish the dynamite monopoly, and proposes that eight seats in the Raad be given to the Uitlander districts.

THE LATE CZAREVICH.

Shanghai, July 17, 12.37 p.m.

The official account of the death of the Czarevich says that it was due to hemorrhage of the lungs, which occurred when the Czarevich was taking a solitary ride on a motor-cycle. He was tended in his last moments by a peasant woman only.

"THE TIMES" ON JAPAN.

Shanghai, July 18, 12.56 p.m

The Times, in a leading article, says that Japan takes her place to-day (17th inst.) as an equal among civilized Powers. It congratulates Japanese statesmen on the achievement of their great task, and adds that they have gained their end because they deserved to besuccessful. It expresses the opinion that the new regimen will probably strengthen many ties uniting Englishmen and Japanese.

THE TEA MARKET.

Shanghai, July 19th.

Assam and Java teas with draft allowance are plentiful. At to-day's sale the prices obtained were below the average. Some tea is advertized for sale on July 24th without reserve and no draft.

THE "SHAMROCK."

The yacht *Shamrock* beat the *Britannia* by thirteen minutes in a forty-miles trial in the Solent.

MR. ALGER RESIGNS.

Shanghai, July 20.

Mr. Alger, the American Secretary of State for War, has resigned in consequence of attacks directed against the conduct of the campaign in the Philippines. The Government's assailants accuse it of suppressing the truth as to events in Manila.

CRICKET.

The fourth test match, at Manchester, between England and the Australians has ended in a draw.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE FRENCH NATIONAL FÊTE.

Saigon, July 15.

The review at Longchamps (*i.e.* the annual review held on the day of the National fête in the presence of the President of the Republic) was very brilliant. President Loubet was warmly cheered

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and the crowd accorded an ovation to the mission of Major Marchand and his detachment of Soudanese troops.

Saigon, July 16.

The French National Fête was celebrated everywhere with enthusiasm.

DREYFUS' NEW TRIAL.

General Gallifet, Minister of War, has announced to the Council of Ministers that the Dreyfus trial will commence between the 1st and the 10th of August.

Saigon, July 18.

The court-martial at Rennes will hear Monsieur Quesnay de Beaurepaire as a witness, on the subject of the *bordereau*. Monsieur Quesnay affirms that he has received a written declaration from a certain person alleging that Dreyfus committed treason before the year 1894.

GENERAL DODDS.

Saigon, July 20.

General Dodds has been promoted to be a General of Division.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The difference between England and the Transvaal on the subject of the political rights of strangers settled in the Transvaal, seems to be on a fair way to be arranged, owing to concessions made by the Transvaal.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

Solution of Problem No. 429.

By Jan Dobrusky.

(From the "Manchester Weekly Times.")

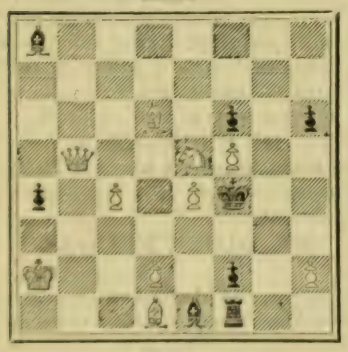
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to R 8	1—K takes R
2—K to Kt 7	2—K to K 4 (must)
3—K to Kt 6 mate	
	1—K to R 2
2—R to B 6	2—K takes B (must)
3—R to R 6 mate	
	1—K to R 3
2—K to B 7	2—K to R 2 (must)
3—R to R 5 mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Voila, Marco, and W.D.C.

Problem No 432.

By Max Frigl and O. Nemo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No 528.

A remarkably pretty Allgaier played recently at the Sydney School of Arts Chess Club:—

ALLGAIER GAMBIT.

White—Dr. Nash. Black—Mr. Mannheim.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
1 P K4	P K4	13 R Q q	Q K-q (h)
2 P KB4	PxP	14 Q R2	R B-q
3 Kt KB3	P Kt4	15 B K5!	K R2 (c)
4 P KR4	P Kt5	16 Kt Q5 (d)	KtxB
5 Kt Kt5	P KR3	17 KtxBP!	Q QB3
6 KtxBP	KxKt	18 PxKt	QxKt
7 P Q4	P Q4	19 PxKt	BxP
8 BxP	PxP	20 QxPch	K R-q
9 B B4-h	K Kt2	21 RxB (e)	Q B4ch(f)
10 Kt B3	Kt KB3	22 KR-q	RxR
11 Castles	B K2 (a)	23 R-Q8 ch	R Bsq
12 Q Q2	Kt QB3	24 Q K6 and wins (g)	

Notes from the *Sydney Herald*.

(a) B to Q 3 is stronger.

(b) An odd-looking move, but if now B to Q 3. White continues B to Kt 5!

(c) Ill-judged. He should have played Kt takes B, followed by B to B 4 ch, and Q takes P.

(d) Initiating a strong attack.

(e) All this is in excellent style.

(f) Black has nothing better. If R takes R, then 22—Q to K 8 ch, and mates in two more moves.

(g) An elegant termination. Suppose Black ties B to B 4, then Q takes R P ch, B interposes, and Q to B 6, mate!

Game No. 529.

BREVITY AND BRILLIANCY.

This game was played by two Cincinnati experts, and shows a new wrinkle in the Two Knights Defence. (Two Knights' Defence.)

White—S. A. Charles. Black—S. Euphrat.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—K Kt to B 3
4—Kt to K Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—B to K Kt 5

A move suggested for analysis in the "Schachzeitung."

6—Kt takes K B P	6—Q to K 2

Better B takes Q; 7—Kt takes Q, Kt to Q R 4; 8—Kt takes Kt P, Kt takes B; 9—K takes B, Kt to K Kt 5; 10—K to K 2, Q R to K sq; 11—P to Q 3 or Kt 3; and although White has still the better game, the advantage is not so marked.

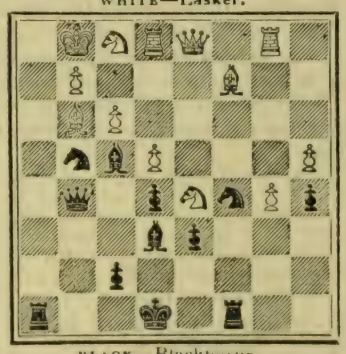
7—P to Q 6	7—P takes P
8—P to K B 3	8—B to R 4
9—Kt takes R	9—P to K 5
10—Castles	10—P to Q 4
11—Q to K 2	11—Q to Q B 4 (ch)
12—K to R sq	12—Kt to Q 5
13—P to B 4	13—Kt takes B
14—Q takes Kt	14—Castles
15—P to K Kt 4, and Black resigns.	

The International Tournament.

Speaking of the fourth day of the meeting an American Exchange says:—

Perhaps the sensation of the day was the defeat of the champion by Blackburne at board 7. Just at the 4.30 interval the following position occurred:—

WHITE—Lasker.

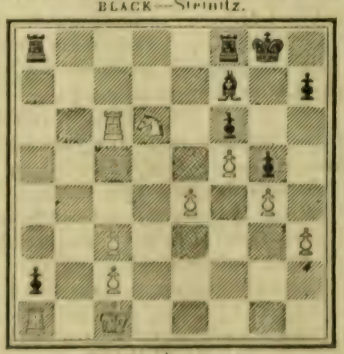


BLACK—Blackburne.

Blackburne here played the pretty move, R to R 8 ch. After K takes R (forced) B takes B, and the game is lost for White. Lasker, in fact, lost his queen for a knight after playing Kt takes B, and soon had nothing left. It was the game of the day, and possibly of several days.

Most interesting games occurred at other boards. Showalter opened with the Ruy Lopez, and of course Steinitz played his usual defence—1—P to K 4, P to K 4; 2—Kt to K B 3, Kt to Q B 3; 3—B to Kt 5, P to Q 3. Somehow Showalter got an apparent advantage, and at the adjournment had two or three pawns to the good. The only compensation for Black was a well supported pawn at Q R 7. This interesting ending was as follows:

BLACK—Steinitz.



WHITE—Showalter.

1—..., R to R 2; 2—R to Kt 6 and K to Kt 2 3—K to Kt 2, K R to Q R sq, &c. This promised a good fight for the evening. Obviously White must aim at getting the advanced pawn.

Notes.

It was rumoured recently that a blindfold match was to be arranged between Blackburne and Pillsbury, on the arrival of the latter in London to take part in the International Tournament.

A Swiss national tournament is to be held at Lausanne early in July, and already some thirty amateurs from the Cantons of Vaud, Neuchatel, Geneva and Valais have announced their intention of taking part in the contest.

On the eve of the International Tournament, Pillsbury delighted the members of the Metropolitan Chess Club with, in England, a novel exhibition of his powers as a mental player. He played six games of chess and two of draughts, simultaneously, blindfold, whilst engaged in a rubber at whist. He won all the chess and draught games, but he held no good cards in the scientific game of chance. Dr Zukertort's record of playing seventeen games simultaneously, blindfold, some twenty years ago, at the late West-end Chess Club, has not been beaten yet, if we consider that, ordinarily, masters play simultaneously over the board only twenty games against a mixed class of opponents, and on the average lose a couple of games, and draw some, the late Dr Zukertort's performance stands out unique of its kind, the team pitted against him having been particularly strong, the best amateurs of the time, like Dr Ballard, Mr. Minchin, and Mr. Blunt being amongst them. The *seance* was adjourned on the first day, and resumed on the following evening, Dr Zukertort calling out the positions upon each of the seventeen boards correctly backwards, *i.e.* beginning with the last and going up to the first move.

The *Times* says the liberty of the press in the matter of reporting chess events is of great importance when the present and future interests of the game are considered. Just before the latest match by cable began, a circular signed by the hon. secretary of the British Chess Club was sent freely to the press asking them to pay very heavily for reporting the games. The same system is to be enforced at the present international congress, unless wiser counsels prevail. The matter is of very little importance as concerns the recent match, but the principle underlying the whole thing is a matter for serious consideration. All other events are open to be freely reported, but for some mysterious reason the great game of chess, with its necessarily limited adherents, is to stand on a different footing from cricket and football. In the other cable matches the games were open and free to the press, and every facility was given, with very obvious advantage to all concerned.

An amusing incident occurred at the International Tournament in Manchester to Blackburne, in his game with Alapin. Instead of commencing with P to K 4, he reserved that move until the last. He finished the game with P to K 4, mate!

At the recent sale of Taylor Johnstone's collection of paintings in New York, a piece representing "Monks Playing Chess," by Gide, sold for $410.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 14th July,—Kobe, 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Silesia, German steamer, 5,138, S. Behrens, 14th July,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 8th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Senator, U.S. Transport, 1,836, J. B. Patterson, 14th July,—Manila via Nagasaki, 11th July, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 14th July,—Shanghai via ports, 6th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 14th July,—Otaru via ports, 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 14th July,—Yokkaichi, 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, W. H. T. Jackson, 15th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 14th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Porter, 15th July,

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 13th July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwabara, 15th July,—Yokkaichi 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 15th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe 14th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, J. De Le Lande, 15th July,—Kobe 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, D. Davies, 16th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 14th July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,557, N. Munezono, 16th July,—Otaru and ports, 11th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Mungo, British ship, 1,852, Ogilvie, 16th July, New York, 5th Jan., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 14th July,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 15th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 17th July,—Kobe, 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, J. Nagao, 19th July,—Hakodate, 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3 047, W. E. Filmer, 17th July,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 16th July, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, Thos. Hide, 17th July,—London via ports, Kobe, 16th July, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Indralema, British steamer, 2,020, Baker, 18th July,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Kobe 17th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 18th July.—Otaru via ports, 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 18th July,—Yokkaichi, 17th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwabara, 19th July,—Yokkaichi, 18 h July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, R. Nunome, 19th July,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 19th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 17th July, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Independent, German steamer, 871, Holtz, 20th July,—Hollo, Sugar —Becker & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 20th July,—Hakodate, 16th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 20th July,—Kobe, 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, C. Olsen, 20th July,—Hakodate, 17th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, T. Aitken, 20th July,—San Diego, Cal., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, J. B. Murray, 20th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 10th, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 20th July,—Otaru via ports, 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, W. Thomson, 14th July,—Kobe, General.—Comes & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 14th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, C. Olsen, 14th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gefion (25), German cruiser, 4,207, Capt. Rollman, 14th July,—Kobe.

Chun Sang, British steamer, 1,250, E. J. Buller, 15th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797, Trenut, 15th July,—Marseilles, London, and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hancock, U.S. Transport, 2,657, C. W. Ames, 15th July,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 15th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 15th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Goodwin, 16th July,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Senator, U.S. Transport, 1,836, J. B. Patterson, 16th July,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwabara, 16th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 17th July,—Otaru via ports, General.——Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Edward Porter, 18th July,—Java and Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ellen Rickmers, German steamer, 2,096, Jacobs, 18th July,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 19th July,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Rogliano, 19th July,—Marseilles via ports. Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 19th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, W. E. Filmer, 19th July,—Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 19th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 19th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Mau, Japanese steamer, 871, T. Kuwabara, 20th July,—Yokkaichi, Generals.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 20th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rasboinik (17), Russian gunboat, 1,500, Com Kassowich, 20th July,—Bering Sea.

Hertha (34), German cruiser, 6.000, Capt. von Usedom, 20th July,—Vladivostock.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Parry, Mr. Sai Van Chee, Mr. Chen Sio San, Mr. Cha Yien San, Mr. So Moon Yah, Mr. Chen Pok Chai, Mrs. Kirkland, Miss Grey, Miss McKnight, Miss MacCandlish, Mr. A. Corridi, Mr. H. MacCullagh, Mr. and Mrs. Blain and infant, Mr. Smedley's 2 children, Mr. H. B. Glaves, Miss G. H. Parmelee, Mr. and Mrs. Standford, Mr. D. Dickson, Mr. W. P. Danish, Mr. and Mrs. Mewell and families, Mr. Enst. Enyal, Miss G. Corad, Miss G. Griswald, Mrs. Y. Ioukiyama, Mr. S. Ishikawa, Mr. K. Hayashi, Mr. S. Yasumoti, Mr. T. Ochiai, Mr. K. Kato, Mr. C. Yamagata, Mr. T. Kondo, Mr. K. Mihata, Mr. Yo Chen Wong, and Mr. C. H. Kratz, in cabin; Mrs. M. Masuda, Mr. Chin Sho Ki, Mrs. R. Otsubo, Mr. K. Kitajima, Mr. Chin Tai Kwan, Mr. S. Machew, Mr. Y. Tanaka, Mr. S. Yoshida, and Mrs. K. Yoshida, in second class; 44 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Williams, Inspector Scott, Mr. K. Yamanaka, Mrs. Kiwa, Mr. J. F. Hough, Lieutenant-Colonel The O'Gorman, Madame O'Gorman and servant, Mr. A. M. Marshall, Commander J. G. Schurman, Mr. and Mrs. Learmouth, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead and 2 infants, Mr. Cheetham, and Mrs. L. M. Favuas and child in cabin.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Landanet, Miss Bell, Dr. and Mrs. Graham, Misses Graham (2), Mr. Chain, Mr. Linsal, Mr. Larrien, and Mr. Effion, in cabin, 5 Chinese, in second class; 130 Chinese, and 37 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Major and Mrs. Whitty, two children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Smith, two children and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Fuchs and child, Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura, Dr. Grunawood, Mr. H. A. F. Cunie, Mr. E. Barnardiston, Mr. B. Luckan, Mr. W. G. McCullough, Mr. E. W. Tomkins, Mrs. C. Ewens and servant, Mr. E. A. Paw, Mr. C. Schilling, Mr. E. Wolkoff, Mr. A. Cheilovich, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. C. B. Peck, and Mrs. W. M. Flood, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. Wilkinson, Dr. and Mrs. J. Tayei, Dr. Mrs. R. Rijohorst, Mr. R. Bliss, Mr. A. G. Rowland, Mr. G. Warner, and Mr. G. A. Kessler, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Manila*, from Shanghai:—Mr. L. Knight, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hitachi Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. T. Yokura, Mr. Le Conteur, Mr. D. Arai, Mrs. Satho, Miss Aya Satho, Mrs. Harvey, and Miss Harvey, in cabin; 11 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kamakura Maru*, for London via ports:—Captain H. Yamada, Com. H. Hideshima, Ins'ter of Mach. T. Yamakami, Com. O. Kamimura, Paymaster K. Yamazaki, Lieut. T. Nakamura, Staff Surgeon H. Takahashi, Chief Eng. M. Tamiya, Sub-Lieut. T. Hanabusa, Com. H. Yamada, 2nd Eng. K. Matsumoto, Lieut. K. Yebihara, Lieut. R. Tsuchiya, Staff Paymaster M. Shibaya, Staff Surgeon N. Miwa, (I.J.N.), Mrs. P. H. Gong, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Dr. L. Lönholm, Dr. S. Asada, Prof. U. Osaka, Prof. K. Ikeda, Mr. S. Yoshida, Prof. Y. Takimoto, Prof. B. Ishikawa, Petty Officers K. Sasaki, M. Yamamoto, M. Kurigaya, M. Sasakawa, K. Noma, I. Takahashi, H. Nitta, K. Furujo, Chief Cas'ter M. Hishioka, Mr. T. Godo, Mr. T. Yoshida, and Mr. S. Yamamoto, in cabin; 45 crew I.J.N., in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Marseilles via ports:—Capt. P. S. Dyson, Major St. John, Mrs. St. John and child, Mr. Bass, Mr. Morris, Mr. G. Weinberg, Mr. J. J. Sallis and boy, Mr. W. N. Weinberg, Mr. Victor Weinberg, Mr. Kelly Tremoulet, Mr. Tawasa, Mr. Tsuchida, Mr. Togashi, Mr. Togashi, Mr. M. Seki, Mrs. R. Spellich, Mrs. Malgre and child, Miss L. Loda, Mr. F. M. Fox, Mr. C. W. Wharton, Mr. J. J. Fernandez, Mr. E. S. V. Nicrop, Mr. K Tanaguchi, Mr. E. Page, Mr. W. T. Kingsmill, Mr. J. S. Vanhaet, Mr. E. H. Burrows, Mr. H. R. Macauley, Mr. Sh. Moroi, Mr. F. Nakabayashi, Mr. Y. Nishinohara, Mr. C. Schilling, Mr. W. Meyerhoff, Mrs. F. E. Read, Mr. and Mrs. Affin and child, Miss E. Grey, Miss Domballe, Master Domballe, Miss M. Jaffrey, Mr. W. Clement, Mr. J. Seller, Mr. Wm. T. Payne, Mr. W. Tallers, Mr. P. F. da Silva and servant, and Mr. Said Hashim, in cabin; 4 Indians, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. F. Raikowsky, Baron Mauteuffel, Mr. K. Fukumoto, Surgeon H. Jimbo, I.J.A., Mr. S. Sin-fang Chang, Mr. J. H. A. Schaaf, Mr. Joshio Iwasaki, Mr. K. Shimada, Major K. Kusunose, I.J.A., Mr. K. Shiba, Mr. N. Imura, Mr. S. Oda, Mr. S. Iwano, Mr. T. Tetsuka, Mr. S. Iwano, Mr. T. Nakamura, Mr. M. Ohigashi, Mr. A. Kurosawa, Mr. T. Togashi, Mr. W. Toninga, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Harima, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. R. Bliss, Mr. A. V. Chielovich, Dr. J. Fryer, Mrs. J. Fryer, Mr. E. Haigh, Mr. G. A. Inksetter, Mr. Bruno Knochenhauer, Mr. J. Krause, Mr. W. G. McCullough, Mr. G. Nakagawa, Mr. K. Oku, Mrs. S. Rijnhort, M.D., Mr. A. G. Rowland, Mr. H. Stell, Mr. E. W. Tompkins, Mr. Y. Tsukamoto, Mr. G. Warner, and Mr. E. Wolkoff, in cabin.

REPORTS.

Captain Dewa, I.J.N., reports that H.I.J.M.S. *Tokiwa* sighted a large sailing vessel flying English colours at 136°.15 E. 33.1 N. (nearly 35 miles from Shiomisaki) on Saturday afternoon at one o'clock. She reported all well, but that she was delayed by head winds. This is probably the British ship *Senator* (Captain Johnson), which sailed from Punta Gorda, Florida, on January 5th for Yokohama. She carries a full cargo of phosphate rock, consigned to the American Trading Co.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	HONOLULU.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amoy	—	—	2,044	14	—	2,058
Shanghai	186	2,033	2,440	774	—	5,433
Kobe	—	—	393	—	—	393
Yokohama ...	4,747	6 389	3,285	522	—	14,943
Total.....	4,933	8,422	8,162	1,310	—	22,827

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	175	—	175
Shanghai	192	—	192
Yokohama	570	—	570
Total.....	937	—	937

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,107 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 62 bales.

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Following are silk shippers per T.K.K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco, July 19:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	160
Varenne & Co.	120
Vivanti Bros.	71
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	50
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	20
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	154
Kiito Shokwai	147
Doshinsha	143
Total	865

Following were silk shippers per N.P. steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., July 18:—

	Bales.
Sieber & Co.	202
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	158
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	43
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	149
Kiito Kaisha	51
Total	603

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 24
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Oceanien 1	Tu. July 25
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 2	Tu. July 25
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 3	W. July 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 4	Th. July 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China 5	Th. July 27
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. July 31
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 6	W. Aug. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Aug. 3

1 Left Shanghai on the 18th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. July 26
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. July 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. July 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th. July 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. July 28
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. July 29
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	W. Aug. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 3
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Aug. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 5

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is little doing in yarns, and no sales of importance have taken place in grey shirtings, buyers declining to pay Manchester prices. White shirtings have been moving off to the extent of 3,000 pieces. Fancy cottons and woollens are quiet.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 32½ yds 45 inches	3.00 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
	per yard.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 75 to 0.85
Clothe—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2 45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	per picul.
Nos. 16 21, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38 42, Singles	42 00 to 44 00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 00 to 42 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	43 00 to 45 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	64 00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	80.00 to 81 50
Nos. 2 100, Plain	102 00 to 103.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	78 50 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.50 to 97 00
Nos. 2 100 Gassed	110 00 to 112.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18 00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

The continuous advance in home prices exercises still a repressive effect on business. A few sales are reported in galvanised sheets and iron sheets.

	per picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	4 90 to 5 30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet Iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.70 to 12 00
Wire Nails, assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.35 to 2.40
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 18 inch)	6.25 to 6 50

KEROSENE.

The market is strong with an upward tendency. Buyers are showing more inquiry.

American	$2 35 to 2.40
Russian	2 27 to 2.30
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is quiet.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.65
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6 80 to 8 40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fair business has been done at rapidly falling prices. The decline amounted to 20 to 30 *yen* per picul on fine, and 40 to 70 *yen* on coarse filatures. Latterly the market has become much firmer, but the business done has not been great.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1120 to 1130
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1070 to 1080
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1100
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra (Nominal)	1030
Kakedas—No. 1 (Nominal)	1020
Kakedas—No 1½ (Nominal)	1020
Kakedas—No 2 (Nominal)	980
Kakedas—No 2½ (Nominal)	940

WASTE SILK.

Nothing is doing and prices are quite nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best (Nominal)	
Noshi—Filatures, Good (Nominal)	
Noshi—Oshu, Best (Nominal)	
Noshi—Oshu, Good (Nominal)	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium (Nominal)	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best (Nominal)	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good (Nominal)	
Noshi—Bushu, Best (Nominal)	
Noshi—Bushu, Good (Nominal)	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium (Nominal)	
Noshi—Joshu, Good (Nominal)	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair (Nominal)	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	$90 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

There has been a steady demand, and prices rule firm, especially for higher grades. Common teas are slightly easier. There are large stocks of common and medium grades.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 20.

Breweries have again changed hands at *yen* 175. Engine and Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 201, Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230, Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85, Offers for Laundries are wanted. Y. U. Club, Brewery and Oriental Hotel Debentures are wanted at *yen* 108, Brett & Co. Debentures are in demand at par, Nagasaki Hotel Debentures are offering at par, Offers for Oriental Hotels are wanted.

China Mutual Preference shares were sold to day at £9 10.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50		200 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	4	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100		230 B
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	1	85 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	2	225 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Pdrs.), $125		450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100		60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., $100		200 B
Brett & Co., Ld., $10		9.75 Sa
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100		155 B.
Hingo Gas Co., Ld., $100	3	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50		77½ Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50		50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100		100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100		100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 20.

Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 200. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 232.50. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, are steady at *yen* 125. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 155. Japan Breweries have buyers at *yen* 175. Brett's & Co. Debentures have buyers at *yen* 100. Y. U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108. Japan Brewery Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 77.50.

YEN.

Yokohama E & I. Works	...200 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	...232 50 Buyers.
Club Hotel	... 85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	...125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co.	...155 Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co.	...175 Buyers.

Tokyo, July 20.

Redemption Loan Bonds	1	96.30
War Loan Bonds	1	96.30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		98.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		290.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		52.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	1	267.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75		—
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	1	63.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	1	63.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 200	1	125.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	1	28.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		72.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 42		59 50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		24.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1	108.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1	72.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		59.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		49 50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		66.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		50.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		87.50
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, and issue-paid up yen 28		62.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		92.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		47.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		22.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		40.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		12.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13		23.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50		2.60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		232.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		180.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	2	68.20
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25		17.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10		5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		32.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		19.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		30.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		10.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		260.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		215.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		110.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25		70.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		3 50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50		56.00
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 35		20.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50		73 50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 20		42 00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40		86.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50		35.00
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50		25 00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40		57.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50		34 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	2	54.00

2 Ex dividend.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 20

An easier money market in London has caused private paper to be more negotiable at old rates, and Bank paper to keep steady. Silver from London comes $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, but no alteration in the sterling quotations from China.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/8
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/4
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 214 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 % dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 3/4
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 7/8

TO CLEAR STOCKS.

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OF THE

Imperial Railway Department

FOR THE

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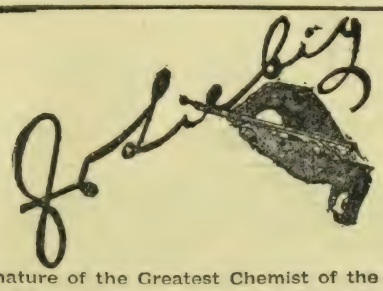
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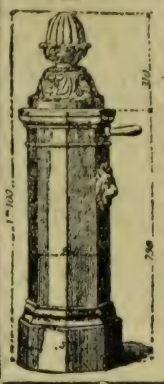
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JULY 29TH, 1899. 明治三十二年五月十三日郵便物認可 [VOL. XXXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged, in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 29TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

On July 25th, at No. 7-c, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of A. BELLAMY BROWN, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 24th inst., at Paris, 28 Boulevard de Strasbourg, Mr. ADOLPH LEVY, of Oppenheimer Frères, age 33.

MARRIAGE.

On July 20th, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Yokohama, WILLIAM GEORGE SMITH, of the Nobles' School, Tokyo, to EDITH GREIG, of Dartford, Kent, England. No cards.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE death of Aguinaldo, the Philippine leader, is denied in Manila.

THE pest seems to be finished at Alexandria; it is dying down in Hongkong.

A VERY successful trial of the Serpollet tram-system has taken place in Tokyo.

A CYLINDER exploding in a torpedo-boat at Portsmouth, two men were killed.

MR. ELIHU ROOT has succeeded Mr. Alger as War Secretary in the United States.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor has postponed his visit to Yokosuka until the autumn.

A FRENCH opera company will appear at the Yokohama Public Hall next week.

AT Pola a boiler explosion on board a torpedo-boat, killed five men and injured two.

SEVERAL earthquakes have been experienced in Yokohama this week; the majority have been very slight.

THE man Miller has been committed for trial at the Yokohama Law Court, on a charge of homicide.

THE steamer *Gorsedd*, bound from the East Indies to Amsterdam, has been wrecked at Cape Finisterre.

IN the Athletic Sports between Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and Cambridge, the Englishmen won five events, the Americans four.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has declared his intention of sending eight troops to form a cavalry regiment of rough-riders in Manila.

THE American ladies of Yokohama have formed an Association to entertain all American soldiers returning from Manila.

A VERY severe storm swept over Japan on the 24th and 25th. In some parts the indigo and tobacco crops are badly damaged.

THE low-lying portions of Tokyo and Yokohama were flooded on Tuesday morning owing to the excessive downpour of rain.

THE Peace Conference, at a plenary sitting, has finally condemned the Dum-dum bullet, Great Britain and America alone opposing.

THE Prince Imperial, who was expected to leave for Nikko on Wednesday, has postponed his visit until the weather is settled.

THE offices and godown of Messrs. Middleton and Smith, tea-merchants, of Yokohama, were destroyed by fire on Wednesday night.

IT is reported that Mr. Akiyama Genzo will conduct the defence of Miller in his forthcoming trial on a charge of triple murder.

CAPTAIN MIYOSHI is to command the crew commissioned to bring home the *Shikishima*, now in course of construction in England.

THE members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club who have accepted the challenge of the Tokyo swimmers, have consented to swim at Tokyo next month.

THE proceedings of the Court Martial at Rennes will be confined solely to the *bordereau*. Every question relating to the other facts will be made objects of a special instruction.

ON the 21st, lightning struck a train on the Hankaku Railway as it was coming out of the tunnel near Shimotaki Station. One carriage was damaged, and three persons are reported to have been injured.

ON Thursday morning a man, about 40 years of age, committed suicide by throwing himself down in front of the train near Tsurumi Station.

OWING to the heavy rain on Tuesday a landslip occured at the cliff near 179, Bluff, Yokohama, the loosened earth-work destroying three houses at 114, 2 chome, Motomachi. Nobody was injured.

A VERY severe rain-storm visited Kobe on Friday night. Kyoto had a heavy down-pour on Friday which was of such extraordinary violence that the "oldest residents" could not remember its like.

PRINCE HENRY arrived at Nagasaki on the 21st from Saseho, and the Governor and Mayor went aboard the *Deutschland* to pay their respects. At the German Consulate an arch was erected in his honour.

OKA KI (29), instructor in the Miyagi Ordinary Middle School, attempted hara-kiri on the afternoon 20th inst. at his house in Higashi Sanban, Sendai. His mind had been affected by troubles in connection with the School.

WAKATSUKI WAKAJU, who murdered his mistress and packed her remains in a box, which he left at Totsuka, was on Saturday sentenced to 9 years' imprisonment with hard labour at the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho. Judge Sato, the presiding judge, found extenuating circumstances.

THE Transvaal troubles are expected to reach an honourable termination shortly. A rumour is current to the effect that President Kruger was forced to resign before he could pursuade the Volksraad to sanction the extension of the Uitlanders' franchise. Now he has returned to power, however.

A SENSATION has been produced in Paris by the publication of a telegram sent by the Czar to Prince Louis Napoleon on the latter's birth-day, hoping that each year will bring him nearer to the highest period of his life when he will realize his wishes, and saying that his friends are as numerous in Russia as in France.

THE Right Honourable Sir Wilfred Laurier, speaking in the Canadian House of Commons, referred to the Alsaka dispute and said that the United States Government had refused to compromise, but nobody dreamed of war, therefore it only remained to submit the question to arbitration. He added that he hoped the Canadians would be patient for a few months longer.

MR. GOSCHEN, in presenting the Naval Estimates, said that he saw nothing menacing to England in the programmes of Foreign Powers. Great Britain was bound to have a fleet equal to that of any two foreign Powers combined, but she did not desire to enter into a race for naval supremacy. He added that America and Japan are now naval Powers, and that it would be expedient to appoint naval *attachés* to those countries.

THE preliminary examination of Kato Kosetsu, ex-chief of the Hakodate Branch of the Hokkaido Government, and others who have been charged with fraudulent possession of properties and accepting bribes, has concluded with the result that Yadama Saiho and Omura Seiichi were committed for trial on grave charges, while Kato Kosetsu and six others go for trial on minor charges. Five other accused persons were set free.

INTERNET ARCHIVE ... UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

The correspondence that has taken place between the Chairman of the Public Hall Association and Mr. Montague Kirkwood fully bears out the comments made in these columns on the 20th instant. Mr. Kirkwood's proposal seems to have been greatly misconstrued, and misconstruction is very perplexing in view of the plain terms in which his letters to the Board of Directors were couched. The only explanation suggesting itself is that the Directors, being almost morbidly solicitous about the welfare of the Public Hall—which they rightly regard as an institution essential to the comfort of the community—and having in view the story of the institution's unprosperous career, discovered an imaginary peril in a proposition really designed to place the Hall on a solid foundation, and allowed themselves to be betrayed by their apprehensions into a course which can not be called calm or businesslike. The stenographic report of the meeting shows that the Directors did not see any necessity for placing the correspondence before the shareholders, and that they were disposed to confine the discussion to the bald fact of Mr. Kirkwood's having applied for payment of interest on his debentures. A great injustice, however unintentional, would have been done had that method of procedure been pursued, for Mr. Kirkwood would then have been depicted as sacrificing the welfare of the Association to a small pecuniary interest of his own, whereas what he really did was to make an offer of a thoroughly helpful character. In fact, as our correspondent "*Civis*" yesterday showed, had nine other members of the community been willing to follow Mr. Kirkwood's example, the Public Hall would have been completely freed from debts of every kind, debenture or mortgage, and would have started with a fresh lease of vigorous life. We have no doubt that the Directors will be the first to regret the mistake into which they were betrayed.

It is now alleged that a sum of twenty thousand *yen* has been offered by way of mortgage loan; that several of the debenture-holders have surrendered their debentures, together with all interest due on them, and that the twenty thousand *yen* will be used to pay off the present mortgage debt of 9,500 *yen* and to satisfy the claims of any debenture-holders who may be unwilling or unable to follow the example of their munificent comrades. Thus the institution will begin the world again with a debt of 20,000 *yen* and with its original share-holders only as proprietors. That scheme seems to us to partake of the precipitancy that marked the recent doings of the Directors. Nothing is wanting to complete it except that the shareholders also should surrender their shares, when we should have an ownerless institution without any legal status and with liabilities amounting to twenty thousand *yen* for which no one would be liable. How incomparably more practical and level-headed is Mr. Kirkwood's project. His idea is to convert the debentures into shares, thus extinguishing the debenture-debt without demanding any violent sacrifice from the debenture-holders, and to discharge the mortgage debt by selling new shares for which he himself is prepared to subscribe to the extent of a thousand *yen*. Then the Institution would recommence its career without any debt at all, and without extinguishing the claims of the debenture-holders, who are surely entitled to more consideration than the original shareholders.

The following further correspondence has passed between Mr. Kirkwood and the Chairman of the Public Hall Association:—

Yokohama, July 20th, 1899.

M. Kirkwood, Esq., Tokyo.

Dear Sir,—In accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting of shareholders of the Public Hall Association held on the 18th inst., I beg to notify you that if you could send in your Debentures to Mr. T. Thomas, Hon. Treasurer, they will be discharged by full payment.

Yours obedient servant,

(Signed) A. O. GAY,
Chairman of the Public Hall Association.

Tokyo, July 21st, 1899.

A. O. Gay, Esq.,
Chairman of the Public Hall Association.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date informing me that if I will send in my Debentures to the Honorary Treasurer they will be discharged by full payment.

My letter of the 7th July and the subsequent correspondence must have made it quite clear to you and your co-directors that it was not my intention to press the Association for payment of money, or to be placed in any way on a different footing to other Debenture-holders, but, on the contrary, that it was my wish to further the interests of the Public Hall by surrendering my debentures for shares and by subscribing 1,000 *yen* towards payment off of the mortgage.

This correspondence you and your co-directors—if the newspaper reports be correct—would have kept back from the general meeting, although it contained the proposals I had made and although I had specially requested that it should be read. Fair treatment and an impartial hearing could not be served by such methods, and personal feelings, for reasons which I am at a loss to understand, seem to have overridden public duty.

Repudiating as I do any intention whatever of working contrary to the good of the Public Hall Association, which I was chiefly instrumental in starting and for which I secured the greater part of the shareholders and debenture-holders, as the lists, if still extant, will, I believe, show, I have no choice but to inform you that I do not propose to send in my debentures to the Treasurer for payment as you suggest.

I must at the same time express my profound astonishment that an offer made in the interests of the Public Hall should have been so misconstrued by your Board, but the correspondence, published in full in the *Japan Mail* of yesterday, can be easily read by all those interested in the Hall, and I believe that any who do so will not fail to come to the decision that my proposals should have met with a very different reception.

In conclusion, I beg to say that my offer will continue to remain open, namely, to take shares for debentures and to subscribes 1,000 *yen* towards paying off the mortgage so soon as the Association takes steps to be reorganized or reconstructed so as to place itself on a proper footing in conformity with the requirements of the Commercial Code.

I am, Dear Sir, Your faithfully,

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Yokohama, July 21st, 1899.

Montague Kirkwood, Esq., Tokyo.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date.

Having referred to the newspaper reports of the proceedings at the meeting held on the 18th inst., at which I regret you did not find it convenient to be present, I see nothing to justify the accusation of unfair treatment which you bring against the Directors, and certainly nothing of the kind was intended.

They read your letter of the 6th inst. to mean, first, that you required to be paid, before the 17th of the same month, the arrears of interest due on the 23 Debentures held by you in the Public Hall Association, amounting to *yen* 1,288; secondly, that you also claimed payment of the capital if the funds at the disposal of the Directors sufficed; and lastly, if not, you proposed the affairs of the Association should be taken over by a Company with a capital of *yen* 30,000 or 35,000, in which you were prepared to accept shares in exchange for your Debentures and take new shares to the amount of *yen* 1,000.

The Directors read this proposal to mean that as a shareholder and debenture-holder you, desired as a matter of business, to obtain a share-certificate or scrip in a company registered in Japanese Law as security for your investment in the Public Hall Association; and a re-perusal of your letter does not suggest any other construction.

That proposal, whatever its object may have been; did not, and does not now, commend itself to the approval of the Directors. They nevertheless recognize your legal right to require that the claims you formulated should be at once satisfied, and they offered to satisfy them. The offer is now repeated and it will not be revoked.

With regard to the scheme you proposed, the Directors understand it to be based on the assumption that the institution of the Public Hall Association was, or has become, a commercial transaction within the meaning of Article 264 (I) of the Commercial Code. No one should know better than yourself that in its inception it was not intended to be or to become a Commercial Speculation or investment for the acquisition of profit:—see Articles of Association Art. I; its Hall has never been used for any such purpose: and the Directors are advised that the occasional letting of it, not as a regular business, but as a gentleman lets his house, does not constitute a commercial transaction within the meaning of the Commercial Code. This opinion is strengthened by reference to Art. 4 of the same Code, in which a trader, in the sense of the Code, is defined to be a person who in his own name "carries on commercial transactions as a business."

I trust I have made it plain that if the Directors do not support your scheme, it is because they do not approve of it, and do not contemplate making any change in the constitution of the Association; but if you desire to bring your proposal before the shareholders, a meeting of those interested will be called at your request according to the Rules of the Association.

I am, Your obedient servant,

A. O. GAY,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

THE RUSSIANS AT FUSAN.

A sensational telegram is published by the *Asahi Shimbun* about the conduct of certain Russians at Fusan. The details appear to us to be obviously unworthy of credence. It is stated that some Russian officers entered a Japanese restaurant called Keihan-hei, and behaved in such a turbulent and improper manner that the inmates were obliged to call the police, who removed the offenders to the station. Ultimately, however, the Russians effected their escape and returned to their ship, leaving three articles of apparel in the hands of the police. A complaint was at once preferred by Mr. Ochi, a student secretary of the Japanese Consulate. That night an officer, with a party of eight armed marines, landed from the Russian ship, and proceeded to the Consulate with a letter from the captain to the Consul. In the absence of the latter they declined to deliver the letter to the student-secretary, and, when remonstrated with for making an armed invasion of the Consulate, they

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treated the remonstrance in a very *nonchalant* fashion. That is the story. We do not credit it, but to speculate on the "grain of truth" would be useless.

Since writing the above, later news shows that the gist of the trouble was connected with the treatment of some Russian officers by the Japanese police. The officers were in plain clothes and their rank could not be recognised. What they did to necessitate police interference we do not know, but they were handled as though they were common blue-jackets. The captain of their ship, seeking an explanation, was informed by the Japanese Consul that it had been impossible for the police to distinguish between officers and seamen when the former did not wear uniform, and there the matter seems to have ended. We are not aware ourselves that constables are expected to handle officers and men differently. Both are equal before the law, and both should have equally short shrift if they violate the law.

DISCOVERIES.

Two important discoveries are announced. The first is of a kerosene oil-field on the Kiushiu coast. There is an air of mystery about the announcement. "Somebody" has struck the oil "somewhere" is all we are told—a vague enough statement when we remember how many hundreds of miles the Kiushiu coast measures. It is added, however, that indications of the presence of oil springs have long been apparent, and that the yield is likely to be much richer than that of the Echigo wells.

The second discovery is of auriferous sand at Kitami in Hokkaido. Last year, a small quantity of the precious metal is said to have been obtained, but this year, after the melting of the snow, it was seen that the district held great riches. Hundreds of applications for claims are reported to have been made, and the fishermen on the coast have abandoned their nets to go washing. In short, the *Hochi Shimbun*, which is responsible for both of the stories, the kerosene and the gold, calls the affair a small Klondyke.

It appears possible that Echigo may become a very important centre of oil production. Wells are said to exist at quite a number of places in the province—Urase, Motate-toge, Hanzo-gane, Ike-nohira, Miyohoji, Amase, Kashiwada, and the neighbourhood of Nagaoka. No less than 400 companies have been organized, and about one-half of them are at work. The refinery is at Nakajima. Great speculation has, of course, taken place, to the enrichment of some folks and the impoverishment of others, so that not a few ancestral homesteads have changed hands. Nagaoka, from having been a quiet country town, was suddenly transformed into a busy city, to the no small demoralization of its inhabitants, many of whom have abandoned their legitimate business to speculate in shares. The fever has been partially allayed by disappointments, for things are not turning out so well as was expected. There is a great want of capital, and the people are said to be anxiously looking for the advent of some moneyed foreigners. The output of oil during the past three years has been 205,248 *koku* in 1896; 227,734 *koku* in 1897, and 277,186 *koku* in 1898.

HOW TO CONVERT CHINA.

Chinese conservatism is the crux of the era. It seems impervious to all influences and blind to all object lessons. Yet, unless it can be softened, unless the big empire can be quickened into some vitality of self-defence, Western Powers will find themselves confronted by a problem which they can scarcely hope to solve peacefully. The *Asahi* suggests a course. It lays down as axiomatic that China will never open her ears to foreign teaching. Conviction of her own superiority and of all other nations' inferiority has become an instinct with her, and to attempt to move her from without would be quite futile. The only way to approach her is through the mouths of her own sages, Confucius and Mencius, whose philosophy is her gospel. Her conversion might be effected, of course, if some colossal figure, some publicist, statesman, philosopher, and soldier greater than either Confucius or Mencius, appeared upon the scene, tore the Analects to pieces, and set up another system in their stead. But, failing that almost miraculous deliverance, the only plan is to prove that among the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius themselves are to be found principles approbatory of Occidental learning and statecraft. Our contemporary is persuaded that the thing could be done. It does not enter into particulars, but is content with quoting one saying of Confucius that the empire is not the property of one man. The doctrine embodied in that dictum, says the *Asahi*, might easily be elaborated into a commendation of parliamentary government and even of republicanism. What is wanted, then, is an interpreter. Rather late in the day, is it not, to apply such a remedy?

AN ELECTRIC RAILWAY IN YOKOHAMA.

Attempts have been made for some time by a company to obtain a concession for building an electric railway in Yokohama, but the Town Assembly has always vetoed the scheme. It is now stated that the Governor is disposed to promote the enterprise, but whether such is really the case we can not tell. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which always takes an intelligent interest in Yokohama's affairs, condemns the project in unmeasured terms. The streets of Yokohama, it says, are much too narrow to permit the construction of an electric railway. Being essentially a commercial mart, the future of the place must be considered from a commercial stand-point. Carriages, brokers' traps, and goods waggons may be expected to be the principal occupants of the thoroughfares in constantly increasing numbers, and an electric railway would be a fatal obstacle to free passage. If the distances were great, as is the case in Tokyo, different considerations would come into play. But Yokohama is a comparatively compact place, offering an inferior field for the enterprise of electric conveyances. There are now 23 ports opens for exports, and the construction of a serviceable harbour in Tokyo Bay is not likely to be delayed much longer. Yokohama must therefore be prepared for sharp competition, and, if money is to be spent, let it be spent upon improvements which will add to the place's practical facilities for trade.

THE SERPOLLET TRAMWAY.

Tuesday, July 25.

The Serpollet system in one of the great inventions of the time. Briefly described, its fundamental principle is the evaporization of water by means of heated tubes, the water being employed in quantities proportionate to the force which has to be developed. Thus the driver of the machine can produce a force of from 3 to 30 horse-power. He can pull a heavy weight or a light at uniform speed; he can increase and diminish the rate of progress at will, and he can arrest the car within a distance of a few feet. The system is finding much favour in France, and the patent has just been bought for use in London. Employing coke, there is no smoke, no smell, no cinders, and the system has this great fact in its favour that no special installation is required. Neither is any long training needed to educate drivers; a few hours' practice suffices. Some enterprising Frenchmen have brought to Japan a specimen machine and car, and have obtained from the Tokyo Tram Company facilities for an exhibition. The car they have imported is comparatively heavy, having been constructed for a wide guage, but that is a mere detail. There does not seem to be much probability of the invention being used by the Tram Company, the Directors not being prepared to make any change of system at present; but the Municipal Authorities are looking at the Serpollet with interest, and may possibly adopt it for the street railways. The citizens of Tokyo are strongly disposed in favour of electric railways at present, but the initial outlay would be fully three times as great for electricity as for the Serpollet system, to say nothing of the unsightly and dangerous superstructure which the former involves. The Serpollet traction car carries fuel and water for a fifteen miles journey, and thus seems admirably adapted for use in a city like Tokyo. It is much to be wished that the Tokyo Tram Company could be induced to adopt it. The necessity of employing horses would thus be dispensed with, the result being that the streets would no longer be in a state of perpetual wreck as they are now.

Thursday, July 27.

A trial of the Serpollet mechanism took place on the 24th instant within the enclosure of the Tokyo Tramway Company's premises at Asakusa. The circumstances were most unfavourable, as rain fell in torrents and a gale of wind was blowing. Nevertheless a considerable proportion of those invited were present—officials from the Home Department and the Tokyo Municipality, representatives of the press, and persons interested in the street-railway enterprise. The trial was thoroughly successful, and the Tokyo papers speak in most approving terms of the advantages of the system. We trust that it will be adopted, for it seems to have much to recommend it from an economical point of view, and it would dispense with the unsightly and dangerous superstructure of wires necessary for an electric railway. The fact that this opportunity has been furnished for examining the merits of the system in actual operation, is due to the enterprise of Captain Bougoin, who has caused the mechanism and carriages to be brought to Japan.

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A NEW ASSOCIATION.

A new association called the *Seikyo* Club has been organized in Tokyo. It starts with a membership of over 500, aad among its promoters are Mr. Kato Kumaichiro, a well-known advocate of Buddhism, Mr. Hayakawa Riusuke, a member of the Diet, Mr. Okamoto Kansuke, an eminent Chinese scholar, and others who belong, without exception, to the conservative class. The association, as its name denotes, combines political and religious purposes, but its manifesto is marked by the usual vagueness. The document speaks of an evil custom which is beginning to sway the people, high and low, and to render them incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong. It declares that men are ceasing to have any fixed principles, and that they are sick with the fever of love for gold, so that the lofty disposition of the Japanese is becoming debased. Men that have been abroad are led away by a propensity to mould everything on foreign models. On the other hand, narrow-minded conservatives are for abolishing everything foreign. But now that Japan has ceased to be distinguished from Occidental States, she must be doubly circumspect in her conduct. The relation between religion and the State must be clearly defined. A creed adapted to the national polity must be determined. In pursuit of those objects the Association proposes to enlist the cöoperation of eminent religionists, educationists, and politicians. We confess that it is not easy to discover just what aims are contemplated. But we shall scarcely be doing the association an injustice if we say that its purpose is to oppose the egoistic and plutocratic elements of Occidental civilization.

THE KIUSHIU RAILWAY.

The Kiushiu Railway furnishes materials for the latest commotion in the business world. A section of the shareholders have begun to agitate for reforms in the administration and another section opposed the step. Reform in such a case means the payment of larger dividends. The last manager succeeded in paying 10 per cent.; the present can not contrive more than 7½. If the question were merely one of economical administration and good organization, sympathy would be with the reformers. But there is another element. They claim that the Mitsu Bishi Company have been buying up the shares with the intention of gaining complete control of the line, and that the influence of the great firm is exercised to reduce the dividends so as to cheapen the stock. Truly the difficulties that crop up in connexion with the working of enterprises in Japan are remarkable. It seems impossible for any body of men to manage matters in harmonious cöoperation for more than a very brief period. Some mischievous rumours are always circulated, some discreditable charges brought, to create division and dissension. In this particular case we should imagine that, if the influence of the Mitsu Bishi is exerted at all, it is with the object of having proper attention paid to the road-way and rolling stock. But the story is only one of many. We doubt whether the Japanese can ever be successful in business until they learn to trust each other and work together.

THE CONVICT KELLY.

The case of the convict Kelly has attracted some attention. Kelly, an American citizen, shot a man in Nagasaki and was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment. His term had not expired when the Consular Jurisdiction of the United States ceased to exist on July 17th. What was to be done with him? He could not be sent to the United States to complete his sentence except under some special arrangement to which he was himself a consenting party, for no prison authorities in America have competence to enforce the judgment of a Consular tribunal in Japan. The difficulty, being fully foreseen by the United States Consul-General and Minister in Japan, was referred to Washington, and it was decided that Kelly should be invited to sign a declaration of his willingness to put in the rest of his sentence in the States, on condition that he should be released after two years. That was probably the only way out of the trouble, for the man, having been sentenced to imprisonment in Japan, could not be transferred to a prison elsewhere without either a change of the original sentence—which was impossible—or his own concurrence. Kelly was naturally very willing to agree, and everything would have been satisfactorily arranged had not the Authorities in Washington failed to forward the essential documents. The telegraph was doubtless requisitioned, but the necessary preliminaries could not be completed in time, and the result was that Kelly had to be set free. There does not appear to have been any fault whatever on this side. We observe that the American Representative in Tokyo is journalistically accused of having failed in his duty, and that his conduct is contrasted with that of other Ministers who foresaw the difficulty and made provision against it. As a matter of fact, there was no practical occasion for precaution on the part of other Ministers. A prisoner in the British Consular Jail could have been transferred without hindrance or query to Hongkong, so that Her Majesty's Representative was able to feel quite at ease, and his colleagues were in the happy position of the *vacuus viator*.

JAPANESE CHARACTER.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* endorses the comment of a foreign observer that suspicion and jealousy are the chief faults of Japanese character. The Japanese do not trust each other. Whatever a man's social position may be, his statements are considered not simply with regard to what they express, but rather with regard to what they leave unexpressed. So, too, if any enterprise is started or any project conceived, there are always found a number of persons ready to scrutinize it unfavourably and predict its failure. "Blowing aside the hair to look for a wound" is the ordinary frame of mind, proverbially described. The *Kokumin* attributes much of this unfortunate state of affairs to the *Aku-toku Shimbun*, the newspaper that makes a profit out of evil; in other words, that poisoner of public morality and disseminator of lying slanders, the *Yorozu Choho*. Before the real nature of the *Yorozu Choho* was discovered, it did much mischief, and even now, though its day is over, the ill effects of the virus scattered abroad by it and its congeners have not been dissipated.

THE EDUCATIONAL SCHEME.

There is a striking difference of opinion about the new scheme of the Educational Department. Last year, the number of applicants for admission to High Schools was 3,000, but, owing to want of accommodation, 1,500 had to be refused. The Minister of Education has accordingly framed a project for greatly extending the facilities for university and high-school education. The programme extends over a period of eight years, and has been welcomed in many quarters as a most commendable reform. The *Asahi* calls it the second great *post-bellum* measure, and hopes that there may be no truth in the rumour which represents the Cabinet as hostile. The *Jiji Shimpo*, on the other hand, vehemently opposes the project, and even alleges that it is political rather than educational, being in fact the outcome of promises made by Liberal leaders to their constituences. We do not see why the latter consideration should discredit the programme. Be that as it may, however, the *Jiji* advances the thoroughly sound doctrine that, instead of multiplying the number of imperfect State schools, the Government should encourage, not taboo, private educational efforts, and should confine official functions to the organization and maintenance of a few really perfect schools as models.

We can not but endorse the *Nichi Nichi's* criticism that the rising generation of Japanese are overworked. Indeed we have often said so. According to the Government's educational programme, a boy enters a primary school at 6 years of age; passes thence to a middle school; goes from the middle school to a high school; and finally proceeds from the high school to the University. By the time he emerges from the University he is supposed to have devoted 24 years to his education, but very often the period is 27 or 28 years. On the path towards the distant goal of university graduation, he has to surmount innumerable steep hills in the shape of examinations. In fact, nearly the half of his vigorous existence is devoted to being examined or preparing for examination. Some of the trouble is due to his having to study Chinese ideographs, the Japanese language, and a foreign tongue, but our contemporary thinks that a great deal of relief might be afforded by allowing students to pass directly from the middle schools into the University. As for the argument that the educational standard would be lowered by such a measure, the *Nichi Nichi* justly observes that it is a mistake to speak of an educational standard in the case of the University, for the object of the University is to give technical instruction in special branches, not to impart general learning.

MR. WALTON.

Mr. Joseph Walton, Q.C., M.P., is now visiting Japan *en route* for China. Our readers have of course read Mr. Walton's speeches in the House of Commons on Far-Eastern affairs. He has fully identified himself with the subject, and now seizes an opportunity of inspecting at first hand the scenes and the peoples of whom he has spoken with such effect in

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Parliament. It is greatly to be desired that leading Englishmen should do as Mr. Walton is doing. No one can be competent to speak with real intelligence and authority on Far Eastern topics unless he has visited the Orient, observed the conditions actually existing, and exchanged views with persons who have made these matters their direct study for years. Mr. Walton's tour is to embrace Korea, Manchuria, Peking, the Yangtsze, and the West River. He has always been a strong advocate of the scheme for a railway from Burmah to the Yangtsze, and it must be a great satisfaction for him to learn that the surveying party sent from England some months ago to examine the the ground have reported the discovery of a good route. There had been great doubts on that score, and it is probably fresh in our readers' recollection that the latest English travellers from Burmah to Chunking *via* Yunnan—Mr. Foster Fraser's party—declared the physical difficulties in the way of railway construction to be quite insurmountable. Mr. Fraser was not an expert in such matters, but he spoke with such confidence as to carry assurance. There, is of course, a long interval between the finding of a route and the completion of the railway—a particularly long interval in the present case, for unless the British Government strikes out a new policy and assists to procure the capital, the road can scarcely be built. Railways are the *fin-de-siècle* instrument of imperial expansion. Of that fact there can be no question. No Power is acting so vigorously on the theory as England's great Asiatic rival, Russia. It seems as if the fine old rule of the British Government—to follow where individual enterprise leads—will have to be modied in the face of the conditions of the era.

THE TAKANO AFFAIR.

Our readers are aware that Messrs. Shimada, Taguchi and Miyake, desiring to give an opportunity to ex-Judge Takano to state his case, publicly arranged a meeting at the *Fujimi-ken* in Tokyo, and invited a number of publicists and newspaper editors. The meeting came off on the 26th instant and was largely attended. The chief feature, of course, was ex-Judge Takano's speech. We have only an epitome of it before us, but even if we possessed a verbatim report we should not ask our readers to peruse it, for the whole question turns on the simple point whether Formosa stands to Japan in the relation of a Colony, as Hongkong, for example, stands to Great Britain, or whether it is an integral part of the empire for legislative purposes. There are, however, a few interesting features in the *précis* of Mr. Takano's speech. He gave his hearers to understand that he incurred the dislike of the Government, first, by inconveniently zealous efforts to reform the judicial abuses prevailing in the island; and secondly, by declining to be a party to the wholesale arrests made on suspicion. These, however, are dead issues. If the Cabinet that removed Mr. Takano were still in office, his complaints might furnish materials for an attack by the Opposition, but the present Cabinet has no responsibility in that sense, and Mr. Takano's only efficacious course is to show, if he can, that the Ministry which dismissed him acted *ultra vires*, in which case he would have a valid claim to consideration from the present Government. But what we find particularly curious in his speech are the two following utterances, quoted *verbatim* apparently:—"I would have resisted" (*i.e.* his removal from the Bench by a posse of police) "even to the shedding of blood had I not been unwilling to cause a scandal before the eyes of foreigners;" and "I entertain a final resolution. But I hesitate to explain it openly to you, gentlemen. Were I to make it known, it would lead either to my imprisonment or to a great disturbance. I will tell you on some future occasion." That is very singular language, coming from the mouth of a man who once held the office of Chief Justice of Formosa. We do not think that Mr. Takano will further his cause by such declarations, and we greatly doubt whether the meeting itself was not a most improper affair seeing that Mr. Takano has appealed to the Law Courts, and that his case is now *sub judice*. There can be doubt about the intentions of such thoroughly upright men as Messrs. Shimada, Taguchi and Miyake, but we fear that they have committed an error of judgment in this instance,

CHRISTIANITY ON ITS DEFENCE.

"Christianity brought to bay" is the title of an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, a journal conspicuously favourable to the foreign faith. Of course, the great question with Japanese conservatives is whether the doctrines of Christianity can be reconciled with the national polity of the empire. The problem connects itself in most minds with the theory of the Sovereign's divine origin. That is the stand-point of the publicists who have interpreted the Emperor's educational Rescript in a manner calculated to produce anti-foreign feeling in the primary schools. There are European monarchs also who openly proclaim their divine right, and would probably regard the propagandism of the Buddhist or Shinto creed in their realms as directly antagonistic to their title. We must observe, therefore, that in this matter our houses are of glass. Another point presents itself, however—the point which induces the *Mainichi* to speak of Christianity's being brought to bay. It is the uninterrupted continuity of the Imperial line. Hitherto controversialists have shrunk from bringing that matter to the bar of open argument. But Mr. Otsuki Joden has now thrown off all reticence, and boldly stated the issue. This is the son of the celebrated Otsuki Nankei of Sendai, a noted Confucianist of early *Meiji* days. Mr. Otsuki's contention with regard to Christianity is that it insists on the precept of monogamy, and that the continuity of the Imperial line could never have been preserved in the past, nor could be preserved in the future, were such a precept enforced. A Chinese proverb says that to shatter the golden bowl—*i.e.* to violate the state polity—is to be a national traitor. Mr. Otsuki virtually applies that title to the professors and propagandists of Christianity in Japan, and the *Mainichi* says that the Christians have now to defend themselves. Is the *Mainichi* really uncertain about the nature of the Christian's answer?

WRECK OF THE "NUNOBIKI MARU."

The *Nunobiki Maru*, a steamer of 1,441 tons gross, has been lost off the Saddles. She seems to have been caught in the gale of the 21st, and to have sprung a leak. There is reason to fear that the disaster was attended with very heavy loss of life, for out of about 120 persons on board at the time, only one passenger, 2 officers, and 10 seamen are known to have been saved. Others may still be found to have escaped, but not much hope is entertained. The *Nunobiki* was an old vessel, built in 1874. She was recently sold to Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, a well-known member of the Diet, but it is said that she was not insured, her condition being such that no office would accept the risk. A steamer called the *Kiukiang* took off those that were saved, the rest of the crew and passengers having left the ship in two boats which have not since been heard of.

We learn that Mr. Nakamura purchased the *Nunobiki* from the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha for 35,000 *yen*, and that, at the time of the disaster, shs had on board a cargo of coal and miscellaneous goods valued at 50,000 *yen*. She left Nagasaki on the 21st instant, bound for Hongkong, and met a typhoon which had been generated in the vicinity of Ishigaki Island. It does not appear that her cargo was insured, and in that scarcely credible event the loss will amount to about 100,000 *yen*. The condition of the vessel may be inferred from a comparison of her tonnage with the price paid for her—less than fifty shillings per ton. The man-of-war *Takao* was immediately despatched to render assistance, if possible.

One of the *Nunobiki Maru's* boats has been picked up by a British steamer, which has put into Moji, and landed the crew, consisting of an engineer and seven sailors. Hopes are therefore entertained that the second boat's crew also may have been rescued. Strange to say, no exact particulars are yet published about the number of the *Nunobiki's* passengers and crew. All the names and details ought to have been known before now.

ANOTHER JUDICIAL TROUBLE IN FORMOSA.

Mr. Mizuo, chief judge of the *Fukushinin* (Assistant Court of Appeal) in Formosa, has resigned, and several of the Tokyo newspapers are persuaded that a new judicial scandal is in sight. The Formosan judiciary was originally modelled on the lines of what is called *Sanshinseido*, that is to say, a triple system of courts—first instance, appeal, and supreme. In Judge Takano's time there was a *Kōtōhōin*, or Supreme Court, and he was its presiding judge. But thereafter the supreme court was abolished, and the highest tribunal now in the island is the *Fuku-shinin*, presided over by Mr. Mizuo. The latter is said to have always been opposed to the change, but, inasmuch as he consented to serve, and has actually served for about a year, in the *Fukushinin*, his objections can not have been very strong. Certainly it does not explain his resignation. The Opposition journals claim that he has been driven from office by undue interference on the part of the administration, but, inasmuch as he himself has observed strict reticence, there does not appear to be any solid foundation for his statement.

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ROBERT MILLER.

Miller has been committed for trial on the charge of wilful murder. From the statement of the Judge who conducted the preliminary examination, we take the following facts. Robert Miller, an American citizen 49 years of age, served as an able-bodied seaman on the American ship *Tam-o-Shanter*, where he gained a very bad character for violence and brutality. On the 27th April he deserted from the ship in Yokohama harbour and thenceforth became a "loafer" in that place. He had a sum of 44 *yen* when he deserted, and he spent a part of the money at a drinking saloon and lodging house kept by a Japanese woman, Tonooka Suye. He ingratiated himself with Suye by collecting debts from her foreign customers, sea-men and such folk, some of whom would have eluded payment had they had a woman only to deal with. These tactics succeeded, and finally Suye learned to trust him and allowed him to enjoy all the favour that a woman can bestow, Miller becoming comparatively steady under these circumstances. The "Rising Sun Inn," as the drinking saloon was called, did not nominally belong to Suye. Women of that class always find it advantageous to evade police supervision by registering their business in the name of a foreigner, and thus enjoying the peculiar licence conferred by Consular Jurisdiction. Suye's establishment was registered in the name of George Henry, a seaman of the U. S. S. *Olympia*. When, however, the time for the operation of the Revised Treaties was at hand, Suye saw that inconvenience might be caused by carrying on business in the name of a man who did not reside in Yokohama. She thought of registering in her own name, but the nature of her business suggested the advisability of continuing the "foreign protection" system as far as possible. Miller seemed just the kind of person to suit her purpose, and she made the proposition to him. He accepted it with delight, and it was arranged that an application in due form should be sent to the United States Consulate on the 15th instant. But, in the meanwhile, Suye began to entertain doubts as to the wisdom of her choice. She saw Miller in something of his true light, and on the 16th of July, she informed him of her resolve to make no change in the registration. She was strengthened in this purpose by two other females, Suzuki Aki and Tanaka Tome, who were employed by her nominally as maid-servants but in reality for a trade of another kind. Both of them disliked Miller, and made no attempt to conceal their aversion. The 16th July, then, found Miller deprived of the fond hopes he had entertained of leading a life of idleness and debauchery, and beset by the three women, who did everything in their power to drive him away from the premises. In the meanwhile, there had appeared another loafer upon the scene in the person of Nelson Ward, a young seaman of the American ship *Robert Sax* (?) He had deserted in Hakodate in April, and made his way to Yokohama. Ward was good-looking and aped the gentleman with some success. He succeeded in duping two or three foreigners into lending him money, and in due course he found his way to the Rising Sun Inn, and was received into the arms of the handmaid Suzuki Aki. Aided by his appearance, his manners, and his command of cash, he rose to high favour in the establishment. But Miller hated him, and made a habit of abusing him behind his back in the foulest language. At 12.30 a.m. on the 16th instance, Ward sought lodging at the house of a Portuguese (No. 149), but the acting mistress, a Japanese, refused to admit him, and he repaired to the Rising Sun. Miller seems to have regarded this as a favourable opportunity to be revenged on Ward, Suye, and the other two women. That night, the girl Tanaka Tome went out, and did not return. Her absence probably saved her life. Suye slept in an up-stairs room in the front of the house; Aki, in an adjoining chamber behind; Ward on a sofa in the southern side of the saloon; Miller on a sofa on the northern side. At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 17th Miller rose, and possessed himself of a claw-hammer which was lying on the counter. He went to Ward's side, and, finding a razor, attempted to use it on the sleeping man. But the edge turned. Ward raised himself partially, and, before he could make any effectual resistance, Miller battered out his brains with the hammer, inflicting nine terrible wounds on his head and face. Going upstairs, the murderer found the girl Aki lying asleep on her right side. He dealt her a fatal blow just above the left ear, and followed it by four other crushing strokes on the skull. All this had not disturbed Suye. She was still sleeping soundly when Miller came to her bed. Upon her he wreaked his full fury, planting no less than eleven furious blows on her skull and face, so that her head presented the appearance of being honey-combed. The place was like a shambles, strewn with lumps of flesh and brains and stained with blood.

Such is the gist of the Judge's finding. A large number of witnesses, including several foreigners of various nationalities, were examined, and the proofs of Miller's guilt are declared to be conclusive.

THE WEATHER.

It is greatly to be hoped that the weather will soon develop a more seasonable character, for if things continue much longer as they are now, the rice crop will suffer. The hot season (*doyo*) commenced on the 12th instant, according to the almanack, the 11th having been the last day of the early summer rains (*baiyu*). One half of the hot season has therefore expired, yet there has been scarcely one really hot day. The rice wants caloric just now, and unless it gets it there will be big losses.

The *Nippon*, we observe, has a leading article on the subject of superstitions connected with the almanack. It strongly condemns the prevalence of popular notions that if a certain day brings a certain kind of climate, certain results will ensue to the crops. Men call the first three days of the hot season *doyo-taro*, *doyo-jiro* and *doyo-saburo*—*i.e.* eldest son *doyo*, second son *doyo*, and third son *doyo*, just as though they referred to human beings, and they congratulate themselves if the sun shines, or the sky is cloudless, or some other climatic condition is satisfied on each of these three days. Yet the fact is that the intervals of two or three weeks before and after these particular days are the really important periods, and that it does not matter at all whether the sun shines, or the wind blows, or the rain falls on the *doyo* days themselves. The *Nippon* considers that it was a mistake to append the lunar calendar to the Gregorian in almanacks for common use. But is not the *Nippon* disquieting itself in vain? The Japanese farmer has learned to expect that the climatic conditions at an important season of the year may be inferred from the weather on particular days, and for that reason he attaches special moment to these days. There is nothing superstitious or reprehensible about that, so far as we can see.

LEGISLATION TOUCHING THE MISSIONARIES.

We translate, elsewhere, a Notification of great interest to the Missionaries. It may be assumed to embody the Government's decision with regard to the control of Christian propagandism in this country. The provisions of the Notification amount, it will be seen, to nothing more than a system of registration. Religious propagandists are required to furnish certain simple information to the authorities, and must hereafter obtain official permission for the erection of any edifices destined for religious uses. Edifices existing prior to the operation of the Notification, will be legalized by the mere fact of reporting the reasons for their erection. It is evident that the purpose of the Notification is to establish official touch with Christian propagandism to the extent of ensuring the preservation of law and order. There can no longer be any just complaints that whereas the priests of Shinto and Buddhism are subjected to a measure of official control, the Christians are left to their own devices.

FINANCIAL.

A special Cabinet Council was held yesterday (27th) at the Prime Minister's official residence for the purpose of discussing the final action to be taken with regard to the new enterprises proposed by the various Department of State and included by them in their estimates for next year. It is not yet possible to know the details of the decision arrived at, but there seems to be no doubt that the Educational Department's eight-year scheme, for establishing two new universities and three new higher schools was put aside—postponed until 1901 was the polite method of rejection. The Communications Department, however, is to get a part of what it wants; the same is the case with the Home Department; the Naval Department suffers no reductions whatever, and the other Departments are all reduced as recommended by the Finance Minister. The Prison Expenditures are to be transferred to the charges of the Treasury, whatever the outlay involved.

SHIPS AND BILLS OF HEALTH.

The Department of Home Affairs has issued a Notification with reference to bills of health (*kenzen-shōsho*). Every ship which leaves Yokohama, Kobe, or Nagasaki, bound for a foreign port, must obtain a bill of health from the Medical Inspection Station (*kenyeki-jo*), and must pay for it a fee of 5 *yen*. Governors of Prefectures are required to report at once to the Inspection Station the occurrence or disappearance of any contagious disease within the limits of their Jurisdiction, and a clean bill of health shall not be granted in any district where a contagious disease has been thus reported as existing.

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LAUNCH OF A BIG SHIP AT NAGASAKI.

On Thursday (27th) at five minutes past 11 in the forenoon, the *Awa Maru* was launched from the Mitsu Bishi Building Yard at Nagasaki. His Excellency Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of Communications, named her, and from the time the cables were cast off until she took the water was only 50 seconds. The *Awa Maru* has been built for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. She is a six-thousand-ton steamer, sister ship of the *Hitachi Maru*. The event demands an expression of applause for the enterprise shown by the Mitsu Bishi Company. The first essays in building big ships are very costly. The *Hitachi Maru* involved a heavy loss, and if the account for the *Awa Maru* comes out even, it is as much as can be expected. But unless the undertaking is boldly faced Japan can never hope to build her own ships, and the Mitsu Bishi Company seem determined that she shall not labour permanently under that disability. It is well for the country that some of her capitalists show such a spirit.

A SMALL STORM.

On the 25th Tokyo and Yokohama were unexceptedly invaded by a storm of wind and rain which, at one moment, threatened to assume typhoon dimensions. Happily, however, things quieted down before mid-day, and, the sun breaking out, there succeeded one of those "ambrosial" afternoons that usually follow a gale at this time of year. It looks now as though the weather had fairly settled, but there has been so much disturbance of a more or less eccentric character in southern seas during the past 15 days that one hesitates to make any prediction. On the 13th, at 1.35 p.m., the Manila Observatory telegraphed that an area of depression had developed to the west of Luzon and that it appeared to be advancing towards the China Sea. Subsequent intelligence showed that the area was large and the depression deep, and that, advancing first towards the north-east, it had suddenly changed direction to the north, and, instead of entering the China Sea, had passed to the East of Formosa and headed for Nafa, in the Riukiu archipelago. On the 19th at 11 p.m., the centre was found to be on the West of Nafa, the barometer showed 736 mm., and the force of the storm was very great, a high sea running, and deluges of rain falling. Gradually travelling to the north-west, the typhoon reached the neighbourhood of Chinsan on the morning of the 21st, and then, suddenly altering its course to the east, seemed to be travelling direct for Japan, where, also, another area of depression developed in the central provinces. Therefore, at 5.05 p.m. on the 21st, the whole country was warned, and, indeed, it had been evident from the peculiar skies, unsettled weather, and abnormal coolness of the interval between the 19th and the 21st that a marked atmospheric disturbance was taking place in the vicinity of Japan. Appearances at 6 a.m. on the 24th indicated that the centre of the depression would cross the midland provinces and head for Hokkaido, but as yet we have no exact news of the result. From Okayama, Niigata, Gumma, and Tochigi, however, reports have been received of a heavy rain-fall, entailing overflows of rivers, breaking of embankments, and interruption of railways and telegraphs.

Official reports sent from Kagoshima on the 15th instant, say that the injury done to the tobacco crop by the storm of the 7th and 8th instant was serious. Returns from seven Districts are published. They show that the damage varied from 1 to 7 per cent., the average being 4¾. In Tokushima Prefecture the indigo suffered badly. The province of Awa is the headquarters of indigo cultivation in Japan, and the report alleges that no part of the province escaped scathless. The floods spread over an area of 125 square miles. The figures relating to six places show devastated areas varying from 925 acres to 8,500 acres. Speaking generally, sixty-five per cent. of the crop is supposed to have perished.

"SHINTO" WORSHIPPERS AND TREATY REVISION.

The principal office of the *Shinto* creed in Tokyo, namely, the *Jingukyō-in* of Yurakucho, has resolved to organise a festival on the 4th of August in celebration of Treaty Revision, and it has been decided that at the Shrines of Ise also a similar step will be taken at a suitable time. Mr. Fujioka, the chief prelate of *Shinto*, has issued the following Injunction :—

On the 30th June His Majesty issued an Imperial Rescript and on the 4th of August the Revision of the Treaties is to become an accomplished fact. The nation owes the latter result to the virtues of the Sovereign, and can not but rejoice profoundly. Japan now becomes the equal of European and American States, and has entered an era of increased prestige for the country and augmented prosperity for the people. Such facts constitute an achievement of unprecedented excellence; an achievement unique in the events of a thousand years. Shall we not celebrate it in a fitting manner? Therefore let the followers of our faith organize, for the 4th of August, in reverential response to the Imperial purpose, a festival of thanksgiving for this great consummation, and let us pray that our relations with our foreign friends may grow constantly more intimate and that our country may enjoy increased tranquillity. The Head Office also shall choose a suitable time, and make arrangements for a celebration to spread abroad a knowledge of the event among the disciples of our creed.

GREAT FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

About eight o'clock on Wednesday night fire broke out at the office of Messrs. Middleton and Smith, tea merchants, 22 Settlement, and as a result the whole building was completely gutted, causing a loss of many thousands of dollars. The fire manifested itself with startling suddenness. Persons living near saw a great burst of flame leap forth from the western end of the building, and the next moment the whole of that side was wrapped in a bright blaze. Then the windows on the south broke, and that side, too, was immediately burning fiercely. A coolie immediately ran off to give the alarm, but though the Brigade arrived on the scene with a fair amount of promptitude the flames had got such a hold by the time of their arrival that it was apparent that the whole edifice was doomed. The house was mainly built of timber; with stone or plaster facings, and it burned like matchwood, sparks flying in all directions, and causing some anxiety as to the safety of other buildings in the neighbourhood. The narrowness of the street rendered this fear by no means a foolish one, but fortunately there was an absence of all wind, and this favoured the firemen in restricting the area of the conflagration. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, just opposite Messrs. Middleton and Smith, was practically immune from all danger on account of its substantial structure, but close to the burning building was a wooden verandah communicating with another house and this might easily have caught fire. An hour's steady work, however, sufficed to obtain mastery of the flames, but not till the building, containing an office on the ground floor and a sample room and tea-tasting room above, was almost entirely demolished, only the lower walls and the framework of the upper storey remaining standing. The sample room was full of samples, which of course were destroyed, but the books and other valuables, were enclosed in a fire proof safe, and are therefore presumably intact. The loss must be very heavy, but no reliable estimate has yet been formed.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

It will be remembered that at the time when the affairs of the Transvaal first assumed a serious complexion, Reuter telegraphed that the Government of the Orange Free State had voted a sum of money for armament purposes. The news was somewhat perplexing, except from the point of view that, in the event of a war just beyond their borders, the people of the Free States deemed it wise to be prepared for emergencies, whether in the interests of strict neutrality or with regard to the contingency that they might be required to restrain a section of their own nationals. For the sake of its bearing upon this question, as well as its general interest, we quote a statement made by Mr. J. B. Robinson to Reuter's Agent in Pretoria, shortly before the crisis became acute :—

I am well acquainted with the whole situation at the present moment, and I may state that there is absolutely no intention on the part of the Transvaal burghers to invade the Cape Colony, nor would they be permitted to do so even if they had that intention. The English and the English Afrikanders form a very important and powerful element, and it is folly to believe for one moment that if war were to take place the Cape Colony Dutch would take part in it. The same may said with regard to the Orange Free State burghers. There are many reasons why the latter will remain neutral. There are, no doubt, a few of the burghers in the Orange Free State who would in the event of war with the Transvaal cross over into Transvaal territory, as they did during the late Majuba-hill war, to assist their kinsmen in the South African Republic. I may state, further, that, with the exception of a very few there are no German or Hollander soldiers in the Transvaal. In the event of war the burgher force of the Transvaal would number about 15,000 to 20,000 men, and if war were to take place the battles would be fought on Transvaal territory. I do not believe that there will be war, as I think that better counsels will prevail, and only yesterday (Sunday) I again addressed a cablegram through my representative at Johannesburg appealing to President Kruger and the Executive Council and strongly advising them to meet Sir Alfred Milner's views.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON WARREN.

The following minute was unanimously adopted at the recent annual meeting of the American Board's Mission in Japan :—

"In the death of the Ven. Archdeacon Charles F. Warren the work in Japan has suffered a great loss. Many of our own number feel personally bereaved. We wish to place on record our high appreciation of his noble Christian character, his strong and unswerving faith, his earnest and unselfish devotion to his work, and especially his fervent catholic love and sympathy as shown by his interested presence at the organization of our first Japanese church twenty-five years ago and during all the years of never-to-be-forgotten intercourse since. Our own lives are richer for his life among us; Japan is richer in the possession of his influence and example; and heaven is richer for his translation thither. We wish to convey the above tribute of love and respect, together with our heartfelt sympathy, to the members of Archdeacon Warren's family, to his mission in Japan, and also to the Church Missionary Society."

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The festivities in honour of Treaty Revision are to take the form of a ball at the Imperial Hotel on the 5th of August. Probably nothing else is possible, but a ball in the early days of August will not be a very successful function. The invitations are issued in the name of Baron Ozaki Saburo.

His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu (Junior) arrived at Taku on the 21st in the *Takasago*, which he commands. It had been the Prince's intention to visit Peking, but we learn by telegraph that he has abandoned the idea. The end of July is certainly not a good time to choose for a trip to the Chinese capital.

Dr. Shimomura, having been sent to Arima to investigate the cause of the recent seismic disturbances which have created so much alarm and brought about an exodus of visitors from the famous resort, reports that, in his opinion, a hollow space has been formed underground at Rokko-zan, and the tremors are caused by land-slides gravitating to this depression. The learned seismatist sees no reason for any alarm. It is to be hoped that the result will justify his confidence.

There has been a rush to import as much alcohol as possible in anticipation of the *ad-valorem* duty of 250 per cent. which becomes enforceable from August 15th. Already a million *yen* worth had been brought in, and had completely filled the Ishikawa ware-houses when a further consignment of thirty thousand barrels arrived by a German steamer, and the difficulty of storing it is said to be insuperable. These abnormal operations of trade naturally overtax the resources of officialdom.

In accordance with the provisions of a Bill (*Koshaji Hozon-ho*) passed by the Diet last session, the Treasury is authorized to spend 100,000 *yen* in five years on restorations of the Nikko temples. The association called the *Hokō-kai* has granted a similar sum for the same purpose to be expended in the same time. Hence, from the 1st of August, work will be undertaken at the rate of forty thousand *yen* yearly for five years. Mr. Hoshino has been appointed to superintend the operations, and a skilled architect has also been engaged, but his name is not published. The architect alleges that 200,000 *yen* will not suffice, which is more than probable.

The Bank of Japan's issues of convertible notes now aggregate 222 million *yen*, so that its remaining power of issue is only 18 millions. This is not due to any unusual demand for money on the part of the general public. On the contrary, there has been a steady tendency to repay advances, and the accommodation now given to private individuals and companies does not exceed 60 millions. But the Bank lately invested largely in the new foreign loan, and also placed a considerable sum at the disposal of the Specie Bank. We have pointed out more than once that when a Bank has competence to issue notes by payment of a small tax, it is in a position to make investments which would not otherwise tempt it.

Judge Takano, as our readers know, has appealed to the Law Courts for redress against the Ministry [illegible] from his post of Chief-Justice in Formosa. The question having thus been brought once more upon the *tapis*, Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Taguchi Ukichi, and Miyake Yajiro have taken it up, and arranged to hold a meeting at the Fujimiken in Tokyo, for the purpose of hearing and discussiug Mr. Takano's views. The case turns, it will be remembered, on the question whether Formosa is an integral part of the realm of Japan in the sense that all laws applicable to the latter are necessarily operative in the former. If the answer be affirmative, then Judge Takano was entitled to all the privileges, including permanent tenure of office, that are secured by the Constitution to occupants of the Bench. It appears to us that, however worthy may be the motives of Messrs. Shimada, Taguchi, and Miyake, they are seeking to revive a dead issue.

The Korean Government has at length been persuaded to implement its promise about opening Pyong-yang to foreign trade. It fought hard against the necessity for some time, and endeavoured to substitute a comparatively insignificant port, but the foreign Powers—including Japan, of course—were obdurate. Korea has therefore given in, but announces her intention of adhering strictly to the letter of the law, and not allowing foreigners to lease houses or purchase land anywhere outside the limits of the place set apart for a settlement. It is a curious experience for Japanese statesmen to find themselves driving the neighbouring empire into routes of liberalism which their own country showed so much reluctance to enter forty years ago. However, the Japanese can truly urge that experience has demonstrated in their own case the wisdom of the course they now recommend to Korea.

There is not a solitary pawnbroker's shop kept by an American or European in Yokohama. Chinese enterprise is responsible for 5 of these institutions, but they have no rivals. It is a curious fact when one comes to think of it. Here is a table prepared by the Authorities showing the various "professions" carried on by foreigners in Yokohama:—

	British	American	German	Spanish	Portuguese	Russian	Danish	Swiss	Dutch	Italian	Chinese	Totals
Inns	5	9	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	23
Lodging Houses	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
Restaurants	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9
Cook shops	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Drinking Saloons	5	4	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	14
Meat shops	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Pawn-brokers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Curio Dealers	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Billiard Saloons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Servants' Agencies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Carriers	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Total	15	11	7	1	2	1	3	1	2	2	16	60

It used to be very persistently urged by the opponents of Treaty Revision that the heart of the Japanese nation was not touched by the question, and that the efforts made to recover Japan's judicial and commercial autonomy were confined to a small clique of officials. There would be some difficulty, we think, in asserting such a proposition now. If even the representatives of the Buddhist and Shinto creeds publicly proclaim their delight at the consummation of Revision, no further doubts can be entertained about the sentiment of the people at large. In the eyes of the disciples of the two native faiths, Treaty Revision, though it means an immense gain for Japan from an international point of view, means also the unrestricted admission of Christian pagandists to every part of the country. If Buddhists and Shintoists find cause for rejoicing in spite of that obvious drawback, the source of their satisfaction must be very profound.

Rear-Admiral Kuraoka, who is charged with the duty of superintending the arrangements for Prince Henry's visit to Japan, telegraphs that the Prince's visit to Saseho was very successful, and that His Royal Highness reached Nagasaki at 4.40 p.m. on the 21st instant. He landed officially the following day and visited the Consulates and the Governor, and on the 23rd he set out for Korea. The Prince has been unfortunate in the matter of weather. His departure from Yokosuka had to be delayed on account of a gale, and it seems probable that the *Deutschland* experienced something of the storm which touched Kiushiu and the Inland Sea a few days ago.

There is no truth in the rumour that an Ordinance or a Notification will be soon issued for the special control of Chinese subjects under the new regimen. Some step does appear to be contemplated with reference to the subjects and citizens of non-treaty States in general, for, as the law now stands, they occupy an unduly favourable situation. The 2nd Article of the Civil Code provides that foreigners shall enjoy all private rights not forbidden by law or treaty. Very little is forbidden by law, and nothing by treaty in the case of non-treaty nationals, Under such circumstances, the subject or citizen of a country which has no treaty with Japan is practically better off than the citizen or subject of a country that has a treaty, an obviously abnormal state of affairs. It is expected that some remedial measure will soon be adopted, and that the Chinese will fall within its purview.

The rival companies which have been competing for such a long time for a concession to build street-railways in Tokyo, have at length agreed to amalgamate. Mr. Hoshi Toru seems to have been the mediator, and very great is the gratitude he deserves from the citizens of Tokyo, for without his intervention the competitors might have continued to block each other's paths for two or three years longer. There is the *Denki-tetsudo Kaisha*, the *Densha-tetsudo Kaisha*, and the *Kukiassa-tetsudo Kaisha* (pheumatic). They have now decided to unite for the formation of the *Tokyo Shigai-tetsudo Kaisha*, or Tokyo Street-railway company. The new association's capital is to be 15 million *yen*, each of the three companies putting up 5 millions, and a committee is to be formed for the purpose of choosing a system of locomotion and drawing up regulations.

A section of the shareholders of the Bank of Japan have addressed to the Director, Mr. Yamamoto, a suggestion that he should resign his position. They advance three reasons: first, that his appointment led to the retirement of a number of able officials of the Bank; secondly, that during his tenure of office, five thousand *yen* worth of notes has been stolen from the Issue Department, thus disturbing public confidence in the efficiency of the system; and thirdly, that he allows his proceedings to be controlled by others so that the credit of the Bank is impaired. We know nothing of the rights or wrongs of this case, but we certainly find it most unfor-

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tunate that the chief financial institution in the empire should be in a state of perpetual unrest.

The Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture and Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, have issued invitations for a Party in the Yokohama Public Garden on the 4th of August, to celebrate Treaty Revision.

We read in the *Chiuo Shimbun* that the coal-mining enterprise in Kiushiu has suffered a serious check during recent time. No less than 95 mines in Chikuzen and Hizen have been closed. Of course, the high price of the mineral in 1896 and 1897 led to unwarranted speculation, but the collapse now noted is in excess of that explanation.

His Excellency the Chevalier de Testa, having returned to Tokyo after several months' absence, was received in audience by the Emperor at half-past ten on the morning of the 25th. His Majesty also granted an audience to the Chinese trade commissioners, Messrs. Liu and Ching, now staying at the Imperial Hotel. The audience took place on the 26th instant. There will probably be no more journalistic talk about the social status or reputation of these gentlemen.

Tokyo newspapers state that His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa entertained at luncheon on the 24th instant Marquis Ito, Marquis Oyama, Count Hijikata, and Viscount Tanaka, and that after luncheon a long conference was held, the subject being an educational and financial programme for the Prince Imperial. The time has come, we imagine, when the Prince Imperial may naturally be thinking of a trip to Europe and America. His Imperial Highness is just at the age when the pleasure and profit of such an undertaking would be very great.

A few days ago the Minister of the Imperial Household issued an instruction to the Peers, urging them to employ the utmost circumspection in the choice of wives, and hinting that a higher standard of conduct was desirable. This document is warmly applauded by publicists in Tokyo. One journal calls attention, in strong terms, to the habit of keeping concubines, which is prevalent among the Peers. It contends that the only way to put a stop to the objectionable practice would be to frame a regulation declaring that no child born out of wedlock should succeed to the estates or title of a Peer. We are entirely of that opinion, but would it be possible for the Imperial Court to endorse such a regulation?

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a eulogistic note, which is doubtless well deserved, about the arrangements made by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for landing and shipping goods in Yokohama. The big company has contrived to procure the attendance of officials from the Custom House as its *Gaiko Nimotsu Riku-age Funa-zumi Toriatsukai jo*, which formidable name means "place for managing the landing and shipping of goods from or to foreign countries." There is thus no delay in getting the goods passed, and as the company's officers handle the packages, which they are bound to deliver in good order, there is no undue roughness. Neither is there any mixing of different consignments, nor any exposure of non-dutiable goods. Altogether the advantages are numerous and obvious.

The Minister of State for Communications has issued instructions which ought to have the effect of greatly facilitating postal and telegraphic business, so far as foreigners are concerned. His Excellency directs that English schedules of post and telegraph rates, tables showing currencies of various countries, directories, and so forth, shall be exposed at all offices of the first or second class, as well as at offices of even lower grade, if they are much used by foreigners, and that an English-speaking official shall also be in attendance at such offices. This instruction shows remarkable consideration for the convenience of foreigners, but we imagine that there will be some difficulty in carrying out the part relating to interpreters, inasmuch as post and telegraph offices have no special allowances for such a purpose.

The Söul-Fusan Railway project appears to have at length entered a practical stage. Some of the most solid men of Tokyo have associated themselves with the scheme, as Messrs. Okura Kihachiro, Oye Taku, Ozaki Saburo, Shibusawa Eiichi, and so on. The capital is to be fixed at 25 million *yen*, ten per cent. of which will be called up at once. The projectors stipulate that the Government should guarantee a return of five per cent. on the capital involved, and should also undertake to go security for any loan that it may be necessary to place abroad. The Treasury can not pledge itself to anything of that kind without consulting the Diet, but, so far as the Cabinet is concerned, there does not appear to be any objection. Colonel Osawa has been despatched to examine the route on behalf of the War Department.

We would call attention to a letter that appears in our correspondence column with reference to a project for denuding Fujiyama's Western and North-western slopes. This is not merely a question of destroying some of the beautiful scenery which contributes so materially to attract foreign visitors. There is also the far more important consideration of water supply. The effect of wholesale deforestation in hill regions is well known to be disastrous to the river courses in the plains below, and there has already been much of this reckless destruction during the *Meiji* era. Our correspondent confines himself to the scenic aspect of the case, and certainly that point of view can scarcely be exaggerated, for Shoji is one of the loveliest spots in Japan and will assuredly become a favourite resort one of these days if its beauties be not destroyed now for the sake of putting a few *yen* into the pockets of selfish speculators.

The organs of the Opposition complain bitterly that several local governors belonging to the Liberal Party abuse their power in the interests of politics. The governors specially singled out hitherto for attack have been Mr. Sonoyama of Nagano, Mr. Yamada of Fukushima, Mr. Kato of Shizuoka, and Mr. Abe of Chiba. To this list is now added Kikuchi of Osaka, who has attracted attention by his treatment of the *Zōshi Shimbun*, a journal published in that city. Being nominally a non-political newspaper, the *Zōshi* was not obliged to give security to the authorities at the time of its first issue. Recently, however, as one of its numbers contained matter which the Governor considered to be of a political nature, he ordered the paper to suspend publication pending reference to the law. The reference was unsuccessful, and the *Zōshi* resumed publication. The Governor then appealed, and was again defeated, the Public Procurator refusing to accept the appeal. There the matter ought to have ended, but the Governor, being persuaded of the correctness of his judgment, employed his executive authority to suspend the paper unless it furnished the usual security. It is against this last procedure on the Governor's part that the Opposition organs inveigh, and indeed it must be confessed that, if the Governor can not obtain the endorsement of the law courts, his attitude towards the newspaper seems very arbitrary.

It would be over-credulous, we think, to accept as genuine the telegram said to have been sent by the Czar to Prince Louis Napoleon. In the first place, His Majesty is in the last degree unlikely to have employed such singularly unguarded and injudicious language. He would not deliberately run the risk of alienating the French nation, as must be the case were it known that he openly sympathized with the cause of royalty. In the second place, even assuming that the Czar had yielded to a vertigo and despatched a message so extraordinary, Prince Louis may be credited with sufficient sense to suppress it. The French nation's aversion to monarchical government would be accentuated, rather than softened, by discovering that a foreign Potentate wishes to see them brought again within the shadow of a throne. It seems to us that the so-called telegram is a device planned by the enemies of Prince Louis' cause.

At a luncheon party given by Vice-Admiral Yamamoto a few days ago, Lieut.-Colonel Yashiro is said to have made some interesting remarks, which are quoted by the *Chiuo*. The Lieut.-Colonel has been a great traveller in Central Asia, and the Siberian Railway was the subject of his comments. He speaks of it in a very pessimistic strain. It is quite unfit, he thinks, for military purposes. The construction has been hurried on without regard to climatic conditions, and work which in the winter seemed solid enough, virtually melted away under the summer sun, whereas, on the contrary, work completed in the summer lost all power of endurance when exposed to the frosts of winter. Lieut. Colonel Yashiro alleges that travelling over the road at present is like navigating rough seas in a small craft, and he is inclined to doubt whether Russia will reconcile herself to the financial strain of making the line really serviceable. Perhaps the Japanese officer did not take full account of the staying power that Russia has always shown. Nobody imagined that the Siberian Railway was going to be an easy work. The immense engineering difficulties it presented were not ignored, though they may have been under-rated. Russia will "get there" sooner or later. Of that we feel quite confident. Good or bad, the huge road is already an achievement, and, having pledged herself before the world to consummate the enterprise, Russia will do so. She likes big things.

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THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

IT appears to us that the Peace Conference adopts the surest method of converting its proceedings into a fiasco when, instead of devising means to put an end to war, it devotes its energies to mitigating the pains of fighting. England has proved, by actual experience in the field, that the small swiftly flying bullet of the modern rifle does not suffice to stop the rush of a desperate foe. Therefore her experts have invented the Dum-Dum projectile. It is a mere question of saving the lives of her own soldiers by sacrificing those of her enemy. How is the cause of humanity promoted by ruling that a man must kill his foe in such a manner as to expose himself to danger, instead of killing him before he can get to close quarters? If this principle be admitted, why should it not be extended to submarine mines and submerged torpedo-boats which are designed to blow a ship and all her crew to fragments, before they have an opportunity of doing any mischief? Why, indeed, should we not go back to bows and arrows, which allowed opponents to get very close to each other, and greatly reduced the chances of fatal wounds. Prize fighting was not stopped by making pugilists wear gloves, nor will war be stopped by reducing the efficiency of belligerent weapons. Quite the contrary indeed. Nothing helps to preserve the peace so much now-a-days as the magnificence of modern fighting machines. Nations shrink from putting into operation forces of such enormous destructive potency. One obvious result of abolishing the Dum-dum bullet would be that Arabs, Afridis, and other semi-civilized peoples, finding less cause to fear the fire of white battalions, would be proportionately readier to draw the sword. Truly that would conduce to the cause of peace, would it not? Great Britain, supported by her friend and kinsman, America, submitted to the Conference a really practical project for reducing the chances of war. She proposed a permanent tribunal of arbitration. But the German Sovereign could not consent to subserve his divine right of judgment to the decisions of any human tribunal. His Representative and the other European Delegates meet the British proposal by saying:—"We decline to take any step towards diminishing the number of questions decided by the arbitrament of the sword, but we are shocked to think that you English should use a weapon which stops your enemies before they can consummate their intention of splitting your skull. You really must be less practical in your manner of fighting. If you deprive your foes of all hope of slaughtering you, they will lose their fancy for fighting, and then where shall we be?" We are glad to think that England and America will not thus preserve in the face of such persiflage. When they fight they mean business. They are ready to settle all differences without fighting, but if that can not be, then they mean to adopt the only wise alternative, namely, to make themselves such formidable foes that all nations will shrink from assailing them.

THE MISSIONARIES AND TREATY REVISION.

WE venture to congratulate the missionaries heartily on their action in holding a meeting at Karuizawa to commemorate the achievement of Treaty Revision. The remarks made by Dr. DE FOREST, as leader of the meeting, were very happy. He was quite justified in referring to the different part the missionaries might have acted, and to the effect that would certainly have been produced had they thrown their weight into the anti-revision scale. It was in 1882 that the missionaries began to move publicly in this matter, and the credit of the initiative belongs to the Rev. C. S. EBY, whose brochure, the Eastern Pioneer of Western Progress, as well as the active steps he took to promote liberal views, helped materially to unite his fellow-workers. But Mr. EBY'S zeal would have availed little had not the Missionaries been already animated by a thoroughly friendly feeling toward Japan. We are able to bear strong testimony in the matter, for we can say that during thirty years of association, more or less intimate, with missionaries of all sects, we have met only two men who were frankly opposed to Japan's aspirations. Since the manifesto signed by nearly the whole of their number fourteen years ago, the missionaries have uniformly lent their aid to the consummation of this country's hopes, and we commend the fact to the notice of Japanese conservatives who maintain that Christianity in an obstacle to the growth of patriotism and to the strength of loyalty. The missionaries wield large influence in Europe and America. When a foreign-settlement community wants to make its voice heard, it has to convene a general meeting, or elect a committee to correspond with some association in England or elsewhere. But the representatives of each sect of Christianity have constant access to an organization which, if it chooses to move, can effectually influence public opinion. There can be no manner of doubt that had the Missionaries enlisted the aid of the home societies in opposition to Treaty Revision, Japan's difficulties would have been enormously augmented. Not only did they refrain from any such action, but they lent all their assistance to promote Japan's cause, and the fact stand permanently to their credit

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Rikugō Zasshi*, in No. 220, gives the results of a minute examination of the fiction of recent years, and comes to the conclusion reached by other writers on the subject, namely, that the moral effect of the modern Japanese novel is certainly bad. In 1896, says the *Rikugō*, there appeared in the *Mezamashi Zasshi* alone notices of 62 novels. Most of them were love stories to a certain extent, but 33 of them were pronouncedly so. In some cases the lovers did not succeed in coming together. Out of 12 novels which appeared within a short time of each other only in 2 cases did the story end with the marriage of the lovers; in the others illicit union was the consummation of the bliss of the heroes and the heroines. In most of Bakin's romances the story is made to culminate in marriage, but at the present time this ending is considered too commonplace. As to those who did not realise their desires, all kinds of dreadful endings are assigned to them, such as madness, suicide, or sudden oblivion as to the past. In Bakin's novels only the lowest classes are represented as committing acts of violence on innocent maidens, but in the modern novel men bearing the names of gentlemen are depicted as decoying well-bred girls to country inns and there drugging them prior to violation. The love story in Japan, then, as written by modern novelists, is contaminating, and the sooner this is recognised by society generally the better for morals. Coming to plots in which love plays a subordinate part, we find, says the *Rikugō*, out of 29 stories examined, that in only 5 cases does the principal personage set before him or her a worthy object. In the others some kind of crime figures as the chief end to be attained. There is not, concludes the *Rikugō*, considered from a moral standpoint, a single redeeming quality of modern fiction. It must be condemned *in toto* as a disgrace to the nation, and as calculated to totally efface the barriers which separate virtue and vice.

* * *

A short time ago the Kokumin Eigakkai, which publishes a useful fortnightly called the *Eiji Shimbun*, celebrated the 11th anniversary of its establishment. On that occasion Dr. Wadagaki, of the Imperial University, delivered a very racy speech, which appeared in the *Eiji Shimbun* a few weeks later. We have only space for the more serious parts of the address. Nothing is more manifest in Japan to-day, says Dr. Wadagaki, than the influence of England and her institutions on our leading men. But just as in translation there are two schools, the literal and the non-literal, so in politics and commerce there are men who have sought to transfer English methods and institutions *en masse* to this country, and others who have preferred to alter them somewhat in order to make them better adapted to our national peculiarities. Among what may be called the literal translators Count Okuma is very prominent. Marquis Ito leads the free translation party and he is backed by Messrs. Hoshi, Suematsu, Ozaki, and Inukai. In other ways English models have been followed, and Mr. Shimada Saburō may be said to be our John Bright and Mr. Yaguchi our Cobden. Coming to busi-

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ness, we have much to learn from the English. It is reported that some German not long ago spoke of us as *akindo*; there must have been something wrong about the reporting. It is more likely that he called us *kinder*, which means "children" in German. Compared with the English, who are the great business people of the West, we are but children. From time immemorial the English have always asked how cheap can a thing be made? But the Japanese trader always asks the opposite question, How high can I put the price? English trade may be described as an article that is slight and long. Japanese trade as one that is short and thick. With England it is small profits and long custom. Our greediness for immediate gain prevents ultimate success. Some people are making a great fuss about the danger there is of mixed residence leading to the death of what they call *yamato-damashii*. My opinion is that the *yamato-damashii* which is too weak to survive competition with foreigners had better die. The only national spirit which I desire to see perpetuated is one which is ever ready to strengthen itself by learning from foreigners all that they have to teach. It is because I think that we have very much to learn from the English that I hold in high esteem such societies as the Kokumin Eigakkai.

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In the *Taiyō* (No 11), under the title of *Kekkyoku Mondai*, Mr. Shimada Saburō discusses the various forces at work in the world which unite and divide nations, and comes to the conclusion that race prejudice is the most deep-seated of all antipathies and is not overcome by identity of religion. But even in the case of nations springing from the same ancestors, like the English and the Americans, the interests of the one people so often clash with those of the other that there is no guarantee that there will be permanent peace between them. There is no sign, says Mr. Shimada, of any diminution of the antipathy felt by Western nations against Orientals. The triple alliance over the Liaotung Peninsula affair was mainly based on race prejudice. The different treatment accorded to the Filipinos and the Cubans by the American Government has the same source. Coming to the subject of China, Mr. Shimada predicts that the Chinese are far too numerous and far too consolidated a race of people to lose their identity, notwithstanding the fact that a number of Europeans settles in their midst and exercises a certain amount of control over their affairs. They are a diligent, clever and persevering people, who have few vices that are likely to handicap them in their industrial and commercial contest with other nations. They can live side by side with Westerns without being assimilated to them in any way. No nation on the face of the earth has shown greater persistency in retaining intact every one of its distinctive characteristics. The Manchus, with all their power, have failed to alter any one of the ancient customs of the people, if the method of dressing the hair be excepted. In identity of race, customs and religion we have, says Mr. Shimada, a bond which all the influences of the West will prove powerless to break. China will hold together, come what will.

* * *

A work involving immense labour has just been completed, namely, the translation into Japanese of the German Civil Code. The translators are Messrs. Soejima, Furukawa, Nakamura, and Seta, well-known lawyers, assisted by Professor Yamaguchi, of the Military Academy. It is said that Dr. Lönholm and other legal experts have been consulted in the preparation of the translation. The whole work, divided into 4 volumes, covers 2,500 pages and sells at 8 *yen*, the Waseda Semmon-gakkō being the publishers.

* * *

The 滑稽類聚 *Kokkei Ruisan*, is a collection of witty sayings culled from the literature of the last two hundred and fifteen years, arranged under different headings, such as Shintō, Buddhism, Marriage, Trade, Love, Chess, Dreams, Parents and Children, etc. The book sells at 4 *sen* per copy at the Bunrokudo, Hakuseichō, Nihonbashi-ku, Tōkyō.

* * *

Dr. Katō Hiroyuki has published a work entitled *Dōtoku to Hōritsu to teshoku suru baiai ari ya*? "Are there occasions when Law and Morality conflict with each other?" In this treatise Dr. Katō elaborates his well-known views on the superiority of experience to intuition as a guide to the moralist and the legislator. His answer to the above question is in the affirmative as far as the past is concerned, and he quotes many cases from Japanese history in which law and morality were directly opposed to each other—practices like the vendetta, for instance, being condemned by law but approved by the moral sense of the nation. Dr. Katō, it may be observed, refuses to admit that even from a moral standpoint the vendetta was ever justifiable in any country claiming to be civilised. He condemns in the strongest language most of the Chūshingura literature, as based on perverted views of the facts which led to the episode of which so much has been made, and endeavours to show that the heroism of Oishi and his fellow-samurai was by no means of a high type. The conclusion Dr. Katō reaches is that in a highly civilised country there is no real conflict between law and morality. There is an absoluteness about the one that does not characterise the other, but they progress hand in hand and work in their separate spheres without hindrance to each other.

* * *

A small but useful Japanese-French Dictionary has just been published, and is for sale at the Okazaki-ya, 32 Kiji-chō, Kanda, Tokyo, at 2 *yen* per copy. The compilers are Messrs. N. Ota, A. Tanaka, and T. Imai. Their work has been revised and supplemented by M. Arthur Arrivet, of the First Higher School. The book is nicely printed and as a pocket dictionary should prove valuable.

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The Sanzaisha, No 10, Nishiki-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō, has just issued a Second Edition of the *Wa-Futsu Kwai-wa Hitori-annai*, an extremely idiomatic and lucid little colloquial phrase book, compiled by M. Evrard. It is printed in *Romaji* throughout, the Japanese and French texts being placed on opposite pages. The work covers 137 pages and sells at 20 *sen* per copy.

Readers who are engaged in teaching English may be glad to hear that the "English Grammar Series," consisting of 4 volumes compiled by Mr. J. C. Nesfield, M.A., for use in India, have all been nicely reprinted here, and are for sale at 1 *yen* 45 *sen* the set at the Okazaki-ya, mentioned above. Mr. Nesfield's books are exactly suited to the needs of the Japanese student, and, having been patronised to a certain extent by the Mombushō as well as by private schools, will doubtless obtain a wide circulation. The grammars are graded and are quite separate from each other. Book IV. is a very high class work, designed for the use of High School and University students, excellently arranged, covering 432 pages and containing an index of subjects and an index of words.

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Two very long essays appear in Nos. 16 and 17 of the *Gwaikō Jihō* from the pen of Mr. Satō Kwo, entitled *Siberia Tetsudō ni tai suru Saku*, which discuss the policy to be adopted by Japan *vis-à-vis* Russia in the near future. The essays, printed in very small type, cover no less than 107 pages. We can do no more than state the conclusions to which the writer has come in a very few words. Japan's fear of Russia he thinks foolish, and the desire of some Japanese to go to war with her he pronounces to be sheer madness. As to the strategic uses to which the railway could be put in case of war, the opinion of military authorities is divided, says Mr. Sato, Japanese generals mostly maintaining that Japan has nothing to fear from this source. In the development of commerce to which the opening of the railway will lead Japan is intimately concerned, and if she plays her cards well now by building railways in Korea to connect with the Russian line later on, she should in the not very distant future reap rich rewards. Japan's policy throughout should be based on the understanding that the extension of her trade is Russia's chief object in opening the line. Japan will most certainly be benefited in various ways by coming into close contact with a great European Power, and, while preparing herself for any emergency, she should aim at working up a great commercial connection with Russia and should endeavour to make the trade interests of the two countries as identical as possible. Mr. Satō's essay is characterised by calm common sense throughout, and should prove an antidote to the numerous hysterical articles which appear in the newspapers from time to time. The rapid construction of the Fusan-Soul and the Soul-Wiju railways with Japanese capital is, in the writer's opinion, a matter of great importance. In regard to the general question of the growth of Russian influence in the Far East, Japan, of all countries, argues Mr. Satō, ought to rejoice over the fact that the hitherto barren wastes of Siberia will soon have a population capable of purchasing large quantities of Japanese goods.

* * *

An article containing a good deal of curious information appears in No. 221 of the *Rikugō Zasshi*, entitled *Baiyaku kōkoku to minzoku*, "The advertising of Patent Medicines and Popular Customs," by Mr. Yamagata Tōkon, the gist of which we give below. The writer does not confine the discussion to patent medicines, but includes cosmetics as well. There are at least one hundred quack remedies and cosmetics whose sale is solely dependent on the persistence with which they are advertised in newspapers. The advertising medium is

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usually one or two of the smaller dailies, but the names of patent medicines may frequently be seen in the pages of Buddhist magazines, which shows that the priests do a little selling on their own account when their incomes are small. The Japanese names given to the various articles for sale in many cases are very curious, and display no small amount of originality in their inventors. They may be divided as follows: (1) Names derived from the original foreign name of the article. (2) Names based on the disease or imperfection which the specific is designed to cure (3) Abstract names describing the general effect of the article recommended, like *Shin* 神 *yaku*, *Hyakudoku Kudashi*, *Taiyō-gan* (Sun-pills). *Taiyō-san* (Sun powders), *Bikkuri megusuri*, *Dokutori-gan*; and among Cosmetics, the *Kirei-sui*, the *Beppin-sui* (Beauty-water), *Tekimen-sui* (Immediate effect water), *Kime-chinki* (*lit.* Skin-texture tincture), *Tsuya-king* (the chief of gloss-producing cosmetics). The number of patent medicines offered for sale is astonishing. Mr. Yamagata informs us that without making an exhaustive investigation he came across no less than 78 different specifics in the columns of newspapers. These he divides into 3 kinds. (1) *Specifics connected with child-bearing*. There are pills that are said to insure conception and pills that are said to prevent it. (2) *Tonics*, of all kinds. Among them *imori no kuroyaki* (burnt water-lizard, used as an aphrodisiac medicine). (3) *Poison Antidotes and Disease Cures*. The modes of advertising these wonderful remedies differ nothing from those followed in the West. And the practice of offering rewards of even 5,000 *yen* to any person who proves the inefficacy of the drug recommended is very common. Statistics show that every year the number of patent medicines offered for sale increases. In 1896 in Tōkyō alone there were registered 1,401 inventors of patent medicines and 5,145 vendors of these remedies. The number of quack doctors in that year was 42,533. At that time Tōkyō's duly qualified medical men numbered only 5,137. Since that time additions have been made both to the ranks of trained physicians and to those of the charlatans, but unless some special steps are taken to save the people from imposition, says Mr. Yamagata, the quack, for many years to come, will do more than hold his own among the lower classes, on account of the cheapness of his wares and his low charges for consultation. In the writer's opinion restrictions should be placed on the manufacture and the sale of patent medicines and cosmetics, so as to prevent fraud and put a stop to practices that are injurious to health and to morals.

* * *

In No. 19 of the *Tenchijin* appears a very anti-English article entitled *Hai-ei Shugi*, in which the writer endeavours to make out that the feelings of the Japanese people towards England are undergoing a change, and that the lack of eagerness to lend money to the Japanese displayed by the English people a few months ago shows that England is no true friend of Japan. The article is so one-sided throughout and misstates or distorts facts to such an extent that it is not worth epitomising. We are told that in all her dealings with Japan England has only sought her own selfish ends and that an alliance between the two countries, could it be effected, would mean sugar-plums for England and very poor fare for Japan. The failure to float the loan on the terms that had been anticipated, says the *Tenchijin*, is an ill wind that has blown us some good. It has opened our eyes to the fact that the English people will do nothing for us for sentiment's sake. If the incident proves to have put an end to that hitherto prevailing worship of England it will have served us a good turn. It was worth the humiliation we have suffered to have our eyes opened to facts.

The magazine quoted above contains an article entitled "The World of Finance," which divides financiers up into a number of parties, such as Academic financiers, political financiers, commercial and industrial financiers, and so on. The conclusion one reaches after a persual of the article is that in the financial world things are very mixed, and that it is too early to predict that any of the present combinations will develop into schools of economy such as exist in other parts of the world. It is a matter of considerable interest that such an eminent economist as Mr. Taguchi should for a long series of years have been a steady advocate of Free Trade, and should have made his discussion of all kindred economic subjects subservient to this principle.

* * *

With the object of showing the amount of education which the rank and file of the Japanese army have received the *Sekai-no-Nihon* furnishes the annexed table :—

(1) Actual Graduates of Middle Schools...	0.001
(2) Possessing the knowledge of the above, though taught privately	0.002
(3) Graduates of High Elementary Schools	8.344
(4) Possessing the knowledge of the above	8.03
(5) Graduates of Ordinary Elementary Schools	25.05
(6) Possessing the knowledge of the above	15.99
(7) Men who have a slight knowledge of the 3 R's.....	26.89
(8) Men with no knowledge of the 3 R's...	15.70

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* still continues to publish anecdotes supplied by Marquis Saionji. A story appearing in No. 21 refers to the applause elicited by Lord Beresford's speech at the Imperial Hotel. A gentleman present, in paying a visit to the Marquis shortly after, said he could not account for the way in which the speech was applauded. Was it not probable that the majority of the audience failed to see the points made by the Admiral? "That is just why they clapped," replied the Marquis. "It has been the experience of a great many speakers that the more there is of mystery and unintelligibility in their speeches the more favourably are they received by certain audiences. The unknown passes for the magnificent in this as in so many other things."

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* has an article entitled *Kōshi igai no Kōshi*, "Ministers outside the Diplomatic Body," which contains a great many shrewd observations. We give the gist of the essay only. There are many ways in which a nation's interest may be promoted in foreign countries. If a country is well armed and ready to meet a formidable foe on the field of battle it is to the interest of that country that the fact should be known far and wide. Skilful diplomacy on critical occasions will also do much to increase or to preserve prestige. But there are times when nothing can be effected by a display of armaments or by clever stratagem, when the realisation of a country's objects depends entirely on the amount of credit it possesses in foreign lands. Hiranuma Senzō is undoubtedly enormously rich and plays his cards remarkably well, but it cannot be said that he is trusted by the nation at large. There are men who have not half his wealth who are better situated for effecting great purposes, because more trusted. Applying this argument to Japan's case, there is no denying that prior to the revision of the treaties Japan laboured hard to make it plain to the Western world that she was worthy of implicit trust. But to us it seems that when she had effected that purpose she relaxed her efforts, and that the experience she had in connection with the loan floated in London a few months ago is one of the many things that demonstrate this fact. We are not among those who condemn *in toto* the action of the Government in floating that loan, nor do we think that under the existing circumstances the Minister of Finance could have acted differently, but what we do regret is our neglect in years past to show to the Western world that our finances are sound and that we are in every way worthy of credit. The article that appeared in the *Times* was too late. Steps should have been taken earlier to acquaint the financial world with our position. There is no country, however great its resources, that can afford to neglect this duty. Russia for a series of years has taken every available opportunity of favourably impressing the great London money lenders, and this despite the fact that she is one of England's oldest debtors. Japan's credit in Europe can not be established by anything that diplomats may say or do. It is on the efforts of individual men of business and writers on finance that we must rely. The diplomats who are no diplomats in the strict sense of the term alone have it in their power to show to the world that our country has the necessary resources and our people the requisite integrity to warrant our claiming the fullest credit in the great marts of the world.

* * *

We are glad to observe that Marquis Ito's valuable speeches delivered in various parts of the country during the past 12 months are being given to the public in permanent form. Already some 12 of these have been published in one small volume, and after speeches are being collected and are to appear later on. In the meantime several dailies have devoted their columns to lengthy reports of Marquis Ito's utterances. Public speaking of the right kind is specially needed at the present time in Japan. The masses of the people are eager listeners when a well-qualified orator appears on the platform. From the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we cull some remarks of the Marquis on the Constitution and the methods of interpreting it, which are of considerable interest from the lips of the statesman who was the chief compiler of the Japanese Constitution :—There are two kinds of Constitution ; one may be termed fixed and immovable (*Ittei fudō*), the other elastic and free (伸縮自在 *Shinshuku jizai*). The Japanese Constitution belongs to the former category, the English to the latter. The former may be described as "rigid," the latter as "flexible." In

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Europe there are Constitutions, that have been framed in the interests of one class of subjects as against another class, the French Constitution, for instance; favouring the commoner and opposing the lord, and there are Constitutions whose chief object has been the curtailing of the power of despotic rulers. Now it can not be said that it was the arbitrariness of our Emperor that led to the framing of our Constitution. Its *raison d'être* is rather to be sought in the wish of the Emperor to take the people into his counsels, to govern in union with them. To regard our Constitution in the way that certain Occidental Constitutions are regarded, as the embodiment of a number of concessions wrung out of an unwilling monarch or a despotic oligarchy, is a mistake. It had no such origin, and is not to be interpreted or employed as though it had. Being responsible for the text of the present Constitution as well as for its general character, I am able to speak with authority on this subject. In Constitutions like that of the English and the French, power undoubtedly rests with the people. In Germany and Japan it rests with the Emperor. England is practically a republic, though she has a queen. Now it is in this particular that there is a very wide difference between the English and Japanese forms of government. With us the supreme power remains with the Emperor now, as it always did in the past, except when snatched from him by usurpers. The object of the overthrow of the Tokugawa Shogunate was the restoration to the Emperor of the power to which he has a right. Montesquieu and other French writers advocate a division of supreme power, but this course is universally condemned, as calculated to lead to all kinds of complications. In our government the Emperor is supreme, but His Majesty delegates power to whomsoever he pleases. . . . It is argued by certain scholars with Chinese sympathies that, our Emperor being supreme and the whole country being subject to his will, His Majesty may act despotically and issue any orders he may please without regard to the rights of his subjects. But this would amount to oppression and despotism of the worst type. No such form of government is allowable under our Constitution. In the west the monarch or supreme ruler is said to represent his country *vis-à-vis* other countries. It would seem to me to be unsuitable to speak of our Emperor as representing Japan (日本ヲ代表ス, *Nihon wo daihyō su*), as acting as a substitute for the country. I would rather use the term 表彰 *hyōshō suru* and say that His Majesty reveals Japan; when he appears Japan appears.*

* The meaning intended to be conveyed by Marquis Ito's words seems to be that Japanese subjects are not to be thought of as possessing the right to delegate the power to represent them to the Emperor. The country and its people are the Emperor's and *vis-à-vis* foreign monarchs he does not personate his subjects, they have no existence separate from him; there is nothing of the substitute about his appearance. Marquis Ito is evidently troubled at the notion of subordination attached to the idea of substitution. Hence the above remarks. But the view is open to criticism. —(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

A telegram published by the Tokyo journals says that a tax of 22½ roubles per 36 lbs. will hereafter be imposed on leaf tea imported into Vladivostock. Dust tea will remain untaxed. There is some obscurity about the telegram, but its gist seems to be that.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Victim, by Gabrielle d'Annunzio; Heinemann's Colonial Library: Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

GABRIELLE D'ANNUNZIO is one of the most wonderful literary products of this decadent age. Still on the right side of thirty, he has written half-a-dozen novels that have taken the reading world of Europe and America by storm and held in closest grip the attention of the most fastidious of critics. Beside his appalling realism, the work of the later French realists stands confessed as coarse, brutal, and hideously repellant. We use our words advisedly. The work of Gabrielle d'Annunzio appeals to the intellect by reason of the man's supreme mastery of the art of pen-craft. His word-painting, his gift of observation, his power of character-drawing are all on a higher level than anything England, France, Germany, or America can produce at the present time. As *The Times* recently had occasion to remark, Italy, his native country, ranks him first among her living writers of prose fiction: the translations of six or seven of his novels are as much read in France as though they were original works of Bourget; and Berlin takes him seriously. And whence comes this extraordinary power of compelling the critics as well as the general public to read him? It is to be found, we think, in his wonderful interpretations of the sex-emotion. Along this line of thought his knowledge is almost infinite, his imagination never seems to plays him false, while his power of analysis is absolutely unrivalled. Thus he produces pictures of human life that bite into the imagination and leave behind them a memory not without a sting. His books are full of strong meat, and are of the decadent the most decadent. Under the title of "The Victim," Miss Georgina Harding has translated one of the triad known as the "Romances of the Rose," which in its Italian version is labelled *L'Innocente*. It is a strange psychological study, and opens in this fashion:—

> Can I go before a judge and say: "I have committed a murder; the poor little thing would not have died if I had not killed it—I, Tullio Hermil, with my own hands. I planned the crime in my own house, and carried it out in the full consciousness of what I was doing, with calm precision and absolute immunity. And afterwards, I continued to live on in my home with that secret in my heart, for a whole year—up till the present day. To day is the anniversary of the deed. I am here in your hands. Listen to me and judge me——" I say, can I do this?
>
> I cannot, and I will not. Human justice cannot touch me. No tribunal on earth could pronounce judgment upon me.
>
> And yet the desire is strong in me to accuse myself—to confess. I must unburthen myself to some one.
>
> To whom?

After this extraordinary introduction Tullio Hermil plunges straight-away into his story. Remorselessly he lays bare his heart for inspection—and a sorry spectacle its presents. Married to a beautiful and noble-souled woman, he tires of her within a very few years. A sensualist from his youth up, he is a man who frankly acknowledges no barriers to the gratification of his desires. As he says:—"I am exempt from the laws that others would impose on me, and can afford to live in the absolute sincerity of my exceptional nature, regardless of the opinion of the multitude." So he glories in the intercourse of many mistresses and gradually accustoms himself to think of his wife in the light of a sister. And he explains why he prefers that type. "Of all human affections, of all the various kinds of love in this world, that of a sister has always appeared to me highest and most consoling." And so, "I regained my full liberty, could go in search of those keen sensations which my nerves demanded, could absorb myself passionately in another woman, my life outside my home, and then go back and find *my sister* awaiting me, find in my rooms a thousand traces of her thoughtful care—roses on my table arranged by her hand, all around me the order, the elegance, the spotless brightness of some favourite abode of one of the graces. Of a surety, an enviable state of things for me." But his complacency requires bracing at times, for doubts creep in, and we find him musing: "Dissolute, warped, and weak of will, it pleased me to know that, bound within the circle of my life, there dwelt a spirit, severely upright, strong, and incorruptible; it was my pride to know myself the one for ever beloved object of that spirit. Through all my depravity, my wretchedness, my weakness, that illusion was my one prop and mainstay. I thought that for me, at least, the dream of every intellectual man—to be constantly faithless to a constantly faithful woman—was realized."

Strong and noble as Giuliana was, however, the Tempter found her wavering one day, and as a result a child is born which Tullio knows, without his wife's confession, is not the offspring of their union. With her connivance he brings about the infant's death, and the book closes. Such are the dry outlines of the story. The manner of its telling, as we have hinted above, makes the book one of the masterpieces of fiction. The pages glow with passionate language describing the emotions aroused by nature, beauty, music, or art; here and there are minute and loving pictures of Italian country life that reproduce for us the sun-steeped fields, the perfume-laden breezes of early summer; or the chill barrenness and deathly breath of winter. And here and there a higher chord is touched which comes as a revelation to the soul, making it regret with bitterness the grosser scenes and darker aspects of the tale. The translation has been admirably done, preserving not only the sense, but the atmosphere and very form of the original. This in itself is no mean accomplishment, and Miss Harding deserves our thanks.

Naichi Zakyo no Shirube (Hints with regard to Mixed Residence), Tokyo, the *Kokumin Shimbun* Office.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* has published a brochure entitled *Naichi Zakyo no Shirube*, or Hints with regard to Mixed Residence. The book is addressed to Japanese, but it contains much that is of interest to foreigners also. The writer sets out by asserting that the free admission of foreigners is Japan's national habit. During the first twenty centuries of her existence as a State, she placed no obstacle whatever in the path of the free trade, travel, and residence of foreigners. If she changed her policy in mediæval days, the change was only temporary, and in throwing open the country now she merely reverts to her old custom. Hence when preparations for mixed residence are spoken of, the meaning is that steps should be taken to derive the greatest possible

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advantage from the conditions now about to be introduced. The Japanese are very anxious to engage in the direct export trade. But their ambition is not based on any desire of ousting the foreigners. The fact is that they do not like to rest under the imputation of inability to accomplish what the foreigner accomplishes. They want to try their hand at the thing; that is all. But their wisest plan is to stick to the import trade for the present. Diligence in that field will ultimately teach them how to conduct the export trade also. Of course for the development of Japan's resources there is urgent need of foreign capital. How is it to be introduced? Some foreigners say that it can never be introduced until the restriction on foreign ownership of land is removed. But ownership of land is not at all essential, seeing that the law provides a form of tenure—superficies—which for all practical purposes is as good as ownership. Besides a Japanese firm which contemplates the transfer of its immovable property to foreigners, or to any one else for the matter of that, must be in a shaky condition, and could not have any reasonable hope of obtaining a foreign loan. Loans, indeed, are not the true means of introducing foreign capital. The only sound plan is to form combinations of foreigners and Japanese for industrial purposes. It may be accepted as axiomatic that the foreigner will not lend money to a Japanese company unless he has an active share in the management of its affairs. Many Japanese lay to their souls the flattering unction that the foreigner is ill-informed about their doings. When they purchase bad material for the sake of a commission of 5 or 6 per cent., without any regard for the stability of the enterprise on account of which the material is to be used, they imagine that the foreigner with whom they deal is ignorant of their evil practices. There could not be a greater mistake. The foreigner knows all about them. He scrutinizes them with open eyes, and the result of his scrutiny is that he will not trust them. They have no credit with him, and failing credit they can not borrow money. Further, they lack the experience and the training necessary for the successful conduct of manufacturing enterprises. These qualities the foreigners can supply, and in combinations between Japanese and foreigners for business purposes lie the best chance of Japan's rapid development and the only sound way of introducing foreign capital. The brochure contains a great deal more which is of an eminently sensible and practical character, but we have not space for fuller reference.

NOTIFICATION RELATING TO RELIGIOUS PROPAGANDISTS.

The Department of Home Affairs has issued the following Notification:—

NOTIFICATION No. 41.

Art. I.—Persons who propose to engage in religious propagandism are required to furnish to the chief official of the district in which they have their domicile, or in which, if not domiciled, they reside, the particulars indicated below together with their personal record (*rirekisho*).

1. The name of their creed.
2. The method of propagandism.

Persons engaged in religious propagandism prior to the operation of this Notification, must comply with the provisions of the preceding Article within two months from the date of operation.

Art. II.—Persons who propose to erect a house for religious uses, a church, a lecture-hall or a preaching-place, must apply for the permission of the chief official of the district in which they reside, accompanying this application with the following details:—

1. The reasons why such edifices are required.
2. The time when the building will be completed.
3. Their names, their residences, the area of the site and all important details relating to building, together with a map.
4. The name of the creed.
5. The proposed method of management and maintenance.
6. If it is proposed to place there a local propagandist (*tantō fukyō sha*), his qualification and the method of selecting him.

If the house, church, lecture-hall or preaching-place is not built within the time referred to in the second of the above clauses, the permission obtained shall cease to be valid.

In the case of a house, church, lecture-hall, or preaching-place used in connexion with religion prior to the operation of this Notification, the founder, or, in the event of there being no founder or of some other obstacle, the manager, shall, within two months from the date of the operation of this Notification, convey to the chief official of the district the information specified in the first of the above clauses, and shall be considered to have received permission from the time of conveying such information.

Art. III.—The founder mentioned in the preceding article, or, in the event of there being no founder, or of some other obstacle, the manager, shall forward to the chief official of the district the personal record of the manager and of the local propagandists; and the same course must be pursued should there be any change of manager or of local propagandist.

Art. IV.—In the event of any change occurring in the facts enumerated in Art. I., the person engaged in religious propagandism must report the change to the chief official of the district within two weeks.

Art. V.—Should it be desired to make any change in the points enumerated in Art. II., the founder, or, in the event of there being no founder, or of some other obstacle, the manager, must apply again for the permission of the chief local official, accompanying his application with a statement of reasons. In case he has changed his residence, the permission must be sought from the chief official of the district to which he has moved.

When a house used for religious purposes, or a lecture-hall or a preaching-place is abolished, or its site changed, the fact must be reported within two weeks to the chief official of the district.

Art. V.—Propagandists of Shinto or Buddhism, and all matters relating to the erection, transfer or abolition of their temples and of Buddhist preaching places, shall be regulated by the rules hitherto in force.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SHOJI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Everyone who has been to Shoji, or who is a lover of beautiful scenery, will regret to hear that there is a serious movement on foot amongst some speculators, to obtain a lease from the crown of the forest on the west and north-west slopes of Fuji, with a view of cutting down the trees, and thus rendering a barren waste what is now perhaps the most lovely valley in this part of Japan, one of the few places within easy distance of Tokyo and Yokohama which has not been denuded of its timber. In the midst of unsurpassed scenery, surrounded by lakes, and famed for its bracing air, and fast becoming popular amongst foreign residents and tourists as a health resort, visited by many on account of its wonderful ice-caves, it would indeed be a pity were this lovely spot to be ruthlessly despoiled of its beauty; and it is to be sincerely hoped that the Government will not be persuaded to grant the lease.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Y. HOSHINO.

Shoji, July 12th, 1899.

JAPANESE HOTELS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A short time ago a letter appeared in your columns animadverting upon the "extortionate" charges of Japanese hotel-keepers to their foreign guests, although, as I pointed out in a few remarks I made in reply, the same adjective was never applied to the management of the foreign hotels in Yokohama, when in consequence of the universal rise in the price of everything they had to more than double their charges of a few years back.

For the benefit of that section of the community which appears to derive its greatest pleasure from rushing into print whenever it has a real or fancied grievance against the Japanese, even if it be of the most microscopic stature, I may state that one of the benefits of "mixed residence" will be to remove this grievance amongst others under which it has been suffering.

I have just returned from a few days' sojourn at a Japanese Hotel beyond Hayama, when, on settling the charge for a room (which was a very reasonable one), I was informed that they could not say whether on my next visit the charge for the same room would be the same, or more, or less, because the Government was going to establish a fixed scale of hotel charges for rooms for foreign occupation throughout the whole of Japan—presumably divided into different classes according to the size or situation of the rooms. This is only another instance of the readiness shown by the Government in making things pleasanter and easier for the foreigner, and gives some idea of the enormous amount of consideration it has had to give to things small, as well as great, in consequence of the altered state of affairs caused by Treaty Revision.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

EMILY S. PATTON.

142 Bluff, July 20th.

MISSIONARY METHODS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reference to the accusations of the *Asahi*, permit me, as one who had for nearly six years special opportunities of observing missionary methods and work, to give you some of my impressions on this question. It seems a pleasure on the part of anti-missionary journals to insinuate that the majority of converts gained through instruction in English are insincere. I have not, however, found this usually the case. I readily grant that many attend English classes without the slightest intention of becoming Christians, but I think many can be found to support me when I state that such rarely take the step of becoming baptized. They have got what they came for—cheap, too,—and they are well satisfied. In the majority of such cases any previous antagonism to Christianity passes away. It has been my privilege to know intimately many students who have become earnest Christians through attending English classes, and thus associating with missionaries, whose morals, as a body, are beyond reproach. The strong desire on the part of many in this country to acquire a practical knowledge of English has done much to remove racial prejudice and cause a friendly interchange of ideas and opinions. As it is extremely difficult for a missionary to find a method of introducing himself to the youth of Japan, why should he not avail himself of the opportunity thus offered by their readiness to learn English? The *Asahi* would probably be the first to denounce missionaries should the latter decline unconditionally to oblige the numerous applications they almost daily receive from seekers of English. Moreover, the use of English classes for proselytizing

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is often over-estimated. It is not regarded as the principal method of work, and at many stations no such classes exist. A little practice in "looking before you leap" would be beneficial to the *Asahi* and similar superficial critics.

Yours truly,
OUTSIDER.
July 21st, 1899.

GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of this Company was held at the Grand Hotel on Monday afternoon, Mr. J. F. Lowder (Chairman of the Board of Directors) presiding. There were also present:—Messrs. F. Dietz, E. V. Thorn, R. Howie, C. Bernard, H. C. Litchfield, J. Witkowski, N. A. Walter, F. S. Mayer, C. F. Heinlein, Paym. McDonald, M. Russell, A. J. Easton, K. Wilson, Dr. Hall, B. C. Howard, J. Martin, J. Walter, and J. Tornoe, Secretary.

The report and accounts were taken as read, and the next business was the election of directors.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1899, accompany this Report.

	Yen.
The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1898, after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, bonus to Manager, and interest, amounts to	51,022.08
which it is proposed to apply as follows:—	
In payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year	25,000.00
Redemption of Debentures	5,000 00
Balance to be carried to new account	21,022 08
	51,022.08

The unusually large balance carried forward will be dealt with when the Company becomes subject to the laws of Japan.

Dr. Hall and Mr. Lowder, retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for reelection.

The office of Auditor having become vacant by the death of Mr. Keil, the Directors have much pleasure in recommending the election of Mr. F. J. Hall as Auditor for the current year.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association, the amount of the Directors' fees for the current year will have to be decided at this meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 25th day of July, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER,
JAMES WALTER, } Directors.
Yokohama, 11th July, 1899

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1899.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital 2,500 Shares at $100	250,000 00
Debentures	15,000.00
Bills payable	13,556 40
	278,556.40
Balance Profit	51,522.08
	330,078 48

ASSETS.	Yen.
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China	36,972 96
Cash in hand	358.76
Fire Insurance Policies	1,580.75
Ground (Estimated Value, Oct. '97, Y. 85,000)	60,000.00
Furniture (Estimated Value, Oct. '97 Y. 53,900)	51,467.09
Buildings (Estimated Value, Oct. '97 Y. 170,000)	139,125.39
Electric Light Plant	12,527.36
Steam Launch	6,806 86
Wines in Stock	5,463 39
Provisions in Stock	3,108.77
General expenses in stock	476.84
Bills receivable	12,190,31
	330,078.48

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1889.

Dr.	Yen.
To General Expenses	29,981.60
„ Fire Insurance	1,588.25
„ Interest	288.29
„ Directors' and Auditor's fee	966.50
„ Bonus to Manager	500,00
„ Balance, Profit Y. 51,022 08 to be dealt with as follows:—	
Dividend 10 per cent. Y. 25,000.00	
Redemption of Debentures Y. 5,000 00	
Carried forward to new Account Y. 21,022 08	Y. 51,022.08 51,022 08
	84,346.72

Cr.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward from Dec. 31st, 1898	13,064 60
By Working Account	69,666.58
By Rent Account	1,259 16
By Share Transfer Fees	24 00
By Share Warrant Fees	2.00
By Sale of old Material	330.38
	84,346.72
July 1st, 1899. By Balance	21,022.08

Yokohama, June 30th, 1899.

J. F. LOWDER,
JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company and certify them to be correct.

F. J. HALL, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 11th, 1899.

The CHAIRMAN said they would see from the report that Dr. Hall and himself were retiring, but that they both offered themselves for re-election. Speaking for himself, had he known that another of the shareholders wished to serve on the board, he should not have worded the report as he had done, and would not have offered himself. He had no desire, and for the past few years had had no desire to serve on the board. Indeed, he had repeatedly expressed the wish to retire, and only on the urgent request of the shareholders, who wished him to stay, he had done so, because he considered it his duty to do so. The task was a very thankless one, unpaying, and onerous. He took no personal interest in remaining on the board, but as he had offered himself, this offer held good. He was willing, but not desirous, of being re-elected. He was now prepared to take any propositions.

Mr. THORN moved, and Mr. MAYER seconded, that Mr. McDonald be elected in place of Mr. Lowder for the coming year.

Mr. WITKOWSKI moved an amendment that Mr. Lowder and Dr. Hall be elected. He said the company owed much to Mr. Lowder's sagacity, and under the new regime of Japanese jurisdiction they could not have a better Chairman.

Mr. THORN—Have not shareholders a right to hold a different opinion on this subject?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

Dr. HALL wanted to know whether the proposition was in the form of a motion? It was certainly not common to amend the nomination of a director.

The CHAIRMAN—The proposal has been made; Mr. McDonald said he offered himself, and he has been proposed.

Dr. HALL—I make a distinction between a nomination and a motion.

The CHAIRMAN—The nomination was made by Mr. McDonald and some of the shareholders propose him.

Mr. THORN—The directors have not laid Mr. McDonald's nomination on the table; in fact this is the first time I hear that Mr. McDonald has addressed the directors on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought Mr. McDonald's letter had been laid before the meeting, but as it had not been done, he would read the letter now. Mr. Lowder read the letter.

Some discussion then ensued on the question of the method of voting, the Chairman suggested that is would be best if the two directors were voted for together.

Mr. THORN changed his motion therefore, that "Mr. McDonald and Dr. Hall be the directors for the year."

Mr. WITKOWSKI said his suggestion remained the same and he might add, that Dr. Hall was a resident of Yokohama, while Paymaster Mr. McDonald might be recalled any day by his Government. It was certainly to the interests of the shareholders to have resident directors. He proposed "that Mr. Lowder and Dr. Hall be elected directors for the year."

Dr. HALL—I do not want to be critical, but this brings the same matter up again. I simply ask whether a nomination can be amended as such. It quite changes the case before the shareholders to decide.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not understand what you mean. Of course somebody must be nominated.

Dr. HALL—The shareholders may wish to vote for one, and not for the other, or *vice versa*. I think each director should be voted for separately.

Mr. LOWDER—The motion before the meeting is that Mr. McDonald and Dr. Hall be elected directors, with an amendment that Mr. Lowder and Dr. Hall be elected.

Mr. MCDONALD—I beg to offer a second amendment "that each director shall be voted for separately."

This was seconded by Mr. HEINLEIN, and after having been put to the meeting, was lost on a show of hands by 9 to 5.

Mr. LOWDER—I now put the first amendment—

Dr. HALL—I wish to ask whether the candidate can object and whether I can withdraw, if I should like to do so?

The CHAIRMAN—You can object, but your name is now before the meeting.

Dr. HALL—Suppose the motion is lost, then the two directors are lost with it?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly not, not the two directors as individuals; only the conjunction of the two names. They could be decided or separated afterwards. I now put the amendment that Mr. Lowder and Dr. Hall be elected directors.

This was carried by 11 against 6.

Mr. MCDONALD demanded a poll.

The CHAIRMAN—The amendment having been carried I declare—

Mr. MCDONALD—In face of my demand for a poll?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I am not losing sight of your demand.

Mr. Lowder read the article on the question to the affect that a shareholder might have the support of five shareholders in making such a demand.

Five shareholders—Messrs. Thorn, Dietz, Mayer, Heinlein, and Hall—supported the demand.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the poll must be taken as the Chairman decided, and the rules left it to the Chairman to say whether the poll should be taken at the meeting or at a later date. Seeing that the matter was a personal one in which his (the Chairman's) name entered, he hesitated as to exercising his authority on the point, and would rather have an expression of opinion from the meeting.

Mr. THORN proposed, and Mr. MAYER seconded that the poll be taken at once.

Mr. WITKOWSKI proposed an adjournment.

The CHAIRMAN—That is not necessary. A show of hands will do.

On a show of hands the motion was defeated by nine votes to six.

The CHAIRMAN said he would then exercise his authority and decide that the poll should be taken after an interval of ten days, on Thursday, August 3rd, at 4 p.m. No additional proxies could be received, but any shareholders not present could attend personally, and the transfer books were also open.

AUDITOR.

Mr. F. J. Hall was appointed auditor, on the motion of Mr. McDonald, as recommended by the Board.

DIRECTORS' FEES.

On the proposal of Mr. HOWIE, seconded by Mr. N. A. WALTER, the directors' fees were fixed at 400 *yen*, as in the past year.

The number and nationalities of foreigners who made application for registration at the Kagacho Police Office during the three days from the 18th to the 20th were as follows:—English, 118; American, 46: German, 17; Spanish, 2; Portuguese, 1; Dutch, 1; Danish, 2; Belgian, 1; Swiss, 7; Turkish, 1; Norwegian, 5; and Chinese 1,088.

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THE CAUSE OF PROSTITUTION.

[By SAMUEL M. JONES, Mayor of Toledo, O.*]

We have been asked to re-produce the following:—I believe prostitution to be an inseparable part of our social system that is in itself inherently evil and unchristian. It is one of the fruits of our denial of human brotherhood. In an order of society and among a people that recognize and admit the truth of brotherhood, what is known as prostitution to-day would be as impossible as a black whiteness or a white blackness. The demand for prostitution creates the supply, and for a people to attempt to make and enforce laws to eradicate an evil that exists in answer to a demand of their own moral baseness, is as absurd and idle as to attempt to regulate the moon's phases or the flow of the tides by legislation. The double standard of morals that we hold to (and when I say we, I want especially to emphasize women) is the most prolific cause of prostitution that I know of. We honour the man prostitute, and seek him in marriage for our daughters (especially if he has money), while we heap odium and contempt upon his partner in the crime, and doom her to infamy and shame. I think the one serious obstacle that keeps us from appreciating the enormity of this evil is the facility with which we separate ourselves from it, unconsciously saying by our acts, if not by our words, "I am holier than those;" when the facts are, as it seems to me, with this as well as with every other form of evil, we are all in it. Nothing could be more unscientific than our attempt to separate ourselves into classes; of despising, as we do, certain callings and professions, when, by the very conditions of life that we make, we are continually driving men and women into these avenues; and by the same act, when they are once in, we close every door of escape, so that they have no choice in the matter but to lead a life worse than a living death. In a Southern city, where I spent a day last winter, I had the opportunity of studying prostitution as a municipally owned industry. Perhaps that is overstating the truth slightly, the facts being that in that city prostitution is licensed, a certain quarter is set apart, devoted to that traffic, much as other cities would designate a market space or a stand for drays and moving wagons. Certainly no citizen of that city would undertake to say that they are not all in the business of prostitution, for they levy a direct tax, and afford that traffic the protection of the law as well as a health certificate of the city physician; and as the money collected from this traffic goes into the general fund, of course it saves (?) just so much to the tax payers. I never shall forget the horror of the hour that I spent in the "reservation," as it is called; the dreadful wretchedness and immorality of our so-called civilization seemed to open out before me as I contemplated the awful condition of the human beings around me, doomed to lives more hopeless and more terrible than the lepers of Molokai; and yet here was a Christian community making profit—that Moloch, that God at whose shrine we all worship—out of this barter in flesh and blood, this direct traffic in living souls!

The day was Sunday, and though it was winter the warm southern sun made life out-of-doors delightful; and as I walked along the street, my ears were greeted with the solicitation of the lost woman, as she sat in her indecent apparel on the porches of the houses in this city of the living dead. My ears were greeted by the sound of the "church-going bells," and the horror of the whole dreadful situation unveiled itself before me, that under this system every man, woman, and child in this city was a partaker in the financial result of this immorality,—the sexton who was then tolling the bell, the minister who preached the gospel, the banker, the merchant, the society woman—all, all alike by this legalized act were made partakers of the infamy. As my thoughts ran thus, these lines of Lowell came to my mind:—

"'Have we built your costly temples then
On the bodies and souls of living men?
And think ye that building will endure
That shelters the wealthy and crushes the poor?'

"'O Lord and Master, not ours the guilt,
We build but as our fathers built;
Behold thine images, how they stand
Sovereign and free throughout our land.'

"Then Christ sought out an artisan,
A low-browed, stunted, haggard man,
And a motherless girl whose fingers thin
Pushed faintly away from her want and sin.

"These He sat in the midst of them,
And as they drew back their garment's hem
For fear of defilement,—'Lo here,' said He,
'Are the images ye have made of me.'"

I think we will all agree it is quite dreadful to accept money for the license of such a traffic. We exclaim, "How can they do it?" but how much better are we in Toledo, or in any other city, for I have yet to discover the city that does not have prostitution. We may differ in degree, but I think if we trace it to the last analysis we will find that our iniquity is of the same kind. Some of our "best people" rent houses, knowing that they are to be used for the purposes of prostitution; others of us cater for the trade of the "captains of industry," or the best "class" of prostitutes, for they are known to be lavish with their money; and it is well that we shall understand that there are "classes" and "captains of industry" in this calling as well as in the so-called legitimate lines of manufacture and trade.

We employ girls in our stores to serve these customers who buy costly silks and laces, fine apparel and beautiful things, that the girls themselves can never hope to enjoy, for their meagre salaries will not provide a decent living, to say nothing of luxuries.

The girls who have this kind of employment, however, we consider the fortunate ones to-day, for thousands have no employment; and yet there is the temptation before the poor girl who is worn out with the long day's work at service in the store, as she thinks of this, that, and the other thing that she needs and really ought to have,—how can she in her weakness and ignorance help reflecting that in her own person she has the means of obtaining both the things that she needs and the luxuries that we have trained her to covet through our false teaching, our horrid ideas of fashion, and lack of ideals of beauty.

In one of the cities of Ohio there is an institution for reclaiming or saving fallen women. The expense of carrying on the work is provided mainly, if not wholly, by fines that are periodically imposed upon the prostitutes; and the managers of the institution have been known to appeal to the police department to "make some arrests," in order that their depleted treasury might be replenished.

It seems to me that my case is clear. Our unchristian denial of brotherhood is the root of all the evils that afflict our civilization. Only by getting men and women to recognize and admit the fact of brotherhood can we hope to deal with this or any other evil. Love is the only final power in the world. Brute force coercion may on the surface appear to accomplish something, but it is a delusion and snare, and no progress for the race has ever been obtained through the application of physical force. Love redeemed and will yet save the world. Not until we drop "they," "their," "them," from our vocabulary, and substitute "we," "us," "our," shall we have begun to "deal" very seriously with any iniquity. Not until we say "my sister," and see "my sister" in the vilest courtezan, shall we have any adequate comprehension of the dreadful iniquity that encompasses us all. We do not need sentiment; we do not need sympathy, or rather what is wrongly termed sympathy; we just need love, and love is always scientific. Through love we shall learn brotherhood, and through brotherhood we shall conquer all the evils that now curse our humanity. Does the day of our deliverance seem far away?—Not at all. The sun of promise for a better future was never more radiant than at the present hour. Millions are preaching, proclaiming, and working for it, and in their own lives realizing the glories of this better day that even now is here. The kingdom of heaven is at hand, let us arise and possess it.

* Mayor Jones has recently been re-elected as mayor of the city of Toledo, Ohio, his election being carried by a large majority by the votes of the working people against the machine and party politicians. Mayor Jones is also the proprietor of a manufacturing establishment, in which in a prominent place he has for years kept the text "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them." It is the rule of the institution, and after years of experience he says the golden rule is a practical workable one in everyday business life.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN QUESTION.

The publication of the Transvaal Blue Book renders the hope of peaceful settlement comparatively remote, but it contains such an interminable list of charges against the Boers that their capacity for displaying even an ordinary measure of justice and fairness in their dealings with foreigners becomes more than questionable, and, if the capacity does not exist, appeals for its exercise must be fruitless. It seems worth while to quote a few extracts from Sir Alfred Milner's despatch.

The political turmoil in the Transvaal Republic will never end till the permanent Uitlander population is admitted to a share in the government, and while that turmoil lasts there will be no tranquillity or adequate progress in Her Majesty's South African dominions.

The relations between the British colonies and the two Republics are intimate to a degree which one must live in South Africa in order fully to realize. Socially, economically, ethnologically, they are of one country, the two principal white races are everywhere inextricably mixed up; it is absurd for either to dream of subjugating the other. The only condition on which they can live in harmony and the country progress is equality all round. South Africa can prosper under two, three, or six Governments, but not under two absolutely conflicting social systems, perfect equality for Dutch and British in the British colonies side by side with permanent subjection of British to Dutch in one of the Republics. It is idle to talk of peace and unity under such a state of affairs.

It is this which makes the internal condition of the Transvaal Republic a matter of vital interest to Her Majesty's Government. No merely local question affects so deeply the welfare and peace of her own South Africa possessions. And the right of Great Britain to intervene to secure fair treatment of the Uitlander is fully equal to her supreme interest in securing it. The majority of them are her subjects, whom she is bound to protect. But the enormous number of British subjects, the endless series of their grievances, and the nature of those grievances, which are not less serious because they are not individually sensational, makes protection by the ordinary diplomatic means impossible. We are, as you know, for ever remonstrating about this, that, and the other injury to British subjects. Only in rare cases and only when we are very emphatic do we obtain any redress. The sore between us and the Transvaal Republic is thus inevitably kept up, while the result in the way of protection to our subjects is lamentably small. For these reasons it has been, as you know, my constant endeavour to reduce the number of our complaints. I may sometimes have abstained when I ought to have protested from my great dislike of ineffectual nagging. But I feel that the attempt to remedy the hundred and one wrongs springing from a hopeless system by taking up isolated cases is perfectly vain. It may easily lead to war, but will never lead to real improvement.

The true remedy is to strike at the root of all these injuries—the political impotence of the injured. What diplomatic protests will never accomplish, a fair measure of Uitlander representation would gradually but surely bring about. It seems a paradox, but it is true, that the only effective way of protecting our subjects is to help them to cease to be our subjects. The admission of Uitlanders to a fair share of political power would no doubt give stability to the Republic. But it would at the same time remove most of our causes of difference with it, and modify and in the long run entirely remove that intense suspicion and bitter hostility to Great Britain which at present dominates its internal and external policy.

The case for intervention is overwhelming. The only attempted answer is that things will right

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themselves if left alone. But, in fact, the policy of leaving things alone has been tried for years, and it has led to their going from bad to worse. It is not true that this is owing to the raid. They were going from bad to worse before the raid. We were on the verge of war before the raid, and the Transvaal was on the verge of revolution. The effect of the raid has been to give the policy of leaving things alone a new lease of life, and with the old consequences.

The spectacle of thousands of British subjects kept permanently in the position of helots, constantly chafing under undoubted grievances, and calling vainly to her Majesty's Government for redress, does steadily undermine the influence and reputation of Great Britain and the respect for the British Government within the Queen's dominions.

I can see nothing which will put a stop to this mischievous propaganda but some striking proof of the intention of Her Majesty's Government not to be ousted from its position in South Africa. And the best proof alike of its power and its justice would be to obtain for the Uitlanders in the Transvaal a fair share in the government of the country which owes everything to their exertions. It could be make perfectly clear that our action was not directed against the existence of the Republic. We should only be demanding the re-establishment of rights which now exist in the Orange Free State, and which existed in the Transvaal itself at the time of and long after the withdrawal of British sovereignty. It would be no selfish demand, as other Uitlanders besides those of British birth would benefit by it. It is asking for nothing from others which we do not give ourselves. And it would certainly go to the root of the political unrest in South Africa, and, though temporarily it might aggravate, it would ultimately extinguish the race feud which is the great bane of the country.

Here, also, are some brief extracts from Mr. Chamberlain's reply to the above :—

Dealing first with the system of taxation, her Majesty's Government find that no change of any importance has taken place. A revenue of nearly £4,000,000 is raised to carry on the administration of a country which is believed to contain less than a quarter of a million white inhabitants. As already pointed out, the revenue is mainly derived from the Uitlanders, who have thus to bear a burden of taxation exceeding £16 a head, a burden probably unparalleled in any other country. M. Rouliot, President of the Chamber of Mines, a gentleman of French nationality, speaking on the 21st of November last on the gold-mining industry, said:—"We are the most heavily taxed community in the world, although we are the one that has the least to say about the use of the funds it contributes."

As to the character of the financial administration, reference may be made to the report of the Inspector of Offices, published in October, 1897, which showed defalcations on the part of officials amounting to £18,590, only a few hundreds of which were recovered, and with regard to the larger part of which no effort seems to have been made to recover the money. Reference may also be made to the debate in the Volksraad on the Estimates in March, 1898, when it was elicited that £2,389,506 16s. 8d. had been advanced to officials, and was unaccounted for, These advances date back from 1883.

The Secret Service Fund appears in the current Estimates at £36,000, but even this sum, more than the amount of the Secret Service money voted in the British Imperial Estimates, appears to be habitually exceeded. In 1898 £42,504 were spent, and in 1896 no less than £191,837.

The system of granting concessions remains in full force. The dynamite monopoly still continues (though condemned, not only by public opinion, but by a Volksraad Commission and by the Commission appointed by the Government) to draw large sums from the gold industry, of which only a small proportion finds its way into the coffers of the State. Her Majesty's Government have already protested against the continuance of this monopoly on the ground that it is a breach of Article XIV. of the London Convention. As stated in my despatch of the 13th of January last, they are advised that the creation of a monopoly in favour of the State is not necessarily inconsistent with that article, even when exercised by a concessionaire, provided that the concession is intended in good faith to benefit the State generally and not simply to favour the concessionaire, but for the reasons given in that despatch they are advised that in the present cases these conditions are not fulfilled.

It appears from notices in *Staats Courant* that other concessions, which are likely to be political monopolies, have been granted by the Government within the last three years for the manufacture of matches, paper, chocolate, wool, starch, mineral waters, soap, and oils, all of which, even if open to no other objections, must increase the already excessive cost of living in the Transvaal.

It may be urged that in spite of the enormous taxation above referred to the gold industry is prosperous, and that many individuals have made large fortunes in connexion with it. This is true, but, on the other hand, there is no doubt that the full development of the natural wealth of the country has been delayed, and the working of the lower-grade mines has been rendered very difficult, by the heavy burthens imposed, while the welfare of the working classes has been seriously hindered by the excessive cost of the necessaries of life and the general conditions to which they are subject.

Her Majesty's Government, however, attach much less importance to financial grievances than to those which affect the personal rights of the Uitlander community, and which place them in a condition of political, educational, and social inferiority to the Boer inhabitants of the Transvaal, and even endanger the security of their lives and property.

It is in this respect that the spirit, if not the letter, of the Convention has been most seriously infringed.

It would seem, indeed, that the Uitlander is not only deprived, by provisions introduced into the Constitution since the Convention of 1884, of any effective political representation, but that he has also been placed by recent legislation under new liabilities, unknown when the Convention was signed, if he appeals to public opinion or attempts to bring his complaints to the notice of the Government.

By the Press Law No 26 of 1896, and the amending Law No. 14 of 1898, which was reprobated by Transvaal newspapers of all shades of opinion, that freedom of the expression of opinion which the original Constitution of the Republic guaranteed, subject only to the responsibility of the printer and publisher for all documents containing defamation, insult, or attacks on any one's character (Grondwet 1858, Article 19), is seriously threatened. Under these laws the President is given the power, on the advice and with the consent of the Executive, of prohibiting entirely, or for a time, the circulation of printed matter which, in his opinion, is contrary to good morals or a danger to peace and order in the Republic. This power has been exercised more than once.

It results from this review of the facts and conditions on which the petition is founded, as well as from the information derived from your despatches and from other official sources, that British subjects and the Uitlanders generally in the South African Republic have substantial grounds for their complaints of the treatment to which they are subjected.

It is fair to assume that these complaints are directed not so much against individual cases of hardship and injustice, which may occur in even the best governed States, as against the system under which the sufferers are debarred from all voice in the legislation under which such cases are possible, and all control of the administration through the inefficiency of which they occur. They may be summarized in the statement that under present conditions, all of which have arisen since the Convention of 1884 was signed, the Uitlanders are now denied that equality of treatment which that instrument was designed to secure for them.

The conditions subsisting in the South African Republic are altogether inconsistent with such equality, and are in striking contrast with those subsisting in all British colonies possessing representative institutions, where white men of every race enjoy equal freedom and equal justice, and new-comers are, after a reasonable period of residence, admitted to full political rights.

In the Orange Free State, where similar privileges are conceded to all aliens resident in the Republic, the Dutch burgher and the foreign immigrant who enjoys the hospitality of the State live in harmony and mutual confidence; and the independence of the Republic is secured as well by the contentment and loyalty of all its citizens as by the good relations which prevail between its Government and those of other parts of South Africa.

Unfortunately the policy of the South African Republic has been conducted on very different lines, and but for the anxiety of Her Majesty's Government to extend every consideration to a weaker State which in recent years has had just reason to complain of the action of British subjects, and may therefore be naturally prone to suspicion and indisposed to take an impartial view of the situation, the state of affairs must have led to the most serious protest and remonstrance.

It is quite evident that the British Government is determined to end, once and for all, this is be

monstrous state of affairs now existing in the Transvaal. The patience hitherto shown by Her Majesty's Ministers and the studied moderation of the Colonial Secretary's tone, are not by any means to be interpreted as evidences of a yielding disposition.

THE TICKET FOR SOUP; OR, HOW TO LIVE ON A LEAD PENCIL.

AS PERFORMED WITH THE GREATEST SUCCESS IN MANY PARTS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Robinson, White, Jones - } London clubmen.
Smith : A "globe-trotter."
Spoofer : A wrong'un.
Brown : A resident in the Far East.
Jenkins : A Mug.
Hon. Sec. of the Shangbehama Club.
Servants and others.

Time—Any time within the last ten years.

SCENE I.

SMOKING-ROOM OF THE LOUNGERS' CLUB, LONDON.

Jones, *a member*, and Smith, *his guest, seated taking coffee.*

Jones : Here comes Robinson ; I'll introduce you.

Smith : Thanks, old chap. (*They are introduced.*)

Jones : I say, Robinson, I want you to give my friend Smith some introductions to somebody or other in the Far East somewhere. He leaves to-morrow.

Robinson (*without hesitation*) : Oh yes, certainly. Delighted, I'm sure. (*Musing*) Let me see—whom do I know? Oh yes, there's what's his name—Podgett, or Bolsover, or somebody. No, that's not his name. Ah! I have it, Thompson. Yes, yes, but hang it—I forget whether it was in the Far East or in South America that Thompson lived. No, he won't do. Then there's Snooks, whose brother was at school with a man who once went fishing with Bob. He would do all right, but I don't know either his name or address. Why, how stupid of me! There's dear old Evans. Of course, Evans is the man. He is very fond of me and will see you through. By the way, I think somebody said he died about five years ago. Or was it somebody else? Dashed if I know. One can't be too careful in these matters. Ah! I have it, I see a man over there who knows people. He'll do it all right.—No, you need not come, I'll fix it all up with him. (*Approaches member who is writing at table.*) What ho! White, old boy, do you know anybody in the Far East? I want a letter of introduction for that man over there. Will you give me one?

White : Rather. What sort of a chap is he?

Robinson : Oh, a rare good sort, Jones knows him.

White (*writing introduction*) : By the way, what's his name?

Robinson : Dashed if I know. I'll go and ask Jones again.

White : Never mind I'll leave a blank space, and he can fill that in. How's this? (*reads letter*) :—

"My Dear Old Chap,—You will have forgotten all about me, but as my excellent friend,

, who, by the way, is a still older friend of Robinson's and Jones's, is going out to your part of the world, I could not refrain from giving him a letter to you in your interests as well as his. Do anything you can to make his stay pleasant, and take him round generally. If you put him up at your house while he is in Shangbehama I will undertake that you will find him an acquisition to your limited society. Hoping to see you some day again in the old country, yours ever,

"Thomas White."

"To John Brown, Esq., Shangbehama Club."

Robinson : Thanks. That will do very nicely. (*Takes letter to* Smith.) Here it is. You have only to fill in your name.

Smith : I am really much obliged. (*Exit* Robinson.) What a good fellow your friend is. What is his name? (*Glances at signature.*) Thomas White. It's very kind of him. Who

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Jones: He's a pal of Robinson's. I've seen him here. There is a White who has a fad of some sort—bimetallism or bicycle polo or something.

Smith: Well now, I must be off, old fellow. Goodbye and thanks very much.

Jones: *Bon voyage* and good luck. Let us hear from you some day.

SCENE 2.

VERANDAH OF A FINE HOUSE ON THE BLUFF AT SHANGBEHAMA.

(*Two months have elapsed.*)

Brown (*lying in a long chair and reading a letter*): Oh dash it all! here's another of those chaps out from home with a ticket for soup. This is the third letter of introduction that I have received this month. Who the deuce is White (*glancing at signature*)? I see it comes from the Loungers' Club. That's all right. I suppose White must be one of my wife's numerous second cousins—some chap who was at my wedding when I went home to be married twelve years ago. What a pity my wife is not here now. Well, I suppose I must do the right thing, and I must not let Mr. —— (*looks at letter*) Mr. Smith know that I don't remember who White is. Well, let 'em all come! (*To servant*) Show the gentleman in.

(*Enter* SMITH *and* SPOOFER.)

Brown (*rising from his chair and holding out his hand between them*): So you are Mr. Smith of London?

Smith (*taking Brown's hand*): Yes, I have just arrived. What a beautiful place this is! May I introduce Mr. Spoofer, a fellow traveller and great friend of mine? (*The introduction is effected.*)

Brown: I am very glad to see you, and how is er—White getting along?

Smith: I saw him the day before I sailed looking very fit. He's as strong on bimetallism and bicycle polo as ever. What a rare good sort he is! He's got a beard now too, and he's a great pal of Robinson's.

Brown: Grown a beard, by George! That *must* have altered his appearance; and are you sure he is quite well? Well, that's all right.

Smith: And he'll be glad to hear that I have found you looking so fit. This hot climate does not seem to affect your health.

Brown (*relieved to have got it over*): Now you must both stop to tiffin, and afterwards we will have a look round, and I will put your names down for the club and introduce you to the men. This is a slow place, but we'll certainly do what we can to show you what there is to be seen. I'm sorry I have only one room available, as my wife is away and the house is being turned upside down. But you, Smith, at all events, must send your things up here and stop with me until you go.

Smith: Thanks very much. I am off again on Thursday, but I will certainly avail myself of your hospitality.

SCENE 3.

THE SHANGBEHAMA CLUB.

(*Three days have elapsed.*)

(SMITH AND SPOOFER.)

Spoofer: Well, good-bye, Smith, old boy. I will post you that £10 I owe you to Wei-kiao-hong. I shall get my remittance to-morrow.

Smith: Right you are, my dear fellow. I am sorry our ways diverge here, for we've had an excellent time together.

(*Exit* SMITH *to catch the steamer.*)

Spoofer (*soliloquising*): What a silly ass that man is. He does not know me from Adam. Picked me up on the steamer, lent me £10 like a bird, and got me introduced to all the men here. (*Enter several members of the club.*) Hulloa, you fellows, come and have a drink.

(They drink, and Spoofer signs a club chit for it. He invites them all to dinner on the same process.)

SCENE 4.

THE SAME.

(*Two months have elapsed.*)

Spoofer (*soliloquising*): This is a fine place, but I must be thinking of moving. I have

heaven, in the Far East one does not have to pay for anything but merely to sign chits. When they sent my bill in I spoke to Brown on the subject of my remittance not having arrived, and he said it would be all right, as they always allowed visitors' chits to run on till they left. But this sort of thing cannot go on for ever. I have made a decent sum at poker, and when I have drawn Jenkins for something I must be off. He thinks I am a partner in "Blobbs' Capsules," and I have appointed him as local agent for them. On the strength of that he has boarded and lodged me free for six weeks, and taken me all over the country at his expense. Ah! here he comes.

Enter JENKINS.

Jenkins: Hulloa, Spoofer.

Spoofer (*producing faked telegram*): I have good and bad news here, (Reads). "Ko-chung-fu agent absconded with the till, go there immediately and put matters right. Have opened £500 credit for you there with Splosh. Confirm Jenkins sole agent Shangbehama, salary £1,000, commission 25 per cent, —Blobbs."

Jenkins (*delighted*): This is excellent, excellent. A thousand thanks for what you have done. But I'm afraid it means that we shall lose you.

Spoofer: The worst of it is I shall not have enough money to get there with. That ass Blobbs, while opening a credit at Ko-chung-fu, has not sent me any money here. I shall have to telegraph.

Jenkins: I can let you have anything you may require. What do you want?

Spoofer: A thousand dollars will do, but don't you bother. Splosh of Ko-chung-fu no doubt has an agent here from whom I can draw.

Jenkins: Nonsense (*successfully presses the money on him*).

SCENE 5.

THE SAME.

(*A month later.*)

(JENKINS and the Hon. Sec. of Shangbehama Club.)

H. S.: You knew Spoofer, didn't you?

Jenkins: Rather. The best fellow that ever lived. He stopped with me all the time he was here. I'm sorry he left.

H.S.: So am I, for the steward has just told me that he didn't pay his chits before going. You know all about him and can give me his address.

Jenkins: That's all right. It must have been an oversight. These busy men, you know. He's made of money, and is a partner in the biggest firm of capsule makers in the world.

H. S.: That's all right. But I see that it was Brown who put his name down for the club, so I shall have to send these chits in for Brown to pay, as the time limit has expired.

Enter BROWN.

Jenkins: I say, Brown. You knew all about Spoofer. You introduced him to the club and to me. Here's our secretary in the devil of a stew because Spoofer forgot to pay his chits.

H. S.: Ha! ha!! ha!!!

Brown: Oh, I knew very little about him except that he seemed a decent sort of fellow, and came out with Smith.

Jenkins (*anxiously*): Smith? What Smith?

Brown: Smith who brought out a letter to me from White, a relative of my wife's, the great bimetallist and bicycle polo man. Smith went away and Spoofer stopped.

H. S.: He! he!! he!!!

Jenkins (*pleading*): But, Brown, old chap, at all events you know that Spoofer was a partner in "Blobbs' Capsules." I lent him 1,000 dols., and gave him some introductions to people in Ko chung-fu.

Brown: I never heard of "Blobbs' Capsules."

Jenkins: —— !!! * * * ! ! ! † † † ! ! !

H. S.: Ho! ho!! ho!!!

Brown (*to* H. S.): You seem to find all this extremely amusing.

H. S.: My dear boy. You will have to stump up for Spoofer's chits. That is all. That's one of the privileges we have out here, when flying visitors come with letters of introduction from home.

Brown (*philosophically but without enthusiasm*): Of course, of course.

Jenkins: Oh, Spoofer must be all right.

(Enter club servant with several letters for H. S.)

H. S. (*reading them*): These all seem to relate to your friend Spoofer. They are concerned with his business matters, and they are sent on to this club, which was his address when here. Altogether it would seem that he has left owing about 10,000 dols. to curio-dealers, hotels, and the club, not including our friend Jenkins's 1,000 dols.

Jenkins (*tearing his hair out by the handful*): Brown, I look on you as the cause of all this. You introduced him here, and I think it was a low-down game to foist an infernal sharper on me. I call it a — — * * † † — — — thing to do.

Brown (*knocking him down*): You do, do you? Now go away.

(Exit JENKINS.)

H. S. (*to* Brown): I'm sorry, old chap, this has happened. I know you don't care for the money part of the business, but you will get most awfully rotted over Spoofer for years to come. I thought you were too old a hand to be caught by the ticket-for-soup fiend. You ought to have learnt a long time ago that a visitor to the Far East can live very comfortably for six months on a lead pencil and a little cheek.

Brown: Oh, shut up, you idiot.

SCENE 6.

SMOKING-ROOM OF THE LOUNGERS' CLUB, LONDON; SATURDAY EVENING.

(*Two years have elapsed.*)

(WHITE and BROWN shaking hands.)

White: So you are the gentleman who sent up his card. (*Looks at card*) Let me see; Mr. Brown, of Shangbehama. I seem to know the name,

Brown (*who has forgiven the past*): Yes, Brown, of Shangbehama. Don't you remember giving a letter of introduction to me to a friend of yours.

White (*who has a vague recollection of the transaction*): Oh, yes, yes; of course. I remember now where I saw you before. We sat next to each other at a political meeting, and I took your umbrella away by mistake, and was going to return it to you if you had not left England again before I did so.

Brown: And you sent out Smith with a letter to me. You know Smith, a great friend of Jones and Robinson.

White: Well, I hope you found him a good man, and that you enjoyed his visit.

Brown: Oh, yes, a very nice fellow; he stopped with me while he remained in the country. But I called in more particularly to ask you to do me a favour. I only arrived in London this evening, and my luggage has gone astray. My friends, I have learnt, are out of town, and at the hotel they do not know anything about me. Would you be kind enough to let them know that I am all right? I shall want them to cash a small cheque to tide me over until Monday, when I can get money from my bank. Or, perhaps, you would be good enough to get them to do it here. I only require five or six pounds.

White: Well, Mr. Brown, I'm very sorry, but here members only can cash cheques. But will you have a whisky and soda and a look through the London Directory. Make yourself quite at home here for five minutes while I am finishing my letter before I go to catch my train? You may be able to find the addresses of some other friends who can accommodate you. What, you won't? Well, good-bye. Very good of you to call. We may knock across each other again before you return to Shangbehama. I'm so pleased to have seen you back in the old country. Good-bye.

(*Exit* WHITE.)

Brown: Well, I'm damned!

CURTAIN.

—London Letter.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

"Reise um die Welt" is the title of a book just written by Herr W. F. Brand and published by Herr Elischer Nachfolger in Leipzig. The author spent several months in Japan in the spring of last year, and evidently considers this country one of the most delightful places for a globe-trotter to stay in.

The consumption of gas appears to be largely on the increase in Tokyo. During the first six months of the present year, 95,327,400 cubic feet were used, a figure which is 51.7 per cent. larger than that for the corresponding period of last year. We read that the number of houses now employing gas for lighting purposes is 6,990, and that it is laid on in 327 cook shops and 123 factories.

It is said that the proprietors of the line of steamers plying between Canton and Borneo think of transferring them to the Japanese flag, and that the Directors of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company entertain some intention of a cognate character, or, at any rate, are prepared to sell their fleet to the Japanese for 10 million *yen*. We can not find any confirmation of these rumours.

The two little Imperial Princesses, Tsune and Chika, have started for Nikko, to spend the summer there as usual. They left Uyeno by the 7 o'clock train on the morning of the 20th. Count and Countess Sasaki, who superintend their education, accompanied them, and Mr. Kawaguchi, Vice-Minister of the Household Department, together with a large number of officials, assembled at the station to see the little ladies off.

Early on Saturday morning, a pharmacist named Yago Koichiro (29) and his wife Shige (24), living at Honzaimokucho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, were seriously wounded by the latter's father-in-law (62) living at Nezu, Hongo. The old man secretly attempted to sell to a house of ill fame his younger daughter-in-law and the latter complained to Yago and his wife. They took her part, and the old man was so incensed that he decided to revenge himself.

An instance of the thoughtfulness and obliging spirit in which the Yokohama police are carrying out their duties was shown on Wednesday night. When the alarm of fire was given, people on the Bluff were naturally anxious to ascertain the whereabouts of the outbreak, and a good deal of trouble was spared by Superintendent Okada, who caused a notice in English, with information as to the premises attacked, to be hung outside the Bluff Police Station.

There appear to have been some very barefaced adulterations of tea among the parcels recently sent to Yokohama from the interior. One enterprising individual, Kawamura Wasuke, of Sagara-machi in Shizuoka, seems to have manufactured a compound of cherry-leaves and dirt; another, Tanaka Fukumatsu, of Asahimura in Ibaraki Prefecture, used antimony to obtain an attractive colour. Both parcels have been seized at the inspection office of the guild in Yokohama.

The adjourned case of the Central Agency, Limited, against Koch and Co. was down for hearing on Tuesday morning in the German Consular Court before Mr. Consul-General Coates. The attorney for Messrs. Koch & Co. handed into Court a lengthy document proposing a compromise. The presiding judge, Mr. Coates, was of opinion that a compromise was the best way of settling the case. Mr. W. F. Wenyon, the representative of the agency, thought a compromise might perhaps be made, and the case was adjourned *sine die*, to see whether the matter could be amicably arranged out of Court.

Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, set out to return to his post by the 6.20 a.m. train from Shimbashi on the 20th instant. Their Excellencies Marquis Saigo and Mr. Sone, as well as about a hundred high officials, assembled to bid the Baron farewell. The Governor-General made a very brief stay in Japan—less than three weeks, if we remember aright. Some amiable critics declared, when his approaching visit to Japan was announced, that he had left Formosa merely to escape the great heat of summer. The Baron resented the imputation, and announced that since such a suspicion had been ventilated, he should return to Formosa without delay. He has kept his word.

Tokyo suffered somewhat severely from the effects of the copious rain which fell from daybreak to 10 a.m. on Tuesday. Various parts of the districts of Kojimachi, Kanda, Shitaya, Asakusa, Honjo, Fukagawa, Hongo, Koishikawa, Ushigome, and Yotsuya, were flooded, the water in the cases of Kanasugi Kami-cho, Shitaya; and Kamizawa-machi, Honjo, and various streets of Fukagawa, rising as high as the waist. About 9 a.m. a junk belonging to the N.Y.K. loaded with 570 *hyo* of sardines, sank at Aburabori, Horikawa-machi, Fukagawa.

Many a laugh is had at the expense of the Japanese post-man by reason of his propensity for attaching "undeliverable" tags to foreign letters. But in England the same thing also happens. The other day a letter addressed, "The Holy Family, Grosvenor-square," nonplussed the postman charged to deliver it, and, according to a morning contemporary, he wrote across the envelope, "No Holy Family in Grosvenor-square." In the end, however, the Delivery Department had its triumph. "Try 31, Farm-street," wrote a high official, and sure enough, at the Church of the Jesuits in the purlieus of Grosvenor-square a "confraternity of the Holy Family" was found to have a claim to the wandering missive.

It seems a little early to indulge in speculations about this year's rice crop, but the immense importance of the subject to the Japanese naturally makes them comment on the prospect from the earliest moment. Besides, the young rice has now passed through its first stage, and, although nothing can be certainly predicted about its subsequent growth, we may at least say that it has escaped the troubles—and they are not few—incidental to that stage. The area of land under rice cultivation last year was 6,939,820 acres, and the average crop for the past seven years, omitting the worst and the best season, was 39,313,033 *koku*. It is believed that, owing to the high price ruling for the cereal last year, an additional area has been brought under cultivation. Assuming, then, that there are now seven million acres of rice fields, producing an average of 6¼ *koku* per acre, the crop this year, should all go well, ought to be 43¾ million *koku*. It will be understood that when we speak of a production of 6¼ *koku* per acre we take the average over all the rice-cropped lands during the past 7 years. Some land gives a larger yield; some a smaller.

The house of detention at Kajibashi was one of the places visited last year by the President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce and some other residents of this Settlement, who wished to inform themselves of the actual state of Japanese prisons. They were far from being satisfied with the Kaji-bashi edifice: it is faulty in numerous respects. The Tokyo Authorities have in view the erection of a proper building which will be worthy to rank with the prisons at Sugamo and Shinjuku, but we doubt whether the work will be undertaken until the Central Government assumes responsibility for the prison expenditures. Meanwhile a few changes have been made at Kaji-bashi. The doors of cells where foreigners are to be confined have been raised from 3½ to 5 feet in height, the accommodation for a prisoner has been increased to 9 square yards, 2 of which are occupied by the bed—a mattress with a woollen coverlet. A table—3 ft. by 1 ft.—is provided, and so also is a square deal seat. For garments, the prisoner will have a coat and trousers made of the brick-red cotton cloth now in vogue, and for food he will be supplied with barley bread, meat and potatoes, served on tin or pewter dishes and eaten with a spoon, neither knife not fork being permissible.

The Emperor William's visit to the French training-ship *Iphigénie*, at Bergen, on July 7th, and his cordial exchange of telegrams with President Loubet, were not only received with great satisfaction in Berlin but throughout Europe. As one paper puts it, it promises to be a turning-point in the world's history. At the opening of the Kiel Canal, His Majesty went on board one of the French ships, but in the present instance, it is maintained that the Emperor set foot on the deck of a French ship, which is equivalent to French soil, by the express invitation of her Commander, who was acting upon instruction from his Government. It is therefore believed at Berlin that the many graceful and courteous actions which, during the past seven or eight years, the Emperor has been in the habit of paying the French Government, have borne fruit. The Emperor's act has been sympathetically received in France, though some see in it only a desire to visit the Paris Exhibition in 1900. The attitude of the French press has caused much satisfaction.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Mr. T. G. Shaughnessy, who succeeds Sir William Van Horne as President of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, is, like Sir William, an American citizen by birth. Of Irish parents, he first saw the light in Milwaukee on Oct. 6, 1853. At the age of sixteen he entered the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway, and advanced by degrees to the post of general storekeeper of the line. While holding that office he very favourably impressed Sir William Van Horne, with the result that when the latter crossed the border in 1882 to take up the management of the Canadian Pacific Railway, he brought with him Mr. Shaughnessy, and made him general purchasing agent. Mr. Shaughnessy has been vice-president for several years.

Bishop Watterson of Nebraska was once mistaken for a travelling salesman by a commercial traveller who met him in a railway train. "Do you ever represent a big house?" asked the traveller of the bishop. "Biggest on Earth, replied the bishop. "What's the name of the firm?" "Lord and Church." "Hum! Lord and Church. Never heard of it. Got branch houses anywhere?" "Branch houses all over the world." "That's queer. Never heard of 'em. Is it boots and shoes?" "No." "Oh, dry goods I suppose?" "Yes. They call my sermons that sometimes!"

British critics, including Professor Dowden, have in general been very appreciative of Walt Whitman, but the London *Clarion*, in the following Whitmanesque paraphrase of a celebrated melody, gives a cruel stab:—

. . . Here is the poem of me, the entertainer of children.
See! a cat is passing through my poem:
See—it plays the fiddle rapturously;
It plays sonatas, fugues, rag-times, gavottes, gigues, minuets, romances, impromptus—it plays the tune that led to the defunction of the aged cow;
But most of all it plays nocturnes, and plays them pyrotechnically as befits the night-time.
See the moon shining in the pellucid sky;
See! the cow, inspired by the intoxicating strains of the Stradivarius, throws off her habitual langnor and leaps over the moon.
O me! O pulse of my life! O amazement of things!
Why so active, thou cow?
Why so passive, thou moon?
See the dog.
He grins and runs through the city,
Seeing humor in his surroundings.
Have all dogs so keen a sense of humor?
See dish, maliciously meditative.
See it takes advantage of the general confusion and absconds with the silver spoon.

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It is officially announced that the American Grass-Twine Company, which has been incorporated with a capital stock of $15,000,000, will absorb the Northwestern Grass-Twine Company, which is capitalized at $7,500,000. This chronicles the birth of a practically new industry, one which makes possible the utilization of material heretofore considered useless. It is said that the product, which is made from the peculiarly strong wire grass of the marsh and slough lands of Wisconsin, Minnesota and other western states, is useful for the binding of grain and the other uses to which twine made of sisal hemp is put.

Rudyard Kipling has recently brought suit for damages against Elbert Hubbard, of the Roycroft Shop, at East Aurora. The grounds of the complaint seem to be technical and involve practically the same issue as in the suit recently brought against G. P. Putnam's Sons—that is, the right of a publisher to give a name of his own to a volume, when the matter contained therein is not covered by copyright. For instance, Mr. Hubbard has called a certain poem "The Dipsy Chanty." Mr. Kipling admits that the expression "Dipsy Chanty" occurs several times in the poem, but avers that the correct title is "The Last Chanty." G. P. Putnam's Sons called their set of Kipling's works "The Brushwood Edition," but Mr. Kipling says he never authorized any such title, and denies the right of the Putnams, or any one else, to distinguish his books by any title he has not himself chosen. Mr. Kipling brings up another point that has never been adjudicated—as to the right to print selections from an uncopyrighted book. To print the book entire is, of course, privileged; but to print selections from it, Mr. Kipling claims, might place the author in a very wrong light before the public and tend to injure him in the estimation of intelligent readers. The recent suit brought by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. for infringement in publication of "The Autocrat," failed because it was shown by the defendant that the matter was first printed in an uncopyrighted magazine. All the Kipling poems printed by Mr. Hubbard, it is claimed, were first printed in newspapers in India or magazines in England, which periodicals were not copyrighted in America; and whether the courts will take cognizance of the points brought up by Mr. Kipling is yet, of course, an open question. It is said that Mr. Kipling has now twenty-three suits in process, against as many different publishers and booksellers throughout the United States.

The principal chewing-gum concerns of the U.S. have merged, with a capital of $9,000,000. Of this one-third is in the form of 6 per cent. cumulative preferred shares. The organization will be known as the American Chicle Company, chicle being an ingredient from Mexico which is used in the manufacture of the commodity.

The directors of the Northern Pacific Railway Company have declared a dividend of 1 per cent. on the common stock, payable Aug. 3.

At the general association of Congregational ministers of Connecticut, the Rev. W. M. Barrows was censured for solemnizing the Belmont-Sloane marriage, and resolutions were adopted to the effect that Congregational clergymen of that state should decline to marry parties who are forbidden to remarry by a decree of courts in other states or by the rules of other Christian bodies with which they are connected.

The rush to form new corporations was stayed in a degree during June, the total capitalization of practically all such concerns in all States amounting to about $365,600,000, which represents a marked decrease from that of the month of May, being some $30,000,000 less than the capitalization of the companies incorporated in New Jersey alone within that month. Of course some of this capital is not new, but simply a rearrangement of the capital of the concerns taken into the combinations.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By Homer B. Hulbert, A.M.

CHAPTER XII.—(Continued.)

In the tenth moon General Konishi built a strong fort on a bluff overlooking the sea at Ul-san in Kyung-sang Province. He named it To-san. The Chinese Yang Ho determined to cut the war short by attacking and taking this position and by so doing he expected to cut off the right arm of the invading army. Collecting all the forces that were within reach, he started south to attack Ul-san. The army consisted of 40,000 men, and it went in three divisions, the left or eastern division being led by General Yi Bang ch'un, the middle division by General Ko Ch'ak, and the western division by General P'ang U-dok. General Ma Gwi was sent on ahead and acted as *avant-courier*. Stopping a few miles from the Japanese position he ordered General P'a Sa to go and make a preliminary attack upon the fort to discover something as to the lay of the land, and if possible to discover the number and equipment of the enemy. The attack was made with fire-arrows. Almost immediately the Japanese made a sortie, but were driven back with a loss of four hundred and sixty men. Shortly after this the three grand army corps arrived. The Japanese were arranged in three divisions. In the middle was the fort proper. On the north was a fortified camp called the Pan-gu-jun, and on the south was another called the T'a wha-gang. It was the first business of the Chinese and Korean allies to attack these outer divisions and drive them into the central fort. To this end the left division of the army attacked the Pan-gu-jun and the right division the T'a-wha-gang. General Yang Ho put on his armour and went into the thick of the fight and urged on his men. The air was filled with the noise of drums, of musketry fire, and the shouts of the combatants, and a cloud of arrows concealed the heavens. Some of the Japanese huts were on fire and great clouds of smoke and flame rolled heavenward. Slowly the Japanese were forced back, and finally they all entered the gates of the main fort of To-san. This fort was set on a rugged hill where it was difficult for an attacking force to manœuvre, but there was little water in the fort, and the Japanese were forced to come out secretly at night and draw water from a well near by. Being aware of this General Kim Eung-so, a Korean, placed an ambush about the well and caught upwards of a hundred of the enemy. They were badly emaciated and said that surrender was a matter of only a few days. It came on to rain, and this was followed by severe cold, as it was now the beginning of winter. Many of the beseiging army had their hands and feet frozen. One of General Konishi's lieutenants wrote repeatedly to the Korean General Song Yun-mun asking for terms of peace. General Yang Ho answered, "Konishi must come out and surrender, and he will be treated well." By this time the Japanese were well-nigh exhausted. They had neither food nor water, and every day they died in such numbers that it is said they had "a mountain of dead." Many a time General Konishi meditated suicide, but each time was restrained by one means or another. As a last resort the Japanese threw gold and silver over the wall to bribe the soldiers without and keep them from making an attack.

But the tables were about to be turned. All the other Japanese forces in the south had become aware of the desperate straits to which their comrades were reduced at To-san. And so now at the last moment a large fleet appeared and the hard-won victory was snatched from between the teeth of the Chinese and Korean allies. The exposure had greatly weakened the besieging force. Their provisions were almost exhausted, and they had used up all their arrows. They were far stronger than the beleaguered Japanese, but were not fit to cope with the fresh army which was burning with zeal to avenge their starving compatriots. So it was that General Yang Ho was compelled to raise the seige and fall back toward Soul. During this siege the Chinese loss was fourteen thousand, though many hundred thousand were wounded.

From this time date the first efforts of the Roman Catholic Church to enter Korea. Japan had already many thousand converts to Romanism, and Hideyoshi was determined to leave no means untried to eradicate this foreign cult. To this end he sent many of the Romanist converts to Korea. But the most distinguished of them all was the young and vigorous General Konishi, who had received baptism at the hands of the Romanists and had received the name of Augustine Arimandano. It may have been because of Hideyoshi's desire to get the Romanists out of the country that General Konishi was appointed to the post in Korea. Kato was as pronounced a Buddhist as Konishi was a Christian, and this of course intensified the hatred and rivalry between them. General Konishi was very desirous of having Romanist teachers come over to the peninsula and attend to the spiritual needs of the Christians in the army; and to this end the Vice-provincial of the Jesuits in Japan appointed Padre Gregorio de Cespides to this arduous and important post. With him went a Japanese priest. The two went to Tsushima, and, finding no means of getting to the peninsula, remained there over the winter and carried on a successful mission work. The next spring they made their way to Korea and finally reached General Konishi's headquarters at a place that they call Comangai, which was without doubt the fort of Ul-san. Here they worked a year, but finally, through the machinations of General Kato, who worked upon the prejudices of Hideyoshi, both the foreign and native priests were sent back to Japan and this had no little to do with the return of General Konishi, who went to clear himself before his master.

To anticipate a little, we might here say that many Koreans who were carried captive to Japan from time to time during this war became Christians at Nagasaki and, though slaves, were so firm in their belief as to be willing to suffer martyrdom during the terrible persecutions which raged in Japan between 1610 and 1630; but with the departure of Cespides from Korea the distinctive work in Korea was abandoned.

Let us pause a moment here to compare the two contending armies. In this second invasion the total number of Japanese that reached Korean soil was 105,400, or about half as many as formed the first army of invasion. They were led by twenty-seven generals, prominent if not pre-eminent among whom were Generals Kato and Konishi. As a mark of his spiteful spirit, Hideyoshi ordered that in this second invasion the noses and ears of all Koreans killed or captured should be cut off and sent to Japan. And so from time to time these half-savage soldiers sent loads of Korean noses and ears pickled in salt, and they were buried in the monastery of Ta-bul-sa, in the city of Kyoto, there to remain to all ages a disgusting memento of the most unprovoked and wanton cruelty that ever disgraced the annals of a great people. Many of the Koreans who lost their noses or ears at that time survived for years, and it cannot be wondered at that the Koreans have never since been willing to accept favours at the hands of their island neighbours.

The total number of Chinese was 210,000. With them came 2,000,000 ounces of silver to pay for their sustenance. From Shantung were sent by boat 200,000 bags of rice. There were also sent for the use of the army 5,632,000 ounces of silver. And for the relief of the Korean famine sufferers an additional 3,000,000 ounces were sent. When we consider the vast number of men and the millions of wealth that China poured into Korea at this time it may well be believed, as the Koreans affirm, that China by so doing impoverished and weakened herself so that she became an easier prey to the Manchûs who, a few years later, wrested the sceptre from her.

Large numbers of Japanese who had been in the country for years and were tired of the war deserted from the ranks, married Korean women, and settled down to farming in various places in the south. At Mi-ryang, in the Province of Kyung-sang-sang, there was a whole settlement of them. It was called the Hang-wa, or "Settlement of the Surrendered Japanese." Some of them were also to be found in Ham-gyung and P'yeng-yang Provinces. These had been left behind and abandoned by their fellows for one cause or another when the Japanese retired from the north. They were all destined to be destroyed a quarter of a century later during the rebellion of Yi Gwal.

About this time there arose in the Chinese court a determined enemy of General Yang Ho named Chong Eung-t'a, and he accused General Yang to the Emperor in twenty-five specifications, five of which implicated the King of Korea and which at a later date made a great deal of trouble.

We now enter upon a new phase of the war, the closing epoch. In the first moon of the following year 1598 the Emperor sent two admirals to Korea, the one being Tong Il-wun and the other Chil Lin. The former was to have charge of the naval operations off the coast of Chul-la and the other of those off Kyung-sang Province. Chil Lin, under the title of Great Admiral, came up the Han River with 500 boats as far as Tong-jak, the first village above Yong san. The King and the court went down and reviewed this fleet and saw it start off to join Admiral Yi Sun-sin in the south. This Admiral, Chil Lin, was a good soldier, but inordinately vain, and he could take no-one's

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advice, and it looked as if stormy times were in store for the plain, blunt Admiral Yi. The King told Admiral Chil Lin that he was not sure about Admiral Yi, and this of course had its influence with the Chinese admiral. Admiral Yi was then at Ko-geum Island off Chul-la Province. When he heard that Admiral Chil Lin was coming, he showed by his first act that he was as good a diplomat as soldier. He may or may not have known what sort of man the Chinese Admiral was, but he knew that in any case it would not do to antagonise him, and he acted accordingly. He collected a great store of fish and wine and went out to meet the approaching fleet. Returning with the Chinese Admiral, he spread a feast, and the whole company got splendidly drunk and vowed that Admiral Yi was a royal good fellow, and Admiral Chil Lin himself joined in the praise. Soon after this, Admiral Yi had the good luck to take two score of Japanese heads, but instead of claiming the honour himself he handed them over to the Chinese Admiral to forward as his own trophies. This finished Admiral Yi's conquest of Admiral Chil Lin's good graces. From this time on it was General Yi who suggested and planned, and it was Admiral Chil Lin who assented and reaped the praise. This course of conduct was a master piece of genius on the part of Admiral Yi, for by so doing he accomplished at least three important things. In the first place he kept himself in his position, which he would have lost had he antagonised the Chinaman; in the second place he saved himself to his country at a time when she could not have spared him. He was willing to forego the praise and let others reap the commendation if only he might ward off the enemies of his country. In the third he made the Chinese seem successful and so encouraged them and got out of them for Korea all that was to be hoped. He was willing to seem to be toadying to Admiral Chil Lin when in reality that gentleman was, to use a pregnant Korean phrase, "in his sleeve." Being always near the Chinese Admiral he could always see to it that no great blunders were made. At first the Chinese soldiery committed great excesses among the people of the country, stealing their valuables and otherwise injuring them. Admiral Yi quietly asked that the discipline of the army be put in his hands and from that day on the smallest irregularity was severely punished and the most perfect order prevailed. This did not escape the eye of Admiral Chil Lin and he wrote to the King that Admiral Yi was a remarkable man, and that the world did not contain another soldier like him. One day, as they sat in a summer-house overlooking the sea, a fleet of Japanese boats appeared in the distance. Admiral Chil Lin was much excited and a little nervous, but Admiral Yi laughed and said, "Sit here and watch me give those fellows a whipping." He got out his boats and in an hour he had forty of the enemy's boats on fire and the rest fled. Admiral Chil Lin could not praise him enough after this, and declared that the universe did not contain another man who could perform the feats that Admiral Yi apparently found easy.

In the seventh moon of this year the enemies of General Yang Ho in Nanking were successful and he was called from Korea, much to the regret of the King, who vainly sent an envoy to the Chinese court specially to plead that the decree be not carried out. General Yang had been the best of all the Generals that China had sent and his departure was a great loss to Korea. When he went, the King a large number of the people accompanied him beyond the Peking Pass and a stone tablet was raised there in his honour. All this of course made General Yang's enemies hate the King as well, and so an official named Chung Eung-t'a fabricated some astonishing stories about him. He claimed that while he had been in Korea he had found a manuscript which proved that the King had received investiture from Japan. He also charged the Koreans with showing disloyalty to China by prefixing the word *ta* (great) to the posthumous titles of their kings. He also claimed that the first coming of the Japanese was with a secret understanding with the King of Korea that they should attack Liao tung together. To these he added many minor charges. The Emperor apparently believed these things and immediately despatched an envoy So Gwal-lan to investigate the matter and report. When the King was informed of these charges he was dumbfounded. All his scrupulous care of the interests of his Chinese suzerain and the extremes of hardships which he and his people had endured rather than grant the Japanese a free passage through Korea to strike at China—all this was thrown back upon him and his devotion was counted treachery. He left his palace and took up his abode in a straw hut for one whole month as penance for having been even suspected of such baseness. The whole country was stirred to its depths by these unnatural and evidently baseless charges. The King immediately sent his most trusted councillors Yi Hann-bok and Yi Jung-Gwi to Nanking with the following memorable reply to the charges which had been preferred:—

"These charges which have been made against me are very grave, and if they are true I deserve death. In order to answer them I must repeat them, even though it defile my mouth. In the first place, the origin of the Japanese is far in the eastern sea. The way thither by boat is exceedingly far. They are such barbarians that heaven has separated them far from other men. They have always been bad neighbours, for they live by piracy; they come like a flash and are gone as suddenly. Since the time of the fall of the Koryo dynasty great uneasiness has prevailed in Japan. Law has been in abeyance and bands of freebooters have been allowed to devastate our southern shores until nothing but weeds and briars grow there. The founder of our present dynasty drove them out for a time, but they grew bold again and continued their depredations. The natives of Tsushima liked to come and trade with us and we permitted it at their request; then Japanese from the more distant islands came in flocks like birds. Our people never liked them, but we permitted the trade, as it was mutually profitable. We gave them rice to eat and treated them kindly. We built a house in Soul for the reception of their envoys. In the days of King Se-jong they asked us to send an envoy to Japan and we did so, primarily to spy out the land and discover whether the country was rich or poor, strong or weak. The envoy obtained the information and we immediately reported the matter to China. We could not well refuse to send an envoy to Japan, but it does not argue relations of friendship, much less of intimacy. In the days of the Emperor Chong-t'ong the Japanese started to ravage a certain part of the Chinese coast and took Quelpart on the way, but we attacked and drove them out and sent their leader alive to China to be dealt with. Also in the time of King Chung-jong the Japanese attacked the China coast at Yong-p'a-bu. They killed the Chinese general and then made off, but we caught them and sent them to the Chinese authorities. Since that time we have twice prevented Japanese attacks on the China coast. Not once nor twice have we received high commendation from the Chinese Emperor for our firm loyalty. We have always used our wits and our strength in the interests of China. This was the duty of a vassal, and this we have done. We let the Japanese live in the three harbours of Ch'é p'o, Pusan-p'o, and Yom-p'o but we prescribed limits of five or ten *li* beyond which they could not go. On the whole, then it, seems plain that the charge that we called in the Japanese and asked them for troops must be a pure fabrication. Again the book which Chung Eung-t'a claims to have found is an actual book and is named the Ha-dong Kenryak. It was written by Sin Suk-ju, the envoy to Japan, on his return from that country, and it deals with the laws and manners of the Japanese. It contains a map of Japan, a genealogy, and also the rules of etiquette to be observed toward the Japanese envoy. This book our accuser seized upon as a sure sign of our leaning toward Japan and he twisted its meaning to correspond to his theory. The Japanese have a different name for the year from that which we use and so the writer of this book put the Chinese name beneath the Japanese name as a sort of commentary, so that the reader could understand what year was referred to. In a Japanese book one must put the Japanese name of the year and if he wants to make plain the meaning he must put the Chinese name underneath or in the margin. As to the charge that we gave too high a title to our deceased Kings we can only say that we live beyond the sea and are ignorant and secluded. From the days of Sil-la until now we have been accustomed to name our dead Kings in this way. The founder of the dynasty was scrupulously careful not to overstep the recognised limits of his authority as a vassal of China and we never for a moment have forgotten the gap which separates a vassal King from his suzerain. The custom of giving these posthumous titles dates from the days of Sil-la, so how could we be expected to know that it was wrong, especially as it has never been called in question before? If we are blamed for ignorance and boorishness we cry guilty, but if for lack of loyalty, we humbly deny it. We have our calendar, our official dress, and writing all from China. This alone should speak for our loyalty. The year before the beginning of the present war Hidoyoshi murdered his master and usurped his throne. Burning with a desire to spring at the throat of China he sent us letters inviting us to join in an invasion of that country. We sent his letter back with contumely. In all this we advanced solely the interests of China. This is as clear as day. When the invading army came it seemed as if all Japan had alighted upon our shores. They covered our whole eight provinces and ravaged them. They seized our three capitals and desecrated two royal tombs. They burned our ancestral temple and other sacred places and then swept northward to P'yen-yang. We were unable to hold them in check or save our capital from their hands. We were driven to the verge of desperation and were about to cross into the parent land to die. Is it conceivable that if we had had the least friendship for Hideyoshi we would have suffered all this at his hands? If we look at nature do we find any analogy for such a thing? If this charge is true why did our forces join with yours in striking the invaders, and why have we been hanging on their flanks and harrassing them for years? Let the Emperor know what is the reason why we have sufferred this slander at the mouth of Chung Eung-t'a. It is because we took General Yang Ho's part when Chung Eung-t'a desired his recall from Korea in disgrace. General Yang Ho was with us a long time and he was a true friend of Korea. We all had the utmost confidence in him, and it was a great pity that so good a man should have met the reward he did. It is a cause of poignant grief to us. We are a small people and our destruction is a matter of small consequence, but for a general of China to be treated in this manner is a serious matter. We are an outside people and we have never had the pleasure of visiting the Emperor's court, and so there is no one to plead our cause for us, but the Emperor will be able to judge our case without further plea. Chung Eung-t'a has called me a traitor, and I would rather die than live with such a charge upon me, even though it be untrue. Let the Emperor take this letter and sit in judgment on the case, and if it appears that I am guilty let my head pay the penalty, but if not then let the Emperor acquit me before the world and I shall again be able to endure the light of day."

This letter is clear, logical, and to the point, and it breathes a spirit of self-respect which does credit to the King. It show not a servile dependence but a true self-respecting loyalty, and in the firm denial of the charge and the final demand for condemnation or public acquittal there is the ring of genuine manhood which would do honour to any man in any age.

When the Emperor read this letter his judicial mind found in it the ring of conscious rectitude and like the man he was he instantly acknowleged his error. He ordered the letter to be printed by the thousand and tens of thousands and scattered broadcast over his empire, for he apparently felt it a personal honour to have so true and genuine a man for a vessal. He answered the letter in the following terms:—

"I believed the words of slander spoken by that small man Chung Eung-t'a, and doubted in my mind as to the loyalty of the King of Korea. I cannot now be oblivious to the unmerited sufferings of General Yang Ho. Chung Eung-t'a is a radically bad man. I was on the brink of a disastrous mistake. I will now deprive him of rank and make him one of the common herd. Let him appear before me at once."

When Chung Eung-t'a arrived in Nanking he was cut in two at the waist.

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1898, BY MR. A. H. LAY.

(Received at Foreign Office, April 28, 1899.)

Particular interest attaches to a review of the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1898, because with that year came to an end the old order of low customs tariffs, established by the convention of June 25, 1866, when the country was first opened to free intercourse with the outside world, giving place at the beginning of 1899 to the new system of higher duties. After the work of the revision of the treaties had been initiated by Great Britain in 1894, and followed naturally by the conclusion of new treaties between Japan and other countries, all of which had smaller commercial interests at stake, Japan saw her to way recovery of customs autonomy. The duties, the enforcement of which dates from January 1, 1899, are regulated by the Japanese Statutory Tariff published on March 26, 1897 (the list of articles in regard to which specific duties were to be substituted for *ad valorem* duties being officially notified on September 26, 1898); and under the most-favoured-nation clause of the treaties, by the conventional tariffs agreed upon with Great Britain, ratified November 21, 1895, and with Germany and France, ratified by the arrangement with Austria-Hungary.

On February 14, 1899, a slight revision of the

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statutory tariff was published in the *Official Gazette* whereby a duty of 250 per cent. *ad valorem* on alcohol, of 100 per cent. on tobacco and distilled liquors, was provided for.

There can be no doubt that the anticipation of the operation before long of the altered customs rates had a marked effect upon the course of trade, more particularly during the first half of the year; for, although the exact date on which the change would take place was not known until September 10 last year, merchants were in momentary expectation of its announcement, and when the day was eventually settled, great efforts were made in order to pass certain classes of goods through the customs in as large quantities as possible under the old tariff.

An additional revenue of over 8,500,000 yen (over £850,000.) is hoped for from the revised rates. Customs duties during the past five years amounted to :—

Year.	Duties.
1894	Yen 5 881,024
1895	6,684,582
1896	6,904,187
1897	8,094,555
1898	8,360,689

and the probable income from this source for the next financial year, April, 1899, to March, 1900, is calculated at 16,111,322 yen (£1,644,697.) The original intention of the Government was to abolish the export duties from some date in 1899, but the matter is at present in abeyance, owing to the financial exigencies of the country, which demand every possible increment of revenue.

Goods over the value of £10, excepting postal parcels, must be accompanied by certificates of origin issued either at the port of shipment or place from which the goods are despatched, in order to obtain the benefit of the conventional tariffs. These certificates must be attested by paid Japanese Consuls, or in their absence by Chambers of Commerce, or by Mayors or Magistrates. Certificates cannot be granted by merchant Consuls. The "*Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, the leading commercial newspaper in Japan, in a recent article expressed the hope that the Government would abolish the ordinance requiring the production of certificates of origin, and so remove a troublesome obstacle to business transactions.

Hitherto the figures for the annual report on the foreign trade of Japan have, as a rule, been taken from the annual customs returns published by the Japanese Government.

These returns have, however, not yet been issued, and in order to obviate delay in the compilation of the report for the year 1898, the officially monthly returns have been made use of. The returns for December were only received in February. These monthly returns are not classified in quite the same way as the annual ones, but the difference is not such as to render a comparison between the trade of last year and 1897 difficult.

The balance of trade, which turned against Japan in 1896, has remained contrary ever since that date.

The total foreign trade for the year 1898 amounted to the sum of £45,249,039, consisting of imports to the value of £28,328,345, and exports valued at £16,920,694. The foreign produce re-exported from, and the Japanese produce re-imported into, the country were represented by the sums of £23,602 and £290,992 respectively. Deducting these figures from the total amount of trade, the following comparison between the past year and 1895 is arrived at :—

Year.	Value. Imports.	Exports.
1898	£28,304,743	£16,629,702
1897	22,828,683	16,398,212
Increase ...	5,476,060	231,490

Compared with the preceding twelve months the whole foreign trade exhibits an increase of £5,707,550.

Imports exceed exports by £11,675,041. The import figures given above, however, represent only the original cost of the goods at the place of production or shipment, and, in order to estimate the amount actually paid by Japan for her purchases, an addition of 15 per cent. should be made to cover freight, insurance, and other charges. Adding this percentage, it will be found that the imports of Japan in 1898 cost £32,550,454. The balance of trade stood therefore against this country to the extent of £14,920,752, more than double the excess of 1897. For the greater part of the year the trend of the trade was against Japan, the only months when exports were in excess being October and November. In December imports exceeded exports by £714,253.

The receipts of Japan from her shipping industry must, however, be taken as representing one of her "invisible exports." During the past few years she has developed and increased her mercantile marine and become a shipping nation, with several steamship lines, owning fine ocean-going vessels engaged in the passenger and cargo service. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha alone has steamers with a total tonnage of 134,130 tons, plying between Japan and foreign countries. It is impossible to estimate properly the amount derived from freights and the carrying of passengers, but it must be considerable. The last dividend declared by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was 8 per cent. and by the Osaka Shosen 6 per cent.

Chief among the causes of the largely increased excess in the volume of imports were the prospect of the enforcement of the new tariff: the decrease in the total of exports to the United States, owing to that country being engaged in war with Spain, the scanty rice harvest of the season 1897—98, which led to an enormous increase in the demand for foreign grain, and to the import of twice the quantity of rice from abroad that entered the country in 1897; and also the increase of population and appreciation of commodities in Japan.

In calculating what Japan paid for her imports, the fact must not be lost sight of that the quantity of unsold goods, and of goods sold but not taken delivery of, was very large at the end of 1898. The financing of stocks ordered by Japanese dealers has always been a serious matter. Japanese merchants have never been quick to pay for and take over their purchases, and that tendency has shown signs of accentuation during the past 18 months. Owing to their irregularity in this respect, it is necessary, to ensure against a loss, to estimate for good profits on each individual transaction. The Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce (Foreign), in their recent annual report, put on record their conviction that, in most cases, in consequence of goods being left on their hands, losses were unavoidable in these terms: "Those who do business with the Japanese should have good profits."

What the foreign importer in Japan complains of, and what he has every justification in complaining of, is that, in nine cases out of ten, Japanese merchants fail to carry out the strict terms of their contracts. They make a contract, say for delivery within 30 days, but have not the slightest compunction in letting the goods remain in the seller's godown for six months or ever longer. Foreign merchants do not complain of the losses they undergo by the market going against them in the case of unsold goods, but they say it is disheartening in the extreme to see contracts disregarded, and to find that on goods imported to the order of Japanese, from which on paper a small profit was to be expected, they have eventually to face a heavy loss, owing to accumulated interest and storage charges. Negotiation is now going on between the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce (Foreign) and the Japanese Chambers of Commerce in Tokyo and in Yokohama, with a view to arriving at some uniform form of contract to be adopted generally by foreigners when selling to their Japanese clients, and it is to be hoped that some good will result. It is also satisfactory to note that the establishment of some form of arbitration court may be expected in Tokyo, Yokohama, and also in Kobe, for the purpose of settling out of Court, by means of arbitrators, any tradal disputes that may arise between foreign and Japanese merchant.

Specie and bullion were exported from Japan to the value of £8,879,972 and imported to the value of £4 345,920, a balance on the side of exports to the value of £4,534,920.

The largest export occurred in March and April, when more than one third of the total was sent abroad, and the largest imports took place in July and August, when they were considerably more than half of the amount brought into the country during the whole year. In these months, as also in October, imports exceeded exports. Compared with 1897 the figures are:—

Year.	Value. Exports.	Imports.	Total.
1898	£8,879,972	£4,345,052	£13,225,024
1897	1,961,956	8,316,393	10,278,349

It will be seen that the exports of specie and bullion were five times greater and imports less by about half than in 1897.

The trade was distributed among the ports of the Empire in the following manner.

The open ports which are of any commercial importance, namely Yokohama, Hiogo (including the trade of Osaka), Nagasaki, and Hakodate, are each given separately; while the remaining portion of the trade is put under the heading of "Other ports." The other ports, which are more or less centres of foreign trade, comprise Niigata (which is also an open port), and in addition the nine special ports of Shimonoseki, Moji, Karatsu, Kuchinotsu, Izuhara, Shishimi, Sasuna, Sakai, and Muroran :—

Port.		Value.	Total.
		£	£
Yokohama	Imports...	11,319 991	
	Exports...	8,143.694	
			19.463,685
Hiogo and Osaka.	Imports...	14,456,546	
	Exports...	6,330,038	
			20,786,584
Nagasaki.....	Imports...	2,009.468	
	Exports...	582,389	
			2,591,857
Hakodate	Imports...	83,419	
	Exports...	123,319	
			206,738
Other ports.....	Imports...	435.319	
	Exports...	1,450,262	
			1,885.581
Total trade			44.934,445

The total volume of trade was larger at each port than during the year 1897. Hiogo and Osaka head the list for the year under review for the first time, with imports and exports combined amounting to £1,322,899 more than the total trade, and imports of the value of £3,136,555 more than those of Yokohama, which has hitherto always shown the highest figures.

The imports into, and the exports from, Hiogo and Osaka have increased 18 and 15 per cent. respectively.

Yokohama still occupies the principal position as regards exports, having 23 per cent. in value more than the next port, Hiogo and Osaka. At the same time these exports exhibit a shrinkage of 12 per cent. owing to the large falling-off in the quantity of raw silk sent abroad, which also accounts to a great extent for the total trade of Yokohama being less than that of the southern port.

Imports into Yokohama have increased 21 per cent.

Both the imports and exports of the port of Nagasaki have grown by £593,356 and £73,065 respectively.

A slight decrease is observed in the value of the exports from Hakodate; but on the other hand the imports have almost doubled.

The following table shows the distribution of the trade among the countries which have the chief commercial dealings with Japan :—

Country.	Value. Imports.	Exports.	Total.
British Empire—	£	£	£
Great Britain...	6,401,399	794,580	7,195 979
Hongkong	1,623,581	3.212,959	4,836.540
British India ...	4.161,349	626,224	4,787.573
Australia	143.267	203,734	347,001
Canada	16,025	241,490	257.515
Total	12.345,621	5,078,987	17,424,608
United States.....	4,083,445	4,829.680	8.913,125
France.....	712,539	2,092.341	2,804,880
Germany	2,614 453	252,077	2.866,530
China	3,115,977	2,980,136	6,096,113

A comparison of the above figures with the corresponding ones for the previous year shows that the trade of each country mentioned has increased or decreased with Japan as follows :—

Great Britain...	Imports..	Decrease	411,753
	Exports...	Decrease	66,792
		Total decrease	478,545
Hongkong	Imports...	Increase	402,069
	Exports...	Increase	454 459
		Total increase	856,528
British India ...	Imports...	Increase	1,058,591
	Exports...	Increase	61,191
		Total increase	1,119,782
Australia.....	Imports...	Increase	49.825
	Exports...	Increase	13,288
		Total increase	63.113
Canada	Imports...	Increase	2,576
	Exports...	Increase	32,818
		Total increase	35.394
United States...	Imports...	Increase	1,267.764
	Exports...	Decrease	495,891
		Total increase	771,873

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France.....	Imports...	Increase	176,333
	Exports...	Decrease	569,982
		Total decrease	393,649
Germany.....	Imports...	Increase	724,529
	Exports...	Increase	27,927
		Total increase	752,456
China	Imports...	Increase	143,666
	Exports...	Increase	814,311
		Total increase	957,977

From the above figures it would appear as if Great Britain had fallen behind somewhat in the competition for last year's trade. It must, however, be borne in mind that during the year a second-class cruiser built in England was handed over to the Japanese Government, and it will then be perceived that British industry derived as much advantage as ever from commercial intercourse with Japan during 1898.

Taking the customs figures alone, however, a decline of 6 per cent. in imports from, and 7 per cent. in exports to, Great Britain is recorded. Of the total import trade, the British share amounted to 23 per cent. as compared with 29 per cent. in 1898, 36 per cent. in 1896, and 34 per cent. in 1895.

Imports from Hongkong have increased 32 per cent.; from British India, 34 per cent.

The trade with Australia and Canada continues to grow, imports from the former Colony being larger by more than 50 per cent. than during the previous year.

Among imports from Australia coke, guano, and tinned meats appear for the first, or almost the first time, and there is a great increase in fertilizers and manures.

Sugar also makes its first appearance, but it is doubtful if Australia can compete successfully against Hongkong and Germany in this line.

While on the subject of British Colonies it is worthy of note that of those enumerated in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Japan, only Newfoundland, Queensland, Natal, and India, have acceded to the conditions of that treaty.

The proportion of the trade with Japan which falls to the share of the United States has risen by leaps and bounds during the past few years.

Imports from that country increased in 1896 84 per cent. over the figures for the preceding year, in 1897 57 per cent., and in 1898 45 per cent.

Exports to the United States, however, decreased 9 per cent. last year. German imports mark an advance of 38 per cent.; those from France of 31 per cent. China's trade with Japan also shows an increase, though not to the same extent as during 1897.

The grand total of all imports from foreign countries to Japan amounted, as mentioned above, and as shown in Table I of this Report, to £28,328,345, and, according to the monthly customs returns issued by the Japanese Government to 277,502,156 yen.

The principal articles which show an increase are raw cotton, shirtings, woollen cloth, mousseline de laine, dyes, alcohol, sugar, rice, tobacco, and pig, bar, plate, and sheet iron. Kerosene exhibits a rise in quantity, but a fall in sterling values. The importation of cotton and woollen yarn, blankets, Italian cloths, machinery, and instruments, rails and railway material, and coal has fallen off.

Raw cotton shows an increase of 16,782 tons in quantity, and £143,748 in value. Of the amount imported, British India supplied 54 per cent., slightly less than during the previous year, the United States came second with 32 per cent., more than twice as much as Japan procured from that country last year, while from China came only a little over half as much as in 1897, namely, 11 per cent. The import from French India remained almost stationary, being about 2 per cent. Egypt, which did not appear in the returns for 1897, sent 720 tons.

The glut in the market, caused by over-buying on the part of Japanese merchants, culminated during the summer of 1898 in foreign importers in Yokohama combining to enforce delivery, and an arrangement was arrived at to charge interest to cover holding charges. This action had a most excellent effect, for it put a stop to speculative buying on the part of unscrupulous traders, who had hitherto succeeded in compelling foreign importers to hold their goods practically indefinitely free of charge. The new duty, an increase of 7 yen 83 sen over the old scale, will of a surety in the very near future put an end to trade in ordinary yarns, while people competent to judge are of opinion that in a few years the trade in gassed yarns will also disappear. Already three or four mills have been established which spin an excellent quality of twist from Egyptian cotton, and although their "gassing" and "finishing" at present leave something to be desired, there is no doubt that in time these defects will be successfully overcome.

Naturally there was a large business done during last September and October for arrival, previous to the enforcement of the new duties, and these goods have been taken delivery of fairly satisfactorily. The market is now not only denuded of stocks, but the outlook for the future appears, as far as stocks are concerned, less depressing than it has done for many years.

In Yokohama business during 1898 was fairly satisfactory, but there was in Kobe a phenomenal accumulation of stocks, while the tardiness of dealers in taking delivery was trying in the extreme. Unfortunately for the foreign importer in Kobe, an attempt to combine after the fashion of Yokohama was frustrated by one or two firms going behind the backs of a provisional committee which had been appointed to confer with dealers on the point, and arranging separate terms with their native constituents.

In Kobe there are still in importers' godowns grey goods imported in 1897 to the order of Japanese merchants of standing, on which not a single penny by way of interest or holding charges has been paid by them.

Throughout the year the trade in fancy goods was dull. Over-buying in this branch, as in all other branches of imports, made deliveries slow. Especially has this been the case in Kobe and Osaka, where most of the fancy goods dealers have absolutely suspended payment, in the majority of cases leaving in the hands of the foreign importer uncleared goods, which on resale have been the cause of severe losses.

The quantity of raw wool imported is almost the same as in 1897, but a very considerable increase is found in the price of this material. The enhanced value of raw wool is largely due to the higher prices obtaining in Australia, some wool having gone up 10 or 15 per cent. last season. Prices of Australian wool rose generally last year, owing partly to the small clip available.

Since the close of the war three factories for the manufacture of mousseline de laine have been established. Of these the factory which is situated in a suburb of Tokyo is the largest. Projected in March, 1896, it was completed last year, and work was commenced from July 1 under the superintendence of an expert from France. Operatives to the number of 1,300 are employed, and up till December 31 the factory had turned out 666,241 yards of mousseline de laine, and also 286,524 lbs. of worsted. More than three-quarters of the fabric imported into Japan is of French origin. Switzerland and Germany import each a small proportion. Last year Great Britain contributed 65,700 yards, valued at £1,078.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The imports in 1898 were only £27,952, against £84,444. in 1897, and it seems safe to say that 1899 will see a complete cessation of this trade. New enterprises requiring cement are few, and even works in process of execution are being limited as far as possible. In the meanwhile the native factories have extended their works, and their position now is the exact opposite of what it was a year or so ago, when almost any price could be obtained for cement. Importers have incurred heavy losses in realising their stocks, some of which were sold for less than the cost of freight.

METALS.

During the year 1897 large orders for iron and steel were placed abroad, many of which were not fulfilled till last year. From about February, 1898, stocks began to accumulate, and few new orders were given after the middle of the year. Had it not been for the raising of the tariff, and the increase in the prices of iron, steel, and machinery, which rose about 20 per cent., importers would have had to face heavy losses. The high market prices abroad and the enhanced duties have enabled merchants possessing large stocks to get rid of them without loss, in spite of the interest and storage charges they have had to pay. One peculiar trait of the Japan market is that it does not readily respond to rises or falls in price abroad; for example, at present ordinary iron or steel could probably be purchased cheaper in Europe. In 1898 there was a large increase in the importation of pig and bar iron and steel.

PIG IRON.

Pig-iron from Great Britain is still in greater demand than that from any other country.

WIRE NAILS.

Insufficiency of packing again caused much loss on wire nails shipped from America overland viâ Pacific ports. Prices have risen both in the United States and Germany.

GALVANISED IRON.

Galvanised iron shows a decrease, but it is extensively used in Japan as a substitute for timber for buildings owing to the increased cost of wood.

TIN PLATES.

Tin plates, which are used for canning purposes, show an appreciable falling-off.

MACHINERY.

Evidence of the stagnation of industrial enterprise in Japan during 1898 is to be found more particularly in the statistics relating to machinery and railway material:—

	Value. 1897. Yen	1898. Yen
Machinery of all kinds ...	13,808,118	9,454,683
Locomotives and railway carriages	5,307,565	5,434,568
Rails.....	3,325,004	2,631,721

This backward tendency will be more apparent in 1899, because most of the imports last year were made against 1897 contracts, while the contracts entered into in 1898 were on a much smaller scale.

The relative imports of rails and locomotives from the principal supplying centres were as follows:—

RAILS.

Country.	Value. 1895. Yen.	1896. Yen.
Great Britain	866,443	2,028,542
Belgium	39,438	87,262
Germany	19,649	100,303
United States	———	374,910
	1897. Yen.	1898. Yen.
Great Britain	1,626,726	801,802
Belgium.....	292,299	75,487
Germany	170,303	134,988
United States	1,234,975	1,609,731

LOCOMOTIVES.

Country.	Value. 1895. Yen.	1896. Yen.
Great Britain	761,869	1,053,722
United States	284,329	416,106
	1897. Yen.	1898. Yen.
Great Britain	2,791,692	3,132,614
United States	241,095	2,019,214

The American locomotive has lost popularity in Japan. The increase in imports of British locomotives is partly owing to the arrival of engines ordered some years ago. The United States figures represent the volume of their recent business, as their deliveries were within a few months of the receipt of orders.

ALCOHOL.

In Japan the consumption of alcohol is very much greater than it was some years ago. In 1895 the imports were valued at £45,927, in 1896 £52,660 in 1897 100,974 and in 1868 275,628. Thus during the past four years the increase has been sixfold. Since the raising of the tax on *saké*, alcohol has come into common use in the manufacture of refined and other kinds of *saké*, some of which are now said to contain as much as 25 pert cent. of alcohol. Last year the quantity imported was double that of 1897, but to an extent the reason was the desire to evade the new tariff by bringing in as much as possible before January 1, 1899. On February 14, 1899, the statutory tariff underwent a slight revision, and the duty on alcohol imported from abroad was fixed at 250 per cent. ad valorem. This cannot fail to check the growth of the import trade.

Alcohol was as usual obtained chiefly from Germany. The United States come next with about one-sixth of the amount brought from Germany, and more than 20 times the quantity she provided last year. Then came Holland and France, new competitors in this branch of trade.

SUGAR.

The increase in the volume of sugar imports has been remarkable. With the rise in the standards of comfort and luxury among the labouring population the demand for sugar has grown enormously.

Until just before the war the consumption of sugar by the lower classes and by people living in the interior of the country was very limited, but with the freer circulation of money among such classes, the taste for sugar spread, and a large and increasing importation has been the result.

Last year's figures represent an increase of 22,455 tons of brown sugar, valued at £260,186 and 46,483 tons of white sugar, valued at £627,015. More than half the sugar came as usual from Hongkong.

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The importation of beet sugar from Germany continued to develop, last year showing an increase of over 60 per cent.

About 100,000 worth came from Dutch India. There was a slight increase in the importation from China and the Philippine Islands.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, July 21st.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that he felt assured that President Kruger, having accepted the principle for which Her Majesty's Government contended, was prepared to re-consider the details, and would not allow the project to be nullified.

The Natal Parliament has passed a unanimous resolution, approving of the policy of the Imperial Government.

Mr. Chamberlain has cabled to the Governor of the Straits Settlements, thanking him for the loyal offer of the Malay States to send 300 men for service in South Africa, and expressing the British Government's appreciation of the offer.

Shanghai, July 22.

The Times assures the Uitlanders that they may rely on Her Majesty's Government declining to regard as acceptable any amendments which fail to give appreciable representation immediately.

Shanghai, July 25.

The correspondent of *The Times* at Pretoria wires that the Uitlanders have been given to understand that the Imperial Authorities will make no abatement of the demands preferred by Sir Alfred Milner. A crisis is therefore believed to be within sight.

Shanghai, July 26.

It was rumoured in Johannesburg that President Kruger had resigned, but the rumour was officially denied in Pretoria. Capetown despatches, however, declare that the report is confirmed, and say that the President's resignation was owing to differences with the Volksraad.

Later intelligence sent by Reuter from Pretoria report that amicable relations have been restored between Kruger and the Volksraad.

Shanghai, July 27.

The Johannesburg conspiracy case has been abandoned and the prisoners have been released.

ROUGH-RIDERS FOR MANILA.

Shanghai, July 22.

President McKinley has declared his intention of sending eight troops to form a cavalry regiment of rough-riders in Manila.

[This telegram is a little obscure. A "troop" of cavalry is the equivalent of a "company" of infantry. The exact words of the telegram are "McKinley declared send eight troops cavalry regiment roughriders Manila." Our interpretation renders the words "cavalry regiment" redundant, for obviously the simplest form for the message would have been "McKinley declared send eight troops roughriders Manila." —ED *J.M.*]

THE NAVAL BUDGET.

DECLARATION BY MR. GOSCHEN.

Mr. Goschen, in presenting the Naval Estimates, said that he saw nothing menacing to England in the programmes of Foreign Powers. Great Britain was bound to have a fleet equal to that of any two foreign Powers combined, but she did not desire to enter into a race for naval supremacy. He added that America and Japan are now naval Powers, and that it would be expedient to appoint naval *attachés* to those countries.

THE DUM-DUM BULLET.

Shanghai, July 24.

The Peace Conference, at a plenary sitting, has finally condemned the Dum-dum bullet, Great Britain and America alone opposing.

THE QUEEN'S PRIZE.

The Queen's Prize at the Bisley Rifle Match was won by Private Pridule (?) of the Guernsey Militia.

INTERNATIONAL 'VARSITY SPORTS.

In the Athletic Sports between Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and Cambridge, the Englishmen won five events, the Americans four.

NEW WAR SECRETARY OF THE U.S.

Mr. Elihu Root has succeeded Mr. Alger as War Secretary in the United States.

THE CZAR AND PRINCE LOUIS NAPOLEON.

A sensation has been produced in Paris by the publication of a telegram sent by the Czar to Prince Louis Napoleon on the latter's birth-day, hoping that each year will bring him nearer to the highest period of his life when he will realize his wishes, and saying that his friends are as numerous in Russia as in France.

THE ALASKA DISPUTE.

Shanghai, July 25.

The Right Honourable Sir Wilfred Laurier, speaking in the Canadian House of Commons, referred to the Alaska dispute and said that the United States Government had refused to compromise, but nobody dreamed of war, therefore it only remained to submit the question to arbitration. He added that he hoped the Canadians would be patient for a few months longer.

WRECK.

Shanghai, July 26.

The steamer *Gorsedd*, bound from the East Indies to Amsterdam, has been wrecked at Cape Finisterre.

GENERAL NEGRIER.

Shanghai, July 27.

General Négrier has been removed from his post as a member of the Supreme Council of War because, in an address to the Commanders of an Army Corps, he attacked the Government for neglecting to defend the Army, and added "we will act if the Government does not hasten."

BRITISH NAVAL WORKS.

Mr. Chamberlain, in moving the Second Reading of the Naval Works Bill, said that the immense increase of the Fleet demanded an increase of docking accommodation. It was proposed, therefore, to build two new docks at Chatham; a large one at Malta; a smaller one at Simons Bay; one 550 feet long and 95 feet wide at Hongkong, and a floating dock at Bermuda.

CRICKET.

Surrey, at Brighton, has defeated the Australians by 104 runs.

THE LAST OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

The Peace Conference at the Hague is concluded.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Saigon, July 21.

The Government has formulated the points which are to constitute the subject of inquiry at the Rennes Court-martial, by virtue of the judgment of the Court of Cassation, and the points which are excluded from its purview by the authority of the *chose jugée*.

Saigon, July 22.

The proceedings of the Court Martial at Rennes will be confined solely to the *bordereau*. Every question relating to the other facts will be made the object of a special instruction.

Saigon, July 25.

The Dreyfus trial is fixed for Aug. 7th.

TORPEDO-BOAT ACCIDENT.

A cylinder exploding in a torpedo-boat at Portsmouth, two men were killed.

THE PLAGUE IN EGYPT.

The pest seems to be finished at Alexandria.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.

At Pola a boiler explosion on board a torpedo-boat, killed five men and injured two.

ESTERHAZY.

Saigon, July 26.

Esterhazy will receive a safe-conduct to enable him to attend the Dreyfus Court Martial for the purpose of giving evidence.

PLAGUE AT BOMBAY.

There were eighty-two deaths from plague at Bombay during the 25th instant.

AN OUTSPOKEN SOLDIER.

Saigon, July 27.

General de Négrier has been relieved of his functions as a member of the High Council of War because, in the course of an inspection at Bourges, he blamed the Government for not having defended the Army. He added that the officers should have patience until after the finding of the Court Martial at Rennes, when the High Council of War would summon the Government to act.

THE NEW COURT-MARTIAL.

For the purposes of the Court-Martial at Rennes the Commissioner of the Government has summoned seventy witnesses, among them being M. Casimir-Périer, formerly Minister of War; General Boisdeffre and Colonel Picquart.

THE "BONAVENTURE" ASHORE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, July 21, 7.10 p.m.

The *Bonaventure* is ashore off Korniloff Bay. Her position is a bad one, and reports to hand state that there is but a small chance of getting her off.

[She has since got off and left for Nagasaki.—ED *J. M.*]

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS")

MORE TROUBLE IN SZECHUAN.

Chungking, July 14.

This city and district are in a state of excitement, foreigners being charged with kidnapping children; the proclamations have not yet taken effect.

The rebel Yü Man-tze recently made efforts to rejoin his supporters, but was officially prevented; it is said now that he has been sentenced to death.

At Tachu some Catholics have been murdered, and more trouble is feared.

(FROM A PRIVATE SOURCE.)

MORE TROOPS FROM MANILA.

Nagasaki, July 25.

The transport *Warren* arrived here this morning with the 1st Colorado Regiment on board. She leaves here on Friday, calling at Yokohama.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, July 22nd :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,471,829
Amount of convertible notes issued...	202,616,959
Government deposits	36,176,093
General deposits	6,149,655
Exchange liability	37,377
Total	291,451,977
Cr.	
Discount notes	39,621,975
Foreign discount notes	7,728,477
Loan to Government	112,000,000
General loans	63,737,293
Exchange liability	2,869,340
Government bonds	47,019,365
Property...	1,884 270
Bullion and Specie	106,591,256
Total	291,451,977

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those ...	199,929,824
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	102,833,034
Silver	
Total	102,833,034
Securities :—	
Government bonds	32,892,205
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	8,648,147
Commercial notes	34,556,438
Total	970,96,790

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	565.851	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	3,226,677
Government deposits	—	6,524 447
General deposits	—	1,325,464

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed.]

Solution of Problem No. 430.

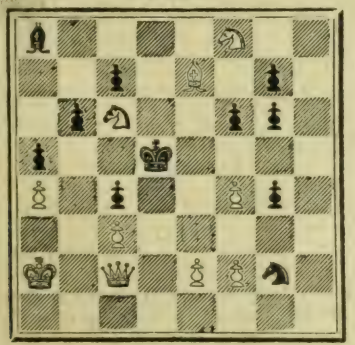
By "Black Bishop," Hongkong.

This problem has two solutions, we regret to say, either B to Kt 4 or K to Kt 5 will solve it. Both solutions received from W.D.C. and East Anglia. The latter remarks: "Local productions not being very numerous one can scarcely rejoice over 'cooking' a contemporary!"

Problem No 433.

By K. Erlin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 530.

The Ruy Lopez, though generally considered a dull opening, seems to be inexhaustible in the variety of traps and pitfalls which it presents to the unwary. The subjoined game from a correspondence tournament carried on by a Russian paper, shows how White can take advantage of tactical mistakes in the opening by clever and forcible play.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—A. Black—E.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	9 P Q4	Kt B sq
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	10 B Kt5 (e)	K B sq (f)
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	11 Q R5	Q Ksq
4 Castles	KtxP	12 Q R3	P KR3(g)
5 Q K2 (a)	Kt Q3 (b)	13 KtxPch	K Ktsq
6 KtxP	B K2	14 B B6 (h)	Q Q q
7 BxKt	KtPxB (c)	15 Q Kt4 (i)	R R2
8 R Ksq	B Kt2 (d)	16 BxB	Resigns(j)

NOTES.

(a) It is preferable to play P to Q 4 before making this move.

(b) Kt to B 3 is preferable. If then 6—P to Q 4, P to K 5.

(c) Kt P takes B should only be played in the P to Q 4 variation, where White threatens R to Q sq. But when White has not moved the Queen's Pawn then it is always preferable to retake the Bishop with the Queen's Pawn.

(d) Black could not castle, as White could then play Kt takes Q B P.

(e) Excellent play this, and again preventing castling. Of course, Black cannot play P to B 3, owing to Q to R 5 ch.

(f) P to Q 3 was preferable.

(g) Black's position is getting desperate. He could not take the Bishop, nor could he play Kt to Kt 3, for in either case 13—Kt takes P ch would be the answer.

(h) Again prettily played; to take the Bishop would lose the Queen.

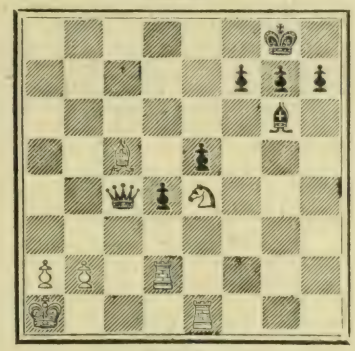
(i) Another ingenious device. If Black replies with B takes B, then 16—R to K 8 ch, Q takes R. 17—Kt takes B ch, winning the Queen.

(j) If Kt takes B, 17—Kt to B 6 ch, K to R sq, 11—Kt takes R, with a winning advantage.

End Game.

The following beautiful ending is stated to have occurred in actual play about the middle of last century, the contestants being two Italian masters, Ercole del Rio and Giambattista Lolli :—

BLACK.



WHITE.

1 RxP!	PxR	4 B B8ch	K Ktsq
2 Kt B6ch	PxKt	5 B R6 dis.	mate.
3 R K8ch	K Kt2		

Game No. 531.

A brilliant game played by the late Signor Dubois, of Rome :—

POLERIO GAMBIT.

White—Dillettante. Black—Dubois.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	B K4	10 Q Ktsq	P B6
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	11 B Kt5	QxB
3 B B4	B B4	12 P KKt3	Kt Q5
4 P Q3	P KB4	13 B Kt3	Kt K7ch
5 Kt KKt5	P B5	14 K R sq	B KR6
6 Kt B7	Q R5	15 R K sq	Kt R4
7 Castles	Kt KB3	16 Kt B7	KKt B5
8 KtxR	P Q4	17 KtxQ	B Kt7ch
9 BxP	B KKt5	18 RxB	PxR mate.

A Recreation or a Study,

The Evening Post, New York, has an interesting article in answer to a correspondent who asks; "How much time may be taken with propriety for the consideration of a single move, and what is the standard for slow and fast play?" from which we clip the following :—

"Frequently the position presents a multitude of complications, which require more than ordinary deliberation. To see through them all or at least in part is one of the chief pleasures of Chess, yet many an amateur will cut short his ponderings lest he annoy his adversary by too long pauses or lay himself open to the reproach of 'sitting the latter out.' On the other hand, nothing is more trying than to be invited to an off handed game, and to find out afterward that the opponent treats it as he would a match game.

"To avoid aggravations as above, to conform to the etiquette of the game without foregoing the pleasure which the forming and working out of combinations afford, and without degrading the game to an inane process of wood-shifting,—with one word, to find the *juste-milieu* is no easy matter. Much, if not all, depends upon the position; a simple one does not require much study. Opening moves should be made fast; to brood over first moves is unpardonable. . . .

"Staunton introduced the practise of slow game. In the old Westminster Club, if a game lasted three hours, it was matter of talk for a fortnight. In a match between Lewis and Deschapelles, all three games were played before dinner; also with Lewis and Cachean's games on the same occasion. Some of Staunton's games lasted twelve and thirteen hours, and even then were adjourned. Murphy took his time for combinations, but, once having them formed he played the subsequent moves with rapidity. Buckle, the historian, was very deliberate in his play. On one occasion, against Stanley, he occupied upward of an hour over a single move. When he did move Stanley said: 'Yes, I thought that the Knight would be the right move!' To which Buckle made the characteristic retort: 'You only thought so; I know it.'"

While we advocate deliberation, yet the great majority of persons play Chess for recreation. The professionals must make it a study; but the amateur, if he be a plodder, will change a recreation into a tiresome task, and what should be a pleasure becomes weariness.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China 1	F. July 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 2	M. July 31
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 3	M. July 31
America	O. & O Co.	Coptic 4	W. Aug. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	Th. Aug. 3
America	T. K. K	America Maru 6	Th. Aug. 10
Hongkong	M. M Co.	———	Th. Aug. 10
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R Co	Em. of India	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	C. P. R Co	Em. of China	F. Aug. 18
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. Aug. 20

1 Left Nagasaki on the 26th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 26th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 28th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 26th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. July 28
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. July 29
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	W. Aug. 2
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Aug. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 3
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Aug. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Aug. 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. Aug. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. Aug 21

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dobson, 21st July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 19th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Commonwealth, British steamer, 2,183, J. James, 21st July,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Kobe 19th July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 22nd July,—Shanghai via ports, 15th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D Jones, 23rd July,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, C.B., 6th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Senator, British ship, 1,612, Johnson, 23rd July,—Punta Gorda, 6th January, Phosphate Rock.—American Trading Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 23rd July,—Vancouver, B.C., 10th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 24th July,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 23rd July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Wittenberg, German steamer, 2,363, Madsen, 24th July,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 17th July, General.—E. Illies & Co.

Digitized by INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Robt. Farquhar, 24th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 23rd July, General.—Cornes & Co,

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 24th July,—Kobe 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 25th July,—London via ports, and Hongkong 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chihli, British steamer, 1,080, Newcombe, 25th July,—Iloilo and Cebu, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, P. H. Going, 25th July,—Nagasaki 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 27th July,—San Francisco 6th July, via Honolulu 14th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 27th July,—San Francisco 8th July, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 27th July,—Bonin Island, Mails and General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,764, Anderson, 27th July,—Otaru, 24th July, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Natuna, Danish steamer, 458, G. Peterson, 21st July,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Alice A. Leigh, British ship, 2,817, W. J. Gorst, 22nd July,—Tacoma, Washington, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dobson, 22nd July,—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kaiserin Elizabeth (19), Austrian Cruiser, 4,064, Capt. Julius von Zeck, 22nd July,—Kobe.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, S. Behrens, 22nd July,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 24th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D. Jones, 24th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Indralema, British steamer, 2,020, Baker, 25th July,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, T. Aitken, 25th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, Thos. Hide, 25th July,—London via ports, General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, R. Nunome, 25th July,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,992, T. G. Steeves, 26th July,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Independent, German steamer, 871, Holtz, 26th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Becker & Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, D. Davies, 26th July,—Rangoon via Kuchinotsu, Ballast.——Samuel Samuel & Co.

Commonwealth, British steamer, 2,183, J. James, 26th July,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.—Dodwell Co., Ltd.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 26th July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 26th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 26th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 26th July,—Kobe via Yokkaichi General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 27th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. H. Pass, Mr. A. J. Reeks, Mr. Feydel, Rev. and Mrs. Mosher, Mr. A. Kindblad, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Nagalam, Miss Mansfield, Mr. C. Vouilliwiez, Mr. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. J. Remusat, Mr. Peirson, Mr. Ross, Mr. Yen Chu, Mr. R. W. C. Davidson, and Capt. Spear, in cabin; Mr. Higashimizu, in second class; 73, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Glenogle*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mr. E. G. Pine, Mrs. E. Pine, Mr. Geo. Ewing, Mr. R. R. McLellan, Mr. W. H. Whitney, Mr. P. Dowell, and Mr. J. H. Morris, in cabin; 12 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. K. Hiraoka, M.P., Mr. W. Boyd, Miss A. C. Barney, Miss J. Barney, Mr. Bent, Mr. Bodewig, Mr. J. K. Boswell, Mr. H. B. Carter, Mr. W. E. Dunn, Mr. E. Heyl, Mr. Alfred J. Eggeling, Miss U. Tsuda, Mr. S. Kondo, Mr. A. Lampard, Mr. and Mrs. Mannering, Mr. Francis Morgan, Miss Perrine, Mr. J. S. Scott, Mr. Tatsumi, Mr. Ukida, Mr. Wissotzky, Mr. Joseph Walton, Q.C., M.P., Mr. H. Miller, and Mr. J. J. Hoctor, in cabin; 10 second class; 63 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Fukuba, Mr. Cokuvay, Mr. Hayashi and servant, Mr. Satake, Mr. Fujio, Mr. Kataoka, Mr. Daran, Miss Larig, Mrs. Musso, Sir Nicholas Hannen, Mr. Coeppffer, Mr. Little, Onazaki, Mr. Kawakita, Mr. Nakawo, Mr. Goffin, Mr. Paulussen, Mr. Biernouss, Mr. Cote, Mr. Payne, Mr. Abel, Mr. Copmann, Mr. Grant Birch, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Kawahara, Mr. de Silva, and Mr. Matsuo, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. A. Wallace and son, Mr. G. A. Roosen, Mr. F. Zulauf, Mr. C. Gruner, and Miss Coudit Smith in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Rev. H. Beck and Mrs. Beck and 2 children in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. B. A. Ogdens and 2 sons, Mr. J. H. Hallo, Captain J. McGowan, U.S.N., Lieut. C. H. Matthews, U.S.N., Mrs. F. L. Holmes and child, Mrs. B. Mehring, Mrs. E. H. Liscenes, Miss A. M. C. Davidson, and Mrs. B. Kelly and child in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Von Tipplekirch and native servant, Mr. R. Finch and native servant, Mr. Finch, Lieut. Longfield, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tuttle, Mr. J. E. Stagg, Mr. and Mrs. J. Handelman, Lieut. Chs. Clark, Mr. A. B. Macdonald, Mr. D. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Horn, Mrs. A. M. Sheldon, Mr. E. Leittermann, Mr. W. Harden, Mr. H. Ebmer, Lieut. and Mrs. B. Wild, and Capt. Des Voeux, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Lampard, Mr. Wissokery, Capt. Simmonds, R.A., Mr. A. M. Marshall, Mr. J. Molloy, Mr. A. R. Morris, Mr. F. V. Gooch and valet, and Mrs. Dummett and maid, in cabin; 2 Chinese, in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market in yarns and grey shirtings is still characterised by inactivity, and fancy woollens and cottons are also lifeless. Some business has been doing in white shirtings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 34½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 75 to 0 85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½ per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42 00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 00 to 41 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	43.00 to 45 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	No.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2 100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120 00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$.9 00
Indian Broach	18 00
Chinese	20.00 to 20 75

METALS.

The market is steady at last week's quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	4 90 to 5 30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet Iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.70 to 12 00
Wire Nails, assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.35 to 2.40
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 18 inch)	6.25 to 6.50

KEROSENE.

Little movement is yet noticeable, the high level of home prices restricting transactions. Buyers are doing as little as they can in the hope of a fall in the rates prevailing in the manufacturing districts.

American	$1.35 to 2 40
Russian	2.27 to 2.30
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The usual steady trade has been doing, prices being as last quoted.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.65
Brown Daito ng	4.30 to 4 60
Brown Canto n	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8 40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is a fair amount of business doing both in Europe and America. Prices are about the same as last week. Filatures, fine sizes, being in larger supply, are perhaps a trifle easier. Re-reels for America are very strong at full rates. Kakedas promise a big crop this year, first arrivals looking very well in quality.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1120 to 1130
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1070 to 1080
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No 1	1100
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal 1050
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal 1010
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nominal 1020
Kakedas—No 2	Nominal 980
Kakedas—No 2½	Nominal 940

WASTE SILK.

Nothing is doing and prices are quite nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	$90 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

There is a large supply of the new leaf, particularly of the lower grades, and business has been active. Quotations are about as under.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 27.

Engine and Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 210 ex dividend. Grand Hotels were done yesterday at *yen* 225 and are obtainable at this rate, Breweries are steady at *yen* 175, Oriental Hotels have buyers at *yen* 125, Club Hotels are offering at *yen* 85, Steam Laundries at 72.50, Debentures, Y. U. Club, Brewery, and Oriental Hotel are in demand at *yen* 108, Brett & Co. Debentures at par.

Hongkong Wharves were sold at $96.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	210 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	225 ex div. S.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	85 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $103	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., $100	Nominal

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Brett & Co., Ld., $10		9.75 Sa
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100		155
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	3	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., yen 50		72 50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50		50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld 7% Deb., $100		100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100		108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100		100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, July 27.

Hongkong wires as follows:—

H. & S. Banking Corporation.	$344 % prem. Sa.
National Bank of China, Ltd.	$24 S.
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$89 S.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$310 Sa.
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Limited	$417 % prem. Sa.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company, Ltd.	$96 Sa.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	$56 S.
Indo-China Steamship Company, Limited	$62 S.
Punjom Mining Company, Limited	$14 S.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Mining Company, Ltd.	$62½ B.
Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Company, Ltd.	$97½ Sa.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	$237½ Sa.
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	$62 S.
H. C. & M. Steamboat Company, Limited	$32½ S.
Straits Insurance Company, Limited	$6½ B.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 27.

Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 225 ex dividend. Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 205 ex dividend. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, are steady at *yen* 125. Langfeldts have sellers at *yen* 160. Offers are wanted for Steam Laundries.

	YEN.
Yokohama E & I. Works	205 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	225 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co.	160 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	175 Sales.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 27

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, discount $\frac{1}{8}$ higher, no alteration in quotations from China, and rates steady locally without change.

On London—Bank T.T.	2/0 9/16
— Bills on demand	2/0 5/8
— 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/4
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 % dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 3/4
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 11/16

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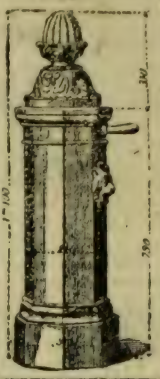


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INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1899.

BIRTHS.

On July 30th, at Azabu, Tokyo, the wife of GEORGE E. L. GAUNTLETT, of a daughter.

On Tuesday, August 1st, at Hanabuchi, Miyagi-Ken, the wife the Rev. H. H. COATES, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

THE Crown Prince is visiting Nikko.

THE pest is increasing considerably in India.

A JAPANESE Consulate was opened at Gensan and Sŏng-jin, Korea, on July 24th.

THE Imperial Steamship Company of Osaka is reported to be in serious financial difficulties.

MR. & MRS. ARTHUR DIOSY brought their visit to Japan to a close on Friday, when they left for Europe on the *Hohenzollern*.

THE *Deutschland*, with Prince Henry on board, arrived at Gensan, Korea, on the 26th ult.

GENERAL ULYSSES HENREAUX, President of the Dominican Republic, has been assassinated.

THE water-supply in Yokohama is again cut off at night owing to the small quantity in the reservoir.

SEVERAL further successful trials of the Serpollet car have been made in Tokyo during the week.

IT is said that the Standard Oil Company is endeavouring to buy up all the oil-wells in Japan.

THE referendum in Victoria and Tasmania resulted in overwhelming majorities in favour of federation.

THE telegram supposed to have been sent by the Czar to Prince Napoleon is officially declared a fabrication.

THE trial of Miller on a charge of triple murder will begin in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Monday morning.

THE political troubles in the north are simmering down. Mr. Hoshi Toru is now accompanied by a big guard of *soshi*.

FIFTY or 60 foreign doctors are said to have applied for licenses under the new régime. The pharmacists have already obtained licenses.

THE Hague Conference has formally closed. Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Italy, China and Japan have not signed the arbitration and other conventions.

M. DELCASSÉ, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, sets out on August 3rd for St. Petersburg, to return the visit recently paid to him by Count Muravieff.

LIEUT. COLONEL DU PATY DE CLAM has been set at liberty, in accordance with a ruling that there is not sufficient evidence to establish a *primâ facie* case against him.

AT 5 o'clock on Monday morning fire broke out at Nakano, Tsukui-gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, reducing 17 houses to ashes. One person was burned to death and another injured.

ANOTHER U. S. transport conveying returning volunteers to California has passed through Yokohama. Both in this port and Tokyo everything was done to make the visit pleasureable.

THE total number of Japanese in Bombay, according to investigations made at the end of June, was 80, of whom 32 were males. This is an increase of 9 persons as compared with December last.

SIR JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary at Washington, and late chief of the British delegation to Peace Conference at the Hague, has been raised to the Peerage.

JUDGMENT has been delivered by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, sitting at Lambeth, in the ritualistic cases recently argued before them. They have pronounced against the ceremonial use of incense, and the carrying of lights.

IN spite of precautions taken by the Kanagawa authorities, the spread of dysentery is feared. This number of cases since the out break of the disease has been 1,047, and 416 patients are now under treatment. In Yokohama the total number of cases has been 77, of which eight were fatal. There are 27 patients at present under medical treatment.

MR. JOSEPH WALTON, Q.C., M.P., called on Count Okuma last week, and had an interview with the veteran statesman.

A MATSUE despatch dated July 28th states that an English Captain has secretly surveyed the locality of Kinetsuki, Hikawa.

THE Red Cross Hospital's ship *Kosai Maru* will be put through some manœuvres on August 10th, in Yokohama Harbour, with a view to showing her capabilities in actual warfare. The Minister of the Navy will be present.

THE new treaties were formally inaugurated in Yokohama on Friday with a garden-party at the Recreation ground and a big dinner at the Oriental Hotel. The day, which was very blowy, was generally observed as a holiday.

PRESIDENT KRUGER has asked the Volksraad to abolish the Jewish and Catholic disabilities. It is thought at Pretoria that the situation is clearer, and it is hoped that both parties will join in the enquiry to settle all outstanding questions.

MR. J. F. LOWDER, who has been chairman of the Grand Hotel, Limited, since it started, has not been re-elected to the position of Director; the result of the recent poll being the election of Messrs. M. MacDonald and C. H. H. Hall.

ACCORDING to the latest investigations instituted by the Financial Department, the total number of banks (including joint stocks, partnerships, etc.), throughout Japan is 1,911, and their capitals aggregate *yen* 407,430,304.

A COUNCIL of Field-Marshals was held on Wednesday morning at half-past nine o'clock, and was honoured by the presence of his Majesty the Emperor. Those present were Prince Komatsu, Marquis Yamagata, and Marquis Saigo.

THE Kyushu Railway came into existence chiefly through the efforts of Baron Yasuba when Governor of Fukuoka prefecture. In recognition of his services the company has decided to present *yen* 20,000 to the family of the deceased.

OVER 106 *jinrikisha* coolies, hearing that a petition for the construction of an electric railway from Fujisawa to Kamakura via Enoshima has been presented to the authorities, have decided to enter a protest.

THE sailing vessel *Sairi Maru*, owned by Mizuno Sanzaemon, of Hakodate, was caught in a storm off Emorizaki on her way back from Udaraka, Chishima islands, last May. The strenuous efforts of the crew did not avail and she drifted at the mercy of the waves for a month. The crew were at length saved by a fishing boat.

A THIEF named Sasaki Tokicho (30) has been arrested by the Isezaki-cho police on a charge of stealing clothes valued at 40 *yen* belonging to Mr. Imada, police inspector, residing at Nagasumi cho, Yokohama. The theft was committed on Monday morning in the absence of the family.

A FEW nights ago a soldier in the uniform o a sergeant was killed by a train on the Koku railway at Nakanomachi, Toyotamegori, Tokyo-fu. On inquiry he proved to be a second class sergeant named Kemi Yasutaro (23) belonging to the Rikugun Toyama Gakko. He was known as an apt military student of good conduct. He left letters addressed to his superiors. Excessive nervousness is supposed to have led to his suicide.

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THE BUDGET FOR 1900 1.

The outlines of the Budget for next years, as finally decided by the Cabinet, are said to be these :—

	Million Yen.
Ordinary Revenue	190
Extraordinary Revenue	60
Total	250
Ordinary Expenditures	150
Extraordinary...	100
Total	250

For purposes of comparison, we append the figures, in millions of *yen*, for the three consecutive years, beginning with 1898-9 :—

	1898-9. Millions.	1899-00. Millions.	1900-1. Millions.
Ordinary Revenue ...	170	190	190
Extraordinary Revenue	68	59	60
Total ...	238	249	250
Ordinary Expenditure	140	150	150
Extraordinary Expenditure ...	105	97	100
Total ...	245	247	250

The estimated figure for the Ordinary Revenue of 1900-1 is probably under the mark, as some of the taxes are known to be yielding better results than were expected during the current year, yet their total product next year is the same as the estimate for this year.

It is to be observed that Japan's Ordinary Revenue now exceeds her Ordinary Expenditure by 40 million *yen*. If she could cut down her Extraordinary Expenditures, her financial position would be very favourable.

Count Okuma makes two striking remarks about Japanese finance. The first is that the country's national debt is not larger now, in terms of gold, than it was 25 years ago. It is approximately six hundred million *yen* to-day—including her last borrowing—and it was three hundred millions twenty-five years ago. But the *yen*, which represents only the tenth part of a sovereign now, was equal to the fifth part a quarter of a century ago. Very many things have happened in the past twenty-five years, however. Japan has been engaged in a big war at home and abroad; has organized a large army and acquired a powerful fleet; has built 3,000 miles of railway and laid telegraph lines everywhere; has obtained a considerable mercantile marine, an efficient police force, and a good postal system; has spent large sums on riparian improvements and other public works; has assumed the debts of the feudal nobility and commuted their incomes; has redeemed her fiat currency, and has adopted the gold standard. During that time her population has increased by 10 millions, and her wealth, according to Count Okuma's estimate, has quadrupled. But her debt has not increased in terms of gold; it is still sixty millions sterling. Each unit of the population owed two sovereigns in 1894. Each unit of the population owes a sovereign and a half to-day, and, if the wealth of the country be taken into account, the debt now is only one-fourth of what it was a quarter of a century ago. Besides, Japan and England are the only two countries in the world that are steadily paying off their public indebtedness. The United States used to be in the same happy position, but, of late years, her record has changed.

The second striking point made by Count Okuma is that Japan's expenditures on account of her Army and Navy are virtually defrayed out of the revenue she obtains from *sake*. Twenty years ago, the revenue derived from *sake* was only a million *yen*. To-day it is 50 millions; and the consumers of *sake* do not seem to feel the change. The outlay on account of the Army and Navy is 60 millions. There is no doubt that the *sake*-drinkers will soon be paying the whole cost of the country's armaments.

THE GOVERNMENT & RELIGION.

Tuesday, Aug. 1.

On the 31st ultimo at 10 a.m., the prelates of the Chief Buddhist Sects, seven in all, assembled at the Department of Home Affairs in response to an invitation from the Minister, and received an Instruction from Marquis Saigo by way of reply to the question which they recently addressed to him with reference to the Government's policy towards religion after the operation of the Revised Treaties. The gist of His Excellency's message was that since the 28th Article of the Constitution guarantees liberty of conscience within the limits of law and order and without prejudice to the discharge of a subject's duty, everybody in the realm is entitled to that privilege, while, at the same time, there devolves upon the Government the responsibility of taking care that its enjoyment shall be lawful, orderly, and in accordance with the duties of a subject. Hence the authorities must take steps to discharge that responsibility, wholly irrespective of differences of creed. The Minister therefore, called upon the Prelates to appreciate the Government's intention, and to avoid any sectarian quarrels or any confusion of politics and religion. With regard to the operation of the Revised Treaties, the Emperor had given a very clear exposition of the Imperial Will, and the prelates themselves had made it the basis of instructions to their co-religionists, so that nothing remained except to respectfully comply with His Majesty's intentions, and discharge their duty to their country.

Wednesday, Aug. 2.

It is not surprising to find that the Ordinance recently issued on the subject of religious propagandism in Japan provokes criticism. No publicist has objected to the liberal attitude adopted by the Government towards Christianity, but the *Jiji Shimpo* expresses the opinion that steps should be taken to place Buddhism on precisely the same footing as that now occupied by Christianity. The difference, according to our contemporary, is that a larger measure of official supervision is exercised in the case of Buddhism. The Government endorses the nomination of sectarian prelates, keeps watch over the maintenance funds of the temples, and requires that their heir-looms shall be strictly conserved. The *Jiji*, we judge, would abolish all these arrangements and make the Buddhists as free as the Christian will henceforth be. Whether the Buddhists would be pleased to receive their freedom is another question. Probably not. They have been agitating lately for recognition as the State religion, and certainly those among them that advocate such a measure would not care to be still further disestablished. But the problem of the heir-looms has to be separately treated. It would be a national misfortune if the temples were granted unlimited control of their art treasures. We should see another wholesale dispersal of these beautiful objects.

Tokyo journals still consider it necessary to protest against the error of confusing politics and religion. Our readers remember that when the Imperialist Party was about to be organized, rumour attributed to its leaders the intention of winning the whole Buddhist interest to their side by agitation for State recognition of that creed. Whether any such project was really entertained we do not know, but at all events it evoked an outcry of disapproval that could not fail to suggest the wisdom of hesitation. Then followed the news that an association calling itself the *Seikyo* Club had been organized, and people entertained no doubt that its object was to promote the above project. But it subsequently became evident that even among the Buddhists themselves some of the principal prelates were averse to any connection with officialdom. We are not surprised, therefore, to learn now that the dissolution of the club is contemplated, and that its demise will not evoke any expressions of regret in the newspaper world at all events.

JAPAN AND THE CHINESE.

Saturday, July 29.

It will be seen from the Ordinance translated elsewhere that the Japanese Government has finally adopted, with regard to the Chinese, the policy announced, a few days ago, as likely to be taken. Chinese subjects, with the exception of the labouring classes, will enjoy the same privileges in Japan as do the subjects and citizens of Western Powers. The Ordinance covers also the case of all persons belonging to countries which have no treaty with Japan; for example, Canada, Australia, Persia, Turkey, and so forth. As for the category of so-called labourers, it is tolerably extensive. Possibly some doubts may arise with regard to the terms "engineering" (*doboku*) and "building" (*Kenchiku*). There is a *Dobokkyaku*, or "Section of Engineering" in the Department of Home Affairs, and it includes among its staff several engineering experts of high standing. A similar class of men coming from Toronto or Melbourne would have to be regarded as "labourers" for the purposes of the Ordinances. A like difficulty suggests itself with regard to the term we have translated "building." The Japanese word is *Kenchiku*, and inasmuch as an architect is called *Kenchik'ka*, he, too, would have to be classed as a labourer, which would be supremely absurd. Doubtless the framers of the Ordinance intend to refer to "navvies" and "masons" or "carpenters," but their refined terminology may be the cause of trouble.

Then comes the question, how is this Ordinance to be enforced? In the United States they adopt the eminently practical though irksome plan of not allowing labouring Chinese to land. But the Japanese Authorities will not interfere with the landing. They permit foreigners to come ashore indiscriminately, and merely require that if a labourer, after landing, wants to live outside the foreign settlements, he must seek permission to do so,

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or take the risk of being fined 100 *yen*. At first sight it looks as though evasions of such a law would be easy. But a man of Chinese origin is easily recognised. If any such attempts to live and labour outside the Settlements, the police will have no difficulty in recognising his nationality, and will then be competent to make scrutiny into his right of residence. The case of an Australasian or a Canadian would be different. We doubt, however, whether there is any serious intention of discriminating against white labour, whatever its *provenance*.

Monday, July 31.

In our last issue we suggested that the terminology of the Minister of State for Home Affairs in defining what is meant by "labourer" for the purposes of restricted immigration, might be open to misinterpretation, inasmuch as "engineering" and "building" labourers seem to constitute a class more extensive than those to whom the restriction is intended to apply. The *Japan Times* denies the possibility of any such error, and is good enough to say that "ambiguity only exists in the imagination of our Yokohama contemporary," for "the original text is plain enough to anybody who can read it." We do not pretend to any special ability for reading texts, but we observe that the *Japan Times* itself translates the Articles in question thus :—

Art. II.—The "labourers" mentioned in Art. I of the said Imperial Ordinance shall designate those who engage in agricultural, fishery, mining, engineering, architectural, transportation driving of jinrikisha and other vehicles, wharf, and other miscellaneous labours.

It will be admitted, we think, that the terms "engineering labourers" and "architectural labourers" are novelties in the English language. It is a small matter, however, and we do not apprehend for a moment that any misconstruction will occur in practice.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The cotton-spinning industry in Japan is said to have recovered from the period of depression that overtook it last year, when the factories were obliged to knock off night work and materially reduce their production. The three millions of *yen* judiciously placed at the disposal of the industrials by Count Inouye, during his tenure of the portfolio of Finance in the spring of 1898, seem to have proved most serviceable, and things are once more booming, so that competition to obtain expert labour has again become keen among the Osaka factories, and stories are told of very questionable *ruses* resorted to by managers to entice away each other's hands. It is expected that the output this year will aggregate a million bales, six hundred thousand of which will be taken by the home market, and the remainder will go to China. It is claimed that the Japanese spinners, by mixing Indian and American cotton, obtain yarns exceptionally lustrous and durable, and that Chinese consumers recognise the superiority and are willing to pay a higher price by 2 *yen* per bale for the Japanese product. The prediction is that 70 or 80 per cent. of the yarn purchased this season at Tientsin, Chefoo, and Newchwang will be Japanese. As yet, however, the yarns of this country have not found favour in Southern China. That will come, no doubt.

THE AOMORI AFFAIR.

Tuesday, Aug. 1.

The assailant of Mr. Hoshi Toru at Aomori seems to have been a very resolute person. He attacked the Liberal leader twice, so far as we can discover from the accounts, and it was on the occasion of the second onset that Sakuma, one of Mr. Hoshi's body-guard, stabbed the *soshi* with a sword-cane. The two men were arrested, and the Liberal politicians had to appear at the district magistrates' court to give evidence. Of course the Governor put a stop to any political meeting, and the result is that Mr. Hoshi and his party are now waiting in Aomori, *re infecta*. Mr. Hoshi is not at all likely to forego his intentions as to a Liberal demonstration because a *soshi* has dealt him one or two blows with a stick—for there appears to be no doubt that the *soshi* did succeed in planting some of his strokes—, and the probability is that he will stand his ground until he achieves his purpose. The Governor is said to have assembled a force of 100 constables and to have summoned gendarmes from Hirosaki, while the Liberals, on their side, have invited some of their strong-armed supporters to join them from Tokyo. It looks rather like a storm in a tea-pot, but inasmuch as the Governor has thought it necessary to enforce the Premonition Regulations in the case of five or six Progressist politicians of the town, he must be persuaded that danger of further disturbance exists. Some Tokyo journals write in a pessimistic strain, and speak of Japanese politics having been brought under the sway of bribery and physical force. An extreme view, surely. It is true that Viscount Miura experienced some severe treatment at the hands of Liberal roughs in Nagaoka (Yechigo) and that Baron Suyematsu and Mr. Hoshi have been similarly welcomed by Progressis *soshi* in Aomori, but, on the other hand, it must be remembered that politics have of late been carried into the provinces with exceptional vigour. If we note the incidents that occur in Europe, we can not find much to censure in Japan, so far as recourse to physical force is concerned.

Since the above was written, we have received a telegram from Aomori saying that the Liberals held their projected meeting in the Nakamura theatre, at 2 p.m. on the 31st instant. There was an audience of about 3,000 persons, and Messrs. Suzuki, Tatekawa, Sugawara, Inouye (Kakugoro), and Hoshi delivered speeches. Everything passed off quietly and the meeting broke up at 6 p.m., after which a friendly *réunion* was organized.

Wednesday, Aug. 2.

It appears that the police had always apprehended the possibility of some violence in Aomori if the Liberals visited that place. When Mr. Hoshi was on his way to Hokkaido, he proceeded northward by train with the intention of alighting at Uramachi, which, not Aomori proper, is the place where folks usually take steamer for Hakodate. The police went to meet Mr. Hoshi at a station far to the south of Uramachi, and accompanied him thenceforth on his journey. They told him, however, that trouble might be anticipated at Uramachi, and they therefore advised him to abandon his intention of alighting there, and to get out at Aomori instead. But Mr. Hoshi, as might have been expected, said that his arrangements were made for Uramachi, and he did not propose to alter them. The apprehensions of the police were not verified at Uramachi, but they proved true enough when Mr. Hoshi and his party were on their way back from Hokkaido.

Mr. Hoshi's assailant was a man named Okamoto, an official of the communal office at Hirosaki. By "official" we mean a person holding a post in the local government, and not connected, of course, with the central government.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

The Prince Imperial left for Nikko on the 28th ultimo by the 6.55 train from Uyeno. His Imperial Highness was accompanied to the station by Prince Arisugawa, Prince Tokugawa, Marquis Mayeda, Marquis Saigo, Count Okuma, and many others.

If we may venture to make a suggestion in connexion with His Imperial Highness' trip, it would be that the rules of etiquette observed during the Prince's stay at Nikko might perhaps be so far relaxed as to cause less unnecessary inconvenience to other tourists than has hitherto been the case. There is at Nikko a very beautiful public park connected with the temples. Laid out chiefly by subscriptions on the part of persons interested in a place which for scenic loveliness and artistic attractions has no equal in Japan, this park constitutes one of the features of Nikko, and daily access to it adds immensely to the pleasures of residence, especially for ladies and children. When the Prince Imperial is at Nikko, the rule hitherto has been to close the park altogether to the public, though it does not form a continuation of the grounds of the Imperial residence, and the Prince seldom or never enters it. There may be some reason for this with which we are not acquainted, and, of course, we speak with all reserve, for if the closing of the park contributes in any way to His Imperial Highness' convenience, no one, least of all foreigners, would think of objecting. Our conviction is, however, that the step is taken by the officials of the Prince's household without full appreciation of the facts, and that no substantial obstacle exists to relaxing the rule, partially at all events.

LOCAL TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS.

The *Tokyo Asahi* has an article with reference to the expense of keeping up the Foreign Settlements after they have been incorporated with the Japanese communes. It is provided by treaty that the foreigners who hold perpetual leases shall not be subject hereafter to any taxes in respect of their lands other than the taxes they already pay. Hence they escape the Local Land Tax and the Land Rate. Now the maintenance of the roads, public gardens, and cemeteries in the Settlements has always cost more than the sum collected from the foreign residents in the form of taxes, and the Central Government, recognising the inadvisability of compelling the Japanese of the communes to put their hands in their pockets for the sake of keeping up the exceptionally fine state of affairs existing in the Settlements, has signified its

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intention of continuing, for the present, to pay the sum in aid hitherto granted by it. The *Asahi* evidently regards that arrangement as inadvisable, and is disposed to think that the taxes in the Foreign Settlements should be raised; in other words, that the land should be re-assessed for purposes of taxation. The present assessment was well enough at the outset, when the site where Yokohama now stands was occupied by a poverty-stricken hamlet; but circumstances are totally different now. How does the *Asahi* propose to proceed? It fails to explain that important point. The land held by foreigners under perpetual lease can not be re-assessed for taxation purposes. The rate is fixed unalterably to all time, so long as foreigners remain in possession. That is a legacy which Japan must be content to face. There is one fact to be entered on the other side of the account, namely, that for many years foreigners paid far more than their Japanese neighbours. Speaking approximately, the land in the Foreign Settlements was assessed at 12 *yen* per *tsubo* for taxation when the Settlements were reclaimed. No comparable assessment was made in the neighbouring Japanese Settlement. Besides, we showed some time ago by accurate figures that the foreign communities in Japan paid more under the old land system fixed by treaty than they would pay if brought under the same system as the Japanese.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Monday, July 31.

The latest project attributed to the Boers does not commend itself as a serious attempt to correct the situation. Five Uitlanders in each of the Volksraads is an almost farcical idea. The First Volksraad is elected by first-class burghers; that is to say, white persons that resided in the Colony prior to 1876, and their descendants. The Second Volksraad is elected by second-class burghers, namely, naturalized aliens and their children. The whole of the legislative power is vested in the First Volksraad: the Second has virtually no power at all. There are forty-four members in the First Volksraad. Like the members of a Japanese local assembly, one half of them retire every two years. It is not likely that the plan now attributed to the executive contemplates any reduction of the seats already filled by Boer representatives: doubtless the idea is to give five additional seats to Uitlanders. Thus the men whose cause Great Britain is now advocating would have 5 votes in an assembly of 49—the question of the Second Volksraad need not be considered at all for the purposes of this argument. In other words, one seat in every ten would be alloted to the section of the population which far outnumbers the Boers and contributes five or six times as much to the national exchequer as they do. Can that be considered a really sincere proposition? It appears to us that the Boers are merely simulating a conciliatory spirit. They want to make a fair show in the eyes of the world, but have no *bonâ fide* intention of doing justice to the Uitlanders.

The Queen's Advocate has entered a *nolle prosequi* in the case of Bishop Tugwell of Lagos, who has accordingly been released from committal on the charge of criminal libel.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

There has been talk for some time of a serious blow that the Progressists were likely to suffer in Chiba Prefecture, and events show that rumour did not exaggerate the facts. Chiba sends nine members to the House of Representatives. Four of them hitherto espoused the cause of the Progressists. But the whole four—Messrs. Shinomiya, Akiyama, Hoshino, and Osuka—have now erased their names from the Progressist roll and inscribed them on that of the Imperialists (*Teikoku-to*). The example of these four has been followed by sixteen members of the Chiba Prefectural Assembly and over thirty other influential residents of the Prefecture, including former members of the Diet and leading merchants. The most prominent men of the Imperialists, Messrs. Sasa, Motoda, and Saito, welcomed their new allies at an entertainment in the Kitsune-unagi restaurant on the 30th instant. We can not discover any satisfactory explanation of this defection from the ranks of the Progressists, except that the seceders were fair-weather friends. Of course the yellow journal of Tokyo attributes the event to bribery and corruption, but we do not believe that Japan is quite so black as that villainous slanderer and blackmailer paints it.

THE JAPANESE POLICE AND THE S.S. "CHINA."

On the 28th of July the Japanese police in Kobe effected the arrest of two Chinese subjects whom they found gambling on board the P.M. S.S. *China*. This action of the police seems likely to provoke some controversy. We do not know the exact particulars, but it may be presumed that the Chinese were openly engaged in gambling—on the deck, doubtless, or in some correspondingly public position. Had they been engaged in a game of chance in the privacy of their own cabin, or of one of the ship's saloons, the police could not have apprehended them under ordinary circumstances. But the question is, not whether the private rights of the Chinese were infringed, but whether the rights of the ship's flag were violated. The general principle involved is simple. According to international usage offences relating to the discipline of a merchant ship fall within the jurisdiction of her flag, but offences against the peace or good order of the country in whose territorial waters she happens to be lying fall within the jurisdiction of the local authorities. To which category of offences does gambling belong? Evidently to the latter. It is easy to conceive a case where, by abandoning such matters as gambling, opium smoking, and so on to the jurisdiction of the flag, the peace and good order of a port might be seriously impaired. Suppose, for example, that a British subject conceived the idea of a floating gambling saloon, or a floating opium den, can it be pretended that to put a speedy restraint upon such an abuse should be beyond the competence of the local authorities? Yet that is an obviously possible result of placing gambling in the category of offences against ship's discipline. The discipline of a ship is largely determined by the views of her master, and the guardians of public order could not be justified in abandoning to the caprice of individual masters the regulation of matters which have a distinct connexion with public morality. Why, we might have a lottery carried on in a hulk flying the Spanish flag in Yokohama harbour.

KILLARNEY.

The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest and National Beauty has decided, on the motion of the Marquis of Dufferin, seconded by Mr. Bryce, that steps be taken to purchase Killarney and transform it into "a playground for Ireland." Some time ago, the celebrated spot came into the market. There were Muckross Abbey, Tore Waterfall, O'Sullivan's Cascade, the Collen Bawn Rocks, Lord Brandon's Cottage, and the Purple Mountain, making about 13,000 acres in all. We have not seen any trustworthy statement of the price, but as the property is essentially non-productive, it would not command a large figure. Probably forty thousand pounds would buy the whole. The Giant's Causeway has passed into the possession of an owner who levies toll for the privilege of viewing the wonderful rocks, and there has been talk lately of Killarney's being purchased by an American millionaire, who, if he wanted to live there, would naturally close it to the general public. We can not expect to find in all bosoms a full measure of that romantic philanthropy which induced the house of Herbert to believe, from generation to generation, that such beauties as those of Killarney could never have been intended by nature for the enjoyment of one family, or one section of society, but must have been designed for the general delight of all. It is stated that Her Majesty's Government was asked to purchase Killarney for the nation, but declined to do so. Of course when we speak of Killarney, we allude to the Muckross estate only. Take away the Muckross estate, however, and the immortal lakes would be like a golden armlet that had lost its jewel. The National Trust have appointed a special committee to devise ways and means of acquiring the estate for the public. We quote Lord Dufferin's speech in moving the resolution:—

The Marquis of Dufferin moved:—"That this meeting desires to record its conviction that it would be deeply to be deplored were the Lakes of Killarney, perhaps more widely celebrated for their beauty than any other spot in the British Isles, to be closed against the public, or marred by vulgarizing and incongruous treatment, and urges that the opportunity offered by the sale of the Muckross estates should be embraced to secure the lakes permanently to the nation, as the Falls of Niagara have been secured by the joint action of the United States and the Dominion of Canada. That with this object it is desirable that the council of the trust do organize a special committee of members of the trust and others to take such steps as may be practicable to bring about the desired result." He felt that no words of his would be necessary to recommend the acceptance of such a resolution.—(Cheers.) The largeness of the meeting was evidence of sympathy with the object they had in view. But as an Irishman his natural instinct would have led him to make an appeal to the generosity of a benevolent Government. He was not sufficiently acquainted or intimate with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to know whether that right honourable gentlemen was endowed with one of those high-strung and sensitive natures which burst into tears at the sight of beautiful scenery, but even if he had a less emotional temperament, they would not be misappropriating the funds of the trust were they to give him a free pass over the English and Irish railways and direct their officers personally to conduct him over the beauties of Killarney, whose hills and woods and waters would, he felt sure, make a more powerful appeal than the views even of the intelligent and influential deputation which they might commission to wait upon him.—(Cheers.) Moreover, they could urge his attention to the example of that great country, the United

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States of America, which perhaps more than any other seemed to promote and extend the amenities of civilization and to provide for the legitimate and innocent gratification of the public taste. In one part of America a vast region had been set aside as a kind of park or place of recreation for the public at large. In another part there was another region equally extensive devoted to the preservation of specimens of all the wild animals that could be found on the continent. Again, Canada and the State of New York joined together in the most generous manner to rescue the neighbourhood of the Falls of Niagara from an immmerable quantity of sheds and shanties and every kind of disfigurement, and one could not but imagine whether it was altogether impossible that they might induce her Majesty's Government to take the same kind of view in regard to the Lakes of Killarney.—(Cheers.) But,even were such an appeal to be addressed to deaf ears, they were not altogether without resources to fall back upon. Ireland was his home, and the patriotism of Ireland could point to various magnificent buildings which were monuments of the beneficence of private individuals; and of this he felt certain, that if in Ireland there could be found a man or group of men who would combine together for the noble and patriotic purpose of acquiring the Lakes of Killarney their names would be regarded with the utmost gratitude by innumerable generations. —(Cheers.) For some inscrutable reason past the wit of man to understand the capitalist no longer showed a tendency to embark his money in the purchase of agricultural land in Ireland. Consequently it was not to be expected that any one single great proprietor would possess himself of this beautiful estate; for in that contingency they might hope that his generosity would induce him to extend to the public the same facilities for enjoying the scenery of which he had become the possessor as had been hereditary in the house of Herbert, which he was sorry to say, was now disappearing from the scene. Unfortunately it was only too probable that this beautiful place would become a site upon which the jerry-builder would work his wicked will, and the romantic solitude and the grace and glory of the scenery would be marred and injured by hundreds of little villas and all those other constructions which they knew from experience in other localities were apt to spring up like mushrooms when such an opportunity as the present was offered.

ITALY AND CHINA.

If the *Tribuna*, as quoted by Reuter's telegram, truly represents the intentions of the Italian Government, then it appears that the Chevalier de Martino ought not to have been recalled, and that, as we were disposed to think at the time, his only mistake was in preferring a demand which he had not sufficient strength to enforce immediately. And whether the *Tribuna* be well or ill-informed, the despatch of two ships of war can be interpreted in one way only. The *Carlo-Alberto* is the newest and probably the most efficient vessel in Italy's armoured fleet. She was launched in 1896 at Spezia; has a displacement of 6,500 tons, a speed of 20 knots, and an armament of 12 6-in. quick firers and 28 smaller pieces. The *Vesuvio* is a second-class cruiser of 3,427 tons, launched in 1886 at Leghorn; her speed is 17 knots and she carries two 9.8 in. guns, six 5.9 in., and fourteen smaller pieces. Her complement is 315 men, and the complement of the *Carlo-Alberto*, 460. China has nothing to resist these ships. But China must be getting very near the limit of her concessions.

The exceedingly rich collection in the British Museum of books, pamphlets, and documents of every description relating to the French Revolution having been found to contain no fewer than 30,000 duplicates, the Museum Authorities have had the happy idea of offering them to the French National Library. This offer was keenly appreciated.

FOREIGNERS IN FORMOSA.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a copy of a notification issued by the Governor-General of Formosa on the 15th of July. It relates to the acquisition of land by foreigners in Formosa, and is, in effect, a recapitulation of the rules applicable in Japan proper. Foreigners are not competent to acquire possession of land by purchase, gift or exchange; and when land is pledged or mortgaged to a foreigner, the transaction must have the sanction of the local authorities. In the case of a company numbering foreigners among its members, possession of real estate must not be acquired without the sanction of the local authorities. Regulations issued on the same subject in 1897 cease to have binding force from the day when this notification becomes operative, namely, August 4th, 1899. Violations of the law are punishable with fines of from 2 to 28 *yen*.

MR. ARTHUR DIOSY.

Tuesday, Aug 1.

Mr. Diosy has been obliged to shorten his stay in Japan owing to the receipt of bad news from home. We observe that his visit to this country does not close without a certain measure of censure. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has discovered that he discharged a charitable commission which brought him into contact with a doubtful class of persons, and that he carried his investigations of Japanese manners and customs a little beyond the limits of strictly philosophical research. It is the *Mainichi's* opinion that the behaviour of the great majority of foreign gentlemen visiting Japan invites censure. They certainly do not, while in this country, respect the rules of morality that they observe at home. This fact is used by our contemporary for the purpose of rebutting the *Jiji Shimpo's* often-urged contention that, after the inauguration of mixed residence, the Japanese will find themselves under the microscope of foreign observation, and must therefore remove the flaws from their conduct. The *Mainichi* thinks that the advent of foreigners in large numbers will not create any particularly lofty standard of living. Well, we do not pretend to think that it will. But there is this to be said, that the misdeeds of the average foreigner are greatly exaggerated by the Japanese. We have read the *Mainichi's* indictment of Mr. Diosy, and our conviction after the perusal is that our contemporary has been grossly misled. The first incident alluded to is one of which any gentleman might be proud rather than ashamed. The act which elicits our contemporary's sarcasm might have been undertaken, and would have been undertaken, by the most rigid stickler for morality, provided that his heart was still within reach of charitable impulses. The second act forms a part of the programme that every tourist, especially a student of men and manners like Mr. Diosy, lays out for himself when he comes to Japan. The *Mainichi* would rather that the place visited by Mr. Diosy did not exist; that we can understand. But so long as it does exist, the inquiring foreigner will go to see it, just as he goes to see the clay figures at Asakusa or a wrestling match at the Eko-in. The *Mainichi* may attribute immoral motives to him, but that is the *Mainichi's* affair; a purely subjective interpretation. All intelligent persons who interest themselves in ethical problems have a duty to study the social conditions of an intelligent and civilized nation when they visit its shores, and no newspaper has a right to misconstrue their legitimate interest.

As to Mr. Diosy's sojourn in Japan, we are bound to say that the Japanese have exposed themselves to some ridicule by their treatment of him. He has rendered this country considerable services, and their due recognition would have done honour to Japan. But the reception he received here was altogether in excess of any claims he possesses, so far, at any rate, as the judgment of foreigners is concerned. Mr. Diosy himself was probably as much astonished as any one else. He naturally did not decline to be fêted, but the extraordinary fervour of the welcome he received must have been, at first, a source of profound surprise to him, and if, in the end, he managed to persuade himself that some good reason existed for such demonstrations, it was probably because he relied frankly on the discernment of his hosts, rather than on any common-sense estimate of his own merits. The effect of such incidents is to create an impression that the Japanese are deficient in the sense of proportion—which we do not believe—, or that their knowledge of foreign affairs is still far from intimate. Somebody has blundered in this matter, and the sooner the curtain is dropped on the whole farce, the better for actors and audience alike.

Thursday, Aug 3.

We are glad to see that the *Jiji Shimpo* takes up the cudgels stoutly on behalf of Mr. Arthur Diosy. The *Jiji* goes even as far as to produce evidence that the *Mainichi Shimbun's* statements are baseless. Perhaps that was due to the status of the *Mainichi* in the world of Japanese journalism, but it certainly was quite superfluous from the point of view of discerning persons, for no man of common sense could for one instant credit the assertions of the *Mainichi*. The *Japan Times*, also, has raised its voice on the side of justice, as it habitually does, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram received by it from Mr. Diosy, strongly protesting against the dissemination of such slanders and expressing surprise that a Japanese editor should lend his columns to a cruel and libellous attack upon a foreign visitor. We are bound to say, however, that with the exception of these journals, any Japanese newspapers which refer to the incident seem disposed to emphasize Mr. Diosy's consternation rather than to question the truth of the libel. The whole affair illustrates a curious and most unfortunate characteristic of present-day journalism in Japan. The editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun* is one of Japan's leading publicists. A member of the Diet, where he has held the position of Vice-President of the Lower House; a great speaker; a brilliant politician; an eminent Christian; a man who associates himself actively with everything making for moral progress, his connection with any journal in the capacity of editor lends much weight to its utterances, and ought to guarantee them against carelessness, partiality, or recklessness, if the ordinary canons of journalistic morality were recognised. But we venture to as-

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sert that the chief editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun* has no previous knowledge whatever of more than a small fraction of the matter appearing in his columns, that he exercises no supervision over it, that he does not consider himself responsible for it, and that his first acquaintance with this particular affair of Mr. Diosy was made when he saw the leading article actually published in the *Mainichi*. Singular as it may seem, that is the conception of journalistic duty entertained by many Japanese editors. There are honourable exceptions. Nothing of the kind could be laid to the charge of papers like the *Jiji*, the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Kokumin*, and so on. But as a general rule the editor recognises only an optional responsibility: he answers for what he chooses to be cognisant of, and no more. It is just as well that we should have some object lessons to demonstrate this very glaring defect of Japanese journalism, though the *corpora vilia* of the demonstrations deserve our commiseration. We may be permitted to add one word on our own account. It has been suggested to us that our more considerate part would have been to refrain from any reference to this matter, and that, had we kept silence, public attention would not have been attracted. Evidently that question depends upon the character of the journal publishing the the original slander. Of the utterances of some Japanese journals we should certainly take no notice. But the *Mainichi Shimbun* belongs to a different category, and to pay no attention to charges preferred by such a newspaper against foreigners, is neither kind to the person attacked nor wise in the interests of foreigners generally.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE LAW.

We observe that the *Japan Herald* is making a public grievance about the necessity of sending copies of its issues to the Authorities. It maintains that the copies ought to be paid for. But the 12th Article of the Press Law requires that every journal shall send two copies to the Department of Home Affairs, one to the Office of the Prefecture—or the Office of the Chief of Police if the paper is published in Tokyo—and one to the Public Procurator's office. No newspaper in Japan fails to comply with this law, any more than it fails to provide the security which the same law prescribes for every public print. The *Japan Herald* can scarcely imagine, we presume, that an exception is to be made to its advantage as compared with the whole of the newspaper press in this country. However, the fact that such a ludicrously unwarrantable claim has been advanced is not so striking as the fashion of advancing it. In its issue of the 31st ultimo the *Japan Herald* has this paragraph:—

> A couple of officers connected with the police force called at our office this morning and suggested an altered delivery of the *Herald*, of the two copies locally required by the Press Law, and at the same time intimated that they would not be paid for, because the law had to be complied with. The officer was told that was a matter which the *Naimusho* would have to pronounce upon. A question was asked by us to the effect that as it was according to law that Procurators were appointed, were they not paid for what was required of them? It was of course admitted that they were. Then it was farther asked as Procurators were paid for their services, why should not the newspapers be paid for the copies they supply? This interrogation appeared to be a poser to the officer, who took refuge behind the statement that he did not wish to enter into any argument. He was finally told that the system of officers calling to deliver verbal messages from their department was for several reasons objectionable, and that in future any communication the police department wished to make to this office must be made in writing. With this understanding the two officers went their way.

The tone of this paragraph is characteristic. It does not appear to strike the editor that the laws of the land are enacted by the Diet, and that to discuss their propriety with police officers whose sole business is to enforce them, is a very inane proceeding. However, every man is privileged to make himself ridiculous if he pleases. But what must strike every one as particularly quaint is the editor's grandiloquent declaration that, although he tries to entrap the police into an argument about the rights or wrongs of the law, he is far too superior a person to pay any attention to their views. "The *Naimusho* will have to pronounce" upon the matter, he loftily says. As for the argument itself, the argument which he parades with so much pride, namely, that, since public procurators are paid for their services, a newspaper should be paid for the copies which the law require it to furnish as a condition of its existence, one might just as logically contend that a man should be paid for obeying the rule of the road. If the *Naimusho* thinks it worth while to answer the *Japan Herald's* query at all, the answer will be a simple reference to Art. 12 of the Press Law. The Kanagawa police have been doing what they could to facilitate the smooth working of the new system and to make things easy for foreigners. That was evidently their idea in sending two officials to explain the facts of this case to the *Japan Herald*. But the editor of *Japan Herald* told them that "the system of officers calling to deliver verbal messages from their department was, for several reasons, objectionable, and that in future any communication the police department wished to make to this office must be made in writing." It will occur to the police that, were the editor of the *Japan Herald* in England, he would think twice before having the insolence to dictate any line of procedure to the police. They have their duty to perform and their own way of performing it, and they are not likely to accept directions from every private individual who has a fancy of his own. The *Japan Herald* has for many years been a fire-brand in Yokohama. It has always insisted that Japanese jurisdiction could not properly be extended to foreigners, and it seems resolved now to prove the truth of its contention by creating trouble at every turn. But it has chosen its opportunity badly when it claims exemption from a law with which its foreign and Japanese contemporaries comply uncomplainingly and which has the sanction of the nation's representatives.

THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

The Regulations with regard to private schools have now appeared in the *Official Gazette*. As we stated in our last issue, the restriction with regard to religious instruction or religious exercises does not appear in the Regulations. But unfortunately the inference we drew from its absence is rendered untenable by an Instruction which the Minister of Education has appended to the Regulations. His Excellency there lays down explicitly that religious teaching or religious exercises must not be conducted in any private school to which the status of a middle school or an elementary school is officially granted. Thus the old trouble remains uncorrected. Great educational institutions like the Aoyama Eiwa Gakko, the Doshisha, the School of the Morning Star, and so on, where high courses of study are conducted under the direction of thoroughly competent Japanese and foreign teachers, must continue to labour under the fatal disadvantage of non-exemption from conscription. We have so often expressed our opinion upon this subject that no lengthy statement is now necessary. The Japanese Government seems determined that religion in every form shall be excluded from officially recognised schools. There can be no question about the justice of that principle in the case of schools which receive any measure of State aid, however small. Taxes can not properly be applied to purposes of religious propagandism, direct or indirect. But in the case of a private school supported entirely by private funds, we fail to discover any argument, whether of expediency or of justice, which requires that everything in the shape of religion shall be banished from its curriculum and its routine. It has been urged that the veto may be evaded by placing the religious element on an entirely voluntary basis, and there are those who hold that the spirit of the rules would not be violated by such a course. But that is a question apart. The main fact is that the Government's ostensible policy is to banish religion from the sphere of education, not as a matter of justice to the tax-payer, but as a principle of statecraft.

ENGLAND.

The Royal Caledonian Fancy Dress Ball took place on June 26th in the Whitehall Rooms. It was under the patronage of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, the Duke and Duchess of York, and the Duchess of Fife. Such were the representatives of royalty. Turning to the list of Lady Patronesses, we find six Duchesses, five Marchionesses, twenty-one Countesses, twenty-five Ladies, three Honourables, and four plain Mistresses. These last deserve to be named for the sake of their unique place in such a galaxy. They are Mrs. Fletcher of Saltoun, Mrs. Macintosh of Macintosh, Mrs. Murray of Polmaise, and Mrs. Munro. The President was the Duke of Atholl, the Vice-President the Marquis of Tullibardine, and gentlemen were required to wear Highland costume, uniform, Court, hunting, or fancy dress. A ball indeed.

In the same column of *The Times* that contains the above announcement we find the following advertisement by the Church Association:—

> The Southport Election shows clearly that the Protestant Laity are determined that the repression of the Mass and Confessional in the Church of England shall be dealt with by Parliament. With this object it is proposed to raise a Fund of at least Ten Thousand Pounds, as the Church Association is determined that the General Election shall be fought on Protestant lines, and shall produce a Parliament committed before all things to Protestant action, and the Council earnestly appeal for the help necessary to bring this about.

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One gentleman offers £100 if ninety-nine others will give a like amount.

Then follow the names of 35 persons who have put up a hundred pounds each. We have here two aspects of modern England.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Formosa has now a foreign paper of its own—a weekly journal called *The Formosan*. It represents a very courageous enterprise. The editor explains that he finds many difficulties at the outset. We should think so. We wish him every success.

On the 22nd ultimo, the Governor-General of Formosa issued regulations relating to the levying of tonnage dues. They are to go into force from August 4th. They appear to be identical with the regulations applied to Japan proper, except that vessels of Japanese or Chinese build pay a lump sum of 5 *yen* if they are above 1,000 *koku* carrying capacity, and of 3 *yen* if they are below that size.

This is the regular season for pilgrimages to Fujiyama, but reports of the weather prevailing near the summit of the mountain are not of a nature to invite visitors. From the 24th to the 28th of July rain, sleet and snow fell almost continuously, so that finally the mountain was covered with snow down to the Fourth Station, and the icicles at the crater were from 4 to 5 feet long.

The promoters of the Söul-Fusan Railway talk of constructing it for eight thousand *yen* a mile. Of course, that estimate is based on the supposition that they get the land for nothing. But even then it is an extraordinary calculation. We do not believe that even American engineers, working under the slackest conditions, ever succeeded in building a prairie line for £800 a mile.

It is stated by the *Nippon* that strenuous efforts are being made by the American Standard Oil Company to buy up all the kerosene wells in Japan. It would not be a large order, so far as actual output is concerned, but a great number of claimants would have to be satisfied. In Niigata Prefecture alone there are said to be 200 wells actually worked, and applications have been made to work as many more.

Messrs. Liu and Chin, the Chinese Commercial Commissioners, about whom some of the Tokyo journals wrote in terms of disparagement, are evidently beyond the reach of the aspersions cast by these newspapers upon their status and reputation in China. They have had the honour of being received in audience by the Emperor, and have now been entertained by a number of the leading business men of Tokyo in the Kamesei restaurant at Yanagi-bashi.

It is predicted that a new council will soon be added to the Government. Its business will be connected chiefly with the finances of the Imperial Household. Detailed rules have also to be drawn up for the Law of the Imperial House (*Kōshitsu tempan*) which is appended to the Constitution, and there are many questions relating to the Princes and the nobles which have still to be settled. Marquis Ito is expected to accept the presidency of the council, and its name will probably be the *Seikō Chōsa-kai*.

The Nippon Cement Kaisha, which has its works at Yatsushiro in the province of Higo, seems to have got into serious trouble. Some time ago, it wrote down its 32-*yen* (paid up) shares to 25 *yen*, and now there is talk of a second step of that nature. Tokyo journals allege that not only is the machinery used by the Company most defective, but also the director, Mr. Kikuchi Jirobei, is quite incompetent and the staff employed by him deserve the same epithet. The Company is said to have made a loss of 54,000 *yen*, and there is a rumour that a bank, the name of which is not given, has been badly involved.

Rumours are circulated about a very shady transaction in which Messrs. Shiga and Watanabe are alleged to be concerned. The reported facts—very vaguely outlined—are that a contract was made for the supply of a quantity of small arms to the Phillippine insurgents; that it could not be implemented, probably owing to the vigilance of the Japanese Authorities; that a sum of twenty thousand taels was paid as bargain money, and that only one half of that amount has been returned. It is exceedingly difficult to believe that either of these gentlemen can have been guilty of any impropriety, but the rumours appear to be partially credited in some quarters.

An attempt has been made to elicit from Judge Mizuo some statement of his reasons for resigning his judicial position in Formosa, but he has evidently prescribed for himself a rule of reticence. He did, however, inform a journalist who visited him that if he spoke out, there would be a second Takano affair, and of course that admission is construed to mean that the Judge has some serious grievances to complain of. These are dull times. Seldom has there been such a dearth of exciting political topics. Journalists are therefore only too ready to snatch at every conceivable material for manufacturing a sensation.

The Formosan Government has issued a set of regulations for controlling the immigration of Chinese labourers. It is evident that Formosa stands in need of cheap labour, and that the Chinese have proved themselves capable of satisfying the need. Hence the policy of the Government is to admit Chinese labour, but, at the same time, to subject the immigration to efficient control. The system adopted is to create, between the Authorities and the labourer, a class of responsible contractors with whom every labourer desiring to enter the country must have an agreement. The contractors will be required to deposit security and will be licensed by the Governor-General, after complying with certain preliminaries and giving proof of their *bonâ fides*.

There appears to be no doubt that Count Kabayama's project for the establishment of additional universities and high schools has been temporarily shelved by the Cabinet. The journals that have noted the fact speak of it with much regret, the *Jiji Shimpo*, however, constituting a notable exception. The *Jiji*'s view is that Count Kabayama is beginning at the wrong end. If the Treasury can afford to devote additional funds to education, the primary schools should be the recipients of aid before all others. Such is the line of policy indicated in Representations passed by the Diet and in petitions from the people. Our contemporary adheres to its belief that politics have something to do with the proposal to add to the number of high schools.

It is now denied that the eight-years' programme of the Minister of State for Educational has been rejected by the Cabinet. It has been merely laid aside, on the understanding that whenever funds are available they shall be devoted to carrying it out. The Cabinet is understood to be very averse to any increase of taxation. It considers that the revenue now derived from taxation should amply suffice to meet all legitimate outlays, and that projects involving an increase of the people's burdens should be postponed. The transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury is considered absolutely necessary, but the establishment of new universities and high schools can be put off until funds become available without any special effort to procure them.

Mr. Suzuki Keikun has invented a form of cosmoscope, which appears to possess great merits. He took out a patent last February, and he gave an exhibition of the instrument at the Fujimiken in Tokyo on the 29th instant. It seems to be a comparatively simple affair. The theory is identical with that of the French cosmoscope, but the details are different, and the results compare favourably with those given by the European instrument. Thus, whereas the latter produces an image only twelve times larger than the original, Mr. Suzuki's cosmoscope magnifies from 200 to 600 times. At the exhibition on Saturday, some tiny objects were projected on the screen with a minuteness and clearness of detail that were really admirable.

The Sapporo politicians gave a hearty welcome to the Liberal representatives when the latter visited them recently. A meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Liberal Party, and quite a number of resolutions were passed; as, for example, that Hokkaido should be enfranchised; that the construction of colonization railways by the State should be expedited; that the system of local government should be amended; that Hakodate and Otaru should be joined by rail; that the trunk line of the Tanko Railway should be acquired by the State, and so on. It is evident that the people in the northern island are beginning to take a very lively interest in their own affairs, and the Liberals have acted wisely in establishing a branch there.

Telegrams from Formosa indicate the recrudescence of disturbance. Lim Li-seng, the insurgent leader, who resided for some time in Amoy and was supposed to have abandoned his evil habits of life, has returned to the island, and, mustering a force of malcontents, has made his way to Pehshan—*i. e.* the hilly district in the north. That would be bad enough, but it is supplemented by worse; namely, that Lim Ho-ang, the insurgent leader in the Gilan region, who long ago made act of submission and was believed to have become a law-abiding subject, has raised his flag, and is endeavouring to establish communications with Lim Li-seng. It

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would seem that the people were right—Dr. Myers among the rest—who predicted that the submission of the insurgents could not be trusted, and that any clemency on the part of the Japanese would be misconstrued.

We regret to have to announce the death of Viscountess Shinagawa, which took place at 5 p.m. on the 2nd instant. The deceased lady was only 51 years of age. She had been ailing for some time, and her end was entirely painless. The funeral service will be performed at the Hongwan Temple in Tsukiji at 8 a.m. on the 6th instant, and it is announced that the High Prelate Count Otani will officiate.

The Astronomical Observatory which Japan has pledged herself to build in connection with the international society organized for the purpose of conducting such researches, will be finished and ready forwork by January or February next, it is expected. It is in Iwate Prefecture, and will be constructed partly of iron and partly of wood, at a total cost of twelve thousand *yen*. The site has already been acquired and prepared, and the iron portion of the structure is expected to arrive very shortly. The observatory will be called the "Mizusawa Temmondai."

The foreign residents of Tsukiji are said to be considerably discontented about the state of the settlement. The streets, they say, are wide enough, but there are no side-walks, and the method of effecting repairs is simply to lay down coarse gravel, which renders walking very painful for persons with ordinary foot-gear, especially ladies. The lighting, too, is effected by means of common lamps, instead of by gas, as is the case in Tokyo generally. We quote these statements from Japanese papers, which add that the foreigners are consulting as to the propriety of a round robin to the municipal authorities.

Women are employed in factories, in Government works, in telephone exchanges and even in banks in Japan, and there is now talk of employing them in railway offices. The *Jimmin* highly approves of the project. It thinks that the surest way of improving the social status of women and developing their power is to extend their sphere of usefulness. In Joshin the dames are called *Kaka denka*, or "their imperial highnesses the housewives," and they owe the title to the fact that by engaging in sericulture they contribute substantially to the support of the family. Increase her bread-winning capacity and woman's importance will increase proportionally.

When the last batch of United States troops reached Japan, homeward bound from the Philippines, some English-speaking students of Tokyo had the happy idea of offering their services gratuitously to guide the visitors around Tokyo. A similar movement is now on foot with regard to the next batch of troops passing through, and we observe that several Tokyo journals contain notices, inviting any lads who are inspired by this courteous motive to make application to Mr. Miller, of the United States Legation. This is certainly a very graceful act on the part of the Tokyo lads. It bears strong testimony to the feelings by which they are actuated towards the people of the United States. We may also be permitted to say that such kind thoughtfulness will go far to remove the stigma of occasional rudeness to foreigners which has attached to the Japanese student class during recent years.

It is interesting to learn that there are 2,800 Japanese subjects settled in Russia's Siberian dominions. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives a list. Sixteen hundred and seventy of them are in Vladivostock, and the rest are scattered among fourteen different places. Considering that throughout the whole of the Chinese empire only 1694 Japanese are residing, the figure for Siberia is very remarkable. Quietly and without attracting any attention the Japanese seem to have been finding their way to that remote region. The *Nichi Nichi* encourages them to continue doing so. America and the British colonies show a disposition to object to Japanese immigrants. We may condemn such a prejudice as illiberal and even uncivilized, but the people of the United States and of Australasia know their own minds, and are entitled to choose. "If they don't want us," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "we should be very foolish to thrust ourselves upon them. Let us go where a welcome awaits us."

In our translation of the regulations relating to bills of health, we used the expression "must" whereas "may" is the proper rendering of the original. A ship is not *required* to obtain a bill of health from the Quarantine Station, but *may* do so on payment of a fee of 5 *yen*. We have to apologise for the incorrect rendering. With reference to this we are informed that Western countries acknowledge bills of health only when issued by their own consuls, and that, consequently, a bill of health emanating from the Japanese sanitary authorities would have no validity in international law. Our informant infers that the Japanese regulation is appplicable to Japanese ships only. As to the latter point we are in a position to say that our informant's inference is not consistent with the intention of the framers of the regulation: it is intended to refer to foreign ships also. Its import is that any ship, whatever the flag she flies, clearing from Yokohama, Kobe, or Nagasaki for a foreign port, may obtain a bill of health from the officials at the quarantine station on payment of a fee of 5 *yen*.

It appears that the Governor of Osaka has bowed to the decisions of the legal authorities, for he has cancelled all the orders of suspension issued by him against the journal known as the *Zōshi Shimbun*. We are at a loss to understand how the Governor can have supposed that he could persist in a course which the law refused to endorse. On the other hand, it is equally difficult to perceive how there can have been any difference of opinion as to whether an article in the newspaper was political or non-political. That ought to be discernible with the greatest ease. No newspaper is entitled to publish political matters unless it has furnished the security required by law, and, if it has not furnished the security, its writing ought not to be of such a character as to bear any resemblance to political discussion.

The bare-armed child of Osaka has found its way into the Tokyo journals. No wonder. We live in a state of hysteria. It does not often fall to the lot of a little mite just emerging from babyhood to become the subject of leading articles, as was the case with the Osaka dot. We do not profess to have accurately followed its journalistic experiences, but we have certainly observed two leaders devoted to its case by a Kobe newspaper. What a case it was, to be sure! A police-constable, who may fairly claim to be the "boss" ass of his craft, considered that the law for the preservation of public decency was violated because a wee lassie wore a dress with short sleeves. Imagine what would happen if such a policeman found his way into a treaty-port ball-room! All the ladies in the community would be placed under arrest. The man is a fool. That is all there is about it. No champion editor need trouble himself to nail a flag to any mast or flourish any charter of liberty about such an episode.

The Chief of Police in Tokyo recently summoned the heads of the various establishments for hiring *jinrikisha* and warned them against an abuse that has begun to be flagrant, namely, demanding extortionate fares. He also told them that any display of rudeness to women, children, or foreigners would be severely dealt with. No doubt the Chief of Police has seen reason to take this step, but we are bound to say that the conduct of the *jinrikisha*-men of Tokyo has always struck us as most praiseworthy. They are, as a rule, quiet, orderly folk, who work hard for small wages and seem to be cheerful and contented despite their hard lot.

There appears now to be little hope that any of the passengers and crew of the *Nunobiki Maru* have been saved, with the exception of the 13 who were carried to Shanghai and the 12 who reached Moji. It follows that fully 80 or 90 must have been lost. Strange to say, no detailed list of the number and names has yet been published. One of the *Nunobiki* boats was found by the *Takao* floating bottom up, and a foreign steamer saw some life-buoys drifting about, but there is no further intelligence. The survivors who were carried to Shanghai by a steamer of the Taku Company say that a steamer flying the Belgian flag passed close to them when they were in distress and took no notice of their signals. The ship is supposed to be the *Ecquador*.

A question has been addressed to us on the subject of ship's papers. It appears that the officials at the Kobe Custom House have demanded the custody of such documents, whereas the international usage in other countries is that they should be deposited at the consulate of the ship's flag. Indeed, the regulations of some States impose heavy fines if the master of a ship fails to comply with this rule, and even in Japan it is conventionally agreed that the Public Procurator cannot issue a warrant for the arrest of a seaman who has deserted from a foreign vessel unless the latter's papers have been deposited at the Consulate, from which it may be inferred that the Japanese Authorities also recognise this usage. We have made inquiries on the subject, and are informed that the Kobe Customs' officials are acting in accordance with the regulations as the latter now stand, but that the point is under consideration. It may be presumed, we imagine, that Japan will modify her regulations so as to bring them into accord with the universal custom, unless some special objection presents itself.

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TRANSLATION OF LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND ORDINANCES.

IT is easy to sympathise with the complaint of a correspondent, whose letter we publish elsewhere, on the subject of the translation of Japanese laws, notifications, and so forth. If these various instruments were drafted in some language which the average foreigner could read without much difficulty, there would be less ground for dissatisfaction. But the Japanese language, and above all the Japanese language as used by compilers of legal enactments, is quite beyond the reach of any person who has not made a life-long study of it. The local foreign newspapers are obliged to retain the services of translators, and to give a considerable space in their columns to matter which has no proper place in an ordinary journal. Yet their efforts do not satisfy the need. For it must be frankly confessed that the translators whose services are within reach of the foreign local press do not possess technical training sufficient for the exact rendering of laws and ordinances into English. Very few Japanese do possess such training, and those few can command in official positions salaries and prospects far superior to anything offered by a newspaper. In some cases the experts of H.B.M.'s Legation, and men like Dr. LÖNHOLM, lend their assistance; assistance for which we can not be too grateful. But, on the whole, it is a haphazard and highly unsatisfactory state of affairs. Perhaps the best way would be for the foreign newspapers to publish epitomes of important laws, leaving to persons directly interested the duty of consulting the text. Perhaps, too, we are all over-anxious about these same laws and ordinances. They do not appear in Japanese newspapers. They appear in the *Official Gazette* only, and probably not one Japanese in every thousand units of the population reads the *Official Gazette*. People go on their way placidly. If they want law they can get it; if they don't want it, they can rule it out of their lives. But partly because of the interest attaching to the legislation of new Japan as a problem of progress, and partly because of the peculiar inaccessibility of Japanese laws to foreign readers, it has become customary to translate them and call attention to them, until truly the foreign resident has got to feel that he is standing in a permanent shower-bath of legislation, and that to avoid being a law-breaker is a task of bewildering difficulty. We recommend our readers to lay aside this feeling if they can, and to trust that the course of events will teach them all the law they need know, and that the lesson will not be accompanied by any disagreeable strain whatever. The International Committee have adopted the very wise precaution of engaging Dr. LÖNHOLM'S services to keep them posted in the provisions of all important enactments, and the community may rest content.

Concerning official translations, our correspondent's point seems justly taken; but has he stopped to inquire whether the Government of any Western country publishes official translations of its laws and ordinances in a foreign language? We can scarcely expect the Japanese Government to be a unique exception to the universal rule. They were willing to pledge themselves to that course in the early days of the Treaty Revision negotiations, but, owing to causes which need not now be recapitulated, the opportunities of those early days were not recognised or utilized by Foreign Powers, and people who, like ourselves, pointed out that there would never again be so favourable a time for effecting Revision on a mutually satisfactory basis, were denounced as enemies of the community. It is too late now to cry over spilled milk.

THE NEW REGIMEN.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* devotes one of its excellent articles to the subject of the new regimen, inaugurated on the 4th of August. It extols the courage shown by foreign Powers in submitting their nationals to the jurisdiction of an Oriental State for the first time in the history of the world. They held off for several years, but, as soon as they saw that Japan was ready, they boldly and unhesitatingly took the just step. Had the positions been reversed, had it devolved on Japan to make a similar concession to foreign nationals, it may fairly be doubted whether she would have displayed an equal measure of courageous resolution. There are some who claim that the recognition of Japan's claims to equal treatment was due, not to any real appreciation of her peaceful progress, but to a sudden perception of her warlike prowess, as displayed in her fight with China. The error of such an assertion is exposed at once when we observe that Great Britain concluded the Revised Treaty some months before the war with China commenced, and at a time when the belligerent capacities of this country were quite unknown in the West, and greatly underrated, especially in England. Japan owes her new status to the frank good-will of Occidental States and to their impartial estimate of her civilized progress. What has to be guarded against now is the occurrence of petty incidents like the recent action of an Osaka policeman in finding fault with the bare arms of a little child, or the adoption of criminal proceedings against a foreigner who was found sketching the scenery at Hashidate, in complete ignorance, no doubt, that he was exercising his artistic faculties within a zone of defence. The police have to be taught that their duty is, not to enforce the law, but to prevent infractions of it.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Japanese Municipal Government, by J. TWIZELL WAWN, of H. M. Consular Service; Kobe, *Kobe Chronicle* Office.

Mr. J. Twizell Wawn, of Her Majesty's Consular Service, has compiled a brochure on the somewhat complicated subject of Japanese Municipal Government. The little book is quite a feat, for within the short space of 22 pages Mr. Wawn succeeds in giving a clear and comprehensive account not only of municipal government in general, but also of the administration of the town of Kobe in particular—Mr. Wawn calls it a "city," we observe—and of the method of assessing urban taxes. Kobe is not chosen for any special reason, but is taken because it happened to be particularly accessible. It serves to furnish a practical illustration of the working of the system. We can not epitomise Mr. Twizell Wawn's information; he himself has carried the art of condensation as far as it could be carried without sacrificing perspicacity. We shall confine ourselves, therefore, to saying that any one desirous of learning how local affairs are managed in Japan, could not possibly have a better guide than this excellent little book.

The Californians, by Gertrude Atherton; London, Heinemann's Colonial Library: Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

Mrs. Atherton makes a distinct advance in her present volume, and may now fairly claim a leading position in the foremost ranks of lady novelists. Her style has improved considerably, and here and there she attains a brilliance that was lacking in much of her previous work. The story of *The Californians* is brief, and the manner of its telling is such that the reader's attention is held to the end. The principal character is Magdalena Yorba, the offspring of an alliance between an angular New England "school-marm" and a Spanish grandee of the *ancien régime*. Magdalena was understood by her friends to be shy, reticent, proud, apparently cold and impassive—an unhappy and incongruous mixture of Spanish and New England traits,—but underneath her cold exterior beat a heart charged to the full with generous human emotions. Her bosom friend is Helena Belmont (daughter of her father's business partner), and through Helena she suffers the severest trial that a woman can suffer—the filching of her lover. Helena is a typical daughter of the soil. One of her admirers describes her in the following words:—

"Helena Belmont was that most dangerous rival of other women,—a girl whom men loved desperately with no attendant loss of self-respect. Whatever their passion, they felt a keen personal delight in the purity of her mind; and they admired themselves the more that they appreciated her cleverness. She was not only a woman to love but to idolise; she gave even these prosaic San Francisco youths vague promptings to distinguish themselves by some great and noble action, sending her shafts straight through the American brain to those dumb inherited instincts which had straggled down through the centuries from mediæval ancestors. Her very selfishness—which she was pleased to call Paganism—charmed them: it was one of the divine rights of the woman born to rule men and to create a happiness for one unimagined by lesser women. No man but idealised her, unfanciful as he might be, not so much for her beauty or gifts, or for all combined, as because when she gave herself it would be for the last as it was for the first time. As

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the reader knows, there was nothing ideal about Helena. Even her fastidiousness was natural in view of her up-bringing. She was a most practical young flirt, with a very distinct intention of having her own way as long as she lived. The wealth and petting and adulation which had surrounded her from birth had made a thorough-going egoist of her, albeit a most charming one; for she was warm-hearted, impulsive, generous, and kind—in her own way. Naturally the men for whom her lovely eyes beamed welcome, for whom her tantalising mouth pouted into smiles, thought her nothing short of a goddess, and were moved to inarticulate rhyme.

The men of the story are Don Roberto Yorba, father of Magdalena, Hiram Polk, Yorba's brother-in-law; Colonel Jack Belmont, father of Helena; and a Mr. Trennahan, Magdalena's lover. Yorba is a descendant of an ancient Spanish family who had held lands in California since that lovely country first owned allegiance to Spain; Belmont and Polk were among the early Yankee pioneers. All had made "a pile," but the less said about their morals the better. Belmont was notorious for his free-living, but "neither Don Roberto nor Polk drank to excess, and they kept their mistresses in more decent seclusion than is the habit of the average San Franciscan." Trennahan was a man of much superior mould to this. When the time came for him to declare his passion for Magdalena, he found his tongue shaping this confession :—

"My life, I am going to tell you, has not been an ideal one. After the wildness of youth came the deliberate transgressions of maturity, then the more flagrant, because purposeless sins which followed satiety. I know nothing of the middle classes of the United States,—I have lived little in this country,—but the young men of the upper class are not educated to add to the glory of the American race: they are educated to spend their fathers' millions. It is true that in spite of a rather wild career at college I left it with a half-defined idea of being a scientific explorer, and had taken a special course to that end. But my ambitions crumbled somewhere between the campus and New York. I am not seeking to exculpate myself, to throw the responsibility on my adolescent country: I had something more than the average intelligence, and I pursued my subsequent life deliberately. Not pursuing an ideal, I had no care to reserve the best that was in me for the woman who should one day be my wife. I entered diplomacy because I like the life, and because I believed that the day would come when women would mean little more than paper dolls to me, and power would mean everything. I did not reckon on wearying to desperation of the world in general. That time came; with it a desire to live an outdoor existence for the rest of my life. That at least never palled. I determined to come to California. It was an impulse; I hardly speculated upon whether I should remain or not. As the train slid down the Sierras, I knew that I should. Memories jumbled, and I made no effort to pull them apart. For the first time in my life I wanted a home and wife. The night we met I felt more attracted to you than to the other charming Californians I had met because you seemed more a part of the country. It is singular that a man should love the country first, and the woman as a logical result, but I did. I think that you know I love you; but not how much, nor what it means to me. I am not good enough for you. My soul is old. I see life exactly as it is. I have not an illusion. I am as prosaic as are all men who have made a business of the pleasures of life. I could not make you a perfervid or romantic speech to save my life, and as the selfishness of a lifetime has made me moody and fitful, there will be intervals when I shall be the reverse of lover like; but on the whole I think you will find me a rather ardent lover. It seems very little to offer [illegible] has everything to give. But I love you; never doubt that. What little good was left in me you have coaxed up and trained to something like its original proportions. I want you to understand what my past has been; but I also want you to understand that I am not the same man I was six months ago, and that you have worked the change. When I crossed the continent, it is no exaggeration to say that I had Hell in me,—that ferment of spirit which means mental nausea and the desperate dodging of one's accusing soul. I suppose such a time comes to most men who have persistently violated the original instinct for good. With the lower orders it means crime; with the higher civilisation a legion of imps shrieking in a man's soul. I will not say that my particular band have been silent since I came here, for that would mean moral obtuseness; but they are placated, and have consented to fix a generous eye on the future. I believe, firmly believe, that my future will atone for my past,—morally, I mean; I want you to understand that I wronged no man but myself, that I have been guilty of no act unbecoming a gentleman. Now look at me and tell me that you do not hate me."

But though Magdalena accepted him then, many weary years had to pass, many trials had to be met and endured in silence, ere the wedding bells rang for their nuptials.

The book is wholly unconventional in its development, and in California, particularly in San Francisco, has evoked much averse criticism. Still, for all that, it deserves the attention of the thoughtful, for it is idle to deny the brilliance of its portraiture or the humour and freshness of some of its dialogue.

The Captive of Peking, by Charles Hannan London, Jarrold and Sons.

Messrs. Jarrold and Sons have issued in a handsome form Mr. Charles Hannen's adventurous story, but putting it into a stronger cover and printing it on heavier paper than is usually associated with Colonial Editions. The tale, which opens rather clumsily, as if the writer were a new hand at story-telling, improves as it proceeds and eventually becomes exciting. It is just such a story as a boy would delight in, telling as it does of life in a strange land, of diabolical tortures heroically withstood by an Englishman who had inadvertently incurred the hatred of the priests of the Temple of Confucius in Peking, and of the manner of his deliverance from his inhuman gaolers—a deliverance achieved by another Englishman and a naturalised Chinaman. The latter is the real hero of the book and is full of all the heroic virtues beloved by boys, while his presence is described as being most commanding. If the story had been written for home consumption alone it would have escaped criticism. But anyone at all acquainted with Chinese personal names must protest against the appellation bestowed on the hero of this novel. Chin-chin-wa is about as happy a shot at a Chinese personal cognomen as was Victor Hugo's famous Lord Tom Jim-Jack—Hugo's typical English milord. In several other features the old Eastern resident will recognise slips and errors that will destroy for him the verisimilitude of the tale. For the rest, the book is admirably printed, tastefully bound, and altogether well got-up.

Much interest is felt, and not by medical men alone, in the inquiry which has been set on foot by the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases as to the origin of malaria on the West African Coast. Major Ross, who has gone out to Sierra Leone, holds the theory that the disease is due to the bite of certain species of mosquito. It will be his object, with the help of Dr. Sunnett, who accompanied him, to ascertain what kinds of mosquitoes are dangerous, and then to try whether, by stopping up the puddles in which they breed, malaria can be exterminated.

THE SERPOLLET TRAM CAR.

Trials of the Serpollet system tramcar introduced into this country by Captain Bonguoin have been taking place the last few days at the Tokyo Tramway Company's Yard at Asakusa, and a representative of this journal had an opportunity of inspecting the whole method of working. The new vehicle has excited a great deal of interest among the Japanese, and the trials have been witnessed by numerous and keenly critical spectators. Among those present on the morning of August 1st, was Mr. Furuichi, Vice-Minister of the Department of Communications, who appeared to be deeply interested in the working of the new machine. The French Consul at Yokohama, M. Ratard, and other gentlemen were also present.

The advantages claimed for the Serpollet tram car are speed, noiselessness, absence of smoke and steam, economy, and ease of management. The roofed yard in which the trials took place was about as unfavourable a place as could well be selected as far as regards showing off the capabilities of the invention. The glassed roof reproduced and exaggerated every sound, and showed the slightest trace of steam, while the limited area and the sharp curves of the lines were highly unfavourable to the full display of the merits of the new car. But with all these disadvantages the general impression made on all who took the trouble to examine was that cars on the Serpollet system are likely to prove the best street vehicles yet invented. They are far swifter and more powerful than horse trams. That primitive method of street travel is, we imagine, destined to be superseded in the big towns of Europe by the Serpollet system. London, most conservative of the great cities, has still several thousands of horse trams on the suburban streets, but a syndicate has been formed to purchase the Serpollet patent and to introduce the new cars into the British metropolis. In Antwerp, too, the system has been adopted, while in Paris it is in actual working on seven tram lines which run into the great centre of La Madelaine. In all places, indeed, where horse trams have hitherto been the usual form of public conveyance, the Serpollet cars should have little difficulty in installing themselves. The dirt, the inhumanity, and the low speed incident on horse traction condemn the system. In the central streets of London the bus, with its wonderful sinuosity, and power of getting into and out of the most fearful complications of traffic unharmed, will probably hold its own against the new competitors; it will be long before we see tramlines in front of the Mansion House, or in Picaddilly. And where electric cars have been established there will naturally be an unwillingness to discard them in favour of a new idea, however good in itself. But it must be admitted, we think, that the Serpollet car has many points of advantage even over the electric system. No wires, cables, or centre rails are required, and sources of inconvenience and possible danger are thus avoided.

The machine with which the trials were made is a big car capable of holding twenty persons. The engine is of a peculiar pattern. The smoke-stack is on a level with the top of the car, and emits no black smoke, though an occasional puff of steam can be observed just at starting and stopping. The working is nearly noiseless even in a covered shed, and would be, we imagine, wholly so in the open street. These results are obtained by the inventor by a most happy and ingenious device. The good points of the invention will be best appreciated by comparing the new engine with one of the ordinary pattern. In an ordinary engine there is a boiler of fixed capacity, which requires a given amount of caloric to generate the power, and that heat must be kept up, whether the whole power is used or not. There is thus a good deal of waste. When the engine is at rest the furnace is still burning fiercely, and the steam generated runs to waste through the safety-valve, causing a noise which makes its use on the open road most dangerous to horse traffic. The Serpollet engine is on an entirely different

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plan. In the first place, coke, which gives out little or no smoke, is the fuel used when the engine is intended to work a street tram, though there is no reason why coal or petroleum should not be employed where there is no hygienic objection to its use. Exposed to the full heat of the coke fire are a number of tubes placed across the furnace. They are fairly thick, and made of immensely strong steel, prepared by a special process, and capable of withstanding a pressure of 100 atmospheres. On the engine car is a reservoir from which water is conveyed to the tubes, which it enters in the form of a spray. The tube being almost of a red heat the water is immediately converted into steam, and the piston rod begins to move almost simultaneously with the operation of the spray. To stop the machine one has simply to cut off the spray of water, and the wheels cease to move almost immediately. There is of course also a brake to bring up the engine sharply in case of necessity. One great advantage of this device is that there is no puffing of steam, as with an ordinary engine. What steam escapes is superheated, and does not show. Another important point is that power is greatly economised. Supposing only three or four horse power be required, only a small proportion of the tubes need be filled with water; when extra power is wanted at a gradient or for increased speed it is easily obtained by utilizing more tubes. Thus the engine with which the trials were made could work at any power from 5 h.p. to 40 h.p. or over. Such an engine could draw three or four ordinary tramcars laden with passengers.

The system is a very economical one. It is calculated that, including fuel, oil, water, driver's wages, etc., the cost in Japan would not be greater than 13 *sen* per mile per car. We do not know precisely what is the cost per car mile under the horse traction system, but we imagine that, taking everything into consideration, it cannot be less than from 17 to 20 *sen*. The introduction of the Serpollet system on the Tokyo tram lines would be a step that might in some measure redeem the unenviable character the capital has earned for unprogressive muddling; certainly the condition of the streets would gain by the inauguration of a cleaner mode of traction than that at present in vogue. The influential Japanese who have visited the Asakusa yard during the last few days seem to think highly of the Serpollet car, and there are some reasons for hoping that it may be adopted. The car with which the trials were made would be probably be too large and in other ways unsuitable for Japanese streets, but a special design could easily be arranged which would meet all the requirements of Tokyo traffic much more efficiently and completely than the present method.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THAT "VILE EPITHET."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—What "Observer" says of the use of *rashamen* is worthy of more attention than you give it in your rebuke of the *Yorōzu Choho*. The question should be properly divided. There are foreigners who have married Japanese women according to the laws of their various lands, and who are true to them in public and private, and whose homes are worthy of all respect. We welcome these wives to our families and their children are companions to ours. It is a shame for any one to speak of such wives and mothers as *rashamen*. But there are other foreigners who simply live with Japanese women, and it is no wonder that Japanese who are sensitive to the evils of these unions should show their feelings by some such term.

"Observer" says the term *rashamen* "would be filthy on the lips of the lowest of coolies"; "is not only a cruel insult to the woman but an affront to her foreign patron"; and "no civilized journalist would think of employing such a word." I fear "Observer" has not observed very widely. Ex-president Kato, in the course of his *Hyakuwa*, discusses mixed marriages in his usual out-spoken style. He says;—"Mixed unions have been hitherto largely between European men and Japanese *rashamen*, so-called, who are their concubines. These are in no sense true marriages. The education of children born of European men and *rashamen* can never be accomplished so as to conserve the Japanese spirit." And he adds parenthetically that the majority of mixed unions that are true marriages occur between Japanese men and foreign women.

This single quotation is sufficient to show that the term is in use in high circles and has doubtless come to stay. If, however, it is used indiscriminately, it surely is, as "Observer" says, "a cruel insult" to the true wife, and "an affront" to her foreign husband. It can do no great harm, so far as I can judge, "to her foreign *patron*," nor to any foreigner's concubine who understands her position.

In the interests of public morals as well as good feeling between Japanese and foreigners, it seems as if something might be done to lessen the number of non-legal unions and thus restrict the use of this objectionable term. There are foreigners who have drifted into a kind of family life with native women, and who love their children, yet are depriving the little ones of their most precious rights, and are putting them under grave disabilities for life. Some of these men are open to manly appeals. I have heard of two or three, who, when instructed in the civil disabilities their children would inherit in case of the father's death, were more than willing to have a legal marriage. Surely the man who gives his name to the woman he lives with is a far better man, and citizen, than he possibly can be so long as he exposes her to be called *rashamen* and his children to life long dishonour.

Something might be done by Japanese too. Men like Ex-president Kato should not "abhor" unions of Japanese and foreigners when they are true marriages, nor fear that the children of such marriages would lose their Japanese spirit. There never is any peril to the State from legal marriages, no matter how mixed they may be. The peril comes from children who have no true father. They are always a danger to society. What is needed, now that we are all under one Government, is a wise, unobtrusive, friendly endeavour on the part of men and women of influence, Japanese as well as foreigners, to correct the evils of mixed unions by inducing the parties concerned to become true husband and wife.

"Observer's" observation opens up a wide and difficult question. The one thing needed, however, is not stopping the use of an offensive term so much as stopping the evils that gave rise to the epithet.

Yours, &c., MIXED RESIDENCE.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As a member of the foreign community, will you allow me to call attention to what I consider a most serious neglect on the part of the Japanese authorities? I am continually observing in your journal that a new notification or a new Imperial Ordinance has been issued concerning some point of great importance to foreigners. Generally you go to the trouble of having these documents translated, presumably at your own expense, but, though I think the whole community appreciates your efforts in this direction, newspaper translations and comments, however accurate and valuable, cannot be accepted as in any sense equivalent to an official notification. With one exception, I have never seen an official advertisement from either the Imperial or local Government either published in the English newspapers or on sale in pamphlet form for the use of foreign readers. I am an Englishman, and cannot therefore speak authoritatively of the usage in Continental Europe, or in America, but in England every public step taken by the Imperial or local authorities is advertised in the press, even if the matter is merely some petty question of the diversion of a road or the removal of a parish pump. Why, therefore, should not the Japanese authorities vouchsafe information in a similar manner to the foreign residents who, in point of interests, if not of numbers, form so important a section of the community? If Japanese were an ordinary language, accessible to any intelligent foreigner after a few years of study, publication of official notifications in the larger native papers would be sufficient. But to the ordinary foreigner Japanese is a sealed book, and I understand that the language in which notifications are couched is so involved and pedantic that even a foreigner with a very fair knowledge of the written character cannot fathom their meaning. Indeed, a large proportion of Japanese themselves are unable to read official notices. It appears to me, therefore, that it is quite unfair to the foreign resident to leave him without the slightest guidance as to what is expected of him.

Yours, &c., RESIDENT.

PIRATED BOOKS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Adverting to your Monthly Summary of Current Japanese Literature in to-day's issue of the *Japan Mail*, in the last paragraph you refer to Mr. J. C. Nesfield's Grammar Series, and say that teachers will be glad to know that they have been nicely reprinted in Japan at the cost of one *yen* and forty five *sen*; that they are exactly suited to the needs of the Japanese student, &c., &c.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Nesfield and his publishers and agents here are unable to share the teachers' delight. Complimentary undoubtedly the piracy may be, but authors do not write, and publishers do not invest money in MSS. for compliments only.

As a publisher myself, I venture to express the hope that you will not lend your columns in future to puffing unauthorised reprints of copy-right books, and indeed, if I understood correctly from a visit I received only to-day from two police officials, such publications are no longer permitted.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY J. SHARP.

Yokohama, July 27th, 1899.

[Our references to current literature are purely literary. They do not touch the question of copyright. But happily the era of piracy is past.—Ed. *J M*].

PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUES ON PARCELS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I beg to inform you that on and after the 4th August, the Customs duty to be levied on parcels arriving from foreign countries should be paid in revenue stamps, instead of in currency as heretofore.

Yours faithfully, N. NARITA.
Superintendent of Foreign Mails.

Yokohama, 3rd August, 1899.

A NEW STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

There is a project on foot among the Japanese business men of Kobe, in common with the Chinese residents of that port, to organise a Japan-China Steam-ship Company with an extensive programme of services; namely, a service between Kobe and Shanghai, Chefoo and Newchwang; a service between Kobe and Moji, Shanghai, Foochow and Amoy; a service between Chefoo and Port Arthur, Talien and Vladivostock—how is that to be accomplished, we wonder;—and a service between Chefoo and Newchwang and Tientsin.

The other day, the Irish Lord Chief Justice rebuked The Macdermott, Q.C., for appearing before him in an unprofessional white waistcoat. Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Q.C., immediately handed his friend a pin, and the professional gown was hurriedly draped over the offending vestment.

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SUBJECTS AND CITIZENS OF NON-TREATY POWERS.

The Government's policy has been decided with regard to the Chinese and the subjects or citizens of other Powers not entitled by treaty to trade, travel, and reside outside the limits of the Settlements. It is embodied in the following Imperial Ordinance which has just been published :—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 352.

Art. I.—It shall be lawful for foreigners, even though they do not possess, by treaty or custom, the privilege of residing in Japan, to reside, make changes of residence, carry on trade or engage in business inside or outside the places hitherto used as foreign settlements or zones of mixed residence.

Provided that it shall not be lawful for labourers to reside or carry on their business outside the places hitherto used as foreign settlements or zones of mixed residence, unless they obtain special permission to do so from the chief official of the local administration.

The Minister of State for Home Affairs shall determine the classes of person here designated "labourers" and shall enact detailed regulations for the operation of this Ordinance.

Art. II.—Persons violating the provisions of the second clause of the preceding article shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 100 *yen*.

Art. III.—This Ordinance shall become operative from the 4th of August, 1899.

Art. IV.—Imperial Ordinance No. 137, issued in 1894, shall cease to be operative from the day on which this Ordinance takes effect.

[Ordinance No. 137 was issued at the commencement of the war with China. It provides that all Chinese subjects residing in Japan must register themselves.—ED. *J.M.*]

The Minister of State for Home Affairs has issued the following Departmental Ordinance with reference to the above :—

DEPARTMENTAL ORDINANCE No. 42.

Art. I.—By "the chief official of the local administration" mentioned in Imperial Ordinance No. 352, shall be understood the Head of the Hokkaido Government or the Governor of a City or Prefecture.

Art. II.—By the term "labourers" employed in the 1st Article of the same Ordinance, shall be understood persons engaged in agriculture, fishing, mining, engineering (*doboku*), building, manufacturing, transportation, *jinrikisha* drawing, porterage, and other kinds of physical toil for gain.

Provided that persons employed as household servants, or as cooks or as waiters, shall not fall within the purview of this Ordinance.

Art. III.—It shall be competent for the Head of the Hokkaido Administration or the Governors of Cities and Prefectures to withdraw the permission granted to labourers should such a step seem desirable in the public interest.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Christ Church Rebuilding Fund acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a cheque for *yen* 500 towards the fund from CH. R.

A Notification issued by the Department of Home Affairs states that Ujina (in Hiroshima Prefecture), Moji (in Fukuoka Prefecture), Misumi (in Kumamoto Prefecture), and Kagoshima, shall be placed on the list of temporarily infected ports from the 4th instant.

Messrs. Singleton, Benda & Co., Mr. R. Perrott Forshaw, Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co. Ltd., Mr. George Woolsey (of the American Trading Co.) and several Chinese merchants have applied for licenses to deal in tobacco in accordance with the Tobacco Monopoly Regulations.

It is stated that the Authorities have purchased the Akaya iron mine in Niigata prefecture from the Mitsu Bishi Company for a sum of two hundred thousand *yen*, of which thirty thousand is paid down, and the rest will be paid next year. The mine is to be used for supplying ore to the new Iron Foundry. The output is expected to be a hundred thousand tons annually for twenty years.

There is talk of rather extensive changes of local governors. Mr. Kabayama, Governor of Miyazaki, has resigned owing to ill-health ; and Mr. Sonoyama, Governor of Nagano, Mr. Takasaki, Governor of Okayama, and Mr. Abe, Governor of Chiba, are all likely to be replaced.

Mr. H. J. Holm, head in Japan of the firm of Messrs. C. Illies & Co. has received from the German Emperor, the Prussian Crown Order (Preussischen Kronenorden) of the fourth class. The decoration was conferred in view of Mr. Holm's meritorious work in helping to frame the new tariff convention between Japan and the German Empire.

When the *Maine* was destroyed, she had on board nine Japanese subjects employed as waiters and cooks. Of these two escaped and seven lost their lives. A sum of 1,190 *yen* has now been forwarded from Washington, in aid of the families of the latter. It represents the proceeds of subscriptions put up by charitable persons in America.

Colonel Arisaka's improved system of field artillery and repeating rifles—the "thirtieth-year design" (*sanju nen-shiki*) as it is called, —has of course been carefully concealed from the public, but it has evidently won the complete approval of the Japanese War Department, for the manual of artillery and rifle drill has been altered to suit it. Tokyo papers say that a large number of the new rifles have been made, and that, in all probability, one Division, if not two, will have sufficient to place in the hands of the next batch of conscripts.

In H.B.M.'s Consular Court on Tuesday morning, before Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Assistant Judge, James A. Futch and Paul Saatman, seamen on the British sailing ship *Senator*, were charged by P. Johansen, master, with being absent without leave since July 30th. Both prisoners pleaded guilty. His Honour sentenced Futch to three weeks' hard labour, to forfeit two days' wages and pay the costs of the Court, and Saatman, in view of the master's request for lieniency to one week's hard labour, to forfeit two days' wages and pay costs of the Court.

The Japanese tea-producers and tea-dealers are organizing a strong effort to induce the Russian Government to remit the duty recently imposed upon tea imported into Russia. They have appointed a committee to wait upon the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce to urge the Government to take diplomatic action. It is not likely, we imagine, that these steps will meet with much success. The Russian Authorities are confronted by the necessity of dealing with a terrible famine, and it is natural that they should seek to raise revenue by every conceivable device.

We read in a Tokyo Journal that the Educational Authorities are contemplating some method of extending special recognition to aged scholars. The present idea is that all men of learning who have attained the age of 60 or upwards, and who have deserved well of the country in connexion with erudition, should either be received in audience by the Emperor or have the honour of dining with His Majesty. Whether this would be a regular function, or whether it is designed simply for the sake of the learned old gentlemen of the present time, we do not gather.

The general public has not hitherto heard much about the *Tetkoku Kisen Kaisha*, or Imperial S.S. Company, of Osaka. Now, however, it is brought into sudden notoriety by its misfortunes. The reports presented to the shareholders at their recent meeting showed a loss of 372,000 *yen* for the first half of the current year, and if to that sum be added a loss of 80,000 *yen* incurred during the second half of 1898, it will be seen that the Company's disasters represent 450,000 *yen*. It was decided at the meeting either to write a sum of 15½ *yen* off each share—thus reducing the paid-up value of 28 *yen* to 12½ *yen*, and covering 434,000 *yen* of the loss, or to wind-up the Company's affairs and close its business. A committee was appointed to decide which course should be adopted.

The elections next month for a moiety of the members of the Prefectural and City Assemblies are anticipated with much interest, as they will offer the first example of the working of the new system enacted by the Diet last session. The gist of the new system is that the elections are to be direct. Instead of first electing the town and district assemblies, and then delegating to them the task of electing the members of the Prefectural and City Assemblies, the people will now cast their votes direct. Further, the system of special elective privileges for large landed proprietors is abolished. It is expected that the result of these changes will considerably affect the strength of political parties. The new Imperialist party will be very active, but the prospect is not considered rosy for the Progressists.

The Customs authorities have sent us the Japanese text of some further Regulations from which we gather that henceforth payment of storage dues on goods left in the Customs, must be made every 10 days instead of every half month as heretofore. All Customs dues must be paid in revenue stamps, which can be bought at the Customs house. Instead of a foreign vessel applying to the Minister of Finance for permission to proceed to an unopened port, the master shall now apply to the Superintendent of Customs and pay a fee of *yen* 10. All complaints against the Customs in regard to assessment of dues must now be laid within ten days, such protest to be made in writing to the Superintendent. All forms of application, reports, etc., are on sale at the Customs House.

The current number of the *Household Brigade Magazine* contains an interesting account by Captain Molyneux-Montgomerie, of the Grenadier Guards, of the recruits that are coming in for the two battalions of the new Chinese regiments at Wei-hai-wei. They are quick at understanding what is told them and they never forget it. They pick up their drill with astonishing aptitude, but their unpunctuality and independence are extreme. "The Chinaman has absolutely no idea of time ; if he is told to do anything at nine o'clock, he will probably do it about ten or eleven. It never appears to him to be in any way peculiar that he should wear his uniform inside out if it strikes him that way, or that he should fall out at any moment that seems convenient. He takes matters exactly as they come, and is always smiling and good-tempered."

We have already spoken of the difficulties that are supposed to have undertaken the Japan Cement Company and of the fact that a bank was supposed to be heavily involved. We now learn from Tokyo journals that the bank is the Tokai Ginko, an institution which stands high in public favour, its shares being quoted at a hundred per cent. premium. The Tokai Ginko is a savings bank—not altogether, we believe, but certainly in great part. People are naturally much astonished that such an institution should have trusted one firm so implicitly as to accommodate it with 234,500 *yen*. Indeed, if the Cement Company's over drafts of current account are included, its liabilities to the Bank are expected to total a quarter of a million. Tokyo newspapers hint that the directors of the bank had a personal interest in the affairs of the company.

H.M.S. *Aurora*, which has just joined the Fleet on this station, is a first class armoured cruiser of 6,500 tons and carries 12 guns. She relieves the *Immortalité*, a sister ship, and is on her first foreign commission. Though the vessel is new to these waters, this is not so with her present Captain E. H. Bayly, who was in

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the Far East early in eighties, being then First Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Flying Fish*. The latter vessel, while surveying off the Korean coast on July 26th, 1882, picked up off Nanyu the survivors of the Japanese Legation at Söul who had fought their way from the capital to Jinsen, after the destruction of the Legation by a fanatical Korean mob, and had put off from the shore in small boats. The Japanese were taken on board the *Flying Fish*, the wounds of the injured were attended to, and every kindness was shown the refugees, who were afterwards conveyed in the vessel to this port. The captain, officers, and crew of the *Flying Fish* subsequently received the thanks of the Emperor of Japan. Captain Bayly, prior to the command of the *Aurora*, was in charge of the *Pelorus*, of the Channel Squadron.

GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

THE DIRECTOR QUESTION.

An adjourned meeting of the Grand Hotel Company was held on Thursday afternoon for the purpose of taking the poll demanded at the meeting on Monday week with reference to the election of directors for the vacancies caused by the retirement of Mr. J. F. Lowder and Dr. Hall. Mr. Lowder occupied the chair, and there were also present Mr. A. J. Easton, Mr. R. M. Stirling, Dr. C. H. Hall, Mr. M. Russell, Mr. John W. Hall, Paymaster McDonald, Captain Martin, Messrs. B. C. Howard, C. Heinlein, R. Howie, C. B. Bernard, N. Walter, J. Witkowski, E. V. Thorn, E. Andreis, F. Dietz, G. Bracialini, James Walter, and E. T. Osborn.

The CHAIRMAN said the proposition before the last meeting was that Dr. Hall and Mr. Lowder be elected directors for the ensuing year, and that Paymaster McDonald then called for a poll. He proposed now to take the poll on the conjunction of names. If that were not carried it would be open to the meeting to elect two others in place of Dr. Hall and himself.

The list of shareholders and proxies was then called: and the voting given with the following result:—

AGAINST.

Dr. Hall's proxies	292
Paymaster McDonald's proxies	53
Mr. E. V. Thorn	10
Paymaster McDonald	34
Mr. F. Dietz	11
Dr. Hall	10
	410

FOR.

Mr. A. J. Easton	10
Mr. R. Howie	19
Mr. C. B. Bernard	14
Mr. N. Walter	5
Mr. J. Witkowski	19
Capt. Martin	14
Mr. M. Russell	10
Mr. J. W. Hall	1
Mr. R. M. Stirling	5
Mr. E. T. Osborn	10
Mr. B. C. Howard	14
Mr. J. Tornoe	7
	128

Mr. JAMES WALTER and Mr. LOWDER refrained from voting.

The CHAIRMAN declared the amendment—that himself and Dr. Hall be elected—lost, and suggested that it was now for the meeting to elect new directors.

Mr. THORN proposed that Dr. Hall and Paymaster McDonald be elected, as proposed at the last meeting.

On the motion being put, nine voted for and seven against.

The CHAIRMAN declared the proposition carried.

Mr. HOWIE said he could not let the opportunity pass without saying a word of thanks to the outgoing Chairman. The shareholders owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Lowder for the able way in which he had directed the affairs of the company ever since it started as a limited company. The shareholders had had unlimited confidence in him, and under his chairmanship the hotel had prospered exceedingly. He only hoped that a Chairman would be found who would work as ably and faithfully in the interests of the shareholders as Mr. Lowder had done.—(Applause)

Mr. LOWDER said it was extremely gratifying to him to find that the duties he had been called upon to perform had been discharged to the satisfaction of some at least of the shareholders who were present. He had nothing to regret in anything he had done or omitted in the interests of the shareholders, and he sincerely hoped that they would have as conscientious duty performed in the future as they had had already; and he might add that he had no doubt they would have from the shareholders point of view. He might perhaps say that it was a little impolitic to swap horses while crossing a stream, but he had had no reason to doubt that they would find the new team equal to any occasion that might offer. With these words he took leave of them as Director and Chairman of the Company.—(Applause.)

KOREAN NOTES.

A commission has been appointed by his Majesty, says the *Independent* to revise the whole of the laws in all departments. One of the first things this commission has recommended is that the sleeves of the long coats are not big enough and that hereafter, "bell" sleeves should be worn.

Some disturbances have been going on in the Chang Chung province in the district of Un Chin between the people and the Roman Catholics. Ten of the ringleaders of the people have been captured and sentenced to one hundred blows and hard labour for life.

Yun Yong Sun has petitioned His Majesty, says the *News of the Empire*, for the dissolution of the Pedlars Guild on the ground that it is harmful to the people. He has also asked that all the officials who have been dismissed from office for no fault, shall be re-instated.

There is a strike on a small scale among the chairbearers of the Government officials, on account of a determination on the part of their employers to reduce their salaries to the sum of four dollars per month. The coolies memorialized the Government against the compact entered into by the masters, but received scant help, the memorial being thrown out at once. Consequently the whole of the chair bearers left, as the *Independent* puts it, "en block," without warning. Great consternation reigned among the officials when they had finished their duties at the Palace, to find that they either had to make their way home on foot or call other coolies.

There has been quite a squabble with the clerks at the Post Office and the Agricultural Department. A few days ago the secretary of the latter department sent his messenger with a letter to post. The messenger, having received some bad coin in exchange, broke it up in the presence of the clerk, and remonstrated with him in an uncivil manner, which caused his expulsion by the Post Office servants. The messenger went away and reported the manner to the Secretary, who then sent eight other servants round to arrest any one who happened to be on hand who was not a *Yang ban*. They did not, however, succeed. A deputation of Post Office officials, high and low, to the number of fifteen, called on the Minister of the Agricultural Department to lay the whole matter before him and to threaten that they would resign if something were not done. They were promised that two of the servants should be dismissed and imprisoned and there the matter rests for the present.

CHINA NOTES.

H.M.S. *Woodlark*, Lieut.-Commr. Barton, has made a very successful trip on the Tungting Lake and up the Siang River, being the first foreign man-of-war to show her colours in the interior of Hunan. At Yochou and Changsha, and wherever she has been, she was received by officials and people with open arms, and any opposition that the timorous might have anticipated was entirely absent.

There has been a meeting at Peking of officials from Shansi and Kansu, when it was determined to oppose foreign enterprise in these provinces to the utmost.

A petition has been presented by the Shanghai Magistrate to Kang Yi proposing to put the scheme of a volunteer corps at Shanghai in operation. It is decided to enroll 200 infantry, 60 artillery, and 40 cavalry to be trained by Japanese, the expenses to be met by an endowment fund of Tls. 100,000, half of which has been secured.

Says the *N.-C. Daily News* of July 22th:—"An important dispatch was received from Nanking by the local mandarins on Thursday night, stating that at a secret conclave of Grand Councillors, presided over by the Empress Dowager in person in the early morning of that day, it was solemnly decided to resist by force of arms any further attempts at "leasing" Chinese territory by Foreign Powers, and that a secret decree embodying this idea should be be issued to all Tartar-Generals, Viceroys, Governors, and Provincial Commanders-in-Chief throughout the empire. Continuing, the dispatch further states that the idea seems to be that some sort of fighting should be done in defence of the soil. If a successful defence be made, well and good; but, recognising the discontent of the masses with the Tartar or Manchu rule, and the hopelessness, therefore, of organised resistance with the aid of the people, it is intended to give in with a good grace, and yield to *force majeure* should the resistance be ineffectual. It is felt that any further action like the tame submission witnessed at the taking of Kiaochou will disgust the people and imperil the safety of the dynasty."

The Shanghai papers report the death at the age of 28 of Mr. Arthur Lewis Cooper, brother of Dr. Cooper, of Shanghai. Mr. A. L. Cooper was for some years in the service of the Indo-China S.N. Co., and was one of the officers of the steamer *Onwo* when she was sunk by the *Newchwang* at Woosung. He never completely recovered from the shock he received on that occasion.

The dividend paid by the Banque de l'Indo-Chine for 1898 amounts to 5 per cent. on the nominal capital, which is equal to 20 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the bank.

A Russian spy was caught by a Chinese at Weihaiwei taking photographs. He was arrested and taken to Chefoo by H.M.S. *Rattler* and handed over to the Russian Consul there.

AMERICAN NOTES.

After an interregnum of four years the University of Rochester has secured a president. Prof. Rush Rhees of Newton Theological Seminary, Newton, Mass., has been elected to that position.

The old Bell Inn at Hounslow is doomed. The inn was once the regular haunt of Dick Turpin and his gang, who often, it is said, hid their booty in its rooms, and sometimes concealed themselves in the two trees that stand before the doors. Now a florid new public-house is to be erected on the site.

According to Anglo-Saxon chroniclers Colchester owes its name and fame to old King Cole—Coel Godebog, to give him his true title. From a book compiled by Messrs. Wilson Marriage and Gurney Benham, two ex-mayors, who have taken in hand the building of a new town hall, it appears that Cole the Merry is to be honoured in stained glass and sculptured stone, with the other worthies, ancient and modern, of the town.

The American liner *Paris* entered Falmouth harbour on July 12, at midnight, after her long sojourn on the Manacles rocks. The Salvage

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Association which took the contract of towing her off, acted on the no cure, no pay principle. Hundreds of tons of rock were removed by dynamite, until the channel made beneath the steamer was practically the greater part of the length of the ship. It is understood that the salvors are the same parties who floated the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *China*. As the Falmouth dry dock cannot accommodate the *Paris*, it has been decided to run her on an unexposed sand beach in that harbour, where temporary repairs will be made before going to Southampton.

The increasing horrors of baby farming in Philadelphia have stirred the authorities to an investigation of the institutions where the inhumanities of the system are most in evidence. It is found that these places are conducted solely for the profit of their proprietors, and the infants who are not starved to death under the system, or do not die from lack of medicine and care, grow up like beasts, and are usually disposed of for a consideration to strangers who may do as they please with them.

Geologists assert that the natural-gas supply of Indiana will be practically exhausted in four or five years. Should their predictions turn out to be a reality, the effect on the prosperity of the State would, of course, be almost disastrous. Taking one industry as a basis, that of glass, we find that 11,319 men are employed therein, and that their annual wages foot up to $4,510,422, while the capital invested is $3,752,268, the value of raw material used $3,763,502, and the output is valued at $9,818,796. But the geologists are declared to be wrong by many in the interest.

Messrs. Putnams, the publishers, accused of piracy by Mr. Kipling, have issued a circular making a spirited reply to the latter, which appeared in the *Author* of London. Mr. Kipling said that settlement was impossible. The publishers reply:—"The only settlement possible was for us to lie down and let him walk over us." The Putnams do not think their edition can be fairly characterized as "an egregious, padded fake," and they resent warmly the insinuation that they tried to make capital out of Kipling's illness. Their reply is:—"The sets originally made up were put in hand in the early fall, and the later ones were started some time before Mr. Kipling's illness, as there was delay in securing the sheets on certain of the books. They were not ready for sale till the middle of March." The circular declares that the set was the most complete ever issued and deny that there was any false pretence about "A Ken of Kipling."

The President on July 12 appointed Colonel Alfred E. Bates Paymaster-General of the Army, to succeed General Asa B. Carey, retired. The appointment of General Bates has resulted in the promotion of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles I. Wilson to the rank of Colonel and the promotion of Major George W. Baird to be Lieutenant-Colonel. These promotions made a vacancy in the list of paymasters with the rank of Major. This vacancy was filled by the President by the appointment of Captain John Murphy, of the Fourteenth Infantry, in recognition of his services in the Philippines, and at his own request Major Murphy was placed on the retired list, his health having suffered from hardships in the Philippines. The vacancy caused by his retirement was filled by the appointment of Major Charles Newbold, of the Volunteer pay department.

The President has practically decided that the Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors of the ten Volunteer regiments now being organized are to be appointed from the list of regular Army officers of the next lower grades. A few exceptions may be made to the plan to appoint Lieutenant Colonels and Majors of the Volunteers from the regular Army, but it is positively stated that every officer above the rank of Captain in the ten new regiments must at least have served in the Volunteer service during the war with Spain. With the Captains and Lieutenants of the Volunteer regiments it will be different. It cannot be expected that there will be a sufficient number of those who have already seen service to fill all these places. Ten regiments will be organized with fourteen companies in each. Hence the following appointments will be made by the President: One hundred and forty Captains, 190 First Lieutenants and 120 Second Lieutenants.

Writing on July 8, *Bradstreets* announced that exceptionally heavy receipts from customs and internal revenues and a marked falling off in disbursements have enabled the U.S. Treasury to close the fiscal year with a deficit less by between $11,000,000 and $12,000,000 than was expected. For the twelve months ending with June the total receipts aggregated $516,216,474, which showed an increase of over $111,700,000 over the preceding fiscal year. The expenditures for the year amounted to $605,092,734, which represents an increase of over $161,700,000 as compared with the preceding fiscal year. The excess of disbursements over receipts for the year amounted, as will be seen from a comparison of the figures given, to $88,875,989. As has been indicated, this is less by over $11,000,000 than was anticipated by the Treasury officials, whose estimates were deranged by the results of the June operations; the latter showing a much larger balance on the right side of the ledger than was expected.

In the *Boston Transcript* we find a letter from Prof. Clay Macauley, dated from Tokyo in June. Mr. Macauley declares that Admiral Dewey told him he regretted the turn in affairs, but added that he was "powerless to act." The admiral said to him: "Rather than make a war of conquest on the Filipino people I would up anchor and sail out of the harbour." Mr. Macauley visited Manila in January, as our readers are aware. Of his views then he writes: "For a long time I could not believe that the disastrous drift of events was known to the Washington authorities. I was inclined to lay the responsibility for the increasing perils upon the military commander directly in charge. Yet now it seems clear to me that General Otis did his work in the main in literal obedience to his superiors in America; that there it was assumed that the whole right and duty concerning the future disposition and control of the Philippine islands lay in the wishes and will of the United States; what the Filipinos themselves might wish need not be taken into the account in formulating plans for their government." He had a talk with General Otis. "Among other things General Otis expressed regret that there was not a better knowledge of the situation among the Washington legislators than there seemed to be, and he impressed me deeply by his declaration—'I was ordered to this post from San Francisco. I did not believe in the annexation of these islands when I came here nor do I believe in an annexation now.'"

COLONEL RICE.

We find the following item in the *Chicago Record* of July 6:—"The President on July 5 announced the appointment of Colonel Edmond Rice to be senior colonel of the ten who are to be selected to command the new volunteer regiments for the Philippines. Colonel Rice is well known in Chicago, where he organized and commanded the Columbian guard at the World's Fair. He had an excellent record in the civil war, having been commissioned an officer in one of the Massachusetts regiments at its outbreak. He served with much distinction throughout, rising to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet. He made a most miraculous escape from the Richmond prison. At the outbreak of the Spanish war Colonel Rice was stationed at Tokyo, as military attaché. He applied for permission to come home and be assigned to active duty. He was appointed lieutenant colonel and inspector of volunteers and was assigned to duty with General Miles on his expedition to Puerto Rico. He was later authorised by the Governor of Massachusetts to take command of the 6th volunteer regiment from that State upon the resignation of its colonel and some other officers. Colonel Rice has been directed to proceed to Plattsburg barracks, New York, and assume charge of the organization of a volunteer regiment there. He says he will telegraph to a number of the men who served in the Columbian guard, principally in Chicago, requesting them to enlist in his new regiment. His territory, however, will for the most part be confined to New York and the New England states.

A SANE REFERENCE TO MR. KIPLING.

(COMMUNICATED.)

We are glad to see that at length one sane voice has made itself heard amid the raucous chorus of Kipling worshippers. We have several times written in protest against the exaggerated praise accorded to an author whom we cheerfully recognise as a lively rhymster, a good story teller, and a most melancholy failure in serious verse. Mr. Kipling has been praised in terms that would be extravagant if applied to Homer, Shakespeare, Aeschylus, Pindar, and the unknown author of the book of Job. We heard the other day an otherwise intelligent gentleman expressing the opinion that "Kipling had done more to ameliorate the lot of the British soldier than any man alive," and a recent writer in the English press called him "the maker of India"—because he had condescended to write a few popular stories of life in that Peninsula. It is truly satisfactory to us to think that the end of this intolerable idol worship is in view, and that a paper like the *Saturday Review* is courageous enough to express the feeling of *ennui* which the cultivated reading public must by this time experience from the continual beating of the Kipling gong. We reproduce the article below:—

After a singularly ill-starred visit to New York, the incidents of which have been brought, even to excess, before the notice of the public, Mr. Rudyard Kipling returns to England and to his home. We rejoice to learn that he has recovered his health, and we venture to hope that he will be successful for some time to come in keeping his name and his concerns out of the papers. There has been a little too much about him in the gossiping columns of the lesser press of late for his moral or intellectual health. He has become excessively famous very early in his career, and what he has now to dread is a popular reaction. Danger for him lies now in the foolish praise of his more illiterate admirers, and no more curious instance of what this class can do in the way of making a fool of a hero can be conceived than a certain volume* of crudded flattery by a Mr. Monkshood which is now lying on our table.

There is nothing about this volume, except its subject, which entitles it to notice in these columns. As we have read it, we have marvelled again and again that a writer could be found to write a book so extraordinarily insipid, so innocent of the faintest claim upon the attention of the public. The "style" of Mr. Monkshood is the most astounding mixture of violence and feebleness that we have met with. When he wishes to explain that the book called "The Light that Failed" did not at first enjoy an unquestioned success, Mr. Monkshood remarks "A few half baked people in surprised cities ran up and down whimpering that the thing must be called 'The Book that Failed,' which was a silliness." Why they were not wholly baked, and what it was which had surprised the cities, and why they ran, and why they whimpered, and what was a silliness, it is beyond the power of thought to discover, for these are merely the sloppinesses of undisciplined journalese. But even the rawest office-boy in the employment of the snippetting press might be taught that nobody is allowed, in an "appreciation" of Mr. Rudyard Kipling, to speak of his "rugged, more than ragged, moustache, which a girl has described as being so fearsome a thing that you would have to like the owner very much to let him kiss you." There are depths of vulgarity in the

* "The Rudyard Kipling." By C. F. Monkshood. London: Greening. 1899.

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people who write books about other people which no critical plummet has ever sounded.

The book before us is nothing, or less than nothing, although the subject of which it too adventurously attempts to treat is of very remarkable interest. Mr. Monkshood acknowledges that he has been greatly helped, "with suggestions and doings [*sic*]," by the author of "A Farrago of Folly." Mr. Monkshood required no such assistance. We have formed a mistaken estimate of his quality if we are wrong in supposing him quite competent to produce his farrago unaided. Honest enthusiasm we must not deny to him. It is plain that he likes Mr. Kipling's works very much, and finds a pleasure in saying so. Unhappily, there his authority ends. Mr. Monkshood is pleased with everything, from "the large close cropped head" and "rugged, more than ragged moustache," up to the more intellectual characteristics of his favourite's "gargoyle grotesquerie" and "staccato virility." But of discrimination he does not display a scrap. His method is to enumerate in succession everything which his hero has published, and to sprinkle unmeasured eulogy upon it all, so that at length the deafening, unmodulated howl of praise exasperates the reader. It is as though we were listening to the priests of some savage deity, as they prostrated themselves before his image, and whacked their tom-toms and blew their screaming conches. We find ourselves hoping that the deity likes the noise, since it certainly gives neither instruction nor pleasure to any other conceivable being.

Unhappily, there is some little reason to fear that this particular deity does enjoy the blare of the conches. Our instinct would have been to offer our sincere condolence to Mr. Rudyard Kipling, exposed against his will and without his knowledge to all this offensive laudation. But the publishers of this little book print as a preface a letter from Mr. Kipling, and we are bound to confess that this largely withdraws our pity from the illustrious victim. Mr. Kipling has "read your type-written book with a good deal of interest," but, faintly protesting, suggests that it "would be best published after the subject were dead." That is to say, Mr. Kipling likes the praise (Oh, yes! we are afraid he likes it, gross and rancid as it is), but he feels obliged, with his finger to his lip and his eyelids cast down, to suggest that it should be posthumous. Now, if there is one thing which Mr. Kipling is, it is perspicuously intelligent. He must be blinded with vanity indeed if he is not aware that Mr. Monkshood, with all his enthusiasm and his good intentions, is absolutely without skill as a critic. Mr. Kipling has read "with a good deal of interest" a book which no unprejudiced judge of literary merit could possibly applaud. Why has he done so? Because it is full of unstinted, unreflecting, undiluted praise of the entire works of Mr. Kipling.

We believe that the moment has arrived when those who are the friends of the genius of Mr. Kipling (and we are among the most ardent of these, within the limits of good sense) should endeavour to awaken him to a sense of his position. It is for this reason that we have taken as our text to-day a very foolish little book which would not on its own merits detain us. Nor would we strain to any priggish excess the fact that the Mr. Kipling has written a civil note to the writer of the book. It would have been wiser in him, no doubt, to have brought his heel down upon the thing in its "type-written" or chrysalis state, but, after all, a busy man is always inclined to be good natured. It is more a certain tone of complaisance in Mr. Kipling's recent utterances than any civility to one particular admirer that inspires us with a wish to have a few words in the gate with our celebrated youthful genius. We will preface our words of warning with a compliment which is fully deserved. When we consider Mr. Kipling's youthfulness, his isolation among the authors of the day, and the extraordinary exaggeration of praise trumpetted at him from every corner of the globe, the modesty and good sense with which he has borne himself are remarkable.

But if these are to last, Mr. Kipling must hold himself well in hand. No one now before the world is in a position more perilous. It is depressing to be under-estimated, and may even have a baleful effect upon the temper. But to be over-estimated is far more dangerous to those qualities which a man needs in the prosecution of his daily work. We shall be asked whether it is true that Mr. Rudyard Kipling has been overestimated, and what is our reason for "attacking" him. We have seen this word used half-a-dozen times within as many months to describe attempts, of a wholly sympathetic character, to discriminate in the praise of Mr. Kipling. We will, therefore—although to "attack" this delightful and even splendid national hero is not within the circle of our thoughts—answer the question in a bold affirmative. Mr. Kipling has been, and now habitually is, overpraised. The language adopted regarding him would be excessive, because unbalanced and irrational, if it were applied to Sir Walter Scott, to Tennyson, to Victor Hugo. Ten years have passed, and no more, since the wonderful boy published "The Story of the Gadsbys," and already he is raised on a pinnacle of golden adoration higher, perhaps, than any author has ever reached in his lifetime. The world grovels at his feet, and those few of us who have kept our heads gaze up into the dim air to see whether the little figure high in the shimmering distance will be able to endure this deification. It is a very dangerous thing to be raised to this height. Let Mr. Kipling beware that he does not "assume the god, affect to nod, and seem to shake the spheres." The temptation to do so is almost irresistible.

Two elements have combined to place the youthful author of "A Fleet in Being" in the extremely exalted position which he holds. One of these, of course, is his own genius—the pungency of his style, the closeness and abundance of his observation, his rich and multiform imagination. All praise which these qualities secure for him is safe and wholesome; on this side he needs not suspect a straining of the note. But these alone would not account for a quarter of his popularity, and the preponderating element in this is the encouragement his writings have given to a certain national state of mind. All that is utilitarian and materialistic, all that is inimical to thought and favourable to action, all the external rowdiness and latent puritanism with which this century is closing so surprisingly in England, find their exact echo and confirmation in Mr. Kipling's books. We observe that the admirers now claim for their hero that he set all this great imperial machinery in motion; that England was lying spell bound, when the majestic genius of Kipling brooded over the deep, and called forth the forces which ran throbbing with life, to the extremities of the Seven Seas. But this is to exaggerate the function of an author. The greatest poet does not start a national movement; the most that he can do is to identify himself with it, and to speed it smoothly on its way. That we cannot deny Mr. Kipling has done.

But what will be Mr. Kipling's position when this fit of popular materialism has played itself out? We are sure of one thing; the very adorers of to-day will be the first to turn upon their image and pelt it with stones. Public taste will change, but Mr. Kipling is far too deeply scored with the characteristics of his talent to change with it. Within certain flexible limits we know now what he will give us. At present, everything tends to the glorification of his strength and to the minimising of his weaknesses. Borne along on the crest of the wave of public satisfaction, he seems to have no defect at all. But he is not that faultless monster which the world ne'er saw, the author equally equipped on all sides. If the fickle public should turn round and demand philosophical reflection from its poets, or tender sentiment, or the symbolism of ærial melancholy, there will be no "Recluse," and no "In memoriam," and no "Kubla Khan" to be expected from Mr. Kipling. In these and other provinces, much lesser men, with the public at their back, will go far beyond him. These are the reflections which make us tremble for Mr. Kipling in the giddy altitude of his triumphs to-day. He is in danger of "assuming the god," of considering himself above all fear of reverses, of being persuaded by the incense burned before him that he is an impeccable artist. We would, if we could, with his own interest solely before us, recall him to a sense of his mortality, "lest he forget—lest he forget" that there are other men than he in the world and other manners.

NEW CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

The Japanese text of the New Tariff and Tonnage Regulations, and Rules for the enforcement thereof, coming into force on and after 4th August, has been handed us for publication. The principal alterations in the procedure at the Customs House appear to be as under:—

Hitherto allowances have been made for damaged goods simply on the condition that the application of importers has been received before the commencement of official inspection of the goods. There has been no rule as to a precise time limit. In future, however, it will be necessary to make such applications before permission for import is granted; no allowance will be made after the issue of the permit.

Duties on goods stored in the Bonded Warehouse have hitherto been imposed, subject to the Regulations in force, on the receipt by the Customs of the application for permission to import, except in matters concerning the quality and quantity of such goods. In future, duties will be imposed in accordance with the regulations in force on the day application is made to the Customs for the removal of the goods to the Customs warehouse, the quality and quantity of the goods being also subject to the above-mentioned regulations.

Hitherto it has been obligatory for a ship engaged in foreign trade to present a report to the Customs within 48 hours of her entry; the period is now reduced to 24 hours. Hitherto, besides the the report, the manifest, certificate of registry, certificate of clearance from the last port cleared, and other documents were required to be deposited, but in future, besides the ship's report and manifest lists of ship's articles entrances to holds, and passengers (these three papers to be presented to the comptroller's office), must be produced, while no certificate of registry nor clearance-certificate need be deposited.

In the existing regulations a coasting vessel entering a port has been required, irrespective of whether it has on board any imported goods for which the necessary formalities have not been gone through, to observe all formalities on entering a port. In future only a coasting vessel which has on board foreign goods is required to produce her manifest. This manifest is made out in blank sheet in a set form. The procedure of sending in such paper is the same as that adopted heretofore.

Formerly, on a ship engaged in foreign trade clearing a port, the master was required to send in information twenty-four hours before his departure, and to pay seven *yen* as clearance fee. Henceforth there will be no such limit of time, and no clearance fee is to be charged.

Hitherto no formal report has been required of a vessel engaged in foreign trade which enters a port and leaves within 48 hours without loading or discharging cargo, but in future the time limit will be altered to 24 hours, and even in this event tonnage dues will have to be paid.

Up to the present the master of a vessel has been permitted to amend or alter his manifest after the lapse of 24 hours from its production, on payment of a fee of *yen* 15, but in future no amendment or alteration will be allowed after the lapse of 24 hours.

Hitherto when goods not mentioned in the manifest have been presented for import the applicant has been required to pay an amount corresponding to the duty on the goods in addition to the latter. There is no such provision in the new regulations.

When a ship engaged in foreign trade has been obliged to enter an unopened port on account of stress of weather or other unvoidable circumstances, the master has had to report to the Local Government office (*cho*, *son*, or *ura yakuba*). Henceforth such report shall be made to the customs officer, or, where no customs officer exists, to the police-officer.

Vessels carrying mails have hitherto been accorded special treatment. Henceforth no such distinction will be made.

Up to the present, in the case of vessels engaged in foreign trade being transformed into coasting vessels, or a coaster into a vessel engaged in foreign trade, application had to be made to the inspector's office, and certificates obtained. Henceforth, application must be made to the comptroller's office. In the latter case above mentioned, certificates must be deposited in the inspector's office within 24 hours from the time a certificate is obtained from the comptroller, and there must be laid before the comptroller's office a list of ship's articles and a statement concerning the number of entrances to the hold.

The procedure in regard to applications for the import of ordinary goods is generally similar to that now in force, but if the goods include those mentioned in the 6th article of the Tariff Regulations, it is necessary to state the object of import the name of the port of shipment, and whether the goods are imported for transit only. In the latter case the name of the port of destination must be given.

Respecting export, the regulations are essentially the same; but if the goods are for transit or intended for ship's use, or if they are to be exported for repair and re-imported, the object of such export the place and time of re-importation, must be given in the application.

By transit is meant transit overland. In case of transit by sea, the procedure of transportation by sea coastwise must be observed.

In making application for the import of goods in transit a list in duplicate of the same shall be produced. When goods are shipped for different ports these bills are to be made separately for each different place of destination.

When such goods have passed in transit, or goods mentioned in Art. 6 of the revised Customs Duties Law have been exported to another port,

JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

the Customs import permit containing an entry of the Customs House where the export of the goods has been dealt with, or a certificate proving the completion of export, taking the place of the former, shall be presented to the Customs where the import of the goods was transacted. After obtaining from the latter a certificate showing that there is no necessity for security it shall be received back from the deposit office.

In order to take delivery of goods imported before getting permission for import, or in order to forward them, an application (made out on a prepared form which is on purchase) must be made at the comptroller's office, and the sum of money specified must be deposited.

Whereas in the present regulations when a person wishes to transfer foreign goods to a coasting vessel processes similar to those pursued in re-exportation or transference are required to be gone through, in future the processes of transportation by sea coastwise will be followed.

In the existing regulations it is provided that when goods are to be transferred to another vessel from one engaged in foreign trade a transfer permit is to be obtained from the Customs but in the revised regulations the processes for transportation by sea coastwise or for re-exportation are required in similar cases.

Although at present a vessel engaged in foreign trade having domestic goods for coastwise transportation on board is required to make application for import to the Customs at the port of landing of such goods together with the coastwise transportation permit, in future the production of the latter only will be sufficient.

Whereas there is a provision for "deposit duty" in the old regulations, this will be dispensed with in the future, and in cases where the production of security is necessary a receipt of the deposit office must be produced.

Hitherto the duty on goods forwarded by parcels post has been payable in money, but in future stamps must be used.

Up to the present all fees and rent have been payable in money; but henceforth such may be paid with revenue stamps if found convenient, such stamps to be attached to the margin or the back of the application paper.

Hitherto, when the presence of inspectors has been required, a fee of three *yen* for each official without limitation of time has been charged. In future, three *yen* per hour without regard to the number of officials will be demanded, in addition to travelling expenses.

The fee for all kinds of certificates is two *yen* for each; the subscription for daily returns of imports and exports is 20 *yen* per month. All other tables relating to shipping and cargo are fifty *sen* a piece. For certificates of paid tonnage the fee is 1 *yen* 50 *sen*.

Up to the present it has been customary to allow goods to be kept for 24 hours in the Customs House, for 48 hours in the provisional warehouse, and for some time afterwards in the rented warehouse; but henceforth goods of which delivery is not taken, or which are not forwarded, or warehoused, within 72 hours after being landed and taken to the Custom-House, will be seized.

Although it is required in the existing regulations that in landing imported goods the landing permit should be shown to an official boarding the vessel, in future this is not required. It is, however provided in the new regulations that no landing or loading of cargo is allowed until after the production of a manifest and it is necessary to show the receipt of the manifest to an official boarding the vessel.

The port dues for ships entering and clearing the port are abolished, but foreign trading vessels, on entering the port, have to pay 5 *sen* per ton on their registered tonnage, or per 10 *koku* of the carrying capacity. On one payment of 15 *sen* per ton or per 10 *koku*, they can enter free of tonnage dues for one year from the date of payment. Payment is to be made in the same way as in the case of port dues.

Ships subject to tonnage dues will find it convenient to pay their dues at the same time that they make their report of entry.

Formerly in the case of goods subject to *ad valorem* duty, if the declared value was thought incorrect, duty was levied on the value settled by an appraiser, and, if the importers were not willing to pay such duty, the goods were to be purchased at the estimated value. In future such goods will either be bought at the rate of 5 per cent. added to the declared value or duty will be charged on the estimated value.

Papers and documents required by the new Regulations can be bought at the same place as heretofore.

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1898, BY MR. A. H. LAY.

(Received at Foreign Office, April 28, 1899.)

(CONCLUDED FROM JULY 22TH.)

COAL.

Imports of coal decreased during the year, and, with the new duty of .879 per ton, are likely to grow smaller in future. Instead of coaling in Japan, vessels will take in fuel at places where there is no duty.

Up till last year Nagasaki was a rendezvous where foreign men-of-war were accustomed to coal and procure supplies, but since the lease of Kiauchau, Port Arthur, and Wei-hai-wei to Germany, Russia, and Great Britain respectively, that port has been, comparatively speaking, deserted by ships of war.

KEROSENE OIL.

With an increase of 6,847,238 gallons in quantity, kerosene oil showed a decrease of £27,605 in value. This is due to the supply from the United States of America, from which country most of the oil came as usual, being obtained at lower prices. The importation from Russian Asia slightly declined, while Dutch India furnished 3,735,720 gallons.

RICE.

Almost twice as much rice was imported as in 1897, owing to the scarcity of the Japan-grown cereal. French Cochin China benefited in the greatest degree by the extensive demand for rice, supplying over 50 per cent. of the total quantity, as against about 40 per cent. in 1897. British India provided over 20 per cent., as against a mere fraction the previous year. The share obtained by Siam was about 8 per cent. From China much less rice was shipped than in 1897, and the quantity from Korea diminished by more than half.

TOBACCO.

In December, 1898, alone the imports of tobacco totalled £180,436 more than those for the whole of the year 1897. This was of course due to the prospect of the immediate enforcement of the 35 per cent. duty on leaf and 40 per cent. on other preparations of tobacco. For the whole of last year the imports were four times larger than for the previous 12 months. The remarkable feature of this branch of the import trade was the rapidity with which the leaf tobacco from China rose among the imports.

Efforts had previously been made to introduce it into this country, without success, but the effect of the tobacco monopoly law made it possible to import leaf tobacco from China with so much advantage that, during the last three months of the year, its importation reached a value of over £200,000. The new duty of 100 per cent. on tobacco announced in February will, however, probably put a stop to its importation.

In some of the principal articles the competition of the United States with British manufacturers still continues and is very keen; in others it has slackened, as American makers have as much work as they can undertake. The total imports from Great Britain and the United States in 1890, 1895, 1897, 1898 were as follows:—

Country.	Value. 1890. Yen.	1895. Yen.
Great Britain	26,619,102	45,172,110
United States	6,874,531	9,276,360
	1897. Yen.	1898. Yen.
Great Britain	63,406,266	62,707,567
United States	27,030,537	40,001,092

The increase in 1898 in imports from the United States is largely due to a few items: cotton, 7,500,000 yen; flour, 1,000,000 yen; and tobacco and cigarettes several millions of yen. Placing on one side special items of this nature in which Great Britain cannot compete, the trade of the two countries with Japan in manufactured materials has retained very much the same proportions as in 1897. Large quantities of telephone cable for overhead and underground use came from America, but for the reason that the type of cable ordered was so cheap and of such inferior quality that British makers of repute had no desire to undertake contracts for it. American machine tools were in great demand, because British manufacturers were too fully occupied with contracts for other parts of the world.

After the war Japan was overrun with commercial travellers from Europe and America, but things seem now to have resumed their normal course. It is advisable that men coming to Japan to try and extend the sale of goods should put themselves in touch with leading British firms established in the country. Otherwise waste of energy and money is apt to be the result. In many cases it would be more profitable to try and do business through the British merchant on the spot, who knows the conditions of trade in the country, and can give advice regarding the financial standing of Japanese firms.

Exports reached a higher figure in 1898, than in 1897, the value of the produce despatched to foreign countries being greater by £231,490.

Agricultural products show a considerable decrease, more especially in the item of raw silk, and also in camphor, ginseng, and leaf tobacco. Manufactured and mining products both registered an advance, and marine products fell off somewhat.

The principal articles which expanded in volume of export were matches, matting, and silk piece-goods; and copper, straw plaits, and carpets decreased.

The rice-crop of 1897-98 was one of the worst known for many years owing to the damage caused by a typhoon. The quantity was even less than that of the previous bad years 1889 and 1890, and the quality also was unsatisfactory, while the small quantity that was exported did not give satisfaction. Export was on a very limited scale owing to the famine prices prevailing, and 14,580 tons less than in 1897 found their way out of the country. The principal purchaser was Australia. The highest price recorded was 19 yen (£1 18*s.* 9*d.*) a koku (4 96.29 imperial bushels). In consequence of the high prices there was a large import of foreign grain from Burmah, Saigon, Siam, and other places.

The crop of 1898 99 was an exceptionally fine one (estimated at 235,186,247 imperial bushels, as compared with 163,970,707 imperial bushels for the season 1897 98, an average yield being 191,391,598 imperial bushels), and will, it is estimated, be sufficient to supply the native demand, leaving a small surplus for export. So far the exprts this season amount in round numbers to 100,000 tons, the average value being £1. 0*s.* 2*d.* for 4 96 29 imperial bushels.

The following table shows the market price of rice in Japan for each month for the past two years:—

Month.	Price per Koku. 1897. Yen	sen.	1898. Yen	sen.
January	10	17	13	81
February	10	35	14	41
March	10	60	15	24
April	10	86	16	80
May	11	38	16	76
June	11	77	16	46
July	12	09	16	50
August	12	16	16	87
September	12	81	15	33
October	13	86	13	35
November	13	91	12	15
December	13	76	9	81

Note.—In March, 1899, the price was 9 yen 93 sen per koku.

Owing to the effect upon business caused by the outbreak of war between the United States and Spain, the export of raw silk from Japan for the year was 21,310 bales less than during the preceding year, the figures being:—

Year.	Quantity. Bales.	Value. £
1898	47,358	4,292,340
1897	68,666	5,649 986

The export for 1897 was the largest on record, and that for last year considerably exceeded that of 1896. There was no very marked decrease in the production of raw silk, which was only about 10 per cent. less for the season 1898-99 than for 1897-98. The average value per bale rose 8½ per cent., being 887 yen as against 818 yen for the previous year. The quantity taken by the different consuming countries was:—

Country.	Quantity. Bales.
America	28,717
France	13,820
Italy and Switzerland	4,566
Great Britain	255

The export both to America and France shows a large decrease.

At the beginning of the year the price for fine-sized filature silk for the European market was 900 yen, and for best full-sized filatures for the American market 910 to 920 yen a bale. From March, when the cost had been enhanced 10 yen per bale, till the end of May, the price fell, and during the latter month the lowest quotations were reached, nearly 849 to 860 yen for best filature silks, in consequence of the commencement of war. News was received in July that a shortage was probable in the Italian silk crop, and thereupon large purchases were made by France, which caused a rapid advance in prices, fine-sized filatures

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being sold at 940 to 960 yen a bale. The higher rates were maintained till October, but it was possible to buy silk for the New York market at 70 yen per bale cheaper than silk for France, a lower grade but of finer size. In December the silk trade with the United States began to revive, and at the close of the year the quotations for best filatures stood as high as 900 to 950 yen. It was only in the early part of 1899, however, that shipments to America were resumed on a large scale.

One of the most noticeable features of the silk trade for the year is the greater quantity exported direct by Japanese merchants. More than one-fourth of the whole amount was shipped without passing through foreign hands, and the necessary financial arrangements were made by the Japanese themselves. The direct Japanese exports were 11,356 bales, as compared with 10,938 bales in 1897.

The quality of the silk produced last year was pronounced satisfactory, but there is still room for much improvement in the matter of careful reeling, the products of a very large number of filatures being most uneven in size. For this reason they cannot compete with the best filatures of European origin or even with those of China. In Japan there are too many small establishments for silk reeling. At the recent session of the Diet both houses unanimously adopted a representation urging the Government to organise guilds with a view to the improvement of sericultural methods.

America has always been the largest consumer of Japan tea, and consequently the action of the United States Government in imposing a duty of 10 c. gold a lb. from June 14 on all tea imported, had a marked effect upon the Japan tea season of 1898. They new duty had been talked of for a long time, but although the Bill for its adoption had on several occasions been passed by the Senate it had been rejected by the House of Representatives. Doubts were therefore entertained as to whether, in this instance, it would not meet the same fate. It was, moreover, believed by many merchants that, even if a new duty were to be levied on tea, the date on which it would become operative would not be earlier than July 1. Large quantities of tea were purchased and endeavours made to ship it so that it would arrive at its destination before that date. On the very day on which the new duty came into operation, however, telegrams were received in Japan announcing the decision which had been arrived at by the United States Government to adopt the higher tariff on importations of tea from June 14. The result was a practical cessation of purchases and a fall in the market price of from 4 to 5 yen (8*s.* to 10*s.*) per picul (133⅓ lbs.). It is estimated that only a few million lbs. found their way into the United States in time to escape the duty. Before the Bill was finally passed a considerable agitation was raised against it in Japan as well as in America, where the "free breakfast party" did their utmost to prevent its becoming law. But the imposition of the duty was a revenue measure considered necessary, owing to the financial needs created by the war with Spain, and consequently the strong hopes entertained that the scheme would be rejected, which would probably otherwise have been fulfilled, were doomed to disappointment.

Until April 30, when the tea season commenced, there was hardly any business done. The first purchases of the new tea, which was offered for sale in large quantities early in May, were effected at prices averaging full 15 per cent higher than the previous year. The quality of the crop as regards the leaf, and more especially as regards the cup, was very satisfactory, in marked contrast to that of 1897, when it did not meet with the approval of tea tasters, and showed signs of hurried preparation and insufficient care in the rolling of the leaf.

The new Restriction Act, prohibiting the importation into the United States of inferior teas, continues to be strictly enforced and many cases of rejection occurred during the year. Common teas have, therefore, for the most part, been forced to seek a market in Canada, which has so far imposed no restrictions upon its admittance, but where, to judge from recent discussion in the Canadian House of Parliament, it appears by no means unlikely that similar precautionary measures will be taken for the exclusion of inferior teas. The total export of tea from Japan to Canada amounted to 11,512,145 lbs. as compared with 8,605 492 lbs. during the corresponding period of the year before, an increase of 2,906,653 lbs.

The prospects of the Japan tea trade can by no means be said to be bright; 5 lbs. of coffee can be brought in the United States for 25 c. gold per lb., and tea costs 40 c. gold per lb., with the new duty of 10 c. gold per lb., and the latter beverage is therefore at a great disadvantage. General depression of business followed the announcement of the enforcement of the duty, and in several cases large orders were cancelled. Most of the tea shipped to America has remained in bond owing to the lower price of that which reached the country prior to June 14. As nearly all last season's tea remains unsold, it does not look as if the season of 1899 would be a prosperous one.

In Japan, moreover, the cost of tea-firing materials and labour has continued to increase as compared with former years, and strange to say, since the imposition of the new duty, the prices asked for by the growers have likewise risen. The total export for 1898 amounted to 41,102,118 lbs., valued at £838,740 as compared with 43,510,244 lbs., valued at £798,327 in 1897. Of this quantity, 31,861,149 lbs. went to the United States of America, 7,680,644 lbs. to Canada, and the remainder to various other countries, of which China, with 501,660 lbs., took the largest proportion.

Owing to the enforcement of the Tobacco Monopoly Law from January 1, 1898, the exports of leaf tobacco dwindled to one-third of the quantity which left the country in 1897.

The export of matches grows steadily. The figures for the past four years are:—

Year.	Quantity. Gross.
1895	16,914,027
1896	17,979,849
1897	19,543,646
1898	22,078,306

Of the quantity for last year the value was £73,451 more than for 1897. Most of the matches are exported from Kobe, as most of the factories are situated either there or in Osaka. In spite of the apparent prosperity of the trade, manufacturers complained that, reckoning up working expenses and interest paid by them, they are actually incurring losses. They asserted that the higher duty on chemicals would seriously interfere with the industry in which they were engaged, and agitated with the object of procuring the abolition of all import duty on the materials they require. The abolition of the duty on the chemicals used in the manufacture of matches was announced in the *Official Gazette* of February 14, 1899, the date from which the change was to take place to be notified later.

Cotton yarn has for the past two years occupied the second place amongst the exports from Japan. In 1898 the quantity exported was 35,731,717 lbs. greater than in 1897, 66,597,250 lbs. went to China, which also on the previous occasion took more than two-thirds of the total, 20 378,018 lbs. found their way to Hongkong, and 4,753,812 lbs. to Korea. Increased demand for the Japanese yarn in the interior of China, and the smaller quantity of Indian yarn coming to the Far East, account for the development of this branch of the export trade. It would, however, be erroneous to imagine from this state of affairs that the cotton spinning industry in Japan is in a flourishing condition. Yarns were sent abroad at a loss, owing to the cost of production being greater than the selling price, and the volume of export grew at the expense of the producer. For those engaged in the cotton spinning industry, 1898 was a most unsatisfactory year. Capital was attracted to the industry during the years which immediately followed the successful termination of the war with China, and the high dividends paid brought about the multiplication of cotton mills beyond measure. Up to the end of the first half of 1887 things went well, but subsequently bad times began for the industry. The depression which was universal at the end of that year continued, and was intensified during 1898. The average dividend paid by cotton spinning companies for the first half of the year was about 37 per cent. less than for any similar period, and during the second half of the year about 40 per cent. of them appear to have incurred losses. The shares of a few only of the mills stood above par. Lack of cheap working capital, higher cost of production, and competition from spinning mills in Shanghai combined to render their position difficult. The price of coal fell 8⅛ per cent., but wages rose 13 per cent. During the year several companies were wound up, others suspended work.

At the end of 1897 the cotton-spinning companies applied to the Minister of Finance for aid, and the Government came to their asistance by authorising the issue of loans up to 3,000,000 yen (£306,250) by the Specie Bank to enable them to obtain funds. In April, 1898, a portion of the indemnity, about £4,000,000, was set apart for the purchase of public bonds in order to relieve the financial pressure, and at the same time a loan of £510,416 was granted to the Industrial Bank on the understanding that it would extend facilities to the cotton spinners. Subsequently, a sum of £306,250 was borrowed by the Osaka companies, one of the conditions being that a certain portion should be laid aside to serve as a reserve fund. For a while the aspect was brighter, but in the latter part of the year it was decided, at a meeting of Union Cotton Spinners, that each company belonging to the Union should suspend work every month for four days in order to check overproduction, as there had been an increase in the output of yarn during the past five years of over 250 per cent., and that the Government should be approached on the subject of an annual subsidy of 500,000 yen (£51,041.) The decision to stop work periodically was, however, revoked in February, 1899, in consequence of a revival of trade with China. In January, 1899, the Cotton Spinners Union petitioned the Government, though unsuccessfully, to establish a China and Japan bank on the ground that, in competition with China and India, they were placed at a great disadvantage by reason of the high rates of interest paid for accommodation.

The adoption of the gold standard is blamed by many for the existing state of affairs in the cotton industry, but scarcity of moderately-cheap capital and inefficient management are among the chief contributory factors.

At the end of the year the number of spindles in operation was 1,108,404, over 200 per cent. more than six years ago. The following table shows the number of spindles, number of employés, wages, and profits for the latter half of the year, of 18 of the leading spinning companies in Japan:—

Spinning Factories.	Number of Spindles.	Number of Employés.		Daily Wages.		Profit per Spindle.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
				Sen.	Sen.	Yen sen.
Settsu	50,608	600	2,400	26*	21*	2 93
Hirano	38,400	770	1,771	8 to 80	6 to 30	1 48
Sakai	16,128	199	768	9 54	6 28	1 18
Nipe...	49,712	632	1,881	—	—	1 65
Fukuyama	13,824	148	416	15 70	5 35	1 32
Owari	30,104	294	1,477	10 38	6 35	1 83
Koriyama	12,956	273	769	7 60	6 25	0 57
Amagaseki	59,108	583	1,596	—	—	1 29
Kurashiki	21 672	158	1,268	20½*	14*	0 45
Osaka	55,344	914	3,042	8 56	5 26	0 68
Senshu	19,264	220	750	17 69	12 35	1 67†
Okayama...	26,136	384	1,158	26½*	18.7/10*	1 19
Temma	28,088	178	763	24 3/10*	14½*	1 1†
Kashiu	9,520	196	555	14 60	8 30	1 61†
Tokyo Gas Spinning Factory	20,568	149	605	15 75	11 23	0 52
Kishiwada	22,656	349	907	6 55	4 25	1 74
Fukushima	20,000	155	615	10 31	8 30	0 54
Yamato	11,520	210	431	7 60	7 25	1 5

* Average. † Loss.

NOTE.—The Naniwa, one of the largest mills in Osaka, was dissolved on August 10, 1898.

According to the "List of Merchant Vessels of Japan, 1898," published by the Department of Communications, the number of merchant vessels registered was 797 in all, with a tonnage of 454,036 tons, of which 626 were steamers with a tonnage of 426,624 tons, and 171 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 27,412 tons. There were:—

STEAMERS.

	Number of Vessels.
Under 50 tons.....	77
Above 50 and under 100 tons ...	98
,, 100 ,, 300 ,, ...	188
,, 300 ,, 500 ,, ...	72
,, 500 ,, 1,000 ,, ...	51
,, 1,000 ,, 2,000 ,, ...	69
,, 2,000 ,, 3,000 ,, ...	47
,, 3,000 ,, 4,000 ,, ...	14
,, 4,000 ,, 5,000 ,, ...	2
,, 5,000 ,, 6,000 ,, ...	1
,, 6,000 ,, 7,000 ,, ...	7
Total	626

SAILING VESSELS.

	Number of Vessels.
Under 100 tons	69
Over 100 and under 300 tons	83
,, 300 ,, 500 ,, ...	12
,, 500 tons	7
Total	171

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In steamers there was an increase of 56 vessel (of which 7 were over 6,000 tons) with a tonnage of 63,401 tons, and in sailing vessels of six ships, with a tonnage of 301 tons. The plying limits of 89 steamers were foreign going, of 226 home trade, of 260 short voyages, and of 51 smooth water.

In Japan there are 17 private docks. The Tatenoura Graving Dock, which is the second largest dock in the country, was completed during the year. It was commenced in October, 1895, and its dimensions are 446 feet 10 inches in length, 65 feet 7 inches in width, and 34 feet 9 inches deep. The depth of water on sill at ordinary tides is 24 feet 4 inches. In September the official trial of the *Hitachi Maru*, the largest vessel built in Japan, took place in Tokio Bay with satisfactory results. The *Hitachi Maru* was constructed at the Mitsu Bishi Docks in Nagasaki, and has a displacement of 6,170 tons. On August 1st, Harbour Bureaux were established at Yokohama, Kōbe, and Nagasaki to control the shipping at those ports.

The increasing share of Japanese vessels in the export and import trade is the principal feature in the shipping industry of the past year. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's lines to Europe, America, and Australia were in regular operation; and the closing months of the year saw the arrival of the three new steamers built for the Tōyō Kisen Kaisha, whose route will be from Hongkong to San Francisco by way of China-Japan ports.

The absorption of the German "Kingsin" line by the Norddeutscher Lloyd and Hamburg-America Companies, and the entry of the latter into the shipping trade with Japan, made an important addition to German shipping enterprise in the East, and as it is understood that the two companies are working in co-operation, they will form a very powerful combination.

Another interesting event in the carrying trade with Japan was the recent transfer of several steamers belonging to the Northern Pacific Steamship Company from the British to the American flag. The entries and clearances of vessels under the latter flag will, therefore, be greater in future returns. The object of this transfer was that the vessels might be enabled to participate in the trade between the United States, Hawaii, and the Philippines, as it is said to be the intention of the United States Government to extend their navigation laws to their newly-acquired possessions, and under them British vessels now running between Japan, Hawaii, and the United States will be excluded from any share in the trade between the latter two points.

In the last report it was pointed out that the foreign lines to Europe offered a speedier and more regular service than the British companies, and, although some improvement has taken place in this respect, generally speaking, the remark still holds good, and, other things being equal, this enables foreign companies to obtain the preference.

The Government recently introduced into the Diet a Bill providing for the payment of tonnage dues at Japanese ports at the rate of 10 sen (2½*d*.) per ton for each visit, but permitting commutation at 30 sen (7½*d*.) per ton for a complete year. It met with very great opposition and was the subject of repeated debates in Committee and in the two Houses. Finally a compromise was arrived at by which these rates were diminished by one-half, namely to 5 sen (1¼*d*.) and 15 sen (3¾*d*.) respectively for each ton of registered tonnage. The charge covers port and light dues, and will become leviable from the date at which the revised treaties come into operation. Until then the entrance and clearance fees (15 and 7 dol. respectively), provided for in the treaty of 1858, will continue to be levied.

Recently a Bill was passed granting special subsidies to the vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Tōkyō Kisen Kaisha employed on the European, Seattle, and San Francisco lines. The expenditure authorised was: £272,059 for the European line (Nippon Yusen Kaisha). £66,765 for the Seattle line (Nippon Yusen Kaisha), and £103,500 for the San Francisco line (Tōkyō Kisen Kaisha), and the payments are to continue for a period of 10 years from January 1, 1900. For the European service, which is to be fortnightly, 12 steamers of not less than 6,000 tons gross with a minimum speed of 14 knots an hour are to be furnished. For the service between Hongkong and San Francisco, which is to take place at least once every four weeks, three steamers of not less than 6,000 tons gross tonnage with a minimum speed of 17 knots an hour are required. And for the Hongkong-Seattle line three steamers are provided for, with a gross tonnage of not less than 6,000 tons each, and a speed of not less than 15 knots an hour which shall make at least 13 trips a year. The subsidy is to be granted for vessels which shall be engaged in these services for 10 consecutive years, the proportion they are to receive being the same as that which they are entitled to under the laws for the encouragement of navigation, the provisions of which must be observed. The steamers must be less than 14 years old when the contract takes effect, and must pass the necessary official examination. Postal matter is to be conveyed free of charge.

The trade of Formosa shows signs of revival, but until the island is properly settled and complete security for life and property established, it cannot be expected that much commercial development will take place. For the first half of the year 1898, according to the latest published statistics, the trade amounted to 1,472,195, imports being of the value of 886,744 and exports 585,561 as compared with a total of 1,207,005 imports 671,561 and exports 535,443 for the corresponding period of 1897. More than 70 per cent. of the trade is carried on with China. The only other places to which goods are directly exported is Hongkong, which takes the second place in the total trade, and the United States of America. Great Britain comes next to China as regards imports with about 10 per cent., and then comes Germany with about one-quarter as much. Among exports camphor and tea have fallen-off; while rice has largely increased, and among imports opium for medicinal purposes imported by the Government shows a decrease, and there is an increase in the quantity of kerosene. Camphor is to be a Government monopoly from July, 1899, and it is estimated that the net profit from its sale will amount to about £49,000 per annum. Of the 97 steamers which entered from foreign countries, having a tonnage of 74,348 tons, 69 were British with a tonnage of 55,342 tons, 18 German with a tonnage of 17,079 tons, and six Japanese with a tonnage of 608 tons; and of the 82 steamers, with a tonnage of 64,730 tons which cleared for foreign countries, 56 were British with a tonnage of 40,418 tons, 19 German with a tonnage of 17,966 tons, and six Japanese with a tonnage of 5,950 tons. An attempt is being made to improve the quality of Formosan tea. During the summer the Governor-General issued a notification for the control of tea dealers in the islands, providing for the establishment of tea guilds and the prevention of the manufacture of spurious teas, and instituting a system of fines. The transfer of the cable between Foochow and Formosa was formally concluded on January 6, 1899, Japan handing over to China in return the sum of £10,300. The prospects of the Formosan Railway are far from promising, and owing to the difficulty of raising capital it appears as if the scheme would now be abandoned.

It will be observed from the comparative values of the rails and railway material imported into Japan last year and the year before that the railways suffered severely from the financial depression. The figures are: rails, 1898, 71,520 tons, valued at £268,655; 1897, 86,401 tons, valued at £346,355. Railway materials, 1898, value £63,870; 1897, value £208,457. The private railways found it difficult to obtain capital. In the case even of lines running through important districts, and where general prospects were excellent, it was impossible to proceed with work owing to the inability of the shareholders to pay up instalments on their shares.

According to latest statistics the length of railway lines open to traffic was 2,971 miles, of which 661 miles belonged to the Government, and 2,310 miles to private companies; an increase during the year of 30 miles of Government, and 436 miles of private lines. The rates of fares on Government railways are to be raised from March 16. The average rate for third-class tickets 1·2 sen per mile is to be in future 1·428 sen (⅓ 1) per mile. The first-class will be raised in the same proportion and will remain at three times third class fare, while the rate of the second-class, which has hitherto been double that of the third-class, is not increased proportionately. No change is to be made in freight charges. Rates have hitherto been low, for example the first-class fare between Tokyo and Yokohama, a distance of 20 miles, has only been ½*d*., but on the other hand the passenger accommodation has been indifferent. The Government expect to obtain about £200,000 per annum from the raised scale. Various private companies have already raised their rates, in some cases as much as 50 per cent., on the plea of rise in the price of commodities, and others propose to follow their example.

Postal and telegraph rates are also to be raised, the change to take effect from April 1. The new post office charges are to be, for the transmission of sealed letters 3 sen (0·74*d*.) per 15 grammes, for a postal card 1½ sen (0·37*d*.), and for a return postal card 3 sen (0·74*d*.), the old rates being 2 sen (2·49*d*.), 1 sen (0·25*d*.), and 2 sen (0·49*d*.) respectively. The telegraph rates are to be 20 sen for a telegram in Japanese containing not more than 15 syllables, and for extra syllables not exceeding five an additional charge of 5 sen (1·23*d*.) is to be paid. For a telegram in a Western language the fee is to be 25 sen provided the message does not contain more than five words, with an additional charge of 5 sen for each additional word. In a telegram in a Western language the address is to be counted and charged for, but not in a Japanese telegram.

Charges for the use of telephones are to be raised to 15 sen, and where it had before stood at 20 sen the charge is to be 25 sen. The telephone system is rapidly extending in Japan. The service between Tokyo and Osaka was opened February 1, 1899.

The cost of living in Japan has risen rapidly within the past few years. Rice, which is the staple food of the Japanese, reached its highest price in August, 1898, and has since then fallen considerably, but other articles of diet have risen in price, and with the new duties and increased taxes it is certain that living, at least for the foreigner, will cost more in future than it has done in the past. It is a mistake to suppose that Japan is a country where subsistence is very cheap. Some articles of daily consumption cost less, others more than they do in England, and after the foreign resident has taken everything into consideration he will not find living in Japan so cheap after all. On the whole, living may be said to cost much about the same as it does at home. Take the case of Yokohama, for example. House rent on the Bluff has not increased appreciably during the last 12 months, but the rents of dwelling-houses in the Settlement as well as of offices are higher than they were a year ago. Godown rent is very much higher. Japanese dwelling-houses round the Settlement are let at much advanced prices. On a sterling basis rents are about the same as they were 20 years ago.

Provisions imported under the new tariff are sold at prices greater than the increased customs duty would appear to warrant. Fresh vegetables, poultry, and fish cost more than they did a year ago, though the price of butcher's meat has not risen. Bread is now 8 sen (2*d*.) a lb. compared with 6 sen (1½*d*.) last year. The wages of artizans and labourers, as well as those of house servants, are higher and jinrikisha fares have grown. Local freights too are higher. Whereas in China the services of a carpenter can be engaged for 40 cents a day, in Japan the wages obtained for similar work are 1 yen.

The year 1898 was marked by general financial depression. Scarcity of money was the complaint heard on all sides. The Government were at their wits' end to discover sources of revenue that would be acceptable to the Diet. The people had no available money, and enterprises started with sanguine expectations after the war languished or were abandoned. In Osaka two-thirds of the factories presented a deserted appearance. Moderately cheap working capital was a desideratum which it proved impossible to obtain. Manufacturers were paying as much as 10 per cent, interest on their capital. To relieve this financial pressure the three schemes most mooted were the introduction of foreign capital, the nationalisation of railways which would set free capital for investment in other undertakings, and a bank for the promotion of industries. The desire for the introduction of foreign capital is not likely to be realised without a Government guarantee or unless foreigners are able to obtain tangible security and take an active part in the conduct or understand clearly the working of concerns in which their money is invested. The question of the State ownership of railways has been entrusted to a committee composed of members of the Diet for investigation. To the lack of an institution to assist manufacturers financially was attributed part of the monetary troubles of the year, and it was proposed to establish a manufacturers' bank with a capital of 10,000,000 yen payable in public loan bonds with a charter for 50 years. The bank was to grant facilities for the circulation of capital in the manufacturing industry, and otherwise assist in the development of the country's resources. Owing, however, to disagreement between the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, the Bill for its establishment has been shelved in the meantime.

The amount of fresh capital invested in new undertakings or added to the funds of existing institutions, was remarkably small as compared with the few years immediately preceding. It is estimated that the figures were only about £2,700,000, for while the total new capital was about £9,500,000, the capital of companies which ceased to exist during the year, namely £6,800,000, must be deducted. Returns show that the number of joint stock companies at the end of the year was 2,373 (commercial 1,180, industrial 1,080, agricultural 112), an increase of 183 associations. Their nominal capital was about £33,000,000. The banks numbered 1,807, with a capital of £39,289,439, an increase of 204 establishments and about £7,000,000.

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The payment of the remainder of the Chinese indemnity in May, the Government aid extended to the industrial bank, and later on the exceptionally good rice crop, and the cessation of the war in which the principal consumer of Japanese produce was engaged, all tended to improve the economic situation. Towards the end of the year a partial revival of business resulted. In view of the restoration of the equilibrium of trade, the Bank of Japan in November, and again in December, lowered its rate of interest on loans by ½ sen per 100 yen per day. Interest had in February and March been raised by ½ sen on each occasion.

Fluctuations occurred during the year in the sterling value of the yen. The average of bank buying rates on London at three days' sight for the year was 2*s.* 0 13/16*d.* to the yen, being 2*s.* 0¾*d.* for the March quarter, 2*s.* 0⅝*d.* for the June quarter, 2*s.* 0¾*d.* for the September quarter, and 2*s.* 0⅜d. for the December quarter. The tendency was for the exchange rates of the yen to rise. The silver yen was withdrawn from circulation on April 1, 1898, and the final arrangements for putting the currency on a gold basis concluded in July of that year. In converting Japanese currency into sterling in this report the rate of the yen has been taken at 2*s.* 0¾*d.*, which approximates as nearly as possible to its value.

The population of Japan according to the last census consisted of 43,228,863 souls, of whom men numbered 21,823,651 and women 21,405,212, an increase over the figures for the preceding year of 520,599 persons, of whom 262,628 were men and 257,971 women. There are about 60,000 Japanese residing in foreign countries, of whom 27,000 are in Hawaii, and 11,000 in Korea.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, July 29th :—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up		30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders		16,496,562
Amount of convertible notes issued		205,320,999
Government deposits		33,848,916
General deposits		3 940,518
Exchange liability		32,695
Total		289,639,691
	Cr.	
Discount notes		39,983,032
Foreign discount notes		7,586,652
Loan to Government		22,000,000
General loans		61,423,942
Exchange liability		2,352,368
Government bonds		47,019,365
Property		1,885,039
Bullion and Specie		107,395,289
Total		289,639,691

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those	203,069,223
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,286,337
Silver	
Total	103 286,337
Securities :—	
Government bonds	36,415,121
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	8,096,047
Commercial notes	33,271,718
Total	99,782,886

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	453 303	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	2,313,351
Government deposits	—	2,327,177
General deposits	—	2,209,137

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

GENERAL NÉGRIER'S DISMISSAL.

Shanghai, July 29.

The affair of General Négrier is the absorbing topic of public interest in France. The gravity of his dismissal at the present crisis is universally recognised.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

The referendum in Victoria and Tasmania resulted in overwhelming majorities in favour of federation.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The Executive of the Transvaal has decided to allow to the Uitlanders ten seats, five in each Volksraad.

Shanghai, July 31.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the latest franchise proposals made by the Transvaal Government were a real advance on the part of the Boers. President Kruger having invited the friendly advice of Great Britain, Her Majesty's Government had suggested that the proposals should be submitted to a joint committee of experts, and if the committee reported that the proposals conferred really substantial representation on the Uitlanders, a peaceful solution might be hoped for.

Lord Salisbury, addressing the House of Lords, spoke on similar lines.

A doubt is raised in official quarters as to whether the Government in Pretoria will accept the plan of a joint inquiry, unless all pending questions are included in its scope.

Shanghai, August 1.

It appears likely that the Transvaal Government will reject the proposal for a joint inquiry of experts if the subject of inquiry be restricted to the franchise, which is a domestic affair.

Shanghai, August 2.

President Kruger has asked the Volksraad to abolish the Jewish and Catholic disabilities. It is thought at Pretoria that the situatiou is clearer, and it is hoped that both parties will join in the enquiry to settle all outstanding questions.

A CANARD.

Shanghai, July 31.

The telegram supposed to have been sent by the Czar to Prince Napoleon is officially declared a fabrication.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE: ITS FINAL ASPECTS.

The Hague Conference has formally closed. Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Italy, China and Japan have not signed the arbitration and other conventions.

CRICKET.

The match between the Australians and Sussex has been drawn.

ITALY AND CHINA.

Shanghai, August 1.

The Italian cruisers *Vesuvio* and *Carlo-Albert* will sail for China shortly. The *Tribuna* states that the Italian Government intends to secure a settlement of the question, and will present its demands at an opportune moment, and obtain compliance therewith whatever China's attitude may be.

Shanghai, August 3.

The *Corriere* of Milan publishes an inspired article declaring that Italy has definitely abandoned her claim for Sammun Bay, and that she does not intend to demand another station.

RITUALISM IN ENGLAND.

Shanghai, August 2.

Judgment has been delivered by the Archbishops of Cauterbury and York, sitting at Lambeth, in the ritualistic cases recently argued before them. They have pronounced against the ceremonial use of incense, and the carrying of lights.

A WELL-DESERVED HONOUR.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Washington, and late chief of the British delegation to the Peace Conference at the Hague, has been raised to the Peerage.

[The new Peer, who is 71 years old, was Attorney-General at Hongkong in 1866, and all his life has been an earnest advocate of the principle of arbitration.—Ed. *J.M.*]

A TRUCE IN THE HOUSE.

Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, the leader of Her Majesty's Opposition in the House of Commons, has decided not to raise the Transvaal question again this session.

HOLIDAYS AHEAD.

The prorogation of parliament will probably take place on the ninth of August.

COLONIAL LOANS.

The Colonial Loans Bill has been read a second time by 124 votes to 9.

CONTINENTAL POLITICS.

Shanghai, August 3.

The French Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Delcassé, has gone to St. Petersburg to visit Count Muravieff. Much significance is attached to his journey in view of the recent rapprochement between France and Germany, which the Russian press viewed with suspicion.

THE MALAY STATES RAILWAY.

A Colonial Loans Bill has been introduced in the British Parliament, providing half a million sterling for railways in the Malay States to connect the existing lines and make an extension of the Perak line to Penang.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, July 28.

The inquiry into the case of General Pellieux has not elicited anything contrary to honour and to discipline. Nevertheless General Galliffet considers that the removal of General Pellieux is advisable in the present situation.

Saigon, July 29.

The report circulated at the Bourse that Generals Jamout and Hervé had been removed, which led to a depreciation of stocks, is absolutely false. M. Waldeck-Rousseau has ordered search to be made for the author of the report.

Saigon, July 30.

The newspaper *l'Echo de Paris* has published the inquiry conducted by M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire, including the dopositions of 30 persons as to the morality of Dreyfus and his relations with foreign officers.

Saigon, August 1.

The *Figaro* publisbes the *dossier* of the complementary inquiry made by the Court of Cassation. It gives the depositions of Lieut.-Colonel Du Paty de Clam, of Captain Cuiguet and of M. Lépine, the gist of which is already known.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

The pest is increasing considerably in India.

DOMINICAN PRESIDENT ASSASSINATED.

Saigon, July 28.

General Ulises Heureaux, Prepresident of the Dominican Republic, has been assassinated.

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THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

Saigon, July 31.

The Peace Conference at the Hague has terminated its session. It has adopted the principle of the arbitration scheme in case of international disputes.

DU PATY DE CLAM RELEASED:

Saigon, August 2.

Lieut.-Colonel Du Paty de Clam has been set at liberty, in accordance with a ruling that there is not sufficient evidence to establish a *primâ-facie* case against him.

DIPLOMATIC COURTESIES.

M. Delcassé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, sets out to-morrow (August 3rd) for St. Petersburg, to return the visit recently paid to him by M. Muraview.

Saigon, August 3.

The French journals assert the importance of the journey of His Excellency M. Delcassé to St. Petersburg.

BRITISH CRUISERS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, August 2.

H.M.S. *Aurora* and *Daphne* arrived here this morning.

(From the "China Mail.")

THREATENED RIOT AT PENANG.

Singapore, July 25.

The brothel-keepers of Penang threaten to close their establishments in order to promote a riot as a protest against the new Ordinance introduced by the Straits Government for the better protection of Women and Girls.

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

Solution of Problem No. 431.

By Max J. Meyer.

First Prize Three-mover, New York *Sun* Problem-Tourney.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q B sq	1—P to Q 6
2—Q to B 4 ch	2—K takes Q (must)
3—B to B 7 mate	
	1—Kt to Q 2
2—Q takes P ch	2—K takes Q (must)
3—B to K 4 mate	
	1—K to K 3
2—Q to B 5	2—Any
3—Q to Q 6 mate	

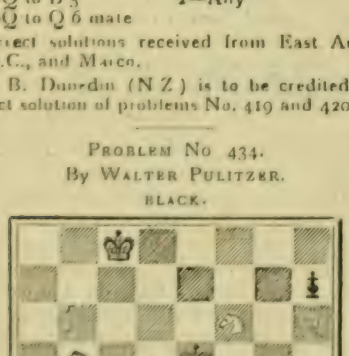
Correct solutions received from East Anglia, W.D.C., and Marco.

O. B. Dunedin (N.Z.) is to be credited with correct solution of problems No. 419 and 420.

Problem No. 434.

By Walter Pulitzer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

Emanuel Lasker the world's champion, has secured the first prize in the international chess tournament, now being played in London. His victory, says a home paper, was fairly earned and the element of luck in no way affected the result. Lasker is really at the head of the chess fraternity, and it is more than likely that Pillsbusy, who appears to be his logical successor, will have to wait some years, and fight a great many hard battles, before he is dethroned.

The tournament, which is now almost over, is being followed with great interest, mainly because so many of the participants are bunched together in the struggle for second and third places.

Record of players to date follows:—

PLAYERS.	WON.	LOST.
Bird	7	19
Blackburne	14½	10½
Cohn	11½	14½
Janowski	17½	7½
Lasker	21	4
Lee	9½	16½
Maroczy	16	9
Pillsbury	18	9
Schlechter	17	9
Showalter	12½	14½
Steinitz	10½	15½
Tinsley	5	21
Tschigorin	15	11
Mason	11	15

Game No. 532.

BLACKBURNE BEATS LASKER.

The game in which the English expert beat the World's Champion is one of the finest specimen of Chess. Blackburne had a deep and brilliant combination which Lasker didn't see. This game gives Blackburne a fine chance for the Brilliancy Prize.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Lasker.		Black—Blackburne.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	25 B K3	B K3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	26 R K sq	Kt Kt5
3 B Kt5	P Q3	27 Kt B sq	B Kt4
4 P Q4	B Q2	28 R Kt sq	R KR sq
5 P Q5	Kt Kt sq	29 Kt B3	B KB5
6 B Q3	B K2	30 Kt Q5	Q Kt4
7 Kt B3	Kt KB3	31 P B3	R R8ch
8 Kt K2	P B3	32 KxR	BxB
9 P B4	Kt R3	33 KtxB	Kt B7ch
10 Kt Kt3	Kt B4	34 K Kt sq	KtxQ
11 B B2	P QKt4	35 Kt B5	BxKt(B5)
12 P Kt4	Kt Kt2	36 PxB	Q Q7
13 QPxP	BxP	37 KRxKt	QxB
14 PxP	BxKtP	38 QR B sq	QxBP
15 P QR4	B Q2	39 Kt Kt6	R Q sq
16 Castles	P Kt3	40 Kt B4	Kt Kt2
17 P R3	P KR4	41 Kt K3	Q B5
18 B K3	P R4	42 K B2	QxRP
19 P Kt5	R QB sq	43 R B7	Kt B4
20 R B sq	Kt B4	44 R KR sq	R Q2
21 Kt Q2	P R5	45 R B8ch	K K2
22 Kt K2	P Kt4	46 R(K) R8	Q Q5
23 BxP	R KKt sq	Resigns	
24 BxP	BxRP		

Game No. 533.

A Beauty.

One of the gems of the Tournament is the game between Lasker and Lee.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

White—Lasker.		Black—Lee.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P QB3	21 PxP	KtxP(e)
2 P Q4	P Q4	22 B K3	KtxP(f)
3 QKt B3	PxP(a)	23 BxPch	K B2
4 KtxP	B B4	24 R Q4	P QKt4
5 Kt Kt3	B K 3	25 KtxPch	PxKt
6 Kt B3	Kt Q2	26 QxP	Kt R6(g)
7 P KR4	P KR3	27 Q R5ch	K Kt2ch
8 B Q3	BxB	28 B B5	BxB
9 QxB	KKt B3	29 PxB	RxR
10 B Q2	P K3	30 KtxR	Q Q sq
11 Cas. QR	Q B2	31 P B6ch(h)	K B sq
12 KR K sq	Castles	32 Q R8ch	K B2
13 Q Kt3	B Q3	33 Q R7ch	K Q3
14 Kt K2	Kt Kt5	34 QxKtch	K Q4
15 R B sq	Kt(Q2)B3	35 R Q sq	Q Kt3
16 Q R4	K Kt sq	36 Kt B3ch	K K3
17 P B4	Q K2	37 Q Q6ch	K B4
18 Kt B3	Q B2(b)	38 Q Q3ch	K Kt5
19 P KKt3	Q B sq(c)	39 Kt K5ch	Resigns.
20 P Kt4	P K4(d)		

(Notes from the *Literary Digest*.)

(a) If P to K 3, the Caro-Kann opening, then 4, P to K 5, and the game is turned into a French with White an extra move ahead, as black, sooner or later, must play P to Q B4. The present line of play brings the Q B into action, but Black labours under other disadvantages, notably a weak K P, and a retarded development of his King's side.

(b) Intending...B to B 5.

(c) To guard against P to B 5, followed by B to B4.

(d) Black is tied up badly. This attempt at getting relief does not help him, but infuses new interest into a hitherto very one-sided affair.

(e) Not B take P, because of 21, Kt take B, Kt take Kt; 22, B to B 4.

(f) His only chance of prolonging the struggle. Kt take Kt or any other move instead would lose speedily.

(g) Black evidently relied upon this resource in conjunction with the fact that if checked his King moves, discovering check. Lasker, however, is equal to the occasion.

(h) The termination is most trenchant.

Game No. 534.

Lasker and Steinitz Draw.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Lasker.		Black—Steinitz.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	14 B R6	Kt Kt2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	15 Q K2	R K sq
3 B Kt5	P Q3	16 BxKt	KxB
4 P Q4	B Q2	17 Q Q3	Q R4(c)
5 Kt B3	Kt B3(a)	18 R K3	QR Q sq
6 Castles	B K2	19 P R3	B Kt4
7 BxKt(b)	BxB	20 R K2	B B3
8 R K sq	PxP	21 R K3	B B sq
9 KtxP	B Q2	22 Q K2	Q Kt3
10 P KR3	Castles	23 Kt R4	Q B2
11 B K3	P B3	24 Kt QB3	Q Kt3
12 Q B3	Kt K sq	25 Kt R4(d)	
13 QR Q sq	P KKt3	Drawn.	

NOTES.

(a) An improvement upon K Kt—K 2 as formerly played by Steinitz.

(b) Better is R—Q sq at once, followed by P—Q Kt 3 and B—Kt 2, as played by Tarrasch against Blackburne.

(c) An excellent manœuvre in Steinitz's old style.

(d) White is justified in offering a draw, as he can not resume the attack without some sacrifice.

The Minor Tourney.

The American player, Marshall, won the first prize, valued at $350, in the minor tournament; Marco and Physick divided the second and third prizes, to the value of $250, while Jackson and Smith divided the sixth and seventh prizes, to the value of $60 and $25.

The full result is as follows:—

F. J. Marshall (Brooklyn)	8½
G. Marco (Vienna)	8
T. Physick (London)	8
J. Milses (Berlin)	7½
E. O. Jones (London)	7½
Dr. S. F. Smith (London)	5½
E. N. Jackson (London)	5½
O. G. Muller (London)	5
J. E. Esser (Holland)	4
B. Tabountschikoff (Russia)	3½
H. Erskine (London)	3
J. O. Klimsch (Austria)	0

Though Marshall scored half a point more than Marco and Physick, the last two players did not lose a game, won five, and drew six; as against Marshall who won eight, drew three, and lost one.

Mr. Bird, one of the English representatives in the London Tournament and the oldest master engaged in the present contest, has been doing fairly well, having defeated Janowski and drawn with Steinitz. He said jocularly when the chess men dined at the Star and Garter, Richmond, that some of the old 'uns "would make the boys sit up" before the Tournament ended, and he has done much to verify his word.

Black and White gives some interesting notes about a few of the leading players. Pillsbury's peculialities receive notice. "Sitting behind Pillsbury you can tell to a nicety how his game is going by the way his feet are placed. If they are 'toes down—heels up' below his chair, you may safely say his game is prospering, and that he is meditating a brilliant coup. If they are curling round the legs of his chair searching vainly for something vague and elusive, you learn that he is in a tight corner, and that he is hunting for a good reply. Lasker, on the contrary, is very quiet; only, when he is somewhat disturbed, he swings his leg over one arm of his chair and snuggles his chin down into his fist. Of all the players Janowski has the most impassive face. Whatever the state of his game he never moves a muscle. He smokes innumerable Turkish cigarettes, just as Pillsbury and Showalter smoke cigars. Mason, American born, but an English citizen now, has a curious trick of pulling his lower lip with finger and thumb. But then there is not a player among them who has not some distinguishing mannerism, sometimes more humorous than graceful."

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 1	Th. Aug. 3
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Ernest Simons 2	Th. Aug. 10
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 3	M. Aug. 14
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Aug. 17
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Aug. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. Aug. 20
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Aug. 21
America	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	M. Aug. 28
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 30

1 Left Kobe on the 2nd inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 2nd inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Aug. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Aug. 9
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Aug. 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. Aug. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 14
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Aug. 15
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	W. Aug. 16
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Aug. 18
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. Aug. 21
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Aug. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Aug. 29

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 29th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 27th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 28th July,—Kobe 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 28th July,—Yokkaichi 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Laude, 28th July,—Otaru via ports, 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 29th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 28th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,771, W. Towell, 29th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 28th July. General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 29th July,—Hakódate 26th July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 29th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 28th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 29th July,—Shimonoseki 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 29th July, —New York via Suez Canal and way ports, and Kobe 27th July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 29th July, —Shanghai via ports, 22nd July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aztec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 30th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 29th July, General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 30th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 28th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Nagao, 30th July,—Yokkaichi, 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Warren, U.S. Army Transport, 2,926, Hart, 30th July,—Manila via Nagasaki 27th July.—U.S. Government.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 31st July,—Kobe, 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,899, M. J. Curnow, 31st July,—Seattle, Washington, 13th July, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 30th July,—Yokosuka, 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 30th July,—Otaru via ports, 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, H. Kirchner, 31st July,—Hongkong 20th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 1st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 1st Aug., —Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell Co., Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 1st Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 14th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 1st Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 1st Aug.,—Handa, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 1st August,—Yokkaichi, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 1st Aug.,—Newchwang, Beans.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 2nd Aug.,—Kobe, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,429, P. H. Going, 2nd August,—Kobe, 31st July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 2nd August—Hongkong via Moji and Kobe, 1st August, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 2nd August,—Yokkaichi, 1st August, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telena, British Tank steamer, 3,124, Scott, 2nd August,—Batoum via ports, Kobe, 31st July, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 3rd August,—Otaru via ports, 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seiroku Maru, Japanese steamer, T. Iwamoto, 3rd August,—Newchwang, Beans and Bean Cake.—S. Takata.

DEPARTURES.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F Allen, 28th July,—Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kaiserin Augusta (30), German cruiser, 6,331, Captain Gulich, 28th July,—Hakodate.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 28th July,—Kobe, 28th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 28th July,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwabara, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 28th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 28th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Robt. Farquhar, 29th July,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Boston (8), U.S. cruiser, 3,000, Lieut. Hughes, 29th July,—Honolulu and San Francisco.

Chihli, British steamer, 1,080, Newcombe, 29th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 29th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 29th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Laude, 29th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 30th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 30th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wittenberg, German steamer, 2,363, Madsen, 30th July,—Havre, Hamburg, and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 30th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, T. Kuwabara, 31st July,—Yokkaichi, Generals.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aztec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 1st August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 1st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,764, Anderson, 1st August,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 2nd August,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 2nd August,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Warren, U.S. Army Transdort, 2,926, Hart, 2nd August,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 2nd August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 2nd August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 2nd August,—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 2nd Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 2nd August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, W. H. T. Jackson, 3rd August,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 3rd August,—Hongkong via Kobe and Moji, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 3rd August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 3rd August,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Mast, Misses Mast (2), Mr. R. R. Martin, Mr. E. Bedloe, Captain R. Morris, Lieut. R. W. Castle, Mrs. Wynter, Mr. H. E. Ramsay, Mr. F. W. Hoffman, Count F. W. Bernstorff, Mr. C. W. Hay, Miss Sherwood, Miss Wilson, Mr. S. Montrie and child, Mr. and Mrs. M. Adler, Miss Melvin, Mr. J. J. Keswick, Mr. A. H. Massey, Mr. S. H. Abbott, Rev. G. E. Albrecht, Mr. R. H. Baker, Mr. F. R. Pratt, Mr. Geo. Sale, Miss Sale, Miss Ritson, Mrs. H. R. Bowie, Mr. R. H. Consterdine, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mr. G. H. Macy, Mr. M. Samuel, Mr. M. Bagallay, Mr. E. W. Clement, Mr. T. Kershaw, and Mr. and Miss Moun in cabin. In Transit:—Mr. C. Crane, Lieut. O. Williams, Miss E. M. Hamper, Miss S. Bailly, Miss G. Razza, Mr. R. H. Wood, Dr. J. Donelan, Mrs. St. John, Com. P. S. St. John, Con.-General Navarre, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Lieut. C. F. Randall, R.E., Miss H. de Harven, Miss C. Wilber, Mrs. C. H. Erskine and child, Mr. J. H. Perry, Mr. H. Anderson, Rev. T. Miyagawa, Mr. F. Saunders, and Mr. H. Nelson in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 215 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mrs. C. Brodersen, Mrs. C. W. Vance, Miss Stevens, Mr. H. B. Hulbert, Mr. Peltican, Rev. H. A. Kemp, Mr. L. Brodersen, Mrs. A. Forrest, Mr. A. H. White, Mr. E. H. Dunning, and Mr. C. Schilling, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Col. and Mrs. Van Valzah, Commander G. Blocklinger, U.S.N., Capt. and Mrs. L. L. Janes, Mrs. C. H. Reeves, Miss E. White, Mrs. A. W. Curtis, Mrs. A. Tyler, Mr. A. Seabury, Mr. Wong Chun, Mrs. C. H. Reeves, Master P. Janes, Miss Emma Kelly, Miss C. H. Curtis, Mrs. A. M. Kingan, Miss Wong Fuk Ling, and Mr. S. J. Risseff, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. and Mrs. Cronin, Mr. J. H. Ebersole, Mr. W. Neuss, Mrs. Startseff, Mr. Woronoff, Mrs. Roderich, Mrs. Tarias and child, Mrs. Ah Kwai, Mr. Banks, and Mr. Parker, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. W. B. Walter, Miss Fearon, Lieut. S. Iwamura, Mr. S. Iijima, and

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Mr. Y. Fujita, in cabin; Mr. K. Inemasu, Mr. T. Ando, and Mr. S. Kawamoto, in second class; 19 Japanese, 3 Europeans, 2 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. H. Elmenhoost, and Mr. G. Evich, in cabin; Mr. Th. Beiman, Dr. and Mrs. Papellier and child, Mrs. P. Yosan, and Mrs. Hannesan and child, in second class; Mr. and Mrs. Cretot, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. H. Thorn, Mr. N. Nabashima, Mr. S. N Ito, Mr. K. Noda, Mrs. H. B. Hulbert and three children, Mr. John H. Jewett, Mrs. John H. Jewett, four children, governess and maid, Mrs. N. W. McIvor's nurse and three children, Mrs. J. Sanger, Mr. J. P. O'Neill, Mr. F. W. Nolker and wife, and Mr. L. B. Porter, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. E. N. Taillem, and Miss Safa Walters, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. S. L. Kennedy, and Mrs. L. Achoy and child, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. M. W. Franklin, Mr. Chas. Dahl, Mrs. Chas. Dahl, Mr. A. S. Ellam, Mr. Lewis Betters, and Mrs. Thos. Longworth and two children, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Hongkong via port:—Mr. Boyer, in cabin. For Portland:—Mr. L. P. Reid, Mrs. L. P. Reid and 4 children, Mr. E. C. Hochaffel, Mr. B. Campbell, Mr. H. Campbell, Mr. N. Pease, and Mr. B. Easthan, in cabin; 1 second class; 38 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Major Alpin, Mr. F. C. Anderson, Miss S. Bailly, Senator A. J. Beveridge, Mrs. A. J. Beveridge, Mons. G. Beraud, Mr. J. G. Birch, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. M. Camproger, Mr. W. G. Clark, Mr. C. Crane, Dr. J. Donelan, Mrs. Erskine and child, Mons. L. Feydel, Miss S. M. Hamper, Mr. L. Harrison, Mr. J. B. Hartley, Miss de Harven, Mr. R. W. Hill, Mr. W. E King, Miss King, Mr. L. Knight, Mr. S. Kumizawa, Mr. P. T. Somerville Large, Miss Palmer Lovell, Miss H. M. Palmer Lovell, Mr. S. Miura, Rev. T. Miyagawa, Mr. K. Mizuhara, Mr. A. G. Mosle, Consul-Gen. J. de Navarro, Mr. Nelson, Mr. J. H. Perry, Miss G. Razza, Lieut. C. F. Rundall, R.E., Mr. R. A. Ruttan, Mr. Saunders, Mrs. E. Stoddard, Miss E. Stoddard, Miss C. Stoddard, Com. P. S. St. John, R.N., Mrs. P. S. St. John, Mr. K. Tanaka, Mrs. K. Tanaka, Mr. Tovani, Mr. C. F. Trepplin, Mr. Van Derlip, Mrs. Van Derlip, Rev. F. W. Voegelein, Mrs. F. W. Voegelein, Mr. W. R. Vibrams, Mons. C. Voullemier, Mrs. D. M. Warner, Mr. A. E. Watts, R.N., Mrs. C. Wilberg, and Mr. R. D. Wood, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. H. B. Arnold, Miss Arnold, Miss V. de Costa Andrade, Miss Clara P. Bodman, Commander G. Brocklinger, U.S.N., Miss E. Bash, Mr. E. Berg, Mr. H. Biemmans, Mrs. A. W. Curtis, Miss Curtis, Mr. Zoe Cote, Mr. I. Efron, Mr. W. H. Flock, Mr. G. Goffin, Mr. Wong Chun, Miss Kate V. Johnson, Capt. and Mrs. J. R. James, Master James, Miss Emma A. Kelly, Mrs. A. M. Kingan, Mrs. B. Klaney, Miss Wong Fuk Ling, Mr. Douglass McGregor, Mrs. B McGregor, Mrs. Geo. Munro, Mr. T. Masuda, Mr. and Mrs. B. Pollak, child and amah, Mr. C. B. Peck, Mr. A. Paulessey, Mr. Andrew Robertson, Mr. S. J. Risseff. Mr. and Mrs. T. Rinaldo, Mrs. C. H. Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Gould Schurman, Mr. B. E. Strauss, Mr. W. C. Stuart, Mrs. A. Seabury, Mr. C. Schilling, Mrs. A. Tyler, Mr. G. C. Vogel, Col. Van Valzah, U.S.A., Mrs. Van Valzah, Mr. A. Vinogrodoff, and Miss E. White, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. K. Tsuboi, Mr. F. M. Benedikter, Mr. E. S. S. Gordon, Mr. R. R. Marfin, Mr. J. Hitomi, Mr. T. Minobe, Mr. S. Matsuyama, Mr. Mr. T. Morioka, Mr. J. Pestonjee, Mr. J. Nowrojee, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mr. Gysin, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. Kinchan and child, Mr. P. Walters, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rock, Mr. N. M. Weinberg, Mr. V. Weinberg, Mrs. Weinberg, Miss Sorig, Mr. Darby, Mr. T. Herrmann, Mr. J. MacArthur, Mr. C. Mahomed Mech, Mr. di Lorenzo, Mr. Chang Chung Kee, Mr. Wong Hen Chun, Mr. Chang Wing Kai, and Mr. Wong Fai Fun and child, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. S. Ellam, Mr. A. L. Kennedy, Dr. N. W. Franklin, Mr. E. Binnardiston, Mr. H. A. F. Currie, Mrs. A. Choy and child, Mr. E. N. Taillen, Mrs. Thos. Longworth and two children, Mr. W. F. Noble, Miss Sarah Walters, Mr Douglass Stewart, Mrs. Belle Kelley and child, Mr. Louis Betters, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Dahl, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Master K. Asakura, Master S. Matsui, Mr. G. P. Denbigh, Miss W. Denbigh, Capt. K. Yabe, Mr. K. Hayashi, Lieut. T. Haraguchi, Sub-Lieut. U. Yamakawa, I.J.A., Mr. T. Watanabe, and Mr. Sasutomi, in cabin; Mr. S. Terada, Mrs. and Miss Terada, Mr. A. Asakura, Mr. S. Furukawa, Major S. Abe, Mr. A. Hirouchi, and Mr. J. Saito, in second class.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK & EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Hongkong	479	28	21	249	10	787
Amoy	387	2,303	2,678	—	—	5,368
Foochow	5,238	716	—	—	—	5,954
Shanghai	1,678	—	402	—	—	1,080
Hankow	280	—	—	1	—	281
Kobe	3,148	—	—	—	—	3,148
Yokohama	5,116	10	15	54	—	5,395
Total	16,526	3,057	3,116	304	10	23,013

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL BALES.
Hongkong and Canton	378	—	378
Shanghai	759	—	759
Yokohama	943	43	986
Total	2,080	—	2,123

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is very slack, the market suffering from the usual hot weather lethargy. Nothing is doing in yarns, or grey shirtings, and not much in fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 32½ yds 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2/100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18.00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

A moderate business has been done, but at prices below home rates.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.20 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails, assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅞ to 13 inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is strong at a slight advance.

American	$1.38 to 2.42
Russian	2.30 to 2.34
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Taikan	$4.90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 4.60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK

There is a brisk demand from Europe, and fine filatures have been eagerly taken up. Large contracts have also been signed for forward delivery. The American demand is also brisker, and high prices have been paid.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1190 to 1200
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1060 to 1070
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1120 to 1130
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1100 to 1120
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1010 to 1070
Re-reels—No. 1½	1031 to 1010
Re-reels—No. 2	1110 to 1020
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	1040 to 1030
Kakedas—No. 1	990 to 1000
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No 2	950 to 960
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

Nothing has been doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Filatures, Good	130 to 140
Noshi—Oshu, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Oshu, Good	1424 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	130 to 1324
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	85 to 50
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	67 to 70
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	10 to 11
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	35 to 40
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	25 to 30

TEA

There has been a large business, the bulk of it in the lower grades. The quality is poorer than last year. The third crop, which is just arriving, shows no improvement. There is a large stock, but holders are not inclined to bring down their prices.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 3.

Engine and Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 212.50, Club Hotels at *yen* 80, Oriental Hotels at *yen* 125, Breweries are steady at *yen* 175, Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 225, Laundries at *yen* 70, Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. A few Bretts can be placed at *yen* 9.75.

Raub Mines changed hands to-day at $61.50 for cash and at $66 for forward delivery. Douglasses were sold to-day at $56, Hongkong & Shanghai Banks at 356 per cent. premium.

For quotations of local stocks, please refer to the list below.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	212,50B.ex div
Japan Brewery Co., Ld., *yen* 50	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	225 S.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Fdrs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., $100	Nominal
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9.75 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	Nominal
Hogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50	70 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property: 2, *yen* 17,770.80: 3, *yen* 16,208.44; 4, *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 3.

Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 220. Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 212.50. Steam Laundries are obtainable at *yen* 70.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	212.50 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	220 Sellers.
Club Hotel	87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel	125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co.	160 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	175 Sales.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 3

Rates continue steady without any change; silver from London is unaltered as well as sterling quotations from China. To-morrow will be observed more or less as a Holiday.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 9/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 5/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/4
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 214 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 % dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 3/4
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 3/4

Tokyo, August 3.

Redemption Loan Bonds	1	96.90
War Loan Bonds	1	96.90
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		99.20
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		295.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		55.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	1	272.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100		270.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	1	63.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	1	63.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	1	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	1	28.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		73.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 42		60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50		25.20
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1	102.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1	70.80
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		61.20
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		48.20
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		66.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		52.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		99.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28		77.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		96.60
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.50
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		90.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		41.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20.70
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		10.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 25		29.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2.50		1.60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		230.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		180.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	1	72.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25		17.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10		5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		31.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		20.10
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		30.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		34.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		10.50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		225.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		225.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		115.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25		75.50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		2.80
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50		57.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50		22.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50		73.50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22		41.00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40		83.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50		36.80
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50		47.50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40		57.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50		54.50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50		54.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25		18.50
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50		14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50		42.00

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 1899.

MARRIAGE.

On the 2nd August, at San Francisco, JULIUS STRAUSS, of Yokohama, to NELLY, daughter of Moritz Meyer, of San Francisco.

DEATH.

On Saturday night, August 5th, WILLIAM K. BURTON, A.M.I.C.E.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

THE second trial of Dreyfus has begun.

MOUNT ASAMA has again been displaying activity.

SEVERAL of the Foreign Ministers have been decorated by the Emperor to mark the completion of Treaty Revision.

THE Czarina's daughter has been named Maria.

THE prolongation of the Transvaal crisis is ruining business.

THE Emperor William's yacht *Meteor* won the Queen's Cup at the Cowes Regatta.

THE two Italian men-of-war sent to China are to relieve two which will return home.

THE Canadian Government has decided not to increase the Chinese poll-tax this year.

A JAPANESE Consulate was opened at Gensan and Söng-jin, Korea, on July 24th.

MORE troops have been ordered to the Cape, and a camp is being formed at Buluwayo.

THE trial of Miller for triple murder has been proceeding all the week at the Chiho Saibansho.

PROFESSOR YATABE has lost his life while bathing at Kamakura, the under tow carrying him down.

THE Temperance Conference at Karuizawa was very successful this year. A full report appears elsewhere.

THE recent strike of Tokyo car-drivers was organized by some speculators. They have been badly "left."

A COLLISION of trains has taken place at Jurisy near Paris. Seventeen persons were killed and seventy-three injured.

THE Yokohama baseball players continue to hold their own in games with the returning U. S. volunteer regiments.

PROFESSOR KITASATO is said to have discovered a cure for dysentery. Some experiments of his in this direction have been very successful.

A COUNCIL of Field-Marshals was held on Wednesday morning at half-past nine o'clock, and was honoured by the presence of his Majesty the Emperor.

ON the 1st inst., in the Osaka Marine Court, William Black, licensed pilot, had his certificate suspended for two months, in consequence of the stranding of the British steamer *Benlawers*.

THE total number of Japanese in Bombay, according to investigations made at the end of June, was 80, of whom 32 were males. This is an increase of 9 persons as compared with December last.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* records the death at the General Hospital, Shanghai, on July 31st, of M. E. Moulron, formerly Belgian Consul at Yokohama, but who had been a resident of Shanghai for some years.

REUTER'S agent wires that a note from Mr. de Giers warns China that an alliance with Japan would give great offence to Russia, and that the consequences would be most serious. We do not credit the statement.

THE Czar has pleasant remembrances of his visit to the Queen at Balmoral two years ago, and the announcement is made that it is not improbable he may visit Her Majesty at her Highland home in the course of the autumn.

IN the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, Thomas Simpson, engineer on board the watch, was U.S. transport *Sherman*, charged with theft of some bottles of beer at the railway station, was acquitted owing to insufficiency of evidence.

A RUMOUR reaches London *via* Paris that the Czar, disheartened at the results of the Peace Conference and distracted by private griefs, wishes to abdicate in favour of his brother. The French press says that such a step would virtually be desertion.

ON the afternoon of the 8th inst. a coolie working on board the steamer *Argyll*, at Yokohama, was found by Mr. Wilson, Chief Officer, in the act of stealing 27lbs. of cotton yarn. The man was at once handed over to the Water Police and after an examination by the latter he was committed to the Court for trial.

THE French Government has decided to grant the maximum bounty on sugar during the coming year. Mr. Brodrick, speaking in the Commons, said he thought it possible that in view of the extension of the system of countervailing duties, France might be induced to modify her views.

THE annual regatta took place on Biwa lake on the 6th inst. Early in the morning a dense mist prevailed, but about seven o'clock the weather cleared up, and the races began at 9 o'clock. Representatives from various schools and rowing clubs engaged in the races, 22 in all. It was not until 7.30 p.m. that the programme was completed. The chief feature was the race between the Kochi Middle School, the Niigata Middle School, and the Kyoto Doshisha for the *Jiji Shimpo* trophy. The last named team won by half a length in 4 minutes 50 seconds over a course of 1000 metres.

IN virtue of a degree given by the Kobe Civil Court two years ago against Mr. M. L. Martin, of Calcutta, for *yen* 9,800, with costs, all the effects, luggage, and wearing apparel of Mr. Martin were seized last Sunday, at the Custom-house, by a bailiff acting under orders of the Court, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of Aug. 8th. Mr. Martin was a passenger by the French mail, and the seizure included everything of value, leaving only a suit of clothes beside the one worn by Mr. Martin. The case is the first of its kind since Japanese jurisdiction has began. We are given to understand that the goods seized will be put up at a public auction on the 26th inst., and that they contain some very valuable articles.

A DISCURSIVE debate has taken place in the House of Commons on the China question. Mr. Brodrick said that England naturally viewed with favourable eyes any policy pointing to reforms in China. But customs which had existed for centuries could not be changed quickly. The Government hoped that results would accrue from the cöperation of Germany in keeping China's ports open to the trade of the world. Her Majesty's Government, though appearing to proceed alone, was often exchanging opinions with other Powers. Adverting to the question of the Russian railway from Manchuria to Peking, he said it would probably be found that other Powers shared Great Britain's view that the predominance of any single Power in Peking could not be regarded without concern. The condition of affairs in China must continue to be fraught with some peril to the cause of peace, but the attitude that Her Majesty's Government proposed to maintain was one of patience and

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PUBLIC OPINION AND THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Saturday, Aug. 5.

Only two of the leading Japanese journals comment on the course adopted by the educational authorities with regard to private schools. They are the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Kokumin Shimbun*. Both condemn the arrangement emphatically. They naturally enquire why the clauses interdicting religious teaching, and religious exercises have been expunged from the body of the Regulations if they are resuscitated in the Minister's Instruction. The *Jiji* is particularly sarcastic about such action. It compares it to the conduct of a small dog which, meeting a big hound on the road, puts its tail between its legs, flies for shelter, and then thrusts its head out of a hole to bark. The *Kokumin* catalogues the schools to which the prohibition will apply, primary schools, middle schools, industrial schools, apprentice schools, agricultural schools, sericultural schools, dendrological schools, zoological schools, commercial schools, high female schools, marine-products schools, and so on. The two journals agree that the policy of the educational authorities is unwise, and that it will not conduce to the best interests of Japan.

To us it does not seem too much to say that the course adopted by the Educational Department amounts to abolishing religion altogether from the training of the youth of the country. For it is to be observed that the Instruction of the Minister goes so far as to forbid religious teaching and religious exercises outside the regular class hours. Hence everything relating to religion is absolutely interdicted in every school which models its curriculum so as to obtain official recognition. Of course the view of the Authorities is that if the principle of the State's total exclusion from the sphere of religion be accepted, then the State is precluded from recognising a school where religion is taught in any form or under any arrangement. That line of reasoning will present itself in various ways to various minds. For example, some may contend that since the professors of Christianity are comparatively wealthy and have shown a disposition to devote large sums to educational purposes, the official recognition of their schools would be a practical identification of the State with Christianity. To put the matter in another way:—Christians are at present the only religionists in Japan who apply great amounts of money to the building and endowment of schools, and who employ expert foreign aid for educational purposes. Hence official recognition of schools where the religious element exists would, under present circumstances, amount to official recognition of Christianity in education. We fully appreciate that difficulty, but it assumes in our eyes the form of a declaration that since the disciples of Buddhism and Shinto are apathetic, not to say lacking in zeal and philanthropy, therefore Japan must deny to her youth all religious training of every kind. It is a dangerous experiment. No nation has ever tried it hitherto, so far as we know.

Tuesday, Aug. 8

Not one of the metropolitan journals, not so much as one, approves the policy pursued by the Educational Authorities towards private schools. Some writers recognise, indeed, that there are symptoms of the dawn of better days, since the Authorities have had the grace to withdraw the objectionable restrictions from the body of the Regulations, and to relegate them to a Ministerial Instruction. But the practical result is the same. One would suppose that it should be the Government's first object to increase the educational facilities available by the nation, but the effect of these restrictions is virtually to destroy private schools.

There is a great deal more in the same line, but we need not quote it. The plain fact is that in this matter the journalists of the country seem to be more liberal than the Government, a rare experience in Japan. It is perhaps reasonable to hope that, in the face of such unanimity on the part of the press, the time is not far distant when the Educational Department will see its way to adopt a policy more worthy of Japan's modern progress.

Wednesday, Aug. 9.

It appears, after all, that the Educational Authorities do not intend to pursue with regard to private schools the illiberal course implied by the Instruction recently issued over the signature of the Minister of State for Education. If the Instruction stood alone, it must necessarily be interpreted to mean that official recognition will be withheld from any private school where religion is taught, or religious exercises are carried on, whether in hours of study or otherwise; and inasmuch as without official recognition a school can not obtain for its students the privilege of exemption from conscription, it follows that private educators have to choose between abolishing religion in every form from the training of youths, or exposing them to be drafted as conscripts at the age of 20, instead of being secured against any such misfortune until they attain their 28th year and may be supposed to have completed their studies. But from various interviews between newspaper representatives and officials of the Educational Department, we gather that the Instruction is not to be construed in that sense. The restriction with regard to religious teaching and religious exercises is to be confined to private schools whose curricula, text-books, and all the details of their teaching are strictly regulated by official standards. A private school which does not follow this exact method of uniformity, but which is nevertheless judged to rank with or above an official Middle School in the matter of its scholastic courses, will not be ineligible for the privilege of exemption from conscription. We consider that this explanation lacks perspicacity. The natural supposition is that the curricula and all the educational methods of the Government Middle Schools are the best of their kind that can be designed, and, arguing on that hypothesis, it would follow that the Authorities should encourage, rather than discriminate against, exact conformity with their own curricula and methods. Yet it appears that a school cut out in precise agreement with the official pattern will not enjoy as much liberty as a school which departs from the model. Of course there is the somewhat sentimental consideration that the Department may object to see religion associated with the courses of study it prescribes, although the association takes place in private schools not under official auspices. But, whatever be the true inwardness of the matter, we shall all be sincerely glad should events prove that the practice of the Department of Education is more liberal than the text of its instructions and enactments.

A POLITICAL FRACAS.

Tuesday, Aug. 8.

A telegram from Kuroishi in Aomori Prefecture, despatched at 11.20 a.m. on the 7th instant, says that Mr. Hoshi Toru and his companions arrived in that town at about 11 o'clock. Elaborate preparations had been made to receive them, a great crowd assembling at the station, and fire-works were discharged. The Opposition, however, were determined to assert themselves. They summoned a "tax-reduction" meeting, and then took up a position, to the number of several hundreds on the roofs of the houses. In the northern provinces of Japan it is a common custom to roof the houses with shingle upon which heavy stones are placed to prevent stripping by the wind. These stones the Opposition politicians discharged like hail at the heads of the visitors as they passed along the street beneath. Many people were wounded and several *jinrikisha* smashed. How Mr. Hoshi himself fared we can not ascertain. One telegram says that he and his companions escaped without injury, and that they held their meeting without further difficulty. But another telegram, despatched at 12.40 p.m., says that stones were poured down from the roofs on both sides of the street, that Mr. Hoshi and his companions were wounded, and that the police had to draw their swords before they could restore order. It was a savage proceeding, particularly heinous when we remember that the lives of *jinrikisha*-drawers and of other outsiders were recklessly imperilled.

Wednesday, Aug. 9.

There is no longer any doubt that Mr. Hoshi and his companions escaped without injury in the stone-shower at Kuroishi. They held a political meeting at 3.46 p.m. in the residence of Mr. Shibuya, and it is said that the audience numbered two thousand. Messrs. Suzuki, Tachikawa, Sugawara, and Hoshi delivered speeches. After the meeting the usual friendly *réunion* was held. Some five hundred prominent citizens attended and a number of them are reported to have inscribed their names on the roll of the Liberal Party. Indeed, if the telegrams are trustworthy, the violent proceedings of the Progressists has produced a strong wave of popular sentiment in favour of their opponents. It was abortive violence, too, for the only persons injured by the roof-stones were people of the town who had gone out to welcome Mr. Hoshi's party and some unfortunate *jinrikisha*-men. Six of the ringleaders of the roughs have been expelled from Kuroishi, in accordance with the provisions of the Admonition Regulations. That seems a small punishment.

It is stated that the Progressist *soshi* had made an equally murderous attempt at a place called Goshogawara on the 3rd instant. They cut the timbers of a newly erected bridge over which Mr. Hoshi and his friends were expected to pass, and had not the police discovered the state of the structure in good time, a very serious accident must have resulted.

Another fracas is reported from Chiba

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Prefecture. A number of Progressist *soshi*, accompanied by professional gamblers, broke into a meeting of Liberal politicians. The police ordered the dispersal of the meeting, but the intruders declined to obey and a free fight ensued, in which several constables were hurt. It will be remembered that Chiba was recently the scene of a large defection from the ranks of the Progressists to the Liberals. Doubtless the place is considerably excited.

THE "MAINICHI" AND MR. DIOSY.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, finding the propriety of its recent remarks about Mr. Diosy challenged in several quarters, replies at some length. Apparently with the object of meeting our criticism that the original utterances were doubtless inserted without the knowledge of the eminent publicist who edits the *Mainichi*, this latest article is signed by Mr. Kinoshita Shoko, who, we believe, is the sub-editor of the paper. He suggests that the *Japan Mail* was probably asked by Mr. Diosy to espouse his cause. That is entirely an error. No communication of any kind passed between Mr. Diosy and this journal. But even supposing that there had been some communication, what then? Does the *Mainichi* deem it contrary to journalistic morality to listen to a man's protest against a slander, and to assist him to rebut it should his proofs of innocence seem valid? That is indeed a strange theory. However, as we have said, the editor of the *Japan Mail*, when he protested against the *Mainichi's* scandalous paragraph, had not received any communication, directly or indirectly, from Mr. Diosy.

The point now made by the *Mainichi* is that it cares nothing about the purpose which induced Mr. Diosy to visit the Yoshiwara, but is concerned solely with the fact that he made such a visit. It asks, with more ingenuity than ingenuousness, what Mr. Diosy's apologist in the *Jiji Shimpo* would say were Mr. Fukuzawa to get into a *jinrikisha*, drive off to the celebrated region behind Asakusa, disport himself there with *geisha*, song-singing, and *sake* drinking, and then plead afterwards that he had done it all for the sake of denouncing the abuses he had tested. That is mere persiflage. The *Mainichi* is not sincere. Its first paragraph suggested, as plainly as language could suggest, that Mr. Diosy had indulged in a mere vulgar debauch. If such a paragraph was written with the knowledge that the object of Mr. Diosy was sociological inquiry, not sensual indulgence, the writer must be one of the clumsiest scribes that ever wielded pen. For the rest, the Yoshiwara is a Japanese institution, sanctioned by the Government of Japan and duly controlled by the police. That the system it represents has many excellent features, no one can deny, and we decline to believe that either Mr. Kinoshita or any other rational person can seriously pretend that to visit such a place and investigate the methods pursued there, with the object of collecting materials for an intelligent judgment, is contrary to any ethical code, however rigid.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the *Mainichi's* argument is the extraordinary contradiction into which it is unwittingly betrayed. The *Jiji Shimpo*, as our readers know, has written a great deal about the wholesome effects of foreign intercourse and the influence it will probably exercise in inducing the Japanese to be at least more circumspect in appearance. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, when it first adduced this Diosy incident, used it as a peg for a homily about the absurdity of the *Jiji's* contention. "Here," said the *Mainichi* in effect, "here are the kind of men whose presence in your midst is to make you more careful about the proprieties!" But what does this same *Mainichi* now say? Why, it becomes quite enthusiastic about the respect that Englishmen pay to appearances. It refers to Mr. Diosy's telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and to the *Japan Mail's* immediate defence of him, as proofs of the great solicitude that Englishmen feel about any smirch on their moral reputation, and it contrasts such a happy state of affairs with the indifference shown by the Japanese in such matters. "If a Japanese gentleman, not an English, had been the victim of these rumours, the public would not have heard anything more about them." Well, but that is precisely the contention of the *Jiji Shimpo*. The *Mainichi's* accidental adhesion to the views which it denounced only three days ago in this very context is quite a quaint incident of journalistic controversy.

THE LATE PROFESSOR YATABE.

Professor Yatabe has come by an untimely death. The Professor had gone to Kamakura with his family on the 3rd inst. and had bathed whenever the weather permitted. On the 7th he went with his son to walk on the part of the shore called Yuigahama. There he met two friends, Mr. Abe Taizo, of the Tokyo Life Insurance Company, and Mr. Kubota Yuzuru, of the House of Peers. After a brief conversation, in the course of which he laughingly observed that he intended to insure his life and make money by dying, he passed on to the neighbourhood of a place where some fishermen were drawing their nets. The weather was beautiful and the sea calm, though a ground swell of considerable volume remained from the storm of the preceding day. Mr. Yatabe was tempted to bathe. He entered the water alone, his son being engrossed by the netting operations, and was almost immediately swept seaward owing to some peculiar action of the under-tow and the receding tide. It is said that after a vain struggle to regain the shore, he threw up his arms and shouted for help, but his gestures were not observed by the fishermen, their attention being concentrated on their nets, and the sound of his voice was lost in the noise of the sea. When those on shore became conscious of his perilous condition, a boat immediately put off to his assistance, and he was drawn from the water after his body had risen to the surface a second time. Life was not extinct, but those about him do not seem to have been conversant with the proper methods of resuscitation, and by the time that artificial respiration could be resorted to, the unfortunate gentleman had passed beyond the reach of human succour.

Professor Yatabe was in his forty-ninth year. He had been connected with education since 1868, when he became a student-teacher in the Kaisei Gakko. He went to the United States in 1871 and in 1876 graduated at a New York University. The degree of Professor of Physics was conferred on him in 1889, and at the time of his death he was principal of the Upper Normal School as well as of the School of Music. His views were in some respects conservative, and the public have always supposed him to be one of the little band of educationists whose influence tended to create an exclusive form of patriotism in the schools. But whatever his politics, his unfortunate death is a grave loss to his country, for in point of scientific attainments he represented one of the best products of the modern progressive movement.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The Industrial Bank held its semi-annual meeting on the 3rd instant, when the following statement of accounts was presented and passed :—

	Yen.
Gross Profits	333,341
Total Expenditures, Losses, &c.	217,708
Net Profit	115,633
	Yen.
To Reserve for meeting losses	18,502
To Reserve for equalizing dividends	4,626
First Dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent.	62,500
Rewards to officers	5,781
Second Dividend (40 *sen* per share or 1.6 per cent.)	20,000
Carried over to next account	4,224
Total	115,633

In the rewards to officers was included a sum of 5,000 *yen* presented to the late Director, Mr. Kawashima.

The Vice-Director, Mr. Fukushima, in presenting this report, said that although the money market had been growing much easier since the spring, the applications to the Bank for accommodation had not shown any diminution. During the half year under review there had been 104 applications, involving a total amount of 3,650,000 *yen*, and if to these were added the applications previously received, aggregates of 1,043 applications and 10,340,000 *yen* were reached. He expected that, by the end of this year, the Bank would have lent a sum of 7,908,000 *yen*. The debentures thus far issued were 6,500,000 *yen*. Very good results had been experienced in working the Bank's system: repayments of the installments of loans had been prompt and regular. On the other hand, the Bank had redeemed 87,500 *yen* worth of debentures. They were now able, for the first time, to pay a dividend over and above the Government's guarantee. Its amount was 1.6 per cent., and it brought the total dividend to 6.6 per cent. This additional dividend might have been raised to 2 per cent., but the Directors had deemed it more desirable to make a substantial addition to the reserves.

CLANDESTINE SALE OF ARMS.

Some dark hints recently found their way into the columns of Tokyo newspapers about an unfulfilled contract to supply arms and ammunition to the Philippine insurgents, and about the consequent embarrassment of two well-known Japanese gentlemen who had received money they could not refund. The story is now supplemented by a tale about the *Yunobiki Maru*, which was recently wrecked at the Saddles. She is said to have been carrying a cargo of arms and ammunition for the same unlawful destination, and the enterprise is connected with the Progressists, for no better reason, apparently, than that the owner of the *Yunobiki* be-

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THE BRITISH CONSULATE.

Monday, Aug. 7.

We find some comments in Japanese journals on the fact that H.B.M. Consulates in Japan continued to exercise jurisdiction during the interval between July 17th and August 4th. "The Foreign Office in Tokyo," one journal writes, "is said to be examining the question, but instead of a slow examination we recommend a speedy protest."

Some singular ideas appear to exist in Yokohama with reference to this matter. It is supposed, for example, that because a special Convention exists between Great Britain and Japan for continuing Consular Jurisdiction in cases which are still *sub judice* at the time of the operation of the Revised Treaties, therefore sailors that had deserted from their ships previously to the 17th July were judiciable by H.B.M.'s Consular Courts even though their arrest did not take place until after that date. But the Convention is not concerned with the time of an offence's commission: it has to do solely with the date when legal proceedings are instituted. The explanation of the course adopted by the British Consular Courts is doubtless to be sought in Sir Ernest Satow's interpretation of the most-favoured-nation clause. He reads it as securing to British subjects all favours and immunities of whatsoever nature that Japan may grant to the subjects or citizens of other States. Consequently, so long as French citizens and Austro-Hungarian subjects enjoyed the privilege of Consular Jurisdiction, Sir Ernest Satow considered it right that British subjects should enjoy the same privilege. So, at least, we construe his action. Of course it is altogether a matter of secondary consequence whether three or four sailors are punished for desertion by a British tribunal or by a Japanese, but the point will doubtless be held to have importance for the sake of its bearing on the interpretation of the most-favoured-nation clause. That much-discussed clause does not appear in the Revised Treaty in the same form as it does in the original Treaty. Here are the two articles:—

Original Treaty.	Revised Treaty.
It is hereby expressly stipulated that the British Government and its subjects will be allowed free and equal participation in all privileges, immunities, and advantages that may have been, or may be hereafter, granted by His Majesty the Taikun of Japan to the Government or subjects of any other nation.	The High Contracting Parties agree that in all that concerns commerce and navigation, any privilege, favour, or immunity which either Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the Government, ships, subjects or citizens of any other State, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the Government, ships, subjects, or citizens of the other Contracting Party; it being their intention that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed in all respects by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

The old Article gave rise to much discussion in its day, because of the qualifying adjective "equal." Great Britain, in her interpretation of the Treaty, ignored this word, and contended that it did not imply any condition; that, in short, if Japan gave something to *A* for a certain consideration, she must give the same to *B* without any consideration. That view, however, is now a historical issue only. The ambiguity is fully removed by the new clause, where the words "immediately and unconditionally" are inserted. But it will be observed that, whereas the old clause was exhaustive, its language being "all privileges, immunities, and advantages," the new clause is restrictive, its language being "in all that concerns commerce and navigation." Hence the propriety of the recent procedure of the British Consulate depends upon the answer to the question:—Does the punishment of merchant sailors for offences committed in connexion with their service, fall within the category of matters relating to navigation and commerce? If we answer in the affirmative, we are driven to attempt a rather subtle distinction between the departments of criminal jurisdiction.

A correspondent, writing on the subject, suggests the "simple explanation" that the old treaties were in force until the new came into operation. But he does not attempt to show by virtue of what instrument they remained in force.

Wednesday, Aug. 9.

It is stated by Tokyo journals that the judicial decisions rendered in H.B.M.'s Consular Court between the 17th of July and the 4th of August have been rescinded, the Consul having acted on a misunderstanding. Some complications could scarcely fail to arise out of the very anomalous situation existing during the "interregnum," and, of course, as Great Britain's functions in connexion with the exercise of Consular Jurisdiction are fifty times as extensive as those of any other Power, it was tolerably certain that she would be required to furnish a practical test of the anomaly. However, the matter is a mere bagatelle, and we are glad to see that our Tokyo contemporaries treat it in that light. But we must be permitted to express our conviction that the decisions have not been quashed. That is a pure *canard*, we imagine.

RUSSIAN TAXES ON TEA, &C.

Mr. Futatsuhashi, Japanese Commercial agent at Vladivostock, sends the Foreign Office a communication which explains the reasons for Russia's action in taxing tea imported into her dominions *viâ* north-eastern Asiatic ports. Hitherto the only articles subject to duty on entering these ports have been alcohol, sugar, tobacco, and kerosene—in other words, articles intended for purely local use. Tea was not taxed, because it is not Russia's policy to tax dust tea, which is used by the lower orders only, and evidently the nature of the westward communications from Vladivostock and other east Asian ports was so defective that the better grades of tea were not at all likely to enter Russia's dominions from that direction in any considerable quantities. The situation has changed, however, by the gradual construction of the Siberian Railway, and it has therefore been considered necessary to impose an import duty, which, however, is still 9 roubles per pod less than the duty charged in Russia's European ports. It is expected that the additional revenue accruing from the change will be two million roubles.

Japan is not greatly interested in the question. The quantity of tea sent by her last year to East-Asian Russia was only 32,952 catties of leaf and 600 boxes of dust. Mr. Futatsuhashi thinks, however, that, if more attention were paid to manufacturing processes, or if the Japanese had larger command of capital, a much better market would offer. The faults of the tea disappear after it has been seasoned, but dealers can not afford to store it for that purpose: they are compelled to realize quickly.

It appears that a heavy duty has also been imposed on imported silver. That is a coinage precaution. Since the financial reforms of 1897, Russia's fiat currency has ceased to depreciate, and her silver rouble circulates at par with the gold rouble, though the latter is worth 1.78 *yen* of Japanese money, and the former has 15 per cent. less silver by weight than the *yen*. There is thus a danger of silver's being imported from China and Japan into Vladivostock and the adjacent ports. To prevent that, a heavy tax will be levied on imported silver, whether in bars or manufactured.

A TYPHOON.

A telegram despatched from Taipeh in Formosa on the 6th instant at 6 p.m., and addressed to the Naval Department in Tokyo, says that on the 5th instant a violent gale was developed in the neighbourhood of Ishigaki-jima, whence it crossed the north of Formosa, and thence made its way to China, invading that country between Amoy and Foochow. Great damage was done to houses in Taipeh and Kelung, and telegraphic communication with the Pescadores was interrupted.

About simultaneously with the receipt of the above telegram in Tokyo on the 7th inst., the Central Observatory issued a report to the effect that, with the exception of Taipeh, all parts of Formosa had been thrown out of the range of telegraphic communication since the 5th inst. and that detailed news was consequently unprocurable, but all the indications went to show that northern Formosa had been swept by a typhoon, and that as the centre of the storm must have passed very close to Taichu, Tainan, and the Pescadores, those places had doubtless suffered very severely.

DEATH OF MR. W. K. BURTON.

It is with the greatest regret that we announce the death of Professor W. K. Burton, which took place at 9.10 p.m. on the 5th instant in the University Hospital at Hongo. Professor Burton had been in indifferent health for some years, and when in Formosan last summer he was attacked by a combination of illnesses all aggravated by, if not directly due to, the very trying climate of the island acting upon a man of impaired constitution who never knew how to spare himself when duty called. The immediate cause of death was acute inflamation of the liver consequent on dysentry. Professor Burton was a man of rare scientific attainments and still rarer nobility of nature. He did splendid work in Japan during the fifteen years of his residence here, not only in the field of sanitary engineering, but also in that of photography, a specialty which he pursued with such success as to win a world-wide reputation. He leaves a widow and a little daughter with whose sad bereavement all will sympathise.

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THE COTION SPINNING INDUSTRY.

Japanese cotton-spinners seem to have emerged from their period of depression and entered once more upon a prosperous era. The happier circumstances in which they now find themselves are attributed partly to the improved state of the market, but chiefly to the reforms they have themselves effected in their organization and methods, in accordance with the programme outlined by Count Inouye when he directed the country's finances last year. In the columns of the *Keizai Zasshi* we find the following table, showing the dividends declared by the various companies for the first half of the current year, as compared with the corresponding period in 1895 :—

Names of Company.	Dividend for 1st half of 1899.	Dividend for 1st half of 1898.	+ Increase − Decrease
Seushu Boseki Kaisha.....	—	7.0	— 7.0
Sakai do	10.0	5.0	+ 5.0
Amagasaki do	12.0	10.0	+ 2.0
Hirano do	25.2	20.0	+ 5.2
Settsu do	20.0	20.0	—
Osaka do	5.0	3.5	+ 1.5
Kishiwada do	20.0	20.0	—
Kanegafuchi do	12.0	10.0	+ 2.0
Tokyo do	7.0	10.0	— 3.0
Tokyo Gasu B'ki Kaisha...	12.0	—	+12.0
Miye do	14.0	16.0	— 2.0
Owari do	12.0	8.0	+ 4.0
Bizen do	—	—	—
Kinashiki do	14.0	15.0	— 1.0
Okayama do	12.0	11.0	+ 1.0
Matsuyama do	10.0	10.0	—
Harima do	—	—	—
Koriyama do	7.0	3.0	+ 4.0
Yamato do	—	—	—
Omi, Asaito B'ki Kaisha..	6.0	6.0	—
Awaji do	—	—	—
Kasaoka do	5.4	—	+ 5.4
Kofu do	5.0	6.0	— 1.0
Hetan do	—	—	—
I. Kimuito do	30.0	20.0	+10.0
Teikoku Nenshi do	4.0	—	+ 4.0
Shimotsuke do	10.0	7.0	+ 3.0
Tsushima do	7.0	8.5	— 1.5
Ajino do	8.0	—	+ 8.0
Fukuyama do	10.0	8.0	+ 2.0
Nihon do	10.0	—	+10.0
Iyo do	—	—	—
Nihon Kinuwata do	12.0	12.0	—
Tokyo Mosrin do	10.3	—	10.3
Nankai Kinuito do	—	—	—
Ichinomiya do	—	—	—
Takaoka do	—	—	—
Average.....	8.6	6.4	+ 2.2

It will be observed that, among 37 companies shown in this table, only six have been obliged to reduce their dividends, fourteen pay the same rate as in 1898, and seventeen pay an increased rate. Further, the number of companies paying no dividend has been reduced from fifteen to nine, and it is stated that even among those which pay no dividend there is none that has made a loss, which is a very different record from that of last year.

CHINESE COMMERCIAL MISSION AND SHANGHAI RUMOURS

Wednesday, Aug. 9.

Mr. Liu, the head of the Chinese Commercial Mission now staying in Tokyo, has been interviewed with reference to the rumours circulated in Shanghai, on the authority of the *North-China Daily News*. He characterizes them as altogether baseless, and declares that they are obviously a device on the part of his political enemies to discredit him. The purpose of his coming is purely commercial and industrial. He is not charged with any kind of secret commission. He has had interviews with various Japanese statesmen in order to collect their opinions about tradal prospects between Japan and China; he has inspected various mercantile and manufacturing institutions, and he now projects a visit to Nikko for the purpose of examining the Ashio copper mine. It is veritable moonshine to suggest that his coming to Tokyo is connected, directly or indirectly, with an alliance between the two empires, or with any such purpose as procuring Marquis Ito's assistance at Peking. Referring to the question of Japan's alleged intention of restoring to her neighbour the ships captured in the war of 1894-5, Mr. Liu had heard some rumour a year ago. It would be a very friendly act, and China would so regard it. But unfortunately she has no harbour to shelter the ships, and, if there were any prospect of her receiving them, her first business would be to construct a harbour. In Mr. Liu's opinion, what China wants at present is an army rather than a navy.

Thursday, Aug. 10.

We are strongly disposed to doubt the truth of the intelligence sent by Reuter about a warning addressed by Russia to China on the subject of a Sinico-Japanese alliance. In the first place, no such alliance is on the *tapis*, as Russia well knows. The St. Petersburg statesmen are not likely to indulge in a needless display of diplomatic fireworks without any tangible reason. In the second place, the message attributed to the Russian Government is clumsily frank. Whatever reversionary interests Russia may think she possesses in China's belongings, whatever right she may secretly claim to dictate the procedure of the moribund empire, she is not going to advertise her interests and her claims openly to all the world at this juncture. Besides, such a warning would convey immense significance to Japan also. It would mean, and could only mean, that Japan must stand by quietly, and watch the disruption of the Chinese empire without raising a finger to avert the catastrophe. Is it in accordance with the methods of Russian statecraft to issue broad-cast challenges of that kind? We do not think so. We ventured to question the truth of the Czar's alleged telegram to Prince Napoleon, and we are equally sceptical about this rumoured "warning" from St. Petersburg to Peking.

A NEW INVENTION.

In the process of extracting indigo from the plant ammoniacal fumes of almost overwhelming pungency have long been observed. The process, as pursued in Japan, resembles that of Bengal. The freshly cut leaves and stems, tied into bundles, are placed in vats and subjected to fermentation, the liquid thus obtained being ultimately run off and variously treated. It is during the fermentation that the escape of ammonia takes place, but the idea of obtaining it as a by-product of the preparation of indigo does not seem to have been entertained until it recently occurred to Professor Nagai, who has been devoting his attention of late to the indigo manufactories of Awa. The Professor calculates that 20 *yen* worth of ammonia may be obtained annually from each indigo vat, and that a very large profit will accrue from the whole of the factories. He has contrived means of saving the ammonia, and the Tokyo journals compliment him on his discovery.

NAMES APPLIED TO FOREIGNERS.

The names applied to foreigners by Japanese children are discussed by the *Asahi Shimbun*. Commonest among these names is *i-jin*. There are two ways of writing *i jin* idiographically. One carries the meaning "barbarian"; the other, simply that of "different person"; that is to say, "foreigner." Used in the latter sense the appellation can scarcely be called rude. The *Asahi* marks the distinction, but is justly of the opinion that the habit of calling foreigners *i-jin* ought to be abandoned altogether. So indeed we think. It is essentially impolite to call out anything to a man as he passes along the street. We are persuaded that in the great majority of cases Japanese children have no idea of being rude when they designate foreigners as *i-jin*. Often one sees a smiling little urchin lisp the word as a stranger goes by, and from the demeanour of the child it is easy to infer that no discourtesy is even dreamed of. But it is not always so. And certainly it never is so with regard to the epithet *ke-tōjin* (hairy foreigner). That is essentially rude, and rudely intended. We do not often hear *ke-tōjin* now-a-days. The favorite expression is *i-jin pa-pa neko pa-pa*, which the *Asahi* does not refer to. The redeeming feature of that curious cry is its mystery. No one seems to know exactly what it means. The *pa-pa* is undoubtedly a phonetic imitation of the general sound conveyed to Japanese ears by a European language. Our staccato method of articulation contrasted with their own smooth speech leads the Japanese to summarize our language phonetically as *pa-pa*. It is on record that when Hamada Yahei was about to pass his sword through a Dutch prisoner in Formosa, the latter ejaculated "pi pi pa pa nachur nachur." In fact, Dutch, English, French, German, all alike convey to Japanese ears a *pi-pi pa-pa* kind of noise. But what does the *neko* signify? There lies the mystery. Never have we met a Japanese prepared to offer any explanation. *Neko* is the Japanese for "cat." Everyone knows that. It is conceivable that the moustache of the foreigner suggests a resemblance to a cat's whiskers. We have often heard the moustached alien compared to a *namazu*, and the eyes that detected the resemblance might have found a cat just as good an object of comparison. Compilers of conversation books on recent models will perhaps say that, since the English of *namazu* is "catfish," there can be no difficulty in accounting for the use of the word *neko* in the same sense. If that satisfies inquiring minds, there is nothing more to be said. But for ourselves we incline to the belief that when a Japanese child calls out *i-jin pa-pa neko pa-pa*, it refers, first, to the fact that the person addressed is an alien, secondly, to the peculiar sound of his language, and thirdly to his hirsute appearance. Anyhow the appellation is essentially rude, and what strikes us as curious is that respectable parents, who would never willingly be guilty of an act of discourtesy to a stranger, stand by calmly while their children are vociferating this disagreeable phrase. Not once is a child rebuked. We have been greeted that way by a little urchin whose father was performing a paid service for us at the moment, and we have been similarly greeted by an urchin who obviously expected a copper. If some leading Japanese

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journals discussed the matter as the *Asahi* has done, the disagreeable custom would soon die out.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Japan Railway Company's regular semi-annual meeting took place yesterday (8th) at 9 a.m. in the Seinenkai-kan at Kanda. The number of shareholders present was 1,460, representing 903,270 shares. Mr. Soga Sakunori occupied the chair, and the following report was presented and passed :—

	Yen.
Net profit for the half-year	1,743,735
Sale of Properties	5,630
Brought over from Previous Account	266,391
Total	2,015,756
To Reserve	87,187
Rewards to Officers	61,031
Liabilities Discharged	28,504
Dividend (8 per cent.)	1,788,000
Carried to next Account	51,034
Total	2,015,756

An extraordinary meeting was afterwards held for the purpose of considering whether any changes should be made in the Regulations on account of the operation of the new Commercial Code, but the decision was in the negative.

ASAMA-YAMA.

Asama-yama has been showing symptoms of unusual activity of late. At 7.25 p.m. on the 7th instant, it emitted a noise which people in the neighbourhood compare to a discharge of heavy artillery. The mountain happened to be enveloped in fog and cloud at the time, so that its condition could not be observed, but there was obviously an eruption, for ashes subsequently fell over a large area—Usui, Gumma, Sawa, Nitta, and even Mayebashi, the time of the shower at the last-named place being 8 p.m. Accounts differ as to whether any considerable earth-tremor accompanied the eruption, some speaking of a violent shake, and others saying that the disturbance felt was not too great to be attributed to the concussion of the detonation.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

The ambulance corps of the Red Cross Society made some experiments in the transport of wounded men on the 10th instant. The place chosen was Yokohama, and the practice was conducted in the presence of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, President of the Society; Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-President; and about a hundred officers of the Army and Navy and other persons. Ten severely wounded men and ten slightly wounded were transported. They were placed in small boats, and taken to the Red-cross transport *Kosei Maru* where the boats were hoisted on board. From the time of a boat's arrival at the ship's side until the berthing of the wounded men in the sick bay, only 3 minutes elapsed. In time of war such a ship would have four sets of davits, so that four boats could be hoisted simultaneously.

Thieves cut their way into the silk room of Messrs. Robison & Co., on Thursday night and made away with some *yen* 400 worth of raw silk. The police are investigating the affair.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Mr. A. Diosy had the honour of an audience at the Palace on the 5th instant at 10.30 a.m. He was introduced by Sir Ernest Satow. In noting the fact, the *Jiji Shimpo* observes that His Majesty seldom grants audiences in the hot weather, but was graciously pleased to make an exception in this case.

A telegram from Mr. Shimizu, Japanese Consul at Vancouver, says that the English Privy Council has vetoed the Columbian Bill for restricting the ingress of Oriental labourers, on the ground that such a step would be unconstitutional. A number of Japanese have consequently been engaged for work in the coal mines.

It appears that five Foreign Representatives have been decorated by the Emperor of Japan in connexion with the operation of Revised Treaties. They are Baron Rosen, Count Leyden, Count Orfini, Baron Grubissich and Mr. de Freytas. The three first have received the First-class of the Rising Sun; the two last, the Third-class.

The Shinanoi Tunnel is at last finished. This work has been very heavy. It is necessitated by the building of the branch line from Shinanoi *viâ* Inari-yama and Omi to Matsumoto, which will complete the inland communications recommended by strategists. The tunnel is 1 mile 50 chains long—the longest in Japan. It was opened on the 5th instant.

We have been asked whether it is necessary, under the new regimen, that owners of bicycles, *jinrikisha*, and carriages should report the fact to the municipal authorities. The answer is, yes. These vehicles are all taxable, and a register of their owners is kept officially. The report can be made by one's servant, and an intimation will thereafter be duly received as to when and where the tax should be paid.

As yet the rice crop does not seem to have received any damage. In the neighbourhood of Tokyo things do not look particularly promising, but the reports from the south are highly favourable, and it is believed that if no inundations occur, the yield will be on the whole, as good as that of last year. The crops of beans and indigo, however, have undoubtedly been injured, and melons have been so much retarded by the inclement weather that they have not yet made their appearance in the market.

We referred in a recent issue to the fact that the authorities of the Kobe Customs had required to have the custody of ship's papers, whereas international usage dictates that such documents shall be lodged at the consulate of the ship's flag. The matter led to some official representations, with the result that the practice under the Regulations has been modified in accordance with the custom prevailing elsewhere. The Regulations themselves have not been altered, as one of our Kobe contemporaries affirms; their application alone has been changed.

It is stated that the year's annual examinations for naval cadets have thus far shown exceptionally bad results. The examinations commenced on the 1st of August and continue until the 17th. The final issue, therefore, will not be known until next month. But out of 832 candidates who presented themselves in Tokyo no fewer than 307 were rejected by the doctors, and 262 failed at the examination in mathematics on the first day, so that only 263 remained to go through the other tests. The total number of applicants this year is 1,377, against 977 last year. The examinations are conducted at 13 places.

Several changes of Local Governors were announced on the 8th :—

Mr. Onoda Genki, Governor of Yamanashi, becomes Governor of Shizuoka.

Mr. Sonoyama Isamu, Governor of Nagano, becomes Governor of Miyazaki.

Mr. Kato Heishiro, Governor of Shizuoka, becomes Governor of Yamanashi.

Mr. Oshikawa Noriyoshi, Governor of Oita, becomes Governor of Nagano.

Mr. Suzuki Sadanawo, of the Metropolitan Police, becomes Governor of Oita.

Mr. Kabayama Sukeo, Governor of Miyazaki, is removed from office.

The landing facilities in Yokohama are justly condemned by the *Jiji Shimpo*. It is understood that the Government has in contemplation the construction of a landing dock, but the project is still in embryo, and its consummation must depend on the state of the Treasury. Neither would a dock fully meet the requirements of the case. What is wanted is that the railway should be extended to the wharf so that goods could be put on board the train at once. Something of that kind, if we are not mistaken, was included in the original scheme of harbour improvement which was commenced when Count Okuma had the portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

It is stated, apparently on good authority, that an interesting scheme was lately undertaken by some speculators of Tokyo, under the leadership of a certain Mr. Kawasaki. Their idea was that if they could contrive to bring about a strike on the part of the drivers of the Tokyo Carriage Company, the shares of the Company would undergo sharp depreciation, and a profitable transaction might be undertaken on 'change. They calculated that by spending two hundred thousand *yen* they could make half a million, thus coming out three hundred thousand to the good. But the plot was discovered before maturity, and the loss is now entirely on the side of the dishonest speculators.

The Imperial Ordinance relating to the pending election of members of City and Prefectural Assemblies, is said to have passed the Cabinet on the 5th instant. It will be at once submitted to the Privy Council, and probably promulgated in a few days. Special interest attaches to the elections, as they will be conducted according to the new system; namely, by direct ballot. Hitherto the members have been chosen by the District Assemblies, but they will now be elected by the people without the latter's intervention. It is expected that the results will constitute a fair test of the relative strength of the Liberals and Progressists.

The number of vessels that entered and cleared at all the open ports of China last year was 44,500, and the total tonnage, 33,752,362 tons. Of these figures Great Britain's share was 21,140 ships and 21,891,043 tons. She had, therefore, nearly one-half of the total number of ships, and ⅔ of the total tonnage. The

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Nichi Nichi gives the following comparative table :—

	Ships.		Tons
Great Britain	21,140	.....	21,891,043
China	18,889	.....	7,819,980
Germany	1,858	.....	1,658,094
Japan	653	.....	660,707
France	464	.....	423,122
United States	332	.....	269,780

The Government of the French Republic charged His Excellency M. Harmand, Minister of France in Tokyo, to transmit to the Japanese Government his felicitations on the fact that the Franco-Japanese Treaty went into operation on the 4th of August. We learn that similar congratulations have been presented to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs by other Foreign Representatives.

Dr. Kitasato seems to have conclusively established the efficiency of his newly devised method of inoculation in the treatment of dysentery. Since the disease made its appearance this year he has had from 50 to 60 patients under his care, and only one case terminated fatally. It is said that he now feels himself in a position to declare that if inoculation be resorted to speedily after the symptoms of dysentery become apparent, death need not be apprehended, however serious the attack. If that be true it means that the lives of many thousands of people will henceforth be saved every year in Japan.

It has been finally decided, we understand, that the foreign residents will be required to pay City and Prefectural taxes from the 1st of September. Instructions in that sense have been forwarded to the Governors of Cities and Prefectures and to the Tax Offices. The chief trouble for foreigners in connexion with this matter will be the measurement of their dwelling houses. Returns will have to be sent in showing the area of each room and the purpose for which it is used. Of course it is only at the outset that such annoyances will present themselves. The returns once furnished, will suffice permanently, unless changes are made. Perhaps it may be well to explain that the method of levying some of the local taxes in this country is modelled upon the plan followed in certain European countries, the size and quality of a dwelling house being the chief factor in determining its owners' liability.

Tokyo newspapers, with few exceptions, contain leading articles commenting on the consummation of Treaty Revision, which was celebrated in Yokohama yesterday and will be celebrated in Tokyo to-day. In every instance the tone of these articles is moderate and self-contained. Even the *Nippon*, which might have been expected to indulge in a little stalwart language, has nothing to say that it not well balanced and judicious. The gist of all the writing is that Japan may now erase from the tables of her mind the words "treaty revision," which have been stamped there for such a long time in flaming letters, and may devote herself calmly to the tasks of cultivating good relations with the foreign guests she has welcomed to her shores, and endeavouring to make secure the place she has won in the comity of nations.

We stated in a recent issue that the projectors of an electric railway in Yokohama were said to have succeeded in enlisting the Governor's approval, so that their application, which had previously been rejected more than once by the Municipal Authorities, had now been submitted to the Town Assembly by the Governor. The sequel of this incident is that the *jinrikisha*-men of the district, informed of the probability that the application would be successful, have formed a league, and are determined to employ every available means of averting a consummation which would, they think, throw them out of employment and deprive their families of the means of subsistence. The men number 4,200, and their households aggregate ten thousand. This kind of objection to progress is novel in Japan.

The fixed numbers of dealers in arms and ammunition in the various centres of trade have been announced by the authorities. They are as follow :—

DEALERS IN ARMS.

Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Nagasaki	20 in each place.
Hokkaido and Kanagawa ...	25 do.
Hyogo	30
Other Prefectures	12 in each.

DEALERS IN AMMUNITION. CLASS A

Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Kanagawa, Hyogo, & Nagasaki ...	23 in each.
Hokkaido...	45
Other Prefectures	18 in each.

DEALERS IN AMMUNITION. CLASS B.

Kanagawa	18
Hyogo	25
Nagasaki	5

The recently issued regulations, of which we shall presently publish a translation, explain these limits.

Russia employs eighty thousand Chinese subjects on the works of the Siberian Railway, but does not employ a single Japanese. Neither does she import any materials from Japan. The *Jiji Shimpo* regards this as a matter of sentiment. Russia, our contemporary thinks, still attributes to Japan a feeling of umbrage about the Liaotung affair, and hesitates to make use of the services of Japanese. But the *Jiji* thinks that the Liaotung hatchet need not be kept above ground any longer: the time for burying it has fully arrived. The Russians at Vladivostock speak of Japan's military and naval preparations as directed against her northern neighbour. Were that really the case, Japan ought to lose no time in utilizing her troops and ships, for she will never have a better opportunity of driving Russia out of Manchuria than the present. But she is not thinking of anything of the kind. What she wants is tradal expansion. Her commerce with northern China is growing rapidly, and it would give her great satisfaction to see Vladivostock opened to foreign trade.

The idea of combining business with pleasure has induced some Japanese gentlemen of Osaka and Kyoto to charter a steamer—the *Toyei Maru*, 2736 tons and 11 knots—for a trip from Kobe to Moji, Shanghai, Chefoo, Taku, and Newchwang. It must be confessed that a voyage to these places in mid-summer would not offer many attractions to the average foreigner: he would regard it as out of the frying pan into the fire. But to be on the sea suggests coolness and ease to Japanese minds, and then the prospect of seeing China in a leisurely independent way has its charms. The managers of the affair must have made their arrangements very skilfully, for they offer to give tickets for the round trip for 25 *yen*. Persons alighting at Shanghai will be charged 6 *yen* only; those alighting at Chefoo, 15 *yen*; at Taku 16 *yen*, and at Newchwang 18 *yen*. The length of time devoted to the excursion is not stated, but it can scarcely be less than three weeks. The mere cost of purveying for an adult during that interval ought to cost more than 25 *yen*, one imagines. Apart from economical questions, however, the conception is excellent, and we shall not be surprised if such excursions become very popular.

Referring to the measurements of rooms and particulars about their use which householders have to furnish to the local authorities as a basis of taxation, we have been asked whether the obligation extends to persons in hired houses. We believe not. The landlord is responsible for the taxes and to the landlord alone do the authorities look. Such, at any rate, has been the invariable custom hitherto among the Japanese, and there is nothing to show that a different rule will apply to foreigners. The tenant of a rented house is not required to take any measurements or furnish any particulars.

The total number of dysentery patients from January 1st to July 31st, was 26,299, and the deaths numbered 4,480. Thus the monthly average was 3,757 and the rate of mortality, 17 per cent. The number of patients during the first week of the present month was 783, and the number of deaths 163, the rate of mortality being nearly 21 per cent. If Dr. Kisato's method of inoculation be as efficacious as his experiments lead us to believe, 4,102 lives would have been saved this year by employing it.

The Liberals and the Imperialists—*Kensei-to* and *Teikoku-to*—are obviously going to work together, The General Committee of the Liberals met yesterday to consider a proposal that the two parties should make arrangements for mutual consultation as well as for cöoperation at the pending election of members of Local Assemblies. The proposal was endorsed by the Committee, and steps to give practical effect to the endorsement will be taken on the 13th instant.

It is stated that several Japanese—Messrs. Matsunaga, Ojiro, and the directors of the Kobe Mikami Goshi Kaisha—have decided to organize a regular steamship service between Yokohama and Kelung, calling at Kobe, Moji, and probably Nagasaki. They have not yet determined whether the service shall be fortnightly or three times a month. At present, the ships available for the purpose are the *Yedo Maru*, the *Yorihime Maru*, and the *Chiyo Maru*.

The Serpollet car continues to attract great attention and win new laurels. At the last trial Marquis and Marchioness Saigo and several high officials were present. Everything worked perfectly, and Marquis Saigo was so pleased with the simplicity of the mechanism that he took his place beside M. Thevenet and drove the car himself.

It happens that a great part of the land set aside for a Japanese settlement at Amoy, according to the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty, is taken up by a Chinese grave-yard. Everybody knows what that means. Endless difficulties have to be overcome and objections combatted, and it is expected that several months must still elapse before the arrangements can be completed.

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THE CHINA-JAPAN ALLIANCE.

LEADING Japanese journals continue to comment on the *canard* for which the *North-China Daily News* is responsible. The *North-China Daily News* occasionally springs these surprises on the public, and subsequently maintains their correctness with a degree of pertinacity which is not meritless in the abstract. In the present instance our Shanghai contemporary adopts a form of speech which, while it suggests caution, is, at the same time, calculated to carry conviction. "The report that a secret treaty has actually been concluded between China and Japan may be premature," says the Shanghai journal, "but there is every reason to believe that the two countries, if the treaty has not already been signed, are negotiating the conditions of an offensive and defensive alliance." "There is every reason to believe." That is a convenient formula: it combines sententiousness, mystery, and assumption of secret knowledge. What are the reasons? Of course not one of them could be adduced. Of course there is no semblance of a valid reason. Rumour has simply played one of its wonted tricks, and has, as usual, found a channel more credulous than discerning.

What is the nature of the secret alliance? When we attempt to answer that question with any accuracy, the result is a feeling of astonishment that the *N.-C. Daily News* does not scrutinise its own stories a little more closely. Its first version of the alliance was put forward in connexion with the mission of Messrs. LIU and CHAO to Tokyo. These two gentlemen were to endeavour to procure Marquis ITO'S assistance in Peking and were also to "ask the Mikado to confirm the proposed offensive and defensive alliance." "If that could not be accomplished, they were to get Japan to consent to assist China in defending the provinces of Chèkiang and Fukien from Italy or any other foreign Power, in consideration of which Japan would be allowed to have the whole and sole exploitation of the mines and majority of the railway lines in the two provinces; that Japan should undertake the training of the Chinese armies and navy, in consideration of which Japan should return the fleet captured by her at Wei-hai-wei; besides one or two other arrangements for mutual benefit which so far have not yet transpired."

Here, it will be observed, are two distinct programmes: first, an offensive and defensive alliance; secondly, failing such alliance, an arrangement about the protection of two provinces and the training of China's soldiers and sailors.

Thereupon the Shanghai journal sat down to comment editorially on this new sensation, this second CASSINI Convention, but with such fine indifference even to its own previously enunciated [illegible] it jumbled both schemes into one, and made the two-provinces and the army-and-navy programme an integral part of the offensive and defensive alliance. That is to say, its "facts" were that the agreement about the two provinces and the military training was to be the alternative of an alliance, whereas the basis of its comments is that the provinces, the military training, and the alliance are all one.

We make this analysis merely for the purpose of showing how singularly careless is the treatment afforded in Shanghai to rumours emanating from Peking. English though the critics are, it does not apparently occur to them that a canard-manufactory run in anti-British interests is a very probable factor in the Chinese capital, and that when, allowing themselves to be gulled into crediting fables of a Sinico-Japanese alliance directed against the Occident in general, they raise a wild outcry about Japanese ambition and the terrible potentiality of a warlike union of the yellow races, what they do is simply to play the game of England's enemies. If, after all that has passed, Japan and China, without consulting Great Britain, entered into a secret alliance of the nature indicated by the Peking news-mongers, they would naturally forfeit British sympathy and deter British cöoperation. Are there no Powers by whom such a consummation would be welcomed? The *N.-C. Daily News* might do better than to become the unwitting tool of such Powers.

For the rest, if our contemporary imagines that it serves its country's cause when it writes about her possible ally in a tone of sneering hostility, we think that it has mistaken its route. It calls Japan "a *parvenue* nation"; ridicules her for having been "so easily persuaded to resign Port Arthur"; says that "Western nations will not consent to be dictated to by her"; hints that the Japanese are an inferior race to the Chinese; thinks it "more likely that the Japanese" officers, sent to train the Chinese troops, "would be demoralized by the Chinese, than that they should raise the tone of the latter," and concludes that "the Japanese would be irresistibly tempted along the easier path of persuading their ignorant ally to use the new weapon to expel the foreigner and hamper trade, rather than to police the country and assist it to advance in the gentle arts of peace." So bitter, indeed, is the Shanghai journal against Japan, that it sneers at her for not having emerged from the imitative stage because, according to the *canard*, she too is working for spheres of influence and railway and mining concessions. Such writing is not to be treated seriously, but its extremely mischievous tendencies are plain enough. If English newspapers, possessing local influence, suffer themselves to be thus converted into the cats-paws of England's enemies, and, on the strength of idle rumours, pen articles eminently calculated to rouse a feeling of umbrage in Japan against Great Britain, they appear to us to be devoting their journalistic opportunities to the worst possible uses. The comment of the Japanese, well expressed by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, is that they care too much for their country to imperil her existence by plunging her into a racial struggle which neither commands their sympathy nor concerns their welfare.

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Chinese Merchants of Yokohama have formed a Chamber of Commerce under the style of the Yokohama Kasho Kaigiyo. It was formally opened on the 4th of August with a sumptuous tiffin at the Chuka Kai Kwan. Among the Japanese guests were Viscount Nagaoka, Messrs. Y. Ozaki, Inukai Ki, Shimada Saburo, K. Ikeda, K. Okura, and many others. Lu Yang ping, Chairman of the Chamber, in a short address before tiffin, said that he and his fellow nationals had long felt the necessity for a Chinese Chamber of Commerce. The trade of the port was gradually increasing, and the Chinese were winning a share in the expanding trade. He hoped a prosperous future lay before the Chamber, the town of Yokohama, and the Empire of Japan. Mr. Shimada Saburo spoke next. He alluded to the great drafts that Japan had drawn upon Chinese civilization, customs, and manners in the past ages. China has now begun to reciprocate, and he welcomed the new era that appeared opening before them. Mr. Ozaki said that international intercourse occasionally was interrupted through Governments finding themselves at variance, but the commercial relations between the two great nations of Eastern Asia should be free from such hazards. Viscount Nagaoka also made a happy little speech of congratulation, and then the company sat down to discuss the viands provided.

CORRESPONDENCE

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The so-called Chinese Chamber of Commerce for Yokohama is the scheme of Mr. Leung Kai Chiu, a political refugee of the party of Kang Yu wei. Copies of the regulations of the said chamber were distributed on the 22nd ult., and the voting tickets were sent out two days later. The chamber was to consist of 100 members, to be elected by the Chinese inhabitants of Yokohama. Any Chinese subject obtaining five votes was eligible as a member. I obtained 28 votes, but some of the promoters, viz., Messrs. Leung Kai Chiu, Lo Wing Pun, Ng Chik Un, Luin Pak Chuen, and Ching Hui Choi, met privately in the Tai Tung School and cancelled the names of myself and other candidates who do not belong to Kang Yu-wei's party. They expelled me on the ground that I was a political refugee having no civil rights in Japan. Now men of Kang's party, even if they have less than five votes, can be members of the Chamber, but to those who are not of this party the promoters make objections on all sorts of grounds, and deny them membership. For this reason I call it Kang Yu wei's party, and not the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Yokohama.

Yours, &c., YEUNG KU-WAN.

August 8th, 121 Settlement, Yokohama.

A number of conductors and drivers in the employ of the Tokyo Tram Car Company have attempted a strike, being dissatisfied with their wages.

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TREATY REVISION CELEBRATED.

THE BALL IN TOKYO.

The Tokyo celebration to commemorate the operation of the Revised Treaties took place on the 5th instant in the Imperial Hotel, under the auspices of the Society for the Investigation of Economical Matters. A very brilliant scheme of decoration had been carried out in the grounds of the Hotel, both in front and in rear. The grand salon was festooned with the flags of all nations, and a legend of congratulation was worked out in white chrysanthemums on a spacious ground of greenery on the southern side facing the entrance. Baron Ozaki, President of the Economical Society, received the guests, and among those present were T.I.H. Prince and Princess Kanin, Their Excellencies Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Viscount Aoki, Viscount Katsura, Count Kabayama, Mr. Sone, Sir E. Satow, Colonel Buck, Count Leyden, Baron d'Anethan, Chevalier de Testa, Mr. de Freytas, Viscount Tanaka, Baron Sannomiya, and many other notables. The night being very warm, seats were arranged in the garden at the back of the Hotel, and the majority of the guests assembled there to witness an exceptionally excellent performance of juggling and listen to the strains of the Imperial Band. The proceedings were enlivened by fireworks which elicited admiration, some of the set pieces being excellent, especially one in which the legend "Welcome" emerged, many-coloured and clear, from a confusion of smoke and detonation. Refreshments were served under the southern colonnade throughout the evening, and supper took place at 11 o'clock, after which the guests repaired to the principal salon to listen to speeches by Baron Ozaki, Baron d'Anethan, and Viscount Aoki.

Baron Ozaki, speaking in Japanese, which was afterwards translated into English, said :—

Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, the Ministers of State, and the Representatives of Foreign Powers, Ladies and Gentlemen :—

On behalf of the Society for investigating Economical Matters which has the honour of being the host of this vast number of distinguished guests, I thank you all most heartily and respectfully for the great favour of your presence at the function which is held for celebrating the operation of the new treaties. As subjects of His Imperial Majesty, we can not but rejoice over the revision of the treaties, which has just become an accomplished fact, as an epoch-making event in the history of this country's foreign intercourse. From the moment when the revised treaties come into operation, we enter into new relations with all the countries of the World, nay, are admitted into the comity of civilised nations. For the last thirty years, the Japanese nation, as a man, has been longing after and striving for the revision of our old Treaties, which were concluded with Foreign Powers at a time when Japan was yet a mere infant in her international life. And now, through the virtue and wisdom of His Imperial Majesty our August Sovereign, the patriotic and well-directed efforts of those statesmen who were charged with the negotiations, and the sympathetic co-operation of the Foreign Representatives, for all of which our sincere and profound gratitude is due, we have at last attained our long-cherished object. Being placed in the privileged position of gathering the fruits for which the seeds were sown as early as the beginning of the present regime, how can we repress the feeling which animates the heart of every true Japanese? How can we remain indifferent to an occasion on which a new era of our foreign intercourse dawns? It would be an affectation on our part to pass over the important occasion without celebrating it in a due manner.

But the celebration is not the sole object of our gathering to night. Certainly, in the letter of our new treaties, we have been admitted into the comity of civilized nations. But the fact will be of no great consequence to us, if the position attained by us be not turned to practical account for the mutual benefit of Japanese and foreigners. It is the object of our society to secure the best fruits of our revised treaties by cultivating and strengthening a cordial friendship transcending the bounds of nationality. It is the object of this evening's function to inaugurate, so to speak, the era of mixed residence by a mixed gathering. It is true that we have had several such international functions in the past. It is true that the old treaties have not prevented us at all from being friends with one another. But the circumstances under which we come together to-night are essentially different from those under which we used to come together. Heretofore, the foreign residents in Japan were like drops of oil in a glass of water. There may have been a mechanical intermixtme, but there was no chemical combination. Heretofore, though our foreign friends lived in the same land with us they were standing, as it were, outside the walls of our residence. But now, we throw open our gates, and invite them to come into the innermost part of our residence and feel themselves at home. Come, friends, come! We shall do our best to make your residence in our country as comfortable and advantageous as possible. Moreover, since we shall—we hope—be incessantly progressing in the path of civilisation, who knows but that there may arrive a day when still further improvement of our treaty relations will become practicable? Therefore, friends, for the sake of our mutual interests, let us strive, hand-in-hand, to hasten the coming of the day in which our hopes will be realised in the fullest manner.

Baron d'Anethan, as Doyen of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, speaking in French, said :—

Monseigneur, Vos Excellences, Monsieur le Président, Mesdames et Messieurs,—Je viens d'entendre avec la plus vive satisfaction les paroles si courtoises et si aimables que M. le Président de la Société économique a adressé aux représentants étrangers. En leur nom, comme au mien, je m'empresse de lui offrir nos sincères remercîments. Nous sommes heureux de prendre part à cette réunion ou nous voyons représentés des membres distingués de toutes les classes de la société qui viennent toutes, unies dans une pensée commune, saluer de leurs acclamations enthousiastes l'entrée en vigueur des traités qui régleront dorénavant les relations commerciales du Japon avec les nations Européennes et Américaines.

Nous nous associons, de grand cœur, à votre joie, Messieurs, et nous saisissons cette nouvelle occasion de former les voeux les plus sincères pour la prospérité et le bonheur de votre beau pays. Avec vous nous exprimons l'espoir que l'ère nouvelle inaugurée aujourd'hui continuera à se développer et à s'étendre dans les voies du progrés. En vous apportant les bienfaits de la paix elle vous permettra un essor nouveau dans toutes les branches de l'activité humaine. Vous vous en souvenez, Messieurs, sous le régime des anciens traités les relations de l'Europe et de l'Amérique n'ont jamais cessé d'être trés amicales ; elles sont appelées á devenir plus intimes encore. Comme le fait observer avec raison notre aimable Amphytrion, pour arriver à ce résultat auquel nous aspirons tous, vous avez, permettez-moi de vous le dire, à travailler d'accord avec l'élément étranger, qui vient en ami s'installer chez vous. En vertu des nouveaux traités vos compatriotes, Messieurs, jouissent dans nos pays respectifs de tous les droits des régnicoles en matiéres commerciales et industrielles.

Il ne sera peut-être pas déplacé, en s'adressant à un auditoire composé en grande partie de personnes qui ont tourné leurs études vers les questions économiques, de signaler à leur attention, et en parlant ainsi je sais que je me fais l'écho des savants economistes d'Europe dont vous avez suivi les leçons, le grand avantage que le Japon retirerait d'admettre l'étranger chez lui avec l'esprit liberal qui caractérisera l'accueil que vos compatriotes trouveront dans nos pays.

Ayez, Messieurs, confiance en nous comme nous sommes disposés à avoir confiance en vous. Travaillons de concert au developpment de votre noble pays, qui a étonné le monde par la rapidité surprenante avec laquelle il a adopté tant de nos usages et de nos lois. Nous avons surtout à vous féliciter, Messieurs, à avoir compris que vous aviez à former des jurisconsultes pour appliquer les codes au nom desquels vous rendriez la justice.

Depuis trente ans vous avez appelé dans vos conseils des légistes de plusieurs nationalités; dans toutes les écoles de droit, vous avez envoyé vos enfants. Vos efforts ont été couronnés de succès et à partir d'aujour d'hui les Gouvernements d'Europe et des Amériques n'hésitent plus à placer leurs ressortissants sous la protection de vos lois.

Je vous remercie, encore, Monsieur le Président, d'avoir bien voulu nous convier à cette fête que je me permettrai d'appeler un fête d'amis.

Je leve mon verre pour boire à votre santé et à la prospérité de l Empire.

We translate the above as follows :—

Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—I have just heard with the liveliest satisfaction the words, so courteous and amiable, which the President of the Economic Society has addressed to the Foreign Representatives. In their name, as well as in my own, I hasten to offer him our sincere thanks. We are happy to take part in this *réunion* where we see representatives of the distinguished members of all classes of society who all come, united by a common thought, to salute with their enthusiastic acclamations the going into operation of the Treaties which will henceforth govern the commercial relations of Japan with the nations of Europe and America.

We associate ourselves most heartily, gentlemen, with your joy, and we seize this new occasion to form the sincerest wishes for the prosperity and happiness of your country. With you we express the hope that the new era, inaugurated to-day, will continue to develop and to extend along the paths of progress. While bringing you the benefits of peace, it will make possible for you a new departure in all the branches of human activity. You remember, gentlemen, that the relations of Japan with all the nations of Europe and America have never ceased to be very friendly ; they are now called upon to become still more intimate. As our amiable Amphytrion has justly observed, in order to reach this result for which we all hope, you will have, if I may be permitted to say so—you will have to work in accord with the foreign element which comes to install itself amicably in your midst. By virtue of the new Treaties, gentlemen, your compatriots enjoy in our respective countries all the rights of our own peoples in matters of commerce and industry. It will not be out of place, perhaps, in addressing an audience composed in great part of persons who have directed their studies toward economical questions, to bring to their attention—and in speaking thus I know that I make myself the echo of the learned economists of Europe whose lessons you have followed—the great advantage that Japan will draw from admitting strangers to her midst with the liberal spirit which will characterise the reception that your compatriots will find in our countries. Have confidence, gentlemen, in us as we are disposed to have confidence in you. Let us work together for the development of your noble country, which has astonished the world by the surprising rapidity of its adoption of many of our customs and laws. We have all to congratulate you, gentlemen, on having understood that you had to

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form jurisconsults to apply the codes in the name of which you will render justice. During the past thirty years you have summoned to your councils jurists of various nationalities and you have sent your sons to all the schools of law. Your efforts have been crowned with success. From this day the Governments of Europe and America no longer hesitate to place their nationals under the protection of your laws.

I thank you again, Mr. President, for having been so good as to invite us to this fête, which I will permit myself to call a festival of friends, and I add my best wishes for the prosperity of the Empire.

After this speech, which was delivered with force and loudly applauded, His Excellency Viscount Aoki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, gave the following reply:—

Your Imperial Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—We have just listened to a brilliant speech delivered by H.E. the Belgian Minister: to make such another speech either in French or English is a difficult task for me to perform. Nevertheless I will try my best to make a few remarks, in response, in the latter language. It has already been stated, and I repeat the statement, that Japan has now taken her place in the comity of nations by virtue of the new treaties concluded between her and 14 friendly Powers. When however I say that Japan has entered into the comity of nations, I do not mean, merely, what that expression conveys, but I do so with much wider and deeper meaning. For this comity is regulated by international law. But what is that law? It is the universally recognized order of the world which unites the different States as an association of mankind and which secures to the subjects or citizens of those States a common protection of their human rights. It is, thus, more important to recognize or give effect to, than to understand or comprehend the international law, for there is much more in the recognition of the international law than there is in the understanding of it: the latter can only be a theory while the former is its realization in the life and intercourse of nations. In the new era, in which this Empire is opened entirely to international intercourse and commerce, we are fully alive to our obligation to treat foreigners in accordance with the recognition mentioned above. In former times, foreigners everywhere did not enjoy the same rights as the people of the country; but now-a-days, by virtue of the different treaties existing between the States the rights of foreigners have been completely secured: an Englishman can live in New York, or an American in Paris, just as safely as a German can now live in Tokyo. Men of different nationalities live together in foreign countries just as safely as in their own homes, as regards the protection of their persons and property. The numerous and fast developing means of communication increase such international intercourse, and greatly promote the idea that it is necessary for all peoples to live together peacefully for their high aims, and not to isolate themselves from others. In this way Kant's idea of universal civil law may even be gradually realized. As to in what manner we have through the high wisdom of our August Sovereign at last been enabled to place ourselves on an equal footing in the intercourse with Western peoples belongs to the history of the last thirty years and I will not trouble you with any detailed reference to the same. At the same time, however, I cannot refrain from mentioning the names of those distinguished statesmen who have favoured our negotiations with their assistance and support during the long and weary period through which the negotiations for the Revision of the Treaties were conducted. I mean:—

Great Britain: Earl of Kimberley Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Fraser to whose kind assistance we are so much indebted for the progress of the work of revision: and my old friend Mr. Gubbins, who has also contributed much towards the same end.

United States of America: Hon. Walter S. Gresham, the late Secretary of State.

Italy: Baron Albert Blanc, Minister for Foreign Affairs; and Comte Mariano, Regent of Political Bureau.

Russia: Prince Alexis Lobanow-Rostowsky, Minister for Foreign Affairs; and M. de Witte, Minister for Finance.

Denmark: Baron Reedtz Tott, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Germany: Baron Adolf Marshall von Bieberstein, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and M. Reichardt and M. von Mühlberg.

Belgium: M. de Favereau Minister for Foreign Affairs; Baron Lambermont and M. Paysell, whose kindness in meeting us half way enabled us to conclude two treaties in two days.

Sweden & Norway: M. Louis Guillaume Auguste Comte Douglas, Minister for Foreign Affairs, &c.

Netherlands: M. Jonkheer J. Roell, Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. Th. W. van der Sleyden, Minister of Waterstaat Commerce and Industry; M. J. T. Sprenger van Eyk, Minister of Finance; M. J. H. Bergsma, Minister for the Colonies; M. W. van der Kaay, Minister of Justice.

Switzerland: M. Adolphe Deucher, Vice-President of Federal Council, &c. &c.; M. Bonjour, Secretary to Department of Commerce.

Spain: Duke of Tetuan, Minister of State.

Portugal, M. Maria Pinto do Soveral, Minister for Foreign Affairs, &c.

France: M. Gabriel Hanotaux, Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. Bompard, Director for Consulates and Commercial Affairs; and M. Sienkievicz, former Minister to Japan.

Austro-Hungary: M. Agenor Gulchowsky de Goluchow, Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. Suzzara, Chief of Bureau of Commerce; and M. Mihalovich, Second Chief of Bureau of Commerce.

We should therefor empty our glasses to the memory of these distinguished Statesmen to whom our sincere thanks are due and whose names will always be gratefully remembered in Japan.

Three cheers were given for the Emperor and Empress, after which the proceedings closed.

IN THE PROVINCES.

Telegrams from provincial centres show that celebrations in honour of Treaty Revision were held at twenty places on the 4th instant, and doubtless there were many others concerning which no intelligence has been sent. The day may certainly be said to have evoked almost universal expressions of national joy.

POLITICAL REJOICINGS.

The Liberals held a meeting in honour of the event, but we can not discover that the other political parties did so. And we are bound to say that the course chosen by the others seems to us the more becoming, for this is a purely national affair, not in any way connected with party politics. Several speeches were delivered at the Liberal meeting. Two of the orators attributed the happy consummation chiefly to Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu, and one claimed some credit for the Liberals also; which was very just and true. But Mr. Nishihara went out of his way to criticise Count Inouye and Count Okuma. They had rather impeded than promoted the cause of Revision, he said, for they showed themselves quite indifferent to the nature of the treaty they negotiated, and would have been content to condemn Japan to a place of continued inferiority. A strange criticism, surely. Does Mr. Nishihara imagine that, in 1883, when Count Inouye formulated a basis of Revision, the Foreign Powers could have been induced to accept terms such as they accepted in 1894? Does he further imagine that had not Count Okuma achieved the feat of getting the Powers to negotiate independently in 1888, Revision could have been effected by this time? We have been tolerably familiar with the process of the Treaty-Revision negotiations from the outset, and we do not hesitate to say that the contributions made by Counts Inouye and Okuma to the ultimate success of the work were not inferior to those made by all the other statesmen combined who assisted to solve the problem. In fact, when Count Okuma went out of office in 1889, the task was virtually accomplished: what remained was comparatively easy. There is another thing to be said also. It is that Count Okuma's draft treaty deserved better to be called a treaty of equality than do the treaties now in operation, for it extended to foreigners privileges which the Japanese enjoy in foreign countries but which are now denied to foreigners in Japan. Had the Liberal Party been honoured by the association of Count Inouye and Count Okuma, Mr. Nishihara's reference to their record would have been very different, and we can assure him that when, obeying the prejudice of mere party politics, he belittles and traduces the work of statesmen engaged in a great national enterprise, the discredit falls, not upon the victims of his injustice, but upon the Party to which he belongs and upon the country he misrepresents.

THE YOKOHAMA CELEBRATIONS.

The opening day of the new *régime* was, as far as Yokohama was concerned, a day of general rejoicing among the Japanese. The foreigners, naturally enough, were less demonstrative, but on both sides signs of sincere mutual esteem and good-will were not wanting, and the spirit of amity which marked the whole proceedings is a most happy augury for the future working of the Treaties. The Settlement was in its gayest dress of bunting from early morning, nearly every residence and business house making a brave display of flags. The scheme of decoration, however, contained few features different from those which appear at every holiday celebration—if we except the Chinese houses, which were bravely decked out by day and brilliantly illuminated at night—and they call therefore for little comment.

The Japanese, on the other hand, had made arrangements of the most elaborate description. The merchants of Yokohama, under the presidency of Mr. Otani, of the Chamber of Commerce, had resolved that the day should be one to be remembered, and certainly no unprejudiced person who was present at yesterday's fête could deny that they had well accomplished their aim. The Recreation Ground was decided upon as the *venue*, and no expense was spared in its arrangement. A big arch of evergreen, bearing Japanese characters in yellow flowers expressive of welcome, spanned the principal entrance; the whole enclosure was surrounded with vari-coloured bunting; flags of Japan and all the Treaty Powers were displayed everywhere; there were scores of booths and stalls for the supply of refreshments; and in a word, the arrangements were on as liberal a scale as could well be imagined.

THE PUBLIC GARDENS.

Outside the Cricket Ground proper, but within the outer enclosure, were many refreshment booths and interesting side shows got up by enterprising business firms, such as the Meidi-ya, the agents of Kirin Beer, Fugetsudo, and the Tokyo Brewery Company. There were several temporary buildings devoted to the exhibition of the flower arrangements in which the Japanese display such exquisite taste and skill—the stunted and twisted pine, the bamboo, the iris, the plum, and the cherry, all emblematic of something deep that the vulgar beholder knows nought of. Then there were flower stalls, one being particularly ingenious, its roof being an artificial vegetable marrow patch, in which every leaf was so perfect as to deceive any but the keenest eye. More amusing, if not more interesting, was an emblematical group arranged by the Meidi-ya. It consisted of two Japanese—a lady and gentleman—and two foreigners

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—also of opposite sexes. The whole were worked in flowers, and it must be confessed that as far as the garments were concerned they were most cleverly and ingeniously arranged. The faces, however, were not a success,—the Europeans, at any rate. The gentleman, who was crowned with a tall hat, had a long and dismal face with red and ragged Dundreary whiskers and a deplorable moustache; the lady's hair was of the colour of untwisted rope, and her nose was of that heaven-aspiring turn which does not command respect in the West. Do we really strike the Japanese that way? But the intention was admirable. The Japanese lady and gentleman were all smiles and courtesy, and were offering their heartiest congratulations to the foreigners.

The Cricket Pavilion was gaily decorated, and was set apart for ladies. The big upstairs premises of the Yokohama Club, above the Bazaar, were very kindly thrown open, and were charmingly decked with bunting and the flags of all nations. Here, as well as in the Cricket Pavilion, refreshments of every kind were pressed on every new-comer, and all visitors were made to feel in the most emphatic way that they were welcome, and that the good wishes of the hosts were of the heartiest. In fact, everywhere the foreigner was pressed with kindness to an almost embarrassing extent.

THE GOVERNOR'S LUNCHEON.

Governor Asada was waited upon by a deputation from the International Committee of Yokohama at 10 o'clock, who offered felicitations on the day. At noon some fifty gentlemen, Japanese and Foreign, were entertained to lunch by the Governor. At the close at the repast, the Governor rose and said:—

Gentlemen,—I desire to express my sincere sentiments of honour and satisfaction for your presence at this party which is held to celebrate the inauguration of the Revised Treaties. As you are all aware, the earnest wish of the people of Japan, for the last thirty years, has been the revision of the old Treaties between Japan and the Foreign Powers, and this has at last been realized, owing to the Treaty Powers meeting her wish by following righteous and fair principles, to the great satisfaction and gratitude of the whole nation. Notwithstanding some apprehension of more or less difficulties in the enforcement of the new Treaties, in view of the difference between the East and the West in the system of administration, religion, and customs, we have after all, smoothly passed into the new order of things. This is due to the friendly feelings always shown towards Japan by the Governments of the Treaty Powers, and more especially, to the exertions of the consular officers who were sagacious enough to make all preliminary arrangements, and of those gentlemen who organized such a useful body as the International Committee, in order to avoid mutual misunderstandings and to pave the way for the coming event. While congratulating ourselves on thus coming under the régime, we must offer our best thanks to those gentlemen for the contribution of their strenuous efforts towards the happy event. Now it is a comparatively easy matter to deal with things on paper, but it is the hardest task of all to put them into practice. If, however, we—both Japanese and foreigners—endeavour mutually to cement our friendly relations, political, commercial, and social, with frankness and honesty, I entertain no doubt that we shall be able to attain the happy result in due course of time. In conclusion, I propose to drink to health of the gentlemen present, coupled with my sincere wishes for the farther development of the friendly relations between our countrymen and foreign residents.—(Applause.)

Dr. Paul Ritter, *doyen* of the Consular Corps, then gave the following speech:—

Monsieur le Gouverneur, Messieurs,—Je vous propose de vous associer tous à moi pour porter la santé de sa Majesté l'Empereur et de sa Majesté l'Impératrice du Japon. Cette journée du 4 Août est un grand évenèment dans l'histoire de ce pays. En l'espace d'une quarantaine d'années il a pu, au contact de la civilisation européenne, arriver à l'état de progrès ou nous le voyons aujourd'hui et qui le fait entrer de plein pied dans le concert des grandes puissances du monde. Il faut féliciter les hommes d'état japonais de la persévérance et de l'habilité qu'ils ont apportées pour opérer cette transformation. Transformation admirable, sans doute, mais qui comporte aussi avec elle de grandes responsabilités.

Le corps consulaire, en vous remettant aujourd'hui la gestion des colonies étrangères, à vous, Messieurs, qui formez la haute administration de cette province, a la plus entière confiance que vous saurez être à la hauteur de cette responsabilité et de la nouvelle tâche qui vous incombe. Vous pouvez être certains que le corps consulaire étranger, dont je suis ici le porte-parole, fera tout son possible pour vous rendre votre mission facile, mais nous comptons également sur votre haute intelligence des affaires, pour apporter, surtout dans le commencement, un grand tact et une grande largeur de vue dans le traitement des questions concernant la colonie étrangère.

Je termine donc en souhaitant à votre pays toute la réussite que mérite l'œuvre qu'il a entreprise, et je vous prie, Messieurs, de vous joindre à moi pour porter en un seul et même toast la santé de leurs Majesiés l'Empereur et l'Imperatrice du Japon.

THE GARDEN PARTY.

The proceedings commenced at two o'clock, when there was a display of daylight fireworks of the usual kind. There was a short interval for speech-making, which took place from a flower-adorned platform in the middle of the ground, and afterwards there followed what Barnum and Bailey would probably call a "terrific onslaught" by two sets of Japanese fencers, red and white. Small armies they were, and the scientific manner in which they hailed blows on each other, helmetted and armoured as they were, provoked much interest. One could understand what a terrible creature the Japanese swordman of Hideyoshi's time must have appeared to an unwarlike people like the Koreans. Single displays of fencing were also given. Then there were acrobatic feats—very clever feats too—from a platform at the north end of the ground; and jugglers with balls, *daikagura* dances, and the performances of the Tokyo Imperial Band filled up the remainder of the afternoon most enjoyably. Every foreigner who visited the ground could not fail be interested and diverted, or to be impressed with the thoroughly good-natured spirit in which the Japanese of Yokohama are entering on the new era.

The speech-making was brief, as befitted the character of the gathering. Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Watanabe Fukusaburo, Mr. Otani Kahei, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Hiranuma Senzo all gave short addresses congratulating Japan on attaining her majority as a nation, and expressing the hope that foreigners and Japanese would live together in mutual respect and good-will.

Mr. Otani Kahei's speech was as follows — GENTLEMEN:—It is with much pleasure that as the result of the friendly relatiods and commerce improved by leaps and bounds since the opening of this country to foreign trade, we now see the new treaties with other Powers put into operation amidst the cheers of both foreigners and Japanese. We are well aware that we are now under a heavier responsibility than ever before, and also that it is our duty to assist in the success of the new treaties by laying stress upon the friendly intercourse with foreigners, and by promoting the happiness and welfare of all the people concerned. More especially, a large part of this duty and responsibility falls on the shoulders of the citizens of Yokohama, a city which is itself the entrance to the country, or the gate of the country's commerce. Nothing would be more gratifying, gentlemen, than that we should try to farther promote our trade and bring ourselves into closer contact with foreigners, by satisfactorily fulfilling our duties and responsibilities. I avail myself of this opportunity, gentlemen, to express my hearty contragulations upon the operation of the new treaties, which I expect will help to achieve more harmonious relations and farther develope commerce between foreigners and Japanese.

This speech was acknowledged by Mr. W. F. Mitchell on behalf of the foreign community. Mr. Mitchell said:—"Mr. Umeda, Mayor, and citizens of Yokohama. I did not anticipate having the honour to address you this afternoon, and therefore I am not prepared to thank you in an adequate and fitting manner for the hospitality you have extended to us. We are here to celebrate a great occasion. It has long been the ambition of the prominent statesmen of Japan to arrive at the time when they would take their place among the nations of the West. We, as foreigners, cannot enter into this celebration in the same spirit as you do, because we know our own laws and have every confidence in them, whereas we are comparatively ignorant of Japanese laws; but we trust that everything will work smoothly and that greater intimacy may grow up between us. We thank you heartily for your reception, and wish you every success under the new régime."

ILLUMINATIONS AND FIREWORKS.

In the evening the town was brilliantly illuminated, particularly in and around the quarters inhabited by the Chinese, and a splendid display of fireworks, provided by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, took place from the *Suminoye Maru* in front of the Oriental Hotel, after dinner.

EVENING BANQUET.

At night a brilliant banquet was held at the Oriental Hotel. The hall of the handsome edifice was most elaborately decorated, while the dining room, the architectural features of which alone give it an air of richness and distinction, was made really beautiful by effective and judicious embellishment. The dinner placed on the table by Messrs. Mouraoui and Dewette was, it goes without saying, superb, and worthy of the traditions of the hotel. The menu card was most happily designed. On the cover were the cherry and the rose, emblematic of Japan and Europe, in loving juxtaposition. The menu was as under:—

Potage Crême d'asperges.
Consommé à la vénitienne.

Tai froid. Sauce verte.

Petites cassalettes au parmesan.
Filet de bœuf Mazarin.
Salmi de pigeon en croustade.
Jambon d'York à la gelée.

Punch granité au Kirch.

Asperges Sauce Mousseline.

Selle de Mouton rôtie.
Poulets de gram truffés.
Salade Japonaise.

Bombe glacée, Patisserie. Dessert.

Marquis Yamagata, the Premier, presided, and there were also present Marquis Saigo, Governor Asada. Messrs. Y. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, Otani Kahei, Watanabe Fukusaburo, and a large number of Japanese officials and merchants. The European guests were:—Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, British Consul; Dr. Paul Ritter, Swiss Consul and Doyen of the Consular Corps; M. Ratard, French Consul; Herr Coates, German Consul; H. E. Senor Vicuna, Chilian Minister; Mr. J. McLean, U.S. Vice Consul; Mr. Bonilla, Mr. Parra, Mr. Hagen, Dr. Wheeler, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. A. Bianchi, Mr. A. Woolley, Mr. J. E. Beale, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mr. G. Gilbert, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. M. Kaufmann, Mr. N. P. Kingdon, Mr. Massey, Mr. McIvor, Mr. Pors, Mr. Pravieux, Mr. C. V. Sale, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. Von Hemert, Mr. Gielen, Mr. J. F. Lowder, Mr. H. J. Holm, Mr. Budd, Mr. Harrison, Mr. P. Colomb, Mr. Bernard, Mr. T. W. Grosser, Mr. Howard, Mr. F. S. James, Mr. McIlraith, Mr. Pohl, Mr. Reiffinger, Mr. Strahler, Mr. Schroeder, Mr. N. F. Smith, Mr. Tegner, Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. A. Conil, Mr. James Dodds, Mr.

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Averill, Mr. Adelsdorfer, Mr. Danckwerts, Mr. Grauert, Mr. Hartland, Mr. S. Kuhn, Mr. Lindsley, Mr. F. Mendelson, Mr. Orth, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mr. A. Seux, Mr. Tuska, Mr. Cole Watson, Dr. Eldridge, Mr. G. Middleton, Mr. Bergmann, Mr. V. R. Bowden, Mr. Dourille, Mr. F. Gillett, Mr. Klingen, Mr. Le Prevost, Mr. Mottet, Mr. Pfister, Mr. La Couteur, Mr. Varnum, Mr. Witkowski, Mr. Weinberger, Mr. Thorn, Mr. H. J. Sharp, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Pigott, Mr. Melhuish, Mr. Lines, Mr. Kern, Mr. R. Hay, Mr. Grautoff, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Colton, Mr. H. Bent, Mr. Biagioni, Mr. E. Knaff, Mr. Thompson, Mr. G. Scidmore, Mr. W. K. Wilson, Mr. Vivanti, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. Morse, Mr. Lagrainge, Mr. Jensen, Mr. B. Gillett, Mr. Drosemeier, Mr. E. Wismer, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Mr. Haynemann.

The following were the promoters of the gathering, most of whom were present:—K. Abe, G. Akiyama, S. Amano, T. Anzai, H. Bekki, S. Ewata, T. Hara, T. Hayashi, S. Hiranuma, S. Hirose, K. Honjo, S. Horiya, S. Ishikawa, T. Ito, Y. Iwasaki, M. Kaneko, M. Kimura, R. Kimura, S. Kitamura, S. Kobayashi, I. Kubo, T. Kuroiwa, T. Kusama, K. Kutsuna, Y. Kuwabara, M. Masuda, S. Matsumura, H. Minakami, C. Minoda, K. Misaki, Y. Mogi, K. Mori, M. Mori, F. Nakamura, S. Nakayama, A. Nishiyama, T. Okada, R. Okano, H. Onishi, Ko Otani, S. Otsuka, T. Rinoiye, K. Rokkaku, M. Saito, S Saito, U. Sekijima, S. Shibusawa, N. Soma, K. Sugawa, S. Sugiyama, I. Suzumoto, S. Takase, K Takashima, Jr., K. Takashima, Y. Takeshita, K. Tamamura, K. Tanaka, S Tanaka, Z. Tanaka, F. Tanikawa, T. Tanuma, K. Tsuchiko, J. Wakao, K. Watanabe, N. Watanabe, S. Watanabe, T. Watanabe, H. Yagishita, K. Yamada, R. Yamagata, S. Yano.

The first toast was that of the Emperor, proposed by the Chilean Minister, Senor Vicuna. The sentiment was duly honoured, the band playing the *Kimiga yo*. Following this, H.E. the Premier proposed the rulers of the Treaty Powers.

GOVERNOR'S ASADA'S SPEECH.

Governor Asada next addressed the guests in English:—

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen:—On behalf of the promoters of this entertainment which is held to celebrate the coming into force of the new Treaties, I tender my most hearty thanks for the honour you have done us with your presence. Permit me, Gentlemen, to avail myself of this happy occasion to make a few remarks as to our sentiments and desires. As you are all aware, the history of Japan covers a period extending over several thousands of years, during which there have been a number of events connected with her foreign intercourse, but no period is to be compared with the last half century in point of brilliant and remarkable events. Of all these events what have mostly contributed to the development of Japan's prosperity are those in connection with her relations with the nations of Europe and America. If we look back at the history of Japan's foreign relations, we find that the intercourse has frequently been interfered with, either through internal disturbances caused on account of her foreign policy, or complications with foreign countries, or other disagreable incidents which arose out of the ill-feeling between the Japanese and foreigners, owing to the difference in the customs, manners, the systems of administration, &c. All these events, however, belong to the period of transition, and we may now regard them as the forerunners of this happy consummation.

JAPAN'S LONG-CHERISHED AMBITION.

Gentlemen, nothing is more delightful and gratifying to us than to see, as we do to-day, the steady development of friendship between Japan and the Treaty Powers, and the operation of the Revised Treaties, so ardently longed for by the people of Japan for the last thirty years, in such a smooth and peaceful manner. It is hardly necessary for me to state that this satisfactory result is due to the wise directions of our August Sovereign who, supporting the policy of opening the country and attaching great importance to foreign intercourse, has organised or improved all the institutions of internal administration on the basis of Western civilization, as well as to the Sovereigns and Rulers of our Treaty Powers who have always shown most friendly feelings towards Japan. None the less is it owing to the well-aimed assistance rendered them by our own Statesmen and the Representatives of all the Treaty Powers; and our sincere and heartfelt thanks are due to them all. Gentlemen, look at Yokohama of the present day as compared with that of forty years ago, and observe what a change this city has undergone. The present harbour crowded with the funnels and masts of steamers and sailing vessels might be contrasted with the wild plain of old times overgrown with reeds, and the whistling of engines or the rattling sounds of carriages, with the solitary songs of cow-boys and fishermen of old Yokohama. You might indeed feel as if you were now living in a different part of the world. Further, it is difficult to enumerate here all such matters as the development of commerce, the application of the schemes of civilization or the advancement of science and literature not only in Yokohama but throughout the Empire. Such a change and progress, I may safely affirm, are quite unprecedented in the history of our Empire. Well then, what is the cause of all this? The answer is simply, "foreign intercourse and commerce." And seeing that they have developed to such an extent, while their sphere was the Foreign Settlement, I entertain no doubt that the prosperity of the present day will be multiplied by opening the whole country and thus enlarging the field for commerce, residence, and social intercourse. Therefore, what we congratulate ourselves upon is not only the prosperity and happiness thus far attained through foreign intercourse, but the prospect, in the future, of still firmer and more intimate friendship, and further and rapid development of commerce between Japan and foreign nations, which are bound to accrue from the abolition of that particular form of jurisdiction which has existed heretofore, and the inauguration of intercourse with those nations on an equal footing. We firmly believe that while we should be fully determined to uphold our own rights, we—at the same time—are in duty bound to respect those of others, both as a nation and as individuals, and in all our intercourse, either political, financial or social. This principle we shall bear constantly in mind; and it will be our paramount duty to carry out all the injunctions contained in the Imperial Rescript, recently issued in respect of the operation of the new Treaties. I now propose to drink to the health of their Excellencies and other esteemed guests of this evening.—(Applause.)

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

Marquis Yamagata, who was warmly applauded on rising, spoke in Japanese, the following being a translation of his remarks:—

Gentlemen,—I consider it a great honour to be present here this evening at this brilliant gathering to celebrate the opening of the new régime. Ever since the Restoration thirty years ago, it has been an abiding wish of the nation to accomplish the difficult task of revising the Treaties with the Friendly Powers. Gentlemen, I am happy to join my congratulations to yours that to-day we have actually entered upon the new régime, and that the relations of our Empire with the treaty powers have become firmer in the ties of friendship under the altered state of affairs. Our August Sovereign, anxious about the smooth working of the new Treaties, has, as you are all aware, issued an Imperial rescript, and we, fellow subjects, inspired by the spirit of that rescript, have endeavoured to the best of our abilities to make the new treaties operate without friction or hitch. The rights we recover by virtue of the change, we shall not, of course, be slow to assert. At the same time we recognise that it is our duty to afford all possible convenience and extend all possible consideration to foreign residents coming under the Imperial jurisdiction. A Japanese proverb warns us that the heat of a mouthful is forgotten after it is swallowed. Let us not forget the difficulties we have experienced in attaining the result we are celebrating this evening, and let us also remember to spare no efforts in gathering the best fruits borne by the change. As the foreign residents are essentially law-obeying people, I firmly believe that they will not suffer any inconvenience under the new conditions. In concluding this speech, allow me to express my sincere desire that by developing friendly intercourse and good-feeling between native and foreign elements such as we see here this evening, everything may contribute to the smooth working of the new treaties.

THE SWISS CONSUL GENERAL.

Dr. Paul Ritter, as *doyen* of the Consular Corps, speaking in French, proposed "le Gouverneur de Kanagawa et les autorités provinciales." He spoke as follows:—

Monsieur le Président du Conseil des Ministres, Messieurs les Ministres, Messieurs,—L'ère des nouveaux traités est enfin ouverte. Leur mise en vigueur devient aujourd'hui un fait accompli. Ce n'est pas, cependant, sans un certain sentiment d'orgueil que le Corps Consulaire peut jeter les regards en arrière, sur la période du régime d'extraterritorialité, s'il s'en rapporte à tous les regrets exprimés par la colonie étrangère au moment de l'abolition de notre juridiction et aux efforts qui ont été faits pour la conserver.

La justice que nous rendions, Messieurs, était plutôt paternelle dans le fond et dans la forme. Elle était basée plus sur l'équité que sur le droit écrit, et c'est pourquoi elle s'adaptait si bien aux besoins de la colonie étrangère. Malgré cela, cependant, pour quelques-uns d'entre nous chargés de la périlleuse mission d'administrer la justice à leurs compatriotes ce devoir n'allait pas quelques fois sans amertume, car l'on ne se faisait pas faute sur la concession, de profiter de l'antique permission qui donne au moins quarante-huit heures pour maudire ses juges.

Aujourd'hui tout cela est du passé, et les étrangers au Japon doivent accepter sincèrement le nouvel état de choses. Une des grosses et presque insurmontables difficultés de la situation nouvelle est l'impossibilité ou se trouve l'étranger de pouvoir lire, connaître, discuter, et apprecier par lui-même les lois auxquelles il est maintenant soumis.

Une autre difficulté non moins grave c'est la question des interprètes officiels près des cours et tribunaux. C'est une lourde responsabilité que celle qui incombe dorénavant au Gouvernement japonais, et si nous pouvons être certains que les hommes chargés de diriger ce pays apporteront le meilleur vouloir, comme ils l'ont fait jusqu'à présent, afin d'éviter les malentendus qui ne pourront manquer de se produire dans une transition pareille, nous n'en sommes cependant pas moins inquiétés dans notre conscience, par cette difficulté si considérable causée par l'ignorance presqu'absolue ou nous nous trouvons tous du langage japonais. Il faudra donc que ceux qui seront chargés de dispenser la justice apportent un soin méticuleux et tout special à se rendre bien compte si la pensée de l'étranger et les arguments qu'il fait valoir dans la défense de ses intérêts leur ont été bien et fidèlement traduits. Nous avons pleine confiance dans la justice de ce pays. Nous lui remettons nos pouvoirs avec la certitude que nos administrés d'hier n'auront aucun motif de s'en plaindre et c'est pourquoi nous demandons ici à tout le monde d'apporter dans les nouvelles relations établies, un grand fond de bienveillance et de bonne volonté mutuelle.

Le rôle des colonies étrangères à été considérable au Japon pour le developpement de la situation actuelle. Au contact de l'européen le japonais a été saisi du désir de se pénétrer de la civilisation de l'Ouest. Il s'est rendu compte de notre force et de notre puissance d'entreprise; il a vu comment une poignée de marchands jetés, ou plutot parqués, sur trois points de l'Empire, ont su transformer les plages sablonneuses et les marais malfaisants, qui leur étaient abandonnés, en des cités populeuses et riches, dont les ports sont frequentés par

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les flottes commerciales étrangères venant de tous les points du monde.

C'est donc à nous, étrangers, à l'exemple que nous avons donné, que revient, dans une certaine mesure, le mérite des progrès accomplis. Nous devons considérer ce qui se passe actuellement un peu comme notre œuvre et nous féliciter de ce dénouement découlant naturellement de l'ouverture de ce pays-ci aux étrangers.

Il faut de plus savoir féliciter ces patriotes japonais de n'avoir jamais perdu de vue l'œuvre de régénération de leur pays. Il faut savoir féliciter leurs diplomates avisés, qui ont su, lors de la discussion des nouveaux traités, lutter de sagacité merveilleuse et de souple fermeté avec les plus vieilles chancelleries du monde, pour arriver à debarrasser leur pays de ce regîme de juridiction exceptionelle, qui n'est imposé qu'aux peuples qui ne sont pas encore à la hauteur de notre civilisation.

Nous souhaitons, en terminant notre discours, que la colonie etrangère sous l'administration nouvelle continue à prospérer comme elle l'a fait par la passé. Nous souhaitons que cette journée marque le commencement d'une ère de concorde et de bonne entente entre le peuple japonais et les étrangers qui viennent chercher l'hospitalité dans ce pays. Nous sympathisons tous avec cette nation qui, pour reconquérir la liberté de ses mouvements, n'a pas reculé devant les responsabilités qu'elle assume aujourd'hui. C'est un engagement d'honneur que le peuple japonais a pris devant le monde entier, et nous sommes absolument certains qu'il saura le maintenir.

Aussi, Messieurs, allons nous vous convier tous, à vous joindre à nous pour boire à la prospérité de cette jeune et vigoureuse nation et porter un toast aux augustes souverains qui en dirigent si habilement les destinées.

Messieurs, à Leurs Majestés L'Empereur et L'Impératrice du Japon!

We translate the speech as follows:—The era of the new treaties has finally opened. Their coming into force becomes from to-day an established fact. It is not, however, without a certain sentiment of pride that the Consular Corps can look back on the period of the reign of extraterritoriality when they remember all the expressions of regret on the part of the foreign community at the moment of the abolition of our jurisdiction, and the efforts which have been made to retain it. The justice which we have rendered, Gentlemen, was a paternal one in form and being. It was based more on equity than on the written law, and for this reason it was so well adapted to the needs and requirements of the foreign community. In spite of this, however, for some of us, who were charged with the perilous mission of administering justice to our compatriots, the duty could not always be performed without bitterness, for in the Settlement, some did not fail to profit by the old permission, which gives at least forty-eight hours to curse one's judges.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE NEW ERA.

To-day all this belongs to the past, and the foreigners in Japan must sincerely accept this new state of affairs. One of the great and nearly insurmountable difficulties of the new situation is the fact that the foreigner cannot read, know, discuss and appreciate for himself the laws, under which he now comes. Another difficulty, not less grave, is the question of official interpreters in the courts and tribunals. It is a heavy responsibility, which from now on devolves upon the Japanese Government, and if we can feel sure that the men, charged with the direction of affairs in this country, will bring their best endeavours, as they have done up to the present, in order to avoid misunderstandings which are sure to arise in such a transition, we are, however, not less troubled in our conscience by so considerable a difficulty occasioned by our almost entire ignorance of the Japanese language. It is therefore necessary that those who are appointed to administer justice, should take the most minute care, and especially should be on the look-out to assure themselves that the thoughts of the foreigner and the arguments he may bring in the defence of his interests, have been faithfully translated. We have full confidence in the justice of this country. We hand over to it our powers with the certitude that the men we administered yesterday will have no reason to complain of it, and that is the reason why we ask everybody to bring into these newly-established relations, a large fund of well-wishing and mutual goodwill.

THE WORK OF THE FORRIGNER.

The rôle of the foreign communities in Japan has been a considerable one in the development of the present situation. Through his contact with the European, the Japanese has been seized with the desire to learn more of the civilization of the West. He has seen our force and our power of enterprise; he has seen how a handful of merchants, thrown, or rather lodged in three ports of the Empire, have been able to transform these sandy coasts and the bad morasses which were abandoned to them, into populous and rich cities, whose ports are visited by fleets of foreign merchant-vessels from all parts of the world. It is therefore that to us, the foreigners, and to the example we have given, in a certain measure, is due the merits of the progress accomplished. We must consider what is actually happening, as a part of our work, and must congratulate ourselves upon this result, the natural consequence of the opening of this country to foreigners. We must, besides, know how to congratulate these Japanese patriots that they have never left out of sight the regeneration of their country; and we have to congratulate its wary diplomats who have been able, since the discussion of the new treaties, to struggle with marvellous sagacity and supple firmness against the older chancelleries of the world, in order to free their country from this régime of exceptional jurisdiction, which is only imposed on such peoples as have not attained the height of our civilization. In closing our remarks, we desire that the foreign settlement may continue to prosper under the new regime, as it has done in the past. We wish that this day may mark the commencement of an era of concord and of good understanding between the Japanese people and foreigners who seek the hospitality of this country. We all sympathize with this nation which, to reconquer freedom of action, does not recoil before the responsibilities which it assumes to-day. It is an engagement of honour which the Japanese people accept before the civilized world, and we feel absolutely certain that it will know how to maintain it. Therefore gentlemen, we invite you to join us in drinking to the prosperity of this young and vigorous nation, and to honour the toast of the august Sovereigns who conduct so well its destinies. Gentlemen, to their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Japan.

The toast was drunk amid cheers and *banzais*.

The Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Umeda, spoke very briefly in reply.

MR. OTANI'S SPEECH.

Mr. Otani Kabei was the next speaker, and his remarks, translated by Mr. Okada, Secretary to the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, were as follows: Your Excellencies and gentlemen. The spectacle of the presence of men of many nations, so widely scattered, so diverse in speech, in life, met together to further their common good and interest is as sublime as it is unusual in the history of Japan. The differences of language, of custom, and race have hitherto unfitted us for closer relationship, and thus we have fallen into different grooves such as oil and water would do in the same vessel. Yet human nature is very much the same all the world over, and men can make pleasant associations with each other.—(Hear, hear.) Such a social meeting as this, affords an opportunity for the cultivation of a closer relationship, for which the importance and necessity must be still more apparent under the new regime.—(Applause.) Wine causes oil and water to mix and we are ready and willing to drink wine with you.—(Loud applause.) I am very glad to see that it has brought together men who have hitherto been strangers. We may look into each other's faces, grasp each other's hands, and know and be known so that our relations hereafter shall be more open, frank and generous.—(Applause.) Now I beg, on behalf of the Committee of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, to express our warmest appreciation of the honour and pleasure conferred upon us by your presence here on this memorable evening.—(Applause.) I propose the health of their Excellencies and gentlemen.

THE FORRIGN GUESTS' ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. W. F. Mitchell, who followed said: Your Excellencies and gentlemen. We have listened with very great pleasure to the sentiments — the many sentiments I may say—of a friendly character which have been extended to foreigners this evening. The foreign community have been treated by their Japanese friends, who have done all that they possibly could to give us a day of enjoyment with themselves. On behalf of the foreign Chamber of Commerce I have very great pleasure in congratulating you upon the eventful fourth of August. It has been a very great pleasure for us to mingle with you as we have done to-day and we have enjoyed the opportunity of receiving the extended hand of friendship which you have offered to us, and I can assure you that it is our desire that that friendship may be cemented and may increase as time goes on.—(Applause.) We now leave, so to speak, our friends the Consuls, not altogether but to a certain extent, and place ourselves under the jurisdiction of Japan. I feel certain that as has already been expressed this evening, it is the intention of the Japanese Government to deal with us liberally in every respect. They have shown desire to do all they possibly can for foreigners as to information and assistance of every kind, and we cannot fail to appreciate the way in which they have given us their careful consideration. In looking at the list before us I notice that we have to thank more than seventy gentlemen for the sumptuous repast and the enjoyment of this evening. I would therefore call upon the gentlemen of the foreign community here present, to drink with me the health of our hosts.—(Hear hear, applause and *banzai*.)

THE SENDAI CELEBRATION.

The citizens of Sendai were not behind the rest of the Japanese world in showing their gratification at the inauguration of the new era. On the 4th at 11.30 a.m. about 200 business men and others assembled in the Public Gardens. After short congratulatory speeches by the Mayor and others, the Imperial Rescript referring to Treaty Revision was read; and the health of the Emperor and Empress of Japan was drunk, which was followed by the toasting of all foreign potentates. But this meeting was a minor event compared to the celebration of the evening of the 5th. This took the form of a Japanese banquet, which, however, was served at tables, instead of on the mats, at the Yusuikwan. It began at 6 p.m. and lasted till after 10. The foreign residents present were Messrs. Hoy, Snyder, Sneider, Noss, Dening, Miller, Gerhard, Jacques, Madden and Huett. All the chief officials of the Miyagi ken and the Sendai City Office, from the governor and mayor downwards, were present. The Army was well represented, Baron Nishi, the Commander, being accompanied by no fewer than 26 officers. A band was in attendance, and the building was decorated with flags. With the exception of a short introductory address by Mr. Satomi, the Mayor of Sendai, the speeches were delivered, in accordance with Japanese custom, while the meal was going on. There were altogether about 159 persons present. The present Governor of Miyagi, Mr. Chikami, was for many years engaged in teaching English in various schools. He knows the language thoroughly, and is well acquainted with the ways of foreigners. In his youth he was very anti-foreign, but to-day his sympathies are all with the progressive section of the nation. In a speech which occupied about 15 minutes he briefly reviewed the great changes which Japanese

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feeling had undergone in reference to Westerns. He predicted that for some time a great many minor inconveniences would be met with by foreigners residing in the interior of the country. It had to be remembered that, with the very best intentions, it was quite impossible for the Japanese Government to bring things up to the desired standard in a hurry. He was confident that year by year the situation would improve, and he hoped that foreigners would endeavour to realise the difficulties which the authorities had to contend with, and not expect more than was reasonable.

As one of the oldest residents of Sendai the Rev. W. E. Hoy was asked to speak as representative of the foreign community. He spoke through an interpreter. The following is an epitome of his address:—When asked last night to be the mouthpiece of the foreign community of Sendai on this festive occasion, I could not help feeling that a worthier representative might have have been found. I am expressing the sentiments of the foreign residents of Sendai when I say that we all rejoice over the revision of the treaties and the beginning of mixed residence. Some of us have lived a very long time in this country, and have learnt to trust and even to love Japanese. If we did not love you, many of us would not be here. The progress this country has made strikes us foreigners as most remarkable. You slept a long time and were aroused in a somewhat sudden manner, and were told that men from other countries were anxious to pursue the journey of life alongside of you; just as a Japanese who had occupied a whole seat for a couch was shaken by me a few days ago and asked to make room for a passenger on the ground that mixed residence had commenced. At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Hoy referred to the practice of concubinage and the evils that it led to. He said that foreigners often left a woman and her children quite unprovided for when they left the country, and that there were cases of Japanese who had treated foreign women in the same way. Such incidents, if allowed to become frequent, would mar the friendship that should exist between Orientals and Occidentals.

A well-known Buddhist priest, belonging to the Otaniha, in charge of a temple in Sendai, read an eloquent congratulatory address. The sentiments expressed were most liberal, and the whole tone harmonised with the spirit of the utterances of the Right Rev. Otani Koson, the Chief Abbot, reported in these columns some weeks ago.

At the request of the Mayor and some of the citizens of Sendai Mr. Walter Dening delivered a speech in Japanese, of which the following is the gist:—

Some ten years ago, when I was in the habit of constantly addressing large audiences in Japanese, to be called on suddenly to make a speech gave me no concern. The language flowed from my lips without any effort. This was the result of long practice. But for many years I have been engaged in teaching English in a school where I am forbidden to use Japanese in lecturing, and, since outside opportunities of speaking in public are very few, I find myself in no condition to right to do justice to the subject on which our thoughts are centred. For 25 years I watched as an outsider the controversy over the revision of the treaties. I say as an outsider, for I always felt that as an individual Englishman I could never exercise any influence on the course of events. This question would be settled by wiser heads than mine. If in the opinion of the great Powers extraterritoriality could be safely abolished in this country in consideration of the progress made by the Japanese nation, abolished it would be, despite protests from individuals residing in Japan. Though not taking any real part in the discussion of the proposed change I watched every phase of it with considerable interest. In that Japan has obtained her desire, it will only be becoming on her part to show in her dealings with foreigners that liberality of sentiment and trust which led the English Government, prior to the display of her military prowess in the Chinese war, to agree to the revision of the Treaties. It seems to me that in refusing to grant the right of landownership to foreigners the Government showed a want of trust in the integrity of Occidental nations. Depend upon it, the time for land-grabbing, at any rate in a country so well armed as Japan, has passed. Japanese can own land in London, and Englishmen should be able to own land in Tokyo or any other part of Japan. In all your dealings with foreigners I hope you will display the liberality towards us that in the past you have expected us to show towards you. The advantages of the change must be thoroughly reciprocal in order to create universal satisfaction. Now that extraterritoriality has been abolished I observe that some Japanese writers abuse the principle as an injustice. There is nothing wrong about the principle. It is a necessary safeguard for nations whose civilisation is on a higher plane than that of many other states. You would not dream of allowing extraterritoriality to be abolished in China in the case of Japanese subjects. It is because the Governments of the great Western powers considered that you had qualified yourselves to be ranked with the foremost nations of the world that they agreed to the change which has been effected. Compared with the transformation which you as a nation have undergone in the past thirty years all the revolutions of ancient and mediæval Japan sink into insignificance. This *Meiji* era is unrivalled as regards the events which it has witnessed, and hence would it not be well to remodel your chronological system and speak of all events as happening so many years before or in a certain year of the *Meiji* era, which era might go on to the end of time. Certainly no better historical boundary in a nation's annals can be found than is afforded by the age in which it is our happy lot to live.

At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Dening referred to the instructions lately issued by the Minister of Education in reference to teaching religion or holding religious services in private schools. These instructions were regarded by foreigners generally as most illiberal, and as out of harmony with the policy the Government had adopted in other lines. He hoped they were not final. All the Education Department had to do was to require that a certain standard of secular learning was maintained in these schools. As to other matter the men who provided the money to keep them going should be left at liberty to do as they pleased. This policy of the Monbushō would be condemned by enlightened Buddhists and enlightened Christians alike. It was a retrograde step on Japan's part, and it was to be regretted that this piece of news should have reached Sendai in the midst of festivities the prevailing tone of which was thorough cordiality between the Japanese and foreigners present.

After the usual toasts had been drunk and the national anthem had been played, the guests retired to another suite of rooms and spent an hour or more in social intercourse.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In an article on "The Religion of the ancient Samurai and the Religion of Modern Trade and Industry," the *Taiyō* says:—Social topics are *the* questions of modern times, whether regarded from the economic or the moral standpoint. The leading principles of modern business consist of the assertion of the rights of the individual and independence. The principal articles of the creed known as *Bushidō* teach subjection to the will of others, the prëeminence of one class of the community and the thorough subordination of all others; added to this, there is ancestral worship of a very pronounced type. There is no doubt that the two standards referred to (which the writer quoted calls religious) are in antagonism to each other. Trade and industry are bound to progress, and any system of teaching which may be regarded as religious must adapt its teaching to prevailing business sentiments. It must either sanction or condemn the spirit of the age. Upon the attitude it takes its fortune will depend.

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The extent to which divination is still practised throughout Japan cannot but have struck all observant tourists who are acquainted with the diviners' signboards, which are as common in most towns as the barber's pole. In the *Rikugō Zasshi*, Mr. Hachihama Tokurō is publishing a minute account of the whole system of magic as carried on in this country. The articles are of extreme length. Many are not fit for reproduction in these columns. But the impression received by perusing such parts as have appeared is wonder that there should be found a sufficient number of people to believe in the silly devices described in detail by Mr. Hachihama to warrant the continuance of the magical art by so many thousands thoughout the empire. In his introductory remarks, Mr. Hachihama says that for the anthropologist, psychologist, and the minister of religion the subject should prove one of great interest. Under different headings he then proceeds to relate the various remedies for life's ills and inconveniences prescribed by the all-knowing magician. The wearied mother who complains of the persistence with which her infant annoys the neighbours by imitating the seraphim (who continually do cry) is informed that by taking some dog's hair, putting it into a red cotton bag, and sewing it to the back of the infant's night-dress, next to the skin, she will cure the child of the habit at once. The spread of measles may be stopped, we are told, by writing the name of Chinzei Hachirō* and pasting it on the doors of houses that have not been affected; and a sure antidote to small-pox is to keep by one a photo of the pock-marked face of Mr. Inoue Kakugorō. The idea lying beneath the reference to Mr. Inoue is that, he being such a noted orator, the very sight of his face would overawe the god that is supposed to cause the disease (Hōsō no Kami). Numerous and amusing are the devices for lovers and would-be lovers. Some of these seem to supersede the most common Japanese customs. For instance, if it is desired to get up a match between a young man and a young woman, one has only to kill a pigeon that has been heard to coo on May 5th, take portions of its leg bone, put them in red bags, and attach one to the left arm of the man and the other to the right arm of the woman. The two young persons will thus be attracted by each other, marry, and be happy ever after, without the aid of any middleman. A sure cure for a jealous wife, we are told, is boiled *Uguisu* (bush-warbler). From the point of view of religion the chief interest of these stories is the amount of credulity which they imply. Nothing seems wonderful to people who really believe in witchcraft. Buddhist, Shintō, and Christian miracles all seem quite natural to such minds. With a surfeit of marvels the sense of wonder becomes deadened.

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In the Protestant Episcopal organ, the *Nichiyō Sōshi* (No. 113), we find an account of the last Annual Meeting of

* A noted warrior to whom tradition has ascribed various supernatural powers in warding off disease.

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the United Protestant Episcopal Church, from which we extract the following details bearing on the work of that body :—The report showed that the committees to whom the settling of a number of vexed questions had been left, or which had been expected to report on these questions, had failed to complete their labours. Marriage and divorce were among these. Then various motions were brought forward bearing on the alteration of rules, but in most cases they were outvoted. Thinking only of what the meeting did *not* accomplish, there are some who call it the "Postponing Meeting," the "Negativing Meeting," or the "Destroying Meeting;" but in the opinion of the present writer the Sixth Annual Meeting was an improvement on the Fifth held last year. There was less provincial and local cliquism and less of the pro-foreign mission spirit. The speaking, too, had a ring of reality with it and did not, as on some former occasions, seem to be improvised to pass the time. Nevertheless there were three resolutions which we regret were not passed, says the writer we are quoting. The first had to do with financial provision for the creation of new bishoprics and the safeguarding of existing bishoprics. The second was connected with the organisation of the Episcopal Bureau (Kantoku Kyoku) and the removal of obstacles in the way of the acceptance of certain offices not publicly recognised by the church.* The third had to do with the appointment of members of the Evangelistic Bureau and the work expected of them. Though the meeting, with a proper sense of its responsibility, left many weighty questions unsettled, yet it may be pronounced to have been most successful. Since the first of these annual gatherings no less than 39 matters on which there was great difference of opinion have been discussed and impartially settled, says the *Nichiyō Sōshi*.

* * *

In the *Fukuin Shimpō* appears an account of the Rev. K. Ibuka's visit to Shanghai, where he represented certain Japanese Churches at two important meetings, the one being a large Education Society Meeting and the other a Young Men's Society Meeting. The first held on May 17th, lasting 3 days, was attended by Missionaries engaged in or interested in education, being a triennial meeting. About 100 persons were present. The subjects discussed were: "The Extent to which Science should be taught." "The best methods of teaching English;" "The training of Divinity Students;" "The Development of Christian Literature," "School Text-books;" "Girls' Schools," "Primary Schools," &c. Comparing the state of China with that of Japan from an educational point of view, Mr. Ibuka says that China is a quarter of a century behind, or rather that section of the nation with which the speakers were connected was that much behind. Mr. Ibuka read a paper on "State Education in Japan." The second meeting was held on May 19th and the four following days. It was attended by about 60 Chinese young men and 14 foreigners, who had come as representatives from all parts of China. The Chinese found great difficulty in understanding each other. Though the Mandarin language was used, the difference of pronunciation of words according to provincial peculiarities of tone was considerable and greatly embarrassed the audience. The lack of national feeling among the representatives was very manifest. Mr. Ibuka says that he had hoped that Christianity would have woven a national bond and that this fact would have revealed itself at the meeting, but he saw no signs of anything of the kind, and the members seemed no closer to each other than are natives and foreigners in any country. A Japanese Young Men's Christian Association is being formed in Shanghai, Mr. Ibuka informs us.

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The *Taiyō*, commenting on the alleged departure from the Christian faith and religious lukewarmness, says there are publications which make it their special province to hold up to public view what they deem to be the weaknesses of their fellow-men, who take pleasure in publishing the names of men that formerly belonged to this Christian sect or that, and who now have gone off to something else. The criticism of newspapers and magazines which simply point the finger of scorn to change in belief, without attempting to analyse the cause of such change or to inquire whether the change is for the better or for the worse, is of little value. Are the men who complain of changes in the creeds of other persons of fixed belief and exemplary lives themselves? On the contrary they are usually men with no settled convictions whatever. The causes of the wide deflection from orthodox Christianity may be discovered without difficulty by any one acquainted with the history of thought among professing Christians in this country, says the *Taiyō*. Chief among these causes are to be placed the opinions propagated by certain Dōshisha teachers and the whole Dōshisha experiment, the influence of the Unitarians and the Doitsu Kyōkai, and the writings of Mr. Kanamori and others. To say that the men who have been deeply affected by their study of opinion and by years of experience are now without any belief is quite untrue. Though rejecting many orthodox doctrines, many of these are earnest Christians. It comes to this, then, that superficial observations as to changes of sect or denomination are of no value whatever, and are not to be taken as an indication of the shallowness of the religious current flowing through the land. The faith that follows a series of doubts is of far more value than the blind, uninquiring belief called faith by the undiscerning. If outward adherence to orthodoxy is to be the test of the strength of religious feeling in Japan, then changes in the colours which men fly should be recorded as the most important events in ecclesiastical history; but if a large increase in the number of those who have faithfully followed the leading of their own consciences in defiance of the reproaches of their fellow-men is a subject for congratulation, then the noisy utterances of the impugners of religion to whom we refer are to be regarded as mere claptrap.

* * *

Mr. Shibata Reiichi, the Official Head (Jikkō Kyokanchō) of the Shintō Jikkō Sect, publishes a very long essay in the *Taiyō* on the leading Shintō tenets and on the course which the Sect should pursue in future. The gist of the essay may be stated in a few words as follows :—Shintō is partly a religion and partly a national custom. At the present time there are 12 leading sects. Each of these has its official head, to whom is committed supreme power by the Home Minister. These heads rank as *Chokunin*. In connection with these well-known sects there are a number of minor bodies. But it is worthy of note that there are also Shintoists who are a disgrace to the creed, who have no kind of right to the title of Shintoist. Mr. Shibata preaches greater liberality of sentiment towards other forms of belief and thinks that Shintoists should take steps to send representatives to all religious conferences and act in union with Buddhists and Christians as much as possible. The sect should place before it attainable objects and strive to carry into practice what for so many centuries it has professed.

* * *

The *Nippon* has devoted about 100 articles to the discussion of the operation of the new treaties, Among other subjects a good deal of space is given to religion. Elaborate tables of statistics are published. Some of which have in one form or other already appeared in these columns. We reproduce in full those bearing on Shintō sects, which were collected some time in the spring of last year.

	No. of Religious Bodies.	Priests in Charge of Temples.	Subordinate Priests.	No. of believers.
Shintō	872	825	23,594	3,298,702
Jingū.....	244	206	9 583	2,679,760
Taisha	7	7	733	29,030
Fusō	138	128	3,337	730,018
Taisei	248	200	2,584	609,781
Jikkō.....	121	73	564	93,671
Kurozumi...	348	233	9,624	3,884,662
Sūsei	685	458	6,714	348,460
Kannarai ...	655	632	2,579	1,168,918
Ontake	514	461	1,725	209,032
Misogi	3	1	2	238
Shinri	92	74	473	1,139,206
Total ...	3 927	3,298	61,512	14,191,478

The *Nippon* is of opinion that the influence of Shintō on the lower orders is bad. Very corrupt practices are winked at by the priests. On the whole the creed is more suited to barbarism than civilisation, and it encourages customs which call for police interference, though what form this interference should take it is difficult to determine.

The opinion of the *Nippon* in reference to Buddhism is that in the metropolis it has little influence over the course of events, but in the provinces it still wields enormous power. Though in the Tokugawa times there were only 11 sects, of late years they have increased so rapidly that now no less than 41 exist. A great many of these are quite insignificant. According to a very long table of statistics given by the *Nippon*, the Shinshū Hongwanji-ha stands first with 960,853 adherents; next comes the Shingon with 185,344 adherents. The others worthy of mention stand in the following order :—The Tendai Sect, with 90,134 members; the Takata-ha, with 37,000; the Nichiren, with 36,858; the Yeigenjī-ha, with 34,120. The other numbers range from about 30,000 to 97.

In reference to Christianity the *Nippon* contends that the supremacy of the Pope over Roman Catholic Christians and that of the Emperor of Russia over Greek Church converts call for the attention of the Japanese authorities. There have been a good many communications passing between the Vatican and the Japanese Government in

* The language of the original is very vague here, and we are unable to give a more definite rendering, not knowing to what posts the resolution referred —(Writer of the SUMMARY).

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recent years, says the *Nippon*, but we are not aware that any treaty exists between the two Powers. The Protestants need give the Government no concern. Their patriotism and loyalty to the State are unquestioned. The figures given by the *Nippon* on Christian Missions are three years old. They make the total number of Protestants to be 37,999 and the number of sects represented to be 22. The *Nippon* observes that there are 14 other bodies which have agents in this country, but adds that their work is of minor importance. Protestant Christianity, says the journal we are quoting, is following in the wake of Buddhism in one important particular. It is being Nipponicised. This is gratifying from every point of view, as it removes all chance of collision with State interests.

In reference to the future of religion in Japan, the *Nippon* says there is no possibility of her having a State religion. The Constitution does not allow of that. But the Government will have to devise some fair method of treating the existing sects. For a country to be inflicted with 12 Shintō, 41 Buddhist, and over 30 Christian sects, all possessing separate organisations, is somewhat of a calamity. The task of regulating the practices of these sects is not an easy one. That, once having granted religious freedom, the Government should refuse to publicly recognise forms of faith which many thousands of Japanese have voluntarily accepted is quite unreasonable. By publicly acknowledging existing creeds the Government does not in any way connect itself with any of them or pronounce an opinion on their relative merits. Whilst doing this, it can still pursue the stand-aloof (*Chōzen teki*) policy which it has hitherto followed. No interference of any kind will be required except when State interests are affected, and the occasions when this takes place are likely to be rare.

It will be seen, then, that the tone of the *Nippon* on the subject of religion is decidedly liberal, and that while on this subject it has not allowed itself to be carried away by the Chauvinistic sentiments which so frequently disfigure its columns.

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The Greek Church organ, the *Seikyō Shimpō* (No. 444) has an article entitled *Kunken oyobi Minken*, which discusses from a Christian standpoint the rights of the ruler and the rights of ruled and their relation to each other. The writer begins by observing that in the political world there is incessant friction between the people and their rulers. It is only in written Constitutions that no conflict is apparent. In practice there is a constant striving for prēeminence by both candidates for power. The relation of the people to the executive, though often fixed by written laws, is constantly undergoing important changes. The tendency of all monarchs is to overstep the boundaries set them by the people. Rulers in the Church, says the *Seikyō Shimpō*, being God's representatives as well as the people's, do not trample on the rights of those whom they govern. Their power is absolute, but it is not abused. They are the medium by which God conveys his gifts to the people. The people on their part assist the chief prelate in his spiritual functions without in any way disputing his authority. The writer of the article next endeavours to show that the supreme power given to the chief prelate by the Greek Church finds a parallel in the power wielded by the Emperor of Japan, which he maintains is greater than that of the Emperor of Germany or Queen Victoria. Stated in a few words the article may be said to be an attempt to defend ecclesiastical despotism on the ground that divine rights have been bequeathed to the chief rulers of the Church, an assumption that would be warmly disputed by a large section of modern Christendom.

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In an article published in No. 17 of the *Tenchijin* the present Japanese Cabinet is denounced on the ground that it is without a fixed policy in reference to any of the great questions of the day. Neither in China nor Korea does Japan adopt any definite line of action, says the *Tenchijin*. In the Peace Conference she has had nothing special to say. In dealing with religion at the present time it is most desirable that a policy should be pursued which will commend itself to all parties as impartial and far-sighted. But instead of this, constant vacillation is perceptible. At one time the Government seems to fawn on the Buddhists, at another to flatter foreigners, and thus the expectations of both Buddhists and Christians are raised. What, in our opinion, the Home Minister and the Minister President should do is to define in a public manner the exact attitude they intend to adopt in reference to the various creeds. It should be made clear that freedom and no favouritism is the Government's motto. To the Government both the above-mentioned religions have their merits, and it is their wish that the adherents of the various Buddhist and Christian sects should respect each other's rights and opinions and avoid unseemly collision. As long as this is the case they have no call to interfere. Why not let this policy be known? The silence maintained is the source of perpetual misapprehension on the part of earnest religious devotees belonging to various parties, who live in a constant state of expectation of Government favour or patronage.

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The *Shinseiki* (No. 17) has an article entitled "Religion and Economy," by Mr. Nishita Rokushi. The writer says that the functions of the one resemble those of the other. For instance economy saves the body from the want consequent on lavish expenditure and religion saves the soul from the many spiritual evils to which it is exposed. The author asserts that "Christian nations are not religious, but rather economic nations." By which statement he seems to mean that business practically counts for more than religious devotion among the peoples professing Christianity. He goes on to say that the Jews lost their country and the Hindoos their independence owing to their excessive religious devotion, and comes to the conclusion that true economy and religion are antagonistic forces or at least have often shown themselves to be so in the history of the world. By religion here and elsewhere he really means an ultra-transcendental form of faith that makes a merit of its separation from the things of the world. He thinks that Christ had great sympathy with the world's workers and never intended that his teaching should be interpreted as enjoining exclusiveness or habitual seclusion of any kind.

In another article in the same magazine on the use of the words heresy and heterodoxy by the orthodox party, the Rev. K. Tsunashima says that the distinctions drawn by the orthodox are arbitrary and misleading. In the first place to assume that one's own sect is sure to be right and to denounce one's opponents as heretics is presumption. It is customary with the party that calls itself orthodox to stand in judgment over their fellow-Christians, observes the *Shinseiki*, and to condemn all those who refuse to accept certain dogmas such as the Divinity of Christ. Now the nature of Christ has been a subject of controversy in the Church in all ages, and it is not a question which can be stated in a few words, much less decided in an off-hand manner. After all, men are to be judged by their lives and not by their professed belief in this doctrine or that. A wicked man who believes in the Divinity of Christ is no better for his belief. This testing of men by means of articles of faith is altogether a mistake. This is no true test. The writer then goes on to say: I am not a Unitarian. I am a believer in the Gospel. But I have no sympathy with those who denounce the Unitarians. Though I am a firm believer in the Divinity of Christ, I am thankful to the Unitarians for the pains they have taken to make prominent the human side of Christ's character. In my opinion the people who should be denounced are those who live bad lives. I attach no great importance to theological discussions. I always want to know what a man's heart is like and the kind of life he leads. It makes no difference to me what a man's professions may be. There are heretics that to me are orthodox and orthodox people that I regard as heretics. Among the Unitarians there are many that I honour, and among the Orthodox people there are men that I can never respect. . . . . To draw distinctions between men on points that are not vital is foolish. If those who differ from us are to be denounced because they hold opposite opinions to those to which we have pinned our faith there is no end to the mischief that will follow. . . . . To forget one's own defects and failings and to blame others is very common, but this is not Christianity.

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On July 3rd Dr. Toyama delivered a very long address on Christianity in the Kanda Seinen Kaikan, which is appearing in successive numbers of the *Taiyō*, after being reported in several dailies. The title of Dr. Toyama's lecture was *Kirisuto Shinja no Kakugo*. He spoke for over 3 hours to a crowded meeting, with great effect. We shall give the gist of his speech in our next summary, when the concluding portion has been published. The *Fukuin Shimpō* thus comments on Dr. Toyama's new move: Some years ago, when Christianity found little favour in Japan, Dr. Toyama published anti-Christian sentiments in the *Tōyōgakugei Zasshi* in the form of a pretace to a little book called *Yaso Benwaku*. Public sentiment changed, and the change was soon marked by the appearance of Dr. Toyama's *Kirisutokyō to Shakai Mondai*, a little pro-Christian book that had a very wide circulation. The lecture recently delivered was in favour of the spread of Christianity in Japan on the ground of the moral benefits it confers on those who accept it. Precisely of what

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value to the Christian Church beyond showing which way the wind of public opinion is blowing, is an utterance of this sort it is not easy to determine. Dr. Toyama does not accept Christianity himself nor connect himself with the Church in any way, but he recommends the creed to others. It is a question whether Christians should congratulate each other on the possession of this kind of champion, a man who is no better than a weather-cock. The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* is not so satirical. It refers to the eloquence of the language used and says that Dr. Toyama was led to speak as he did owing to his being endowed with common sense in no ordinary degree, and adds that in this off-season the new sensation is a God-send. This organ regards the event as a good omen and thinks that Christians should rejoice over it.

THE BOOK-SHELF.

The Nightless City.

This is a very remarkable book as an example of careful and minute research. The author has not attempted to make his subject picturesque; that would scarcely be possible. He has, in most cases, confined himself to collecting and marshalling details, and he has succeeded so well that no rival is ever likely to dispute his monopoly. For obvious reasons we are precluded from any lengthy reference to the volume, and must confine ourselves to saying that it contains a mass of accurate and exhaustive information which can not fail to possess great interest for every student of Japanese manners and customs, and for every person who concerns himself about that everlasting problem, the social evil. We may mention, incidentally, however, that, in tracing the origin of the system of licensing and segregation in Tokyo, the author adduces facts which ought not to be lost sight of by critics. It is shown that when the Yoshiwara was established in the early part of the seventeenth century, the principal objects contemplated were, first, to check prolonged debauches on the part of men; secondly, to control the terrible abuse of kidnapping female children and selling them into a life of shame; and thirdly, to provide means for tracking *ronin*, who often succeeded in hiding themselves for lengthy periods in unlicensed brothels. All the keepers of the Yoshiwara thus became detectives to assist the Authorities in the suppression of vice. It is true, as it was certainly inevitable, that many shocking abuses took root in the rank soil of the institution, but no one, we presume, has ever claimed for the licensing system that it is anything better than the lesser of two evils. "The Nightless City" will contribute greatly to the better understanding of the problem, and we think that "the English student of sociology" by whom it was compiled is entitled to the highest credit for the extraordinary industry he has devoted to such a subject.

The Drones Must Die by MAX NORDAU. London, Heinemann's Colonial Library.

THIS is decidedly a clever book, and shows that Herr Nordau possesses talents of an unsuspected character. The German author made himself pretty well-known as an analyst of decadent types, and his "Degeneration" was one of the best discussed books of its day. But, judging from the style of that work, we should hardly have thought the Professor had the gift of writing interesting fiction. "The Drones must die," however, is certainly interesting as well as clever. We have not had the advantage of seeing the original, but even in translation the style is vigorous, pointed, and easy. Naturally, the book is rather serious in tone; there is much about socialism, capital, speculation, the Bourses, and so forth; and the young lady reader who requires two yen's worth of romantic love, Byronic hero, and violet-eyed heroine is earnestly requested to go elsewhere. Max Nordau is no author for her. But a reader who cares more for clever character sketches than for exciting incident, and is more interested in the broad issues of human life than in the mere question of sexual attractions and repulsions, will have here something he can read with respect and interest.

The title of the novel gives a good hint as to the nature of the plot. We are introduced to a plain German family living in Paris. The head of it, a Professor, was a Socialist when in Berlin, and officialdom frowned upon him. Finally he was told he had to choose between relinquishing his opinions or resigning his post. He chose as an honest man would in the circumstances, and, obtaining a position in France, voluntarily expatriated himself. The family, however, though living in the heart of Paris, retain the simple German ways of life, the heavy cumbrous furniture, the substantial semi-barbaric *cuisine*; it is a piece of plain Black Forest nature amid the artificialities of the "first city of the world." Altogether a very interesting and sympathetic picture is it that the author paints—the quiet husband, the affectionate wife, the querulous but kind old grandmother who refuses to speak a word of French after twenty years in Paris, and the children who are more Parisian than German. Chance brings this steady Professor Koppel in contact with a former University friend, one Dr. Henneberg. Henneberg was once a mathematician; he is now a financier. Luck had thrown into his way the manipulation of a loan of six millions for the Venezuelan Government. He had received no salary or commission for his services, but was given a hint to help himself. And help himself he did, to such purpose that at the time of his meeting with Koppel he is a man of great fashion, wealth, and influence, in touch with the greatest swindlers of the age. Koppel is not at first aware of these changed circumstances, but little incidents such as the following show that his former friend has taken his place among those who neither toil nor spin:—

"If you care to smoke, do so, by all means," said Koppel; "my good Kä he doesn't mind."

Henneberg bowed to Frau Käthe, placed the coffee the sulky servant had now handed, and in which he had detected the presence of chicory with ill-concealed disgust, on the chimney-piece, produced a large silver cigar-case, on which his full name appeared in raised gold letters, and took from it a corked glass phial, containing a cigar. Koppel looked on with curiosity, as his guest uncorked the bottle with a tiny corkscrew on his watch-chain, and fished out the cigar.

"What is the meaning of all this ritual?"

"Oh, it's a new device for preserving the aroma of the tobacco. Try it," and he held out a second glass tube.

"No, thanks; if you will allow me, I will keep to my own bird's-eye," and Koppel put into his mouth a short cherry-stick pipe, which his wife had filled with a dexterous, loving hand.

The contrast between the two is suggested by a score of incidents such as these, and, finally, as the pair become intimate, Henneberg grows confidential as to his means of living. A friendship springs up between the two men living lives so different, the one in a fine hotel in the Rue de Téhéran, the other in his flat over a courtyard. Koppel is invited to a great dinner party at Henneberg's where he meets financiers, artists, and even a King—the King of Laos. We will let the author describe these high personages in his own way:—

When the Koppels entered the room, Henneberg stood by the fire, surrounded by four men, whom he introduced respectively as the Comte de Beira, M. Kohn, the famous painter Pierre, and the gifted sculptor Martiny. Henneberg showed special courtesy to the timid Frau Käthe, pointing out pictures and objects of *virtù* to her, and devoting himself to her generally to put her at her ease. Meanwhile Koppel attempted to join in the conversation of the four men. M. Kohn was holding forth on the subject of eighteenth century sculpture, in a variety of meretricious and meandering locutions, that had no particular meaning, but sounded important and authoritative. He spoke French perfectly, showing a preference for decadent neologisms, but had a strong South German accent. He interested Koppel, who tried to guess who he might be:—the voice was the voice of Jacob, but the hand was the hand of Esau. He talked like a journalist, an author, perhaps a professor of art history—but his premature corpulence and baldness, his "educated whisker," the gardenia in the buttonhole of his silk faced dress-coat, the large catseye solitaire in his shirt proclaimed the financier or Stock Exchange potentate.

The servant at the door now announced 'General and Madame Zagal," and, following closely on their style and title, there appeared a little fat man with a greyish-yellow face, a bulbous snub nose, and thick lips, and on his arm a woman no less short and fat, whose complexion was concealed from public view under many geological strata of rouge and rice-powder, but whose type of feature had a certain racial affinity to that of her husband. Both were still young; the General wore a variety of grandiose and apparently somewhat barbaric orders on his breast; his wife was attired in a wonderful dress of bottle-green *faille*, covered with lace, and adorned with such a quantity of jewellery, that at every step she took she rattled as if clad in a suit of plate-armour. An overpowering scent of corylopsis preceded and followed her, and made her almost unapproachable for sensitive nostrils. The lady talked rather loudly, the General in a studiously subdued voice, but with a strange, outlandish accent. The entry of the new arrivals allowed Koppel to approach Kohn, who thereupon continued the conversation in German that betrayed the Frankforter. The Comte de Beira presently joined them; he also spoke German, but in a style that proclaimed him a native of Hamburg. When a certain movement in the room, caused by the appearance of another guest, the painter Recollet, separated them from the Comte de Beira, Koppel asked his interlocutor: "How did this Portuguese gentleman come by his fluent German and his Hanseatic dialect?"

Kohn laughed. "Portuguese is capital! The only thing Portuguese about the gentleman is his title, which has not oppressed him very long. He is a certain honest Herr Dettmer of Hamburg, who has laid tramways and founded banks in Goa, Macao, and Portugal. The solid millions he brought back from Portugal are probably more important in his eyes than his countship."

"His Majesty the King of Laos and the gentlemen of his suite," suddenly resounded from the door. Koppel looked up in amazement. This strange potentate was a tall man of about thirty-five, with thick hair brushed up straight on end, a thin moustache twisted into long points, a strongly marked aquiline nose, and a startling white scar in the middle of his left cheek. Behind him there appeared one elderly and two young men, all three wearing the wide ribbon of an order (red with green edges) under their waistcoats. The older man, short of stature, with a respectable bald head and moustachios, was severe and solemn in his bearing. Henneberg introduced him as "the Duke of——" the name was incomprehensible—"Chancellor to his Majesty." The two young men, on the other hand, "Vicomte d'Idouville, Comptroller of the Household," and his Majesty's *aide de-camp*, the Baron de——name again inaudible—tripped gaily into the room, lavishing bows and smiles on every side.

Koppel's bows contracted involuntarily during this display. As a German, he prided himself not a little on his knowledge of cosmography, but neither in ancient nor in modern history had he ever lighted upon a kingdom of Laos. Was it an unseemly jest? He could not believe that. Henneberg's character, and that of several other persons, at least, of the company seemed to forbid the idea. Besides, no one smiled openly when Henneberg addressed the king as Sire, and some of the guests, the Zagals, for instance, and the artists, even formed a circle in genuine courtly fashion round the new arrival. If it were not a practical joke, what was the meaning of this unexpected monarch?

The "King" is, it appears later, an adventurer:—

"He is a certain Paul Maigrier. He is supposed to have been a naval officer at one time. Malicious tongues have indeed asserted that he went to sea as a ship's steward. He says he conquered a savage country in Eastern Asia, or that the people voluntarily made him their king. I don't remember which. Some people take

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him seriously. He has founded an Order, and issued stamps. He confers titles of nobility, and talks of appointing diplomatic representatives in Europe."

His Majesty of Laos has some interesting views on the destiny of the white races, whom he considers the ordained rulers of the brown and yellow men. "The only remunerative work for the white races in the future," he holds, "will be the occupation of regions as yet unappropriated, either directly by seizure or indirectly by purchase. White men are no longer to exploit each other, they are to unite for the plunder of the coloured races. The gospel of plunder thus preached is more civilised and more dignified, more dangerous, and therefore more valiant, than the spoliation of white man by white man." There is a grimly humorous scene of this potentate theatrically presenting Koppel with a Commandery of the Order of St. Paul, and the next moment attempting to raise a thousand francs from another guest to tide him over the ensuing day.

Koppel afterwards with, a certain amount of annoyance, describes his adventure to his friend Henneberg, who was not a witness of the investiture ceremony :—

His friend laughed at the irritation in his voice: "Yes, he plays these pranks at times. He invested me with the grand cross of his new toy. But you needn't be angry! The man is besieged by people, who would give anything for the plain cross of the lowest grade, and are ready to pay a round sum for it."

"Such things really make one proud of our civilization! But who is the fellow?"

"Fellow if you like, but an extraordinary man nevertheless. I know nothing definite of his early life. There are all sorts of stories about, but none of them have been authenticated, and, in any case, there is nothing really discreditable in them. Some years ago he found himself in Lower India. I don't quite know how. He fell in with some obscure forest tribe, and was, I believe, actually chosen their chief. The country seems to be a sort of No Man's Land at present, but China, Siam, England, and France are putting forward claims, and it is not very likely that he will be allowed to play the king long. Still, it is quite possible that he may be appointed Resident, or that he may pick up a good deal in the way of concessions of land and mining rights. Meanwhile he is trying to raise as big a loan as possible, an object in the pursuit of which he displays an engaging mixture of cunning and artlessness."

"To put it plainly, he is a genteel sort of swindler."

"That's rather too harsh a term. He's a creature of imagination——"

"All swindlers are to a certain extent."

"But he's something more than this. He's an adventurer of the grandiose kind, daring and fearless, a born ruler of men, who will hew his destiny into shape with his sword. Then he's clear-headed enough to philosophize over his predatory instincts, and to bring his own case into harmony with a system. He interests me. He's a belated offshoot of the race of conquistadors, filibusters, and corsairs, with a very piquant modern dash of the joint stock company promoter. I recognize in him traits I have good reason to know well. This makes him an attractive person to me."

Koppel shook his head. "But then his suite?"

"Oh, of course. I have to take them into the bargain. But they are harmless idiots, who are effective enough, their parts being very much those of state officials in a comic opera! It is well worth a journey to see the chancellor, for instance, with his solemn air, his grand cross, and his ducal title. He is said to have been a bookkeeper out of place, and the emoluments of his office consist of a seat at the king's table, and his Majesty's credit at a tailor's. The *aide-de-camp* was really a subaltern in an Algerian regiment. The Comptroller is genuine; a real Vicomte d'Idonville, an elegant mannikin without brains, money, or aptitudes; he is really touching, for he has a certain remnant of self-respect, and so persuades himself to take his office seriously."

Is not this picture true to the life? There have been within the range of an ordinary memory at least half a score of Kings of the type of his Majesty of Laos.

The result of the new friendship of Koppel is that he too acquires the fever of speculation. There is of course a crash, a batch of suicides, and black ruin for many. The end of the book is the reverse side of the gilded luxury painted so graphically in the earlier chapters. But it would be unfair to the author to tell the reader all about it. Let him go to the book itself, and he will find not only an interesting story, but a great deal of keen observation, dry grim humour, and real power of character delineation.

W. C. T. U. CONVENTION.

Kyu, Karuizawa, Aug. 3rd, 1899.

The opening session of the Convention for Temperance Workers, under the auspices of the Foreign Auxiliary W. C. T. U. of Japan, was convened at 9.30 a.m., Aug. 3rd, 1899, in the Union Church building, Karuizawa, an audience of about fifty being present. The opening exercises were conducted by Mrs. Topping, the hymn, "Give to the winds thy fears," being sung, after which Mrs. Topping read the "Crusade" Psalm and led in prayer.

In the absence of the President, Miss Denton, the chair was taken by the Vice-President, Mrs. Davidson, who, after reading a brief letter from Mrs. George Pierson expressive of her interest in and sympathy with the W. C. T. U. work, called upon Mrs. Leavitt to read a paper prepared by Mrs. Pierson entitled "How we started a W. C. T. U. in Sapporo." The reading of this bright and interesting paper was followed by a brief discussion in which Miss Clausen told of the organization of an Auxiliary in Akita, after a visit from Mr. Miyama; and Miss Fife spoke of the growth of the Yotsuya Auxiliary which had been organized during Miss Parrish's stay in Japan.

The Convention was then favoured with an organ solo by Miss Horsey, after which the President called upon Miss Kuhns, of Yokohama, for a paper on "Loyal Temperance Legion" work. Miss Kuhns prefaced her talk with an interesting description of recent opportunities which she and her associates had had of doing some good work along temperance lines among the soldiers of the U.S. troop ships lately in port, and although this had prevented the preparation of the promised paper on L. T. L. work, the account which Miss Kuhns there gave of her work among the children was full of interest and enjoyed by all.

In the discussion which followed some interesting facts relative to L. T. L. work were brought out, and Mrs. Large gave some useful information along the line of literature now available for such work. Several present spoke of the good work being done for the temperance cause by Mr. Miyama throughout Japan, and discussion as to what could be done to help the Society in meeting his necessary travelling expenses and salary resulted in generous donations from those present, the sum contributed at the close of the meeting totalling 129 *yen*. Mrs. Large also made an appeal for subscriptions to the *Kuni no Hikari*, the organ of the "National Temperance League," also for the *Union Signal* and *The Woman's Herald*, the organ of the W.C.T.U. of Japan, stating that the burden of responsibility for this latter paper had become too great to be longer carried by Mrs. Yajima and had been assumed by the National W.C.T.U., Mr. Tanaka to be the new Editor.

After an enjoyable vocal duet rendered by Misses Hart and Glenn, a most interesting paper was read by Miss Clausen, entitled "Can Temperance work and Evangelistic work be combined?" Many helpful thoughts were brought out by Miss Clausen's paper, the conclusions being that not only can Evangelistic and Temperance work be successfully combined, but that the latter is a distinct help to evangelistic work in general by opening up many doors for direct Christian teaching.

The remainder of the morning session was given to informal discussions, and relating of incidents in connection with the spread of Temperance work in Japan, and the receiving of subscriptions to the various Temperance periodicals. The meeting adjourned at noon after prayer by Rev. Mr. Oltman following the noontide moment of silent prayer.

The afternoon session was opened at 2 30 by the singing of a hymn, after which Miss L. E. Case conducted the devotional exercises, reading a number of selected passages of Scripture and emphasizing in her remarks some ways in which Christian workers with only limited time to give to specific Temperance work might yet help the cause greatly by example—in wearing the white ribbon, in distributing Temperance literature, holding occasional temperance meetings in place of regular "Fujin kwai"—and above all by prayer. After prayer and singing, the President, Mrs. Davidson, called for the minutes of the morning meeting, which were read and approved.

Mrs. Benjamin Chappell, of Tokyo, then read a most interesting and instructive paper descriptive of the movement in America which had resulted in the "National Congress of Mothers" held annually since 1897. The reading by by Miss Veazey of a speech delivered at the Congress of '97 by Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, entitled "Mothers to the Motherless," gave some further information on this important subject, after which the Convention enjoyed a duet rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Topping, of Tsukiji. Mrs. Large then read by request "The story of a Cigarette," written by Miss. Buzzell, of Sendai. This well-told story has just been published in tract form and will be found very effective for distribution among the young.

The next paper on the programme, prepared by Miss Parmelee, of Maebashi, was read by Miss McCandlish. Its subject, "Is there any longer any need for the Foreign Auxiliary W. C. T. U.?" was one of general interest, and the points both pro and con presented in the paper furnished food for thought and left the question open for discussion; but, as the Convention did not seem ready to take it up, the audience was asked to join in singing again, after which Mrs. Large gave the last paper on the programme, holding the close attention of all while she told of the work of the past ten months during which she has been in charge of the "Florence Crittenden Home," around which so much interest has centred during the past year. Mrs. Large spoke of the change which had taken place in the nature of the work, making it now more a work of prevention than of rescue, and of her hope for girls thus received and sheltered—of the course of instruction, which embraces training in general housework, the laundry, cooking, knitting, and Japanese and foreign sewing. Arrangements had been made for opening in September daily classes in dress-making and domestic economy, which mothers and wives who had requested such training could enter. There are now nine girls in the Home, the youngest of whom is 13, the eldest 22 years of age. A number of questions were asked at the close of the paper eliciting much useful information in regard to this work and social purity work in general, which must have deepened in many hearts the sense of personal responsibility towards this most important branch of our W. C. T. U. work.

At the close of the meeting Miss Wilson moved, seconded by Miss Fife, that a letter of greeting be sent from the Convention to Miss Parrish. This was unanimously carried, and the Corresponding Secretary was authorized to send the letter. After the singing of the hymn "Blest be the tie that binds" and prayer by the Rev. J. Ballagh, the Convention adjourned.

M. A. Veazey.
Rec. Secretary Foreign Aux. W.C.T.U.

IN AND AROUND BOSTON.

(Written for the "Japan Mail.")

On taking the cars at New York the other day whom should we meet but those veteran missionaries and honoured residents of Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Hepburn? What a delightful hour we had as our train sped on its way to New Haven! Both were looking well; both have the liveliest interest in Japan and all who dwell there; and despite their age and the privileges of a residence in a suburb of New York both would, I think, welcome a return to the Land of the Rising Sun. What a strongly

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attractive power it seems to have, over all who have dwelt within its borders!

I have headed this letter "In and around Boston." We are at present in a suburb of the "Hub" and greatly impressed with its privileges. Here for example is found the greatest system of electric cars in the World. One can go almost anywhere at any time from Newport, Rhode Island, to Newbury port, Mass. Indeed one of Boston's prominent citizens, accompanied by his wife, recently journeyed by trolley car from Boston to New York. The time occupied was a little over thirty hours.

Boston is regarded as the centre of the so-called "anti-Expansion," "anti-Imperial" movement. There is no question as to the perfect sincerity and great earnestness of these men. But I have been surprised at the strong and wide-spread character of the opposition to the movement. Not only is it regarded as unwise, many hold its leaders disloyal to their country and largely responsible for the continued resistance of the Filipinos. In the recent Anniversaries at Harvard University the duty of the United States Government to establish order in the Phillipines was the sentiment which elicited the greatest applause; and in yesterday's Fourth of July Oration in Tremont Temple, by Ex-Mayor Mathews, it was declared that:

"The practical duty of the United States is to re-establish order in the Phillipines at once; and then to formulate a scheme of government for the islands, framed for the sole purpose of promoting the material welfare and political progress of their inhabitants."

I have already referred to the Harvard Commencement. It was my great good fortune to attend this, and by the great courtesy of a friend to dine with the Alumni in the famous Memorial Hall. This included the privilege of seeing and hearing President Eliot; M. Cambon, the French Ambassador; Gen. Leonard Wood, Admiral Sampson, and other eminent men. It was the last two that called forth both the loudest and most prolonged and oft-repeated applause, although it must be confessed that the latter is not likely to achieve fame as a popular speaker. My friend had spoken beforehand of President Eliot's felicitous use of English in conferring the degrees, and certainly on this occasion it was very striking. One of the very graceful things done was the conferring of the degree of LL.D. upon Yale's new president. He was referred to in these words:

"Arthur Twining Hadley, teacher and scholar, president elect of Yale University, heir of her strong traditions, prophet of her upward career."

The Hero of Santiago and Admiral Sampson were described as follows:

"Leonard Wood, Harvard, doctor of medicine, army surgeon, single-minded soldier, life saver, restorer of a province."

"William T. Sampson, rear admiral of the United States Navy, an officer foresighted, forearmed, ready at every point, the American expert in high command."

As is well known, one of the new doctors of laws is Mr. Kentaro Kaneko, one of Japan's rising statesmen. It was my very great pleasure to be present when this decoration was made and to congratulate the new doctor soon afterward. This action of the University has been warmly commended by the Boston press. President Eliot's words were as follows:

"Kentaro Kaneko, Harvard, bachelor of laws; formerly chief secretary of the Imperial House of Peers in Japan, and Vice-Minister and Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, life member of the House of Peers, type of those scholars of two hemispheres through whom the West welcomes the East to a share in the inheritance of Hebrew religion, Greek art, Roman Law, and Nineteenth Century Science."

M. L. G.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Five shares in the Grand Hotel, Limited, were sold by public auction by Mr. John W. Hall on Tuesday and fetched *yen* 219 each.

The Clifton College lad, A. E. J. Collins, who carried out his bat for a total of 628, was at the wicket in all ten minutes short of seven hours. He only gave four chances, two of which were rather difficult catches. His hits were a 6, three 5's, thirty 4's, thirty-four 3's, and one hundred and forty-six 2's.

The Clyde shipping returns for the half-years beat all records. During the six months 125 vessels, of 234,877 aggregate tonnage, were launched, as compared with 152 vessels, of 212,206 tons, last year. Although there is an almost complete absence of fresh orders placed this month, over six months' full work is on hand.

We recently referred to the case of the unfortunate man Martyn, who was drowned at Singapore from the U.S. cruiser *Yosemite*, and was buried on Blakan Mati beach, near where the body was recovered. The *Singaporo Free Press* now states that the body was exhumed and buried in the Cemetery on July 22nd. This kind act of giving a poor fellow Christian burial was undertaken at the sole expense of an American lady living in Singapore.

The Czarina's daughter has been named Maria. This is the third daughter born. Absurd as it may sound, there is a strong party which waited only for this event to resume their mischievous intrigues against the Czarina, whom they hate as a Princess of Anglo German blood. The influence of the Empress-Dowager, whose relations with her daughter-in-law are, as is known, anything but cordial, is expected to increase.

The *Formosan* reports that the foreign hongs in Twatutia have decided to start a Chamber of Commerce, the first meeting of which was held at Messrs. Jardine's, at which rules were passed and officers elected. The rules of the Amoy Chamber were adopted *en bloc*. Mr. Best, Agent for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., was elected President, and Mr. Bryer, of Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co., Vice-President. There was also a Committee elected, consisting of Messrs. Gillingham, Low, and Bebee.

The latest "find" of treasure trove in Wales is of very considerable interest. A boy looking for foxes on the Radnorshire hills discovered a ring of massive gold with an ant engraved on it; also an armlet and a necklet, which are described as being of undoubted Celtic manufacture. In that case, the ornaments will probably be found to be about 1,200 years old. There are some beautiful specimens of old gold adornments of this period in the gold and silver room of the British Museum, but it is unique in antiquarian annals for such specimens to be found in Wales.

At the ancient Parish Church of Portchester, near Portsmouth, Miss Catherine Ingles, daughter of Admiral J. Ingles (sometime naval adviser to the Japanese Government), of Beach House, Portchester, was married to Lieutenant Wilfred Ellershaw, of Woolwich Academy. The father of the bridegroom, the Rev. John E. Ellershaw, M.A., officiated. Captain Goff, R.A., acted as best man. The wedding carriage was drawn by a team of six horses supplied by the 39th Field Battery of the Royal Artillery, Hilsea, to which the bridegroom formerly belonged.

On June 26th, as we have already heard by cable, the launch took place at Elswick of the first-class battleship *Hatsuse* built by Armstrongs for the Japanese navy. The *Hatsuse* is the largest warship ever built upon the Tyne, being 400 ft. long, 76 ft. 6 in. broad, with a displacement of 15,240 tons. Her engines of 14,500 i.h.p. will give her a speed of 18 knots. Her armament consists of four 12in. guns, 12 6in. guns, 20 12 pounders, eight 3-pounders, four 4½in. guns, and five torpedo tubes. She will have a belt of armour from 4in. to 9in. thick, the turrets and other parts being powerfully armoured. She is a very similar vessel to the *Shikishima*.

A cruising race to Uraga took place on Saturday, the yachts taking part being the *Kingfisher* (scratch), *Haidee* (4 minutes), *Spray* (10 minutes), *Daimyo* (29 minutes) and *Wanderer* (43 minutes). The start was at 2 o'clock. The breeze was sufficient to take the boats along at a good speed. *Wanderer* lost her main sail just outside the harbour, and this necessitated repairs which kept her astern of the rest. *Haidee* rounded the lightship first, and was leading when the yachts passed out of sight. *Kingfisher* was close up all the way, but failed to catch *Haidee*, who won, arriving at 6 47 p.m., while *Kingfisher* arrived three minutes later. Times were not taken for the others, but they arrived between 7.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. *Haidee* was sailed by Mr. Rose; *Kingfisher* by Mr. Weston; *Spray* by Mr. Boyes; *Daimyo* by Mr. J. J. M. Carst; and *Wanderer* by Mr. Salabelle.

The game of base-ball on Monday afternoon between the California soldiers and the Yokohama team was close and exciting and hung in the balance until the very last innings. Cameron and Ellis formed the battery for Yokohama and played their usual strong game, Cameron's "drop" curve was very deceiving and had he received proper support from the fielders, Yokohama would have won easily. Costly errors in the field enabled the Californias to get a lead and when the Yokohama team went in for their last innings, the score stood 15 to 11 against them, two runs were added to the score and with one man out and the bases full excitement was running high. Cameron came to the bat and slashed out a beautiful home run hit to deep centre field, bringing in three men and himself and winning the game. Yokohama has splendid material for a good base-ball team and it is to be hoped they will arrange games with other transports that will be coming to Yokohama.

Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, H.B.M.'s Consul, concluded his inquiry on Tuesday, into the circumstances attending the death of Harold Hepworth, an apprentice on board the British ship *Senator*, which occurred at sea on Oct. 18, 1898. J. Campbell, chief officer, recalled, said, in answer to questions, that when Hepworth was up aloft trying to get to the royal yard he shouted to him to come down if he could not do it. He did not ask him to go up higher, and he could not remember saying anything else. He had asked Honey to go aloft because he was a bigger boy. Notwithstanding his statement at the last hearing, on July 8th, he wished to stick to the entry which he made in the log. The apprentice McCabe, recalled, said that after Hepworth slipped down from the tie of the royal yard, the mate in shouting up the rigging said, "Try again," or words to that effect. An apprentice named Cook said he did not know exactly what the mate called out to Hepworth, but thought he shouted out asking Hepworth what he was waiting for. Mr. P. Johansen, Master of the ship, in answer to His Honour, said he had no statement to make. He did not write any particulars of the burial at sea in his report to his owners because it was unusual to do so. The Inquiry was then closed.

THE TRIAL OF MILLER.

Hitherto the interest of Europeans in Japanese Law Courts has been either idle or academic—the aimless curiosity of the globe-trotter or the scientific inquiry of the jurist. Now, however, ordinary people are, or should be, taking a very keen interest in the tribunals of this country, before which questions affecting their most vital interests of person and property may have to be brought.

By the revolting crime laid at his door, the man Robert Miller, who is charged with murdering the American Ward and two Japanese girls under circumstances of peculiar brutality, has afforded a sensational case for the investigation of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho very early in the era of its extended responsibilities. The case may be taken as a typical one, and the striking features of public interest associated with it will draw closer

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attention to the method of Japanese procedure than would have been the case in a crime of less heinous nature.

So far little has been heard of Miller since his arrest. The publicity demanded for every legal step in English Courts is not a feature of Japanese procedure. The inquest and the preliminary examinations are invested with secrecy. A deed of accusation is prepared by the Procurator, and that in the present case has already been made public. But the examinations by which material is gathered by the Procurator, and the means by which evidence and admissions are collected, are not disclosed.

Miller's trial was first fixed for Saturday, but was eventually postponed till nine o'clock on Monday morning. Among the Japanese the case had evidently aroused great interest. The small, stuffy, ill-ventilated, and rather sordid room in which the trial was conducted was filled from early morning, and to gain a seat anywhere was a matter of impossibility long before the trial commenced. Miller was brought up from the cells below shortly before nine by a number of constables, and placed in a species of dock, quite close to the barristers' table. In fact, the accused, the interpreter, the counsel, and the Press were all cheek by jowl, while they were hemmed in by spectators to an extent that must have been physically uncomfortable on a stifling day.

Miller, who stood the whole time, bore himself with composure, and answered all questions in a firm though uninterested voice. He is a man of low type, with the dull eye and flabby cheek of an habitual drinker, a drooping moustache, and a beard of several days' growth. He has, however, the air of slouching self-assurance and slovenly smartness common to so many men of his type. He appeared to have no adequate idea of his terrible position, and seemed less interested in the case than many of the spectators.

At about quarter past nine the Judges and Procurator entered the Court, and the whole of the spectators rose respectfully until they were seated. The President, Mr. Sato, is a grave, dignified, bearded man, calm in demeanour, apparently as keen a judge of human nature as of law, and with a quietly incisive method of examination. On him falls most of the work of the Court. His associates are younger men; they take copious notes of the evidence, but seldom ask a question. The legal gear is not that of the West. The eye habituated to horse hair and forensic gowns finds the black *kokwan*, or cowl, and the robe a little bizarre, but the dress is not without its own impressiveness. One thing that strikes the foreign observer is the comparative youth of the occupants of the Bench. Each of them would be a legal child in England, lucky if he had got beyond the stage of "devilling" for an older and more experienced advocate. Probably the President himself was not much more than half the age of those wonderful old men who honour the Benches of the High Court of Justice of Great Britain.

The bar plays a very subordinate part in a Japanese Court. There were five or six barristers engaged for the defence—including Mr. J. F. Lowder—but they had comparatively little to say. The Procurator and the President had the conduct of the case between them. The Procurator read his carefully prepared deed of accusation, setting forth the whole facts as far as they are ascertained, concerning the prisoner, suggesting motives and methods, and traversing the entire history of the case. It is counter part of the Continental *procureur's acte d'accusation*. This was read at length and translated to the prisoner by the interpreter, Mr. Kobayashi Baika, and at the end the prisoner was asked what he has to say. "Nothing," was the reply.

Then the President began his examination, and the prisoner remained under fire for the remainder of the morning. Questions of all kinds are asked; there seems to be no power—as least it was never exercised—of challenging the propriety of any of them. The spectacle—so familiar to the visitor to an Anglo-Saxon Court—of a barrister rising every five minutes with "I object," is not reproduced in a Japanese Court. Probably less time is wasted; but which system gives the better chance of justice? As far as the demeanour of the examining judge is concerned, however, the impression left on the observer is distinctly favourable. No passion or partiality, no haste, no tendency to bullying or intimidation could be observed in any single question; the whole case was conducted with a frigid dignity and detached calm that could not fail to command respect.

The hearing continued the whole morning and afternoon, and on three subsequent days but as the facts are already pretty well known, and the subject is not an inviting one we do not intend publishing the evidence.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By Homer B. Hulbert, A.M.

CHAPTER XIII.

Japanese mix with Koreans—Chinese and Korean advance—Japanese victory—A tempted treachery—A disastrous mistake—Attempts at bribery—Admiral Yi Sunsin's last fight—A young Korean captive—Hideyoshi poisoned—His character—Japanese recalled—A Korean teacher in Japan—A memorial temple—Party changes—Japanese envoy—Posthumous honours—Factional strife—Revenue—Envoy to Japan—A welcome heir—Negotiations with Japan—A dark outlook—Chinese commissioner duped—Treaty with Japan— Reign of terror—The young prince murdered.

By this time the Japanese were becoming mixed with Korean people among whom and near whom their camps were placed. They were probably good customers, and the people doubtless felt that it was not their business to fight them; so all up and down the coast for a distance of three hundred miles the Japanese lived in their "holes," as the Koreans called them, and in many cases they took wives from among the women of the country and devoted themselves to farming, except at such time as the Korean or Chinese forces came into their vicinity. There were three Japanese military centres. One was at Ul-san on the eastern coast, held by Konishi. In the west was Sun-ch'un in Chul-la Province, where Kato had his headquarters, while half-way between these two, in the town of Sa ch'un on the Si-jin River, a third station was held by General Sok Man-ja. These three stations kept up regular communication with each other and in case of need rendered each other assistance.

We now enter upon the last campaign of this eventful war. We are not informed as to the number of the Japanese at this time, but it probably fell short of 100,000 men. The Chinese had assembled again in force at Soul and in the ninth moon of 1598 a grand move was made against the invaders. The Chinese forces were led by Generals Hyong Ga and Man Se dok. The whole army was divided into four grand army corps. General Ma Gwi led the eastern division southward to attack Ul-san Under him were eleven other generals and 24 000 men. The central division, consisting of 13,000 men, was led by General Tong Il-wun, under whom were eight other generals. The western division was led by General Zu Jung and six other Generals with a force of 13 000 men. The admiral of this campaign was Chil Lin, who was already in the south with eight other commanders handling 13,200 men. It is said that the entire expedition numbered 142,700 men, but the above items sum up to only about half that sum, and we must conclude that there were something less than 100,000 men in all.

On the last day of the ninth moon, already well on toward winter, the three divisions deployed before the walls of Ul-san. Kato had not been idle all this time; after the terrible scenes of the last siege he had made the best of preparations. He had accumulated an abundance of food, increased the garrison, strengthened the defences, and he could laugh at any force that should try to sit out the winter before him. The Chinese soon discovered this and turned aside to work that promised better success. General Tong Il-wun took a powerful force and advanced on Sa-ch'un the central station of the Japanese. It is probable that the garrison here was smaller than those under either Kato or Konishi, for when its commander saw the force that was brought to bear upon him him he hastily evacuated the place and crossed over to the island of Pom-neut and fortified it. General Tong was over confident and pressed after him. The Japanese craftily drew him on and on until his force was immediately under the wall, when a mine was exploded which, though it killed but a few hundred men, threw the whole attacking body into such confusion that the Japanese rushed out and found them an easy prey. The Chinese lay in heaps where they had been cut down. General Tong barely escaped with his life and fled to Sam-ga, being chased as far as the Nam gang (river), where the Japanese contented themselves with making away with 22,000 bags of rice belonging to the Chinese commissariat.

General Yu Jung was commissioned to take a strong body of men and attack the fortress at Sunch'un in Chul-la Province. Arriving at the neighbouring village of Wagyu he determined to overcome the old veteran Kato by treachery. He sent to that general a proposition to make peace. Kato was now an old man, and the war in Korea was bringing him neither fame nor advancement, so he was ready to give up the contest, now that it had been demonstrated that the Japanese arms could not penetrate the north. He gladly assented and sent General Yu a present of two handsome swords. It was agreed that they should meet at a certain point, accompanied by only 3000 men each; but General Yu secretly placed an ambush in such wise that when the Japanese force should come out it could be cut off from return to the fort. A whistle was to be sounded as a signal when the Japanese came out. But Kato was too old a bird to be caught by such a child's trick. He had seen two or three of the Chinese lurking about in the vicinity of the gate, and so delayed his coming out. By mistake the signal was given and the Chinese ambuscade rushed out, only to become an object of ridicule to the Japanese. But, even as it was, some eighty or ninety Japanese stragglers were cut off and taken by the Chinese. General Yu then surrounded the stronghold and at the same time sent an urgent letter to Admiral Chil Lin to come that very night and join in an attack on the Japanese. The Admiral obeyed the summons and hurried up with his fleet. Not knowing about the tides and supposing that the shouts that he heard were the shouts of battle, he sailed straight up under the walls of the fortress. But he found that there was no fight on, for General Yu had failed to connect, and the ebbing tide left the astonished Admiral high and dry on the mud flats under the very noses of the enemy. In the morning the Japanese trooped out and burned forty eight of the stranded ships and killed most of the men. Admiral Chil escaped in the early morning by boat and hurried to the camp of his tardy compatriot, General Yu. In a rage he tore down with his own hands that general's flag and rent it in pieces, meanwhile heaping upon him every species of abuse for having gotten him into such a plight. General Yu was exceedingly ashamed and his face they say was "the colour of dirt." He beat upon his breast and acknowledged that he deserved death. So Chil Lin went back to his decimated camp to nurse his wrath.

But General Yu knew that Kato really desired to put an end to the war, and so he sent another messenger saying, "This time I really mean peace. If you will take all your forces and depart I will give you a clear path to escape. Our army numbers 140,000 men and you cannot hope to face that number." To this proposition Kato assented and began immediately to embark his soldiers to send them back to Japan. But as it happened they had to pass the position of Admiral Chil Lin, who naturally sallied out and gave fight, sinking or burning a dozen or more of Kato's boats. The rest put back in haste to the startling place and Kato blamed General Yu for having deceived him; but the latter claimed that he had merely forgotten to inform Admiral Chil Lin of the agreement, but that he would do so. At the same time he advised Kato to send Admiral Chil a slight testimonial of regard, which he did in the shape of a hundred ounces of silver and forty-five swords. So Admiral Chil acquiesced. Again the Japanese fleet set out and succeeded in getting by Admiral Chil Lin's place; but they had not reckoned upon Admiral Yi Sun-sin and his faithful warriors. Kato was again obliged to turn back and go to work to bribe that doughty leader. He sent him guns and swords in large numbers but the old gentleman remarked that as for weapons he was already pretty well supplied, and sent them back. He was then approached with an offer of 1000 ounces of silver if he would wink at Kato's passage. This he likewise refused

The Japanese were all embarked and it was determined to try and slip by the terrible Admiral in the grey of morning; but he was well aware of the intentions of the enemy, and before break of day massed all the ships at his command and came down upon the Japanese fleet as it lay at anchor before the fortress of Sun-ch'un. As he approached he is said to have uttered the following prayer to his gods:—"To-day I am to die. Give me but one more victory over these Japanese and I shall die content." He well knew that he had enemies at court who would eventually secure his downfall and so he determined to make an end in one last desperate struggle. The fight was short and fierce and when the morning breeze swept the smoke of battle away it disclosed fifty of the Japanese boats in flames and the water filled with struggling forms. The old veteran had taken upwards of two thousand heads in that brief time. But General Kato had slipped away in a small boat and made his escape.

The work, however, was only begun. The sea was covered with boats frantically endeavouring to escape from the dreaded arm of the merciless Admiral Yi. The good work went on and every

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hour added to the score that Admiral Yi had sworn to make before the night should fall. Notice reached him that a fresh Japanese fleet had come and was attacking Admiral Chul Lin's fleet. Hurrying thither he found that it was indeed true. He now changed his tactics and without coming to a hand to-hand fight he circled round and round the Japanese fleet driving them closer and closer together. When all was ready he began playing upon them with a new machine of his own manufacture called the *pun-t'ong* or "spraying tube." What this was we cannot exactly discover, but in a short time it sufficed to set the Japanese fleet on fire. A wind sprang up and fanned the flames and ere long the Japanese fleet was one mass of fire. Hundreds of boats were consumed with all their occupants. After seeing this well under way, Admiral Yi turned his attention to the fugitive craft that were striving to make their escape. Standing in the prow of his boat in an exposed position he urged on the chase. While he stood thus in the midst of one of the grandest victories of the war, he was pierced by a bullet. They caught him as he fell, and his last words were, "Do not let the rest know that I am dead for it will spoil the fight." Thus expired the man who may well be called the Nelson of Korea.

Yi Wan, the nephew of the fallen Admiral, still urged on the battle; but the work was almost done. The fugitive boats became fewer and fewer. Admiral Chil Lin happened to come near the boat of the dead admiral and noticing that the sailors in it were quarrelling over some Japanese heads he exclaimed, "The Admiral must be dead." He entered the boat and it found it even so. Throwing himself three times at full length on the deck he uttered this lament, "I thought that he would save me and still live but here he lies dead and there is no soldier now left in Korea."

We have now come to the end of actual hostilities in the peninsula but we must cross to Japan and inquire into the immediate causes which led to the final recall of all the Japanese troops. The Korean account of these events is very remarkable and faith is to be put in it only in so far as it is not directly antagonised by the Japanese account. For events that transpired in Korea the Korean account must be taken as the standard, but for events that transpired in Japan the Japanese account is to be follows.

When the Japanese first invaded Korea in the year 1592, it so happened that a young Korean boy named Yang Bu-ha, a native of Tong-na, became attached to the Japanese army as a slave, and was eventually taken to Tsushima. From there he made his way to the mainland of Japan and at last reached the court of Hideyoshi. That observant man spied him out and said, "Korean and Japanese boys resemble each other strongly. Take this boy and teach him Japanese and if he does not learn well cut off his head." With this incentive it would be strange if a less intelligent boy then Yang Bu-ha would not learn rapidly. In the space of three months he could converse creditably in Japanese and Hideyoshi as reward made him one of his boy-servants. For some years the boy performed the duties of this position, until at last the Chinaman Sim Yu gyung arrived. That official was kept practically in confinement at the court of Hideyoshi. One day the Korean servant asked his master to be allowed to see Sim Yu-gyung. Permission was granted and the young man found the Chinese envoy in great perplexity, in fact in tears. This excited the pity of the young man and he secured the release of the Chinaman, who from that time was often called into the presence of Hideyoshi, with whom he soon became on familiar terms. One day as he sat with the great Taiko he took out a pill and swallowed it. He did the same on several days in succession until at last the curiosity of Hideyoshi was excited and he asked what it was. The Chinaman answered that it was an antidote to indigestion and that by eating it the strength and vigour of the body was preserved intact. Hideyoshi took one in his hand and eyed it suspiciously. On one side of the pill was written the Chinese character *so*; meaning "hot." The Japanese deliberately took a knife and cut the pill in two, and handing half to Sim said "You eat half and I will eat half." Its immediate effects were stimulating and pleasant, but in the end it proved a deadly poison, for is slowly dried up the blood. Each day Sim shared one with his captor, but upon retiring to his room swallowed a potion which entirely neutralised the effect of the poison. Before long Hideyoshi's hands began to grow hard and dry, and one day when he happened to cut his hand he was astonished to find that no blood flowed. He called for a moxa and applied it to his hand, and yet no blood came. Then he laughed aloud and cried, "I am a dead man. When I cease to breathe take out my bowels and sew my body up again with horse-hair; and then preserve my body in wine and do not let the outsiders know that I am dead." He wanted to have the fact concealed, for he feared it would have a dispiriting effect upon the troops in Korea. Shortly after this he died, and his orders were minutely carried out. For two months no one outside the palace knew of his decease, but at last the stench became so great that they confessed that the great Hideyoshi had passed away.

The Koreans sum up his character as follows: He was a crafty and cunning man, and by his talk, now sharp, now suave, now sarcastic, now bullying, he managed to sway the minds of all who came near him. He managed all his generals like puppets. He liked to take boys and girls under his patronage and see them grow up together and marry them to each other and thus have them completely under his control. His two most powerful generals were Si Wun and Ka Gang. They hated him and would have been glad of an opportunity to overthrow him, but it was out of the question. He knew them well, and for fear they might combine against him, he made one of them governor of the east and the other of the west and ordered them to keep watch of each other. By thus pitting them against each other he made himself safe. He loved intrigue and diplomacy and had a most restless temperament. He was ever on the look-out for some kind of excitement. General Ka Gang was with him when he died and, fearing lest rebellion should break out, he filled the body with salt and so preserved it. He made a wooden form which would hold the body stiff in a sitting position, and placed it where the light was not very bright, with the eyes wide open. The people saw him sitting there day after day and supposed of course he was alive. It was in the eighth moon when the odour was so strong that the truth could no longer be concealed. Thereupon General Ka Gang took the son of Hideyoshi and made him Shogun. He then threw into prison the wives and children of Generals Kato and Konishi and sent a messenger ordering them to collect all their troops and return immediately to Japan. The order was obeyed willingly and during the eighth moon all that was left of the Japanese army set sail from Fusan, and the great invasion was a thing of the past.

The Korean annalists say that when the invasion began the Japanese arms were far superior to those of Korea; also that the Japanese displayed tiger skins, pheasant feathers, gilded masks, and plumes; all which glitter and show terrified the Koreans. Thus at first the Japanese had an easy victory, but toward the last it was not so. The Koreans had improved their arms and had learned not to fear the grand rush of the Japanese in their hideous masks, which made them look more like demons than men.

At the time of the second invasion a Korean named Kang Han was caught and sent to Japan and, being unable to escape, he set to work learning Japanese. He became a teacher of Chinese and had a large following of students who treated him very well and supported him in comfortable style. At the end of the war they clubbed together and bought a boat into which they put this man with all his goods and sent him back to Korea. On his return he wrote a book entitled *Kang yang-rok* or "Relation of adventures among Sheep," a sarcastic pleasantry.

The Chinese army in Korea did not move till the following spring, and then the King sent to the Emperor asking that General Man Se dok, Ta Cham, and Yi Sung- un be allowed to remain in Korea for a time until things should become thoroughly settled.

In the early centuries of the Christian era there was a celebrated Chinese general named Kwan U. He was of gigantic size and had a fiery red face, rode a powerful red horse, could walk a thousand *ri* a day (!) and carried a sword that weighed 810 pounds (!!). It is said that while the Japanese were occupying Soul the spirit of this great man appeared repeatedly near the South and East Gates and struck terror to the hearts of the Japanese. Now as the Chinese generals were about to leave for China Admiral Chul Lin built a shrine to this same Kwan U, outside the South Gate. In the thirty-third year of King Sun-jo, namely 1600 A.D., the Emperor sent four million cash to build a temple to this Kwan U and the present temple outside the South Gate was erected. The Emperor at the same time ordered another to be built by the Koreans outside the East Gate, and it was done. The two temples are exactly alike. When the King asked the Emperor to name the temple he said "Call it the Hyong-nyung and So-dok and Kwan-gong" which means "The great and bright appearance of the spirit of Kwan." The King also built shrines to him in Song jo and An-dong of Kyung-sang Province, and at Nam-wun in Chul-la Province.

We have already seen that faction fights had been a great cause of weakness all through the years of the invasion, and from this time on party strife was destined to grow more and more fierce and determined, until it brought the country to the very verge of anarchy a century later. We must note here briefly the changes which had taken place in the parties. We will remember that at first there were two parties, the Tong-in and the So in. During the war the court favorite was Yu Sun-nyong, who gave office to so many men from Kyung-sang Province that the name of Nam-in or "South men" sprang up, and a party by that name quickly became organised, but their opponents, in order to preserve the political equilibrium, instantly seized upon the name Puk-in or "North Men." At the close of the war the leader of the opposition, namely of the Puk-in, memorialised the King against Yu Sung-nyong, the favourite, charging him with having desired to make peace with the Japanese, contrary to the honour of the country. The King listened to this and banished Yu, but his supporters turned the tables by a counter-memorial in which the charges were more than answered and Yu was restored to all his honours. With the rise of the Nam-in and Puk-in parties the old party lines of the Tong-in and So-in had not been broken up or lost. During the latter years of the invasion the Nam-in party lost its powerful grip and the Puk-in were often fio power, but from the end of the invasion until tar into the following reign the Tong-in held he power, and after that for a period of fiftyl years the So-in had control of affairs. It may be asked what principles underlay these parties, what settled policies they had that differentiated them either in regard to domestic or foreign matters. We answer that the various parties had but one plank in their platforms, one settled plan of action, and that was to get the ear of the King and seize upon the office-making power, and put in every position one's own partisans. It was the spoils system sublimated, for there was absolutely no admixture of any other element.

Now that the war was over the Japanese on Tsushima desired to open again commercial relations with Korea, which had always been mutually profitable; and so in the following year 1601 an envoy Kuroda came from that island bringing with him three hundred men and women who had been carried away captive during the war. This envoy asked that there might be reciprocity of trade. The King referred the matter to Nanking, and the reply seems to have been in the affirmative, for we find that soon after this an envoy was sent over to Tsushima with credentials; but after all the Japanese petition was not at this time granted. At the same time the Emperor gave orders for the return to China of all the remaining troops, but at the earnest request of the King 3,000 men were left to help guard the southern provinces. Posthumous honours were heaped upon Admiral Yi Sun-sin who had been the very salvation of Korea, but who had sought death in battle, knowing that if he lived his detractors would drag him down. Yi Hang-bok and eighty-five others also received high commendation and additional honours. The year ended with an unsuccessful attempt of an insurrectionary party in the south, which was nipped in the bud, the ring leaders being forwarded to Soul to be beheaded.

An unscrupulous man named Yu Yong-gyung was the court favourite at this time and upon him devolved the task of appointing and dismissing officials; consequently he was the recipient of countless presents, and on one occasion two men to whom he had sold the same office met at his gate and quarrelled over the matter, to the scandal of the court. The state of affairs at the capital was anything but satisfactory, the reason being that the strife of parties rendered honesty and fairness impossible. It was the constant fight to gain the King's ear, and, having gained it, to turn out all enemies and put in personal adherents. About this time a remeasurement of all the arable land of the country was ordered, and it was discovered that the total revenue of the country was 1,515,500 *kyul* of rice, each *kyul* being a hundred measures of rice, or about two hundred pounds. It also included 300,000 bags of other grains.

It they year 1605 the Japanese again besought that a treaty be made and that Korea send an envoy to the Japanese court. The King complied and sent the same monk, Yu Jung, ordering him to look carefully into the matter of the military strength of the Island Empire and the distance by boat. He returned the following year bringing with him, it is said, three thousand Koreans who had been taken to Japan from time to time during the invasion. The Korean accounts tell us nothing of the booty that the Japanese carried away to Japan during the war, but the transportation of Korean artis-

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ans and their employment in Japan in teaching the making of pottery and other works of use and art, but we may well believe the Japanese reports that assert that immense amounts of treasure were carried away and that the making of the beautiful Satsuma ware was an outcome of the teaching of Korean artisans.

THE END.

THE MARITIME CUSTOMS CONTROL OF "LIKIN."

It will be remembered that the security given by China against the Anglo-German loan of 1898 consisted of the then unhypothecated balance of the Imperial Maritime Customs revenue, together with a first charge upon the general and salt *likin* of certain ports and districts in the Yang-tsze Valley and the adjoining province of Che-kiang; also that, according to the Imperial Edict of March 2, which sanctioned the loan, these *likin* revenues were to be placed forthwith under the immediate control of the Inspector-General, Sir Robert Hart, and were to be supervised and collected under conditions similar to those in force at Kowloon and Macao stations, established under the opium conventions of 1887. More than a year has now elapsed since this important extension of the foreign inspectorate was conceded, and, remembering the great stress laid at the time by her Majesty's Government on the expansion of trade and other benefits to be expected from this measure, it is important to note the results actually obtained at this date.

In the official prospectus of the loan it was stated that the *likin* revenues named were to be placed forthwith under Sir Robert Hart's control, and that, "if at any time, in consequence of a decline in exchange or from any other cause, the said security should prove insufficient, the Chinese Government undertakes to appropriate further revenues for this purpose to be likewise placed immediately under the Inspector-General's control." Elsewhere, referring to the possibility of tariff revision, it was stated that the Chinese Government had agreed that "the *likin* duties pledged for the service of this loan shall neither be decreased nor abolished except by arrangement made with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank"; finally, we were led to expect that, under the administration of the foreign Customs, "the *likin* receipts would largely increase," *i.e.*, that the sums hitherto diverted into the pockets of the provincial officials would hereafter become part of the Imperial revenue. That complete and effective control was intended both by a Chinese Government and by those who negotiated the loan is certain; it is equally certain that the provincial authorities regarded such control as inevitably decreed and were prepared to make the best of the altered condition of affairs. Nevertheless, from Peking to the Yang-tsze is a far cry, and it was not in human nature that the mandarinate should surrender its time honoured rights, either in this matter or in that of inland waters navigation rules, without a struggle. When the edict appeared it naturally became the object of every official in the districts named to put as much money in his purse as possible during the time left to him; accordingly, his first care was to extend that time by every means in his power. From the actual position of matters to-day, however, it would seem that his efforts have been successful beyond his own expectations; the foreign control of the *likin* stations appears more remote now than when the edict was issued.

The situation, marking an epoch in the struggle between Chinese conservatism and Western influences, is of the highest interest, not only to the bondholders, but to every foreign merchant in the country. At the date when the loan was floated the available balance of Customs revenue, according to an official statement made by Sir Robert Hart, was about three million taels per annum, and the *likin* revenues then pledged as additional security were estimated as follows:—

	Per annum.
General *likin* of the port of Su-chau: HK Tls.	800,000
General *likin* of the port of Kiu-kiang...	200,000
General *likin* of the district of Shanghai	1,200,000
General *likin* of the district of E. Che kiang	1,000,000
Salt *likin* of Liang...	1,600,000
Salt *likin* of Hupeh districts	500,000
Salt *likin* of Anhui districts	300,000
Total ... ... HK Tls.	5,000,000

thus giving a total estimated security of eight million taels, or £1,100,000 per annum, as against £815,232, the annual service of the loan. It will be observed that two things are taken for granted—viz., first, that the Imperial Customs revenue and the value of silver are likely to be steadily maintained at the level of 1898; and, secondly, that the various *likin* districts, being under foreign control, will regularly remit their required quota. It seems evident, therefore, that if the unhypothecated balance of the Customs receipts were to be considerably reduced either by decrease in the volume of trade or by fall in the value of silver, or if the *likin* revenues, remaining practically in Chinese hands, were liable to be prejudically affected in certain districts by local conditions, the actual security for the loan would not be of the satisfactory nature originally contemplated. China would doubtless meet her obligations in due course, but the security would rest rather on the good faith of the central Government than on any real control of the funds required for the service of the loan.

From the point of view of the foreign merchant in China, however, the possible benefits to be derived from equitable and systematic control of the *likin* revenue collection in the region of the Yang-tsze are very great; so great, indeed, that the possibility of failure to make such control effective is regarded as a serious menace to the general stability of trade in the interior. For if, after the issue of the Imperial edict, it should be shown that the efforts of native provincial officials are able to defeat the very clear intention of that edict and to prevent the work of *likin* collection in the districts named from passing into foreign hands, it is evident that the same officials can hardly be prevented from placing on internal trade such additional burdens as they may think necessary to recoup themselves for the amounts payable on account of the loan. That this is already being done to a considerable extent is certain; at Shanghai scarcely a week passes without some report being received from the interior of unauthorized exactions being levied upon goods in transit, and it is worthy of note that in these cases the entire credit for such additional taxes is attributed by the local mandarins to the foreigner, whose rapacity makes them inevitable. The native official is thus enabled, while providing for his own necessities, to accentuate the general feeling of antagonism to the foreigner. It will be remembered that, according to the statements made by the Chin-kiang Chamber of Commerce to Lord Charles Beresford, "the result of the new *likin* arrangements, so far as they have gone, has been the imposition of new exactions. The Customs inspectorate supervision of the *likin* work at the various places named in the edict did not appear to hold out any promise of becoming in any sense a check upon the rapacities of the mandarins; in fact, the much-vaunted European control had, under existing conditions, rather damaged than advanced the general interests of trade." In other words, and from the merchant's point of view, it is more important that a guarantee (in the shape of foreign control) should be obtained against any increase in the *likin* revenues, than that a pledge be held by the bondholders that such revenues shall not be abolished or diminished.

Turning now to the consideration of the actual position of affairs, the first point to be noted is that while the inevitable and powerful opposition of the provincial authorities was evidently underrated at the outset, it may be unfair to criticize the Inspector-General either on this score or for the delay since experienced in carrying out the precise terms of the edict. The work of preliminary organization is fraught with many and peculiar difficulties, chief amongst which must be reckoned that of providing an outdoor, or preventive, staff acquainted with the local dialects of the several districts. Upon the completion of the loan agreement Sir Robert Hart took immediate steps to draft a considerable number of men from the indoor staff of the Customs for special *likin* duty, with directions to inquire fully into the existing system of collection at each station, and to report on the measures necessary for taking over control. Sufficient indication was given by the provincial authorities that they regarded the impending change as inevitable; nevertheless, in Kiang-su, Che-kiang, Ngan-hwei, and Hupeh, every possible obstacle was from the first placed in the way of these preliminary inquiries. The instructions issued by the Yamén were sufficiently explicit, but the situation (as was pointed out by the Yang-tsze Viceroys to Lord Charles Beresford) is one where the interests of the provincial exchequers are now diametrically opposed to those of the central Government. Accordingly, little or no practical results were obtainable in the first instance from the efforts of a few isolated Europeans in each district, brought face to face with the soft-spoken but determined opposition of the local officials, and the general conclusions arrived at by the preliminary investigation into the subject were, first, that no satisfactory working scheme could be drawn up save after practical experience of the work itself in all its details, and, secondly, that actual supervision of the waterways and stations by an organized preventive launch-service was a matter of the most urgent necessity. Such a service once provided, the administration of each district could be performed by a comparatively small number of trained men. So long, however, as the native official remains even nominally in charge it were hopeless to expect a handful of foreigners, by moral suasion only, to put a stop to existing abuses, to fathom the intricacies of local tariffs and barrier regulations, or to discover the hidden sources and appropriations of *likin* and salt revenues. It would, therefore, seem to be matter for regret that the date for assuming effective control of the stations was not originally fixed and published in such manner as to permit of satisfactory provision being made of a trained preventive staff, since every delay in carrying the Emperor's edict means loss of "face," and tells in favour of those actually in possession, while inciting them to make the best possible use of the time still at their disposal. This latter feature of the situation has impressed itself upon the central Government, the receipts at several stations for the last year showing a considerable decline, and the Yamén's anxiety on the subject has already found expression in warnings to the *likin* officials; needless to add, without result.

Emboldened by the first success of their resistance, the local officials in certain districts, notably in Che-king and Hupeh, have made certain tentative proposals with a view to obviating the necessity for foreign control by the simple expedient of remitting their prescribed quota, on the dates due, to the foreign Customs. At Hang-chau (Che-kiang) the *likin* Bureau has stated that although the million taels to be drawn annually from that district represents more than the average total collection, the amount would be regularly remitted if foreign control were rescinded! The Governors of Kiang-su, Che kiang, and Hupeh, have been in active communication on the subject, and it is commonly reported that they are sanguine of eventually obtaining a *modus vivendi* on these lines. On the pernicious effects to be expected from such a solution of the difficulty—presuming, for the sake of argument, that if should be seriously discussed—it is unnecessary to dwell.

The preliminary inquiry into the working of *likin*, now proceeding, has been chiefly useful in so far that it has shown the futility of supervision by foreigners without full and undivided authority and control. Supervision, without executive authority, under existing conditions can be of no value even as a guide to future administration. The Inspector-General has recently, however, suggested the advisability of following up the first year of preliminary inquiry by two years of general supervision. In the absence of information regarding the reasons for this proposal, it is reasonable to suppose that the difficulties raised by the provincial authorities are an important factor. The theory of seriously reduced *likin* revenues resulting from the introduction of the new system (a point on which the provincial officials lay great stress) can hardly be held to carry much weight at Peking, since, in the event of its being justified by results, the Central Government is bound by the agreement to provide further revenues for the purposes of the loan—a not undesirable consummation.

The situation is undoubtedly a difficult one; far more difficult than was generally anticipated when the foreign control of these *likin* stations was first mooted and agreed upon, and the position will require firm and delicate handling. The condition of affairs in China to-day is greatly changed from that which existed in 1858, when the authorities of Kwang-tung, of their own initiative, requested Mr. Lay, then Inspector General of Customs, to take charge of the Salt Gabelle administration in that province. That the Customs should assume with the least possible delay full and undivided control of the *likin* district named in the Imperial edict of last year is essential, both in the interests of the bondholders and for the advancement of financial reform throughout the Empire, and if, in the absence of an adequate trained staff, such control cannot be introduced simultaneously at all the stations, at least those of the Shanghai-Su chau district should be taken in hand forthwith. It is principally at Shanghai that the necessary recruiting and training of Europeans for duty on the inland waters must be undertaken, and it is only by this means that the Customs control of inland *likin* collection can be placed upon a satisfactory footing. It would also be generally advantageous were the *likin* system of the western portion of Che kiang (at present excluded from the arrangement) placed at the first opportunity

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under foreign supervision, so as to secure uniformity of treatment and continuity throughout that province to the borders of Nganhwei and Kiang-su. —*The Times.*

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE KAISER WINS THE QUEEN'S CUP.

Shanghai, August 4.

The Emperor William's yacht *Meteor* won the Queen's Cup at the Cowes Regatta.

THE COLONIAL LOAN BILL.

The House of Commons has passed the Colonial Loan Bill.

ITALY AND CHINA.

The two Italian men-of-war sent to China are to relieve two which will return home.

BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

Shanghai, Aug. 5.

The Naval Manœuvres have been concluded. The Home Fleet, consisting chiefly of iron-clads, succeeded in preventing the Hostile Fleet, which consisted chiefly of fast cruisers, from intercepting the Trans-Atlantic conveyance of food stuffs. Wireless telegraphy was largely used throughout the manœuvres, across distances ranging from 20 to 45 miles, everything depending on the state of the weather.

THE CHINESE POLL TAX IN CANADA.

The Canadian Government has decided not to increase the Chinese poll-tax this year.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, Aug. 4.

The prolongation of the Transvaal crisis is ruining business.

Mr. Chamberlain, in replying to the Transvaal Government's proposals, declared that the subjects discussed by the joint commission of inquiry must be confined to the details of the required reforms, which must give immediate substantial representation to the Uitlanders.

Shanghai, August 7.

The Volksraad is to consider Mr. Chamberlain's despatch to-morrow. Meanwhile President Kruger has informed Sir Alfred Milner that he is willing to accept any friendly suggestion which is likely to lead to a settlement.

The Manchester Regiment, now at Gibraltar, is ordered to the Cape.

[The Manchester Regiment—first-raised in 1758—was formerly the 63rd (West Suffolk) and the 96th Regiment, and beginning with the West Indies has seen service all over the world. The first battalion, at Gibraltar, is under the command of Lt.-Col. Arthur, E. R. Curran; the second battalion is at Aden under Lt.-Col. Charles Parker Ridley, and is on the remove for home.—Ed. *T. M.*]

Shanghai, Aug. 8.

The Munster Fusiliers have been ordered to the Cape.

Mr. Chamberlain's despatch to Sir Alfred Milner intimates the willingness of Her Majesty's Government, after the settlement of the franchise question, to confer with President Kruger on other matters, including the proposal for arbitration.

Shanghai, August 10.

Colonel Plumer and eight officers have arrived at Buluwayo, near which a special camp is being formed.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, admitted that there was some truth in the statement that several regiments had been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to embark for Natal.

The Volksraad has passed an amendment of the Transvaal constitution requiring all inhabitants, without distinction, to assist in the defence of the State in case of war.

The British Parliament has been prorogued. The Queen's Speech said that the position of British subjects in the Transvaal was inconsistent with the promises of equal treatment on the strength of which Her Majesty's grant of internal independence to the Transvaal had been founded. The unrest caused by such a state of affairs was a constant source of danger to the peace and prosperity of Her Majesty's dominions.

Negotiations with the Transvaal are still proceeding.

CRICKET.

Shanghai, Aug. 7.

The match between the Australians and Hampshire resulted in a draw.

THE CZAR—A CURIOUS RUMOUR.

The Times' Paris correspondent says that the Czar is desirous of abdicating in favour of his brother Michael, owing to the many bitter disappointments he has experienced, and that the object of M. Delcassé's visit to St. Petersburg is to dissuade the Czar from taking such a course, and to convince him that his abdication would be a desertion of France. The story is regarded as possible but not probable.

SUGAR BOUNTIES.

Shanghai, Aug. 8.

The French Government has decided to grant the maximum bounty on sugar during the coming year.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking in the Commons, said he thought it possible that in view of the extension of the system of countervailing duties, France might be induced to modify her views.

DREYFUS TRIAL BEGINS.

The Dreyfus trial has been opened. The public are tranquil. The leading witnesses for both sides cheered Dreyfus.

The Government Commissioner announced that the examination of the secret dossier would take place with closed doors, and that it would occupy four days.

Esterhazy has refused to appear before the Court-martial.

The interrogation of Dreyfus lasted throughout the whole sitting on the first day. He steadily denied all the charges.

CHINA AND ENGLAND.

Shanghai, Aug. 9.

A discursive debate has taken place in the House of Commons on the China question. Mr. Brodrick said, that England naturally viewed with favourable eyes any policy pointing to reforms in China. But customs which had existed for centuries could not be changed quickly. The Government hoped that results would accrue from the cöoperation of Germany in keeping China's ports open to the trade of the world. Her Majesty's Government, though appearing to proceed alone, was often exchanging opinions with other Powers. Adverting to the question of the Russian railway from Manchuria to Peking, he said it would probably be found that other Powers shared Great Britain's view that the predominance of any single Power in Peking could not be regarded without concern. The condition of affairs in China must continue to be fraught with some peril to the cause of peace, but the attitude that Her Majesty's Government proposed to maintain was one of patience and watchfulness.

RUSSIA, CHINA AND JAPAN: AN ALLEGED WARNING.

A note from Mr. de Giers warns China that an alliance with Japan would give great offence to Russia, and that the consequences would be most serious.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

Saigon, August 4.

Dreyfus has summoned nineteen witnesses, among whom are Messieurs Lebrun-Renault, Vrarieux, and Scheuer-Testner, Senators.

Saigon, Aug. 5.

It is announced from Rennes that a considerable ingress of people is taking place. The Dreyfus trial will commence on Monday in the grand salon of the Lyceum.

Saigon, Aug. 8.

The first hearing of the Dreyfus case was perfectly quiet. Dreyfus affirmed his innocence. The Court-martial has decided to proceed with closed doors. No incident. No demonstration.

Saigon, Aug. 9.

The impression produced on the journals of Paris by the first day's hearing of the Dreyfus case is absolutely contradictory.

M. DELCASSE IN RUSSIA.

Saigon, August 6.

The journals of St. Petersburg salute the arrival of M. Delcassé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, as calculated to cement still more strongly the alliance between the two countries.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY COLLISION.

Saigon, August 7.

A collision of trains has taken place at Jurisy near Paris. Seventeen persons were killed and seventy-three injured.

THE SECRET DOSSIER.

Saigon, August 10.

Chamoin continued to expose the contents of the secret dossier during the morning session of the Court at Rennes. Nothing unusual happened, nor was there any demonstration of any kind.

BRITISH FLEET AT HAKODATE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, Aug. 4.

H.M.S. flagship *Centurion*; the battleships *Victorious* and *Barfleur*; the cruisers *Iphigenia* and *Undaunted*; the gunboats *Linnet* and *Brisk*; the despatch vessel *Alacrity*; and the torpedo-boat-destroyers *Whiting* and *Fame* arrived here from the north at 11 o'clock to-day.

REJOICINGS AT YAMANASHI.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Yamanashi, Aug. 4.

The new treaties were formally inaugurated here to-day by a grand fête at the City Hall, which was attended by some thousands of Japanese and many foreigners. There was a big display of fireworks, and a band discoursed music during the afternoon.

(From the "Asahi.")

THE PEKING RAILWAY.

Peking, Aug. 6.

Russia has suspended her negotiations with the Chinese Government with regard to the demand for a concession for the construction of the Peking railway.

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ITALY AND CHINA.

Peking, Aug. 6.

The Italian Minister has informed the Tsungli Yamen that Italy will renew her former demand. Details were not given but it is understood that Italy insists on the opening of Sanmun Bay, and the concession of mining and railway rights. She will be satisfied if China grants these demands.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

SWIMMING RACES AND DIVING COMPETITIONS.

The swimming and diving competitions in connection with the Rowing Club were held on Saturday at the bathing barge. The events were well contested, and some good sport was shown. The officials were as follows:—Captain, Mr. F. J. Hall; Judges, Dr. E. Wheeler, Rev. E. C. Irwine, Mr. P. S. Bent and Mr. F. J. Hall; Starter, Rev. E. C. Irwine; Handicappers, Mr. W. Goddard and Mr. H. E. Hayward.

100 YARDS (Open).

D. Weed, 2 seconds	1
H. Goddard, scratch	2
H. E. Hayward, 3 seconds...	3
J. M. P. Collaco	0

Time, 1.30.

There was a fine race between Weed and Hayward, Weed eventually drawing ahead and winning by a length. Hayward was two or three lengths behind.

RUNNING HEADER FROM TOP OF BARGE.

J. Drummond	1
W. M. Carst...	2
H. S. Goddard	3
H. Y. Irwine...	0

Drummond gained 57 points, Carst 46, H. S. Goddard 33, Irwine 31. Drummond showed capital form, his recovery being exceptionally good.

RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD.

J. Drummond...	1
W. M. Carst	2
H. S. Goddard	3
A. Kingdon	0
E. M. Barnby...	0

Kingdon covered 118 feet and was 32 seconds under water. Irwine was 34 seconds under water, but covered a slightly shorter distance. Strome was the longest under water, but both he and Goddard went wrong in their course, steering wildly away from the prescribed line.

LONG DIVE.

A. Kingdon	1
H. Y. Irwine	2
O. D. Strome	3
H. S. Goddard	0

Drummond gained 54 points, Carst 51, Goddard 50, and Kingdon 36.

100 YARDS (Non-Winners).

D. Weed, scratch	1
J. Drummond, scratch	2
W. M. Carst, 3 second	3
A. Kingdon, 3 scratch	0

Time, 1.27.

Drummond led most of the way, but twenty yards from the finish Weed spurted, and finished ahead. Carst was a poor third. Kingdon gave up.

STANDING HEADER FROM TOP OF BARGE.

H. S. Goddard	1
J. Drummond	2
W. M. Carst...	3
A. Kingdon	0

Goddard gained 58 points; Drummond 56; Carst 53; Kingdon 39.

QUARTER MILES.

H. Goddard, 10 seconds	1
H. Y. Irwine, scratch	2
H. E. Hayward, scratch	3
H. A. Poole, 5 seconds	4
D. Weed, 10 seconds	0

Time 8.13.

Irwine was the favourite, but Goddard kept ahead of him, and though Irwine spurted on the last round the other maintained his lead, and won by ten seconds. Hayward was a poor third. Irwine's time last year was 8.58.

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 432.

BY MAX FEIGL and O. NEMO.

Second Prize *Hannover'schen Courier* Tourney.

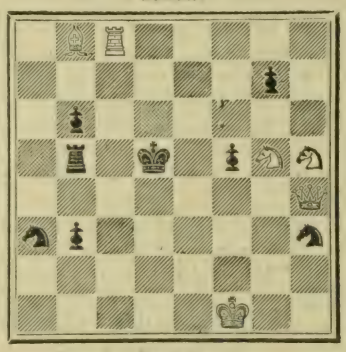
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to B 5	1—K takes Kt
2—Q to K 8 ch	2—K moves
3—B to K 3 mate	
	1—K takes P
2—B to B 2 ch	2—K takes Kt
3—Q to K 8!! mate	if 2—K to B 5
3—B to K 3 mate	
	1—B takes K P
2—B to K 3 ch	2—K takes P (must)
3—B to Kt 4 mate	
	1—B takes Q P
2—Kt to Kt 6 ch	2—K takes P
3—Q to Kt sq mate	if 2—K to Kt 4
3—P to R 4! mate	

Correct solutions received from Marco, East Anglia, and Voila.

PROBLEM No. 435.

By E. E. WESTBURY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 535.

A BRILLIANT.

The following game took the prize as the best and most brilliant in the recent match, East *vs.* West of Scotland.

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

White—Campbell.		Black—Finlayson.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P Q4	12 Q K2	K takes B
2 P takes P	Q takes P	13 Q R Q sq	Castles
3 P Q4	Kt Q B 3	14 R takes Kt	Q K sq
4 Kt Q B 3	Q takes Q P	15 B takes K R P	P takes B
5 B Q 3	P K 3	16 Q R 5	P K 4
6 Kt B 3	Q Q sq	17 Q takes R P	P K B 3
7 B K 3	Kt B 3	18 R Kt 3 ch	K B 2
8 Castles	B K 2	19 R Q sq	B K B 4
9 K Kt Kt 5	P K R 3	20 R Kt 7 ch	K K 3
10 K Kt K 4	K takes Kt	21 Kt K 5 mate	
11 K takes Kt	Kt K 4		

GAME No. 536.

GAMES FROM THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

EVANS GAMBIT.

White—Tschigorin.		Black—Pillsbury.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	25 R x R	R x R
2 Kt K B 3	Kt Q B 3	26 P R 3	B B 2
3 B B 4	B B 4	27 K B sq	P K 4
4 P Q Kt 4	B x Kt P	28 B K 4	P K R 4
5 P B 3	B B 4	29 K K 2	R Q 6
6 Castles	P Q 3	30 R Q B sq	Kt Q 5
7 P Q 4	B Kt 3 (a)	31 R B 3	R x R
8 P x P (b)	P x P	32 B x R	Kt x Kt (d)
9 Q x Q ch	K x Q	33 P x Kt	P R 4
10 R x P	B K 3	34 K B 3	K K 3
11 Kt Q 2	Kt K 2	35 K K 3	P K Kt 5
12 B R 3	P K B 3	36 P x P	P x P
13 Kt Q 3	Kt Kt 3	37 K Q 3	P R 5
14 Q R Kt sq	K B 2	38 P x P	P x P
15 B Q 5	R K sq	39 B Kt 4	B K 4
16 P Q B 4	P B 3	40 B R 3	B R 8
17 B x B ch	K x B	41 B B sq	P B 4 (e)
18 Kt K 3	Q R Q sq	42 B R 3	K K 4
19 Kt (K 3) B sq	R Q 2	43 P x P	K x P
20 P B 5	B B 2	44 K K 3	K K 4
21 B Kt 3	Kt K 4	45 P B 4 h	K Q 4
22 K x Kt	B x Kt	46 P B 5	B K 4
23 Kt Kt 3 (c)	P K Kt 4	47 K B 2	K K 5
24 K R Q sq	K R Q sq	48 Resigns	

Notes from the *Literary Digest*.

(a) In preference to P takes P, recommended by Lasker, White recovers the gambit Pawn, but upon the ensuing exchange of Queens the position is strongly in favour of Black, owing to the opponent's scattered Pawns.

(b) In previous games against Lasker, also in the telegraphic match, St. Petersburg *v.* Vienna, Tschigorin continued with P to Q R 4 instead.

(c) Preparing for P to K B 4, which can not be played at once, because of the reply B to Q 5 ch winning the Q B P.

(d) The American master judiciously simplified matters. He now obtains a passed Pawn, which insures victory.

(e) An excellent stroke. Black is bound to get the opposition, no matter how White plays. The entire game is conducted by Pillsbury with consummate skill.

GAME No. 537.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowski.		Black—Schlechter.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	19 P R 3 (c)	Kt Kt 3
2 K Kt B 3	Q Kt B 3	20 P Kt 5	B Q sq
3 B Kt 5	P Q R 3	21 Kt R 2	P B 3
4 B R 4	Kt B 3	22 P x P	B x P
5 Castles	B K 2 (a)	23 Q R 5	R B sq
6 Kt B 3	P Q Kt 4	24 Kt Kt 4	Q Q sq
7 B Kt 3	P Q 3	25 K R sq (d)	Kt B 5
8 P Q 3	Kt Q R 4	26 B x Kt	P x B
9 Kt K 2	Castles	27 R K Kt sq	R R 2
10 Kt Kt 3	P B 3	28 P B 3	K R sq
11 P B 3	Kt x B	29 Kt x B	Q x Kt
12 P x Kt	R K sq	30 Kt R 4	K Kt sq
13 P Q 4	Q B 2	31 R Kt 2	R K 2 (e)
14 R K sq	P K 4	32 R Kt 5	Q x P
15 P Q 5	Kt Q 2 (b)	33 Q R K Kt sq	K R B 2 (f)
16 Kt B 5	Kt B sq	34 Q x P ch (g)	K x Q
17 P K Kt 4	B B 3	35 R R 5 ch	K Kt sq
18 P B 4	P Kt 5	36 Kt Kt 6	Resigns.

Notes from the *Literary Digest*.

(a) The usual move is Kt take P. The text-play may be an improvement, but it didn't result in anything to recommend it.

(b) This seems like a risky move, as it allows the White Kt to occupy a very dangerous position. On the other hand, Schlechter's manœuvre is very ingenious.

(c) Janowski prosecutes a splendid attack. Here is a fine lesson for students.

(d) Notice this quiet move. Its purpose is to make room for R on Kt sq, and thus increase the pressure.

(e) So that he can play R to K4, and materially interfere with White's plan.

(f) This is what Janowski was waiting for. Black should have played his Q right back to B 3.

(g) Very fine indeed.

NOTES.

Nothing further from the London Battlefield. But we expect more interesting news by the next mail.

An anonymous Correspondence Tourney, which has been for the last two years in progress at Vienna, is just ended. None of the players, of course, knew who their opponents were and the result was that Herr Zinkl won the first prize with 8½ games, and Herr Löwy was second with 8 games.

Members of the Chess Club, says the *Singapore Free Press*, will be interested to hear of their late energetic secretary, who is now at home on leave. Mr. Elcum says: "I have been playing a good deal, and have joined two Chess clubs. Once or twice I have been up to town and have played several games with Bird, losing all, of course. I think I was frightened by his name, for on looking over the games afterwards I found I played exceptionally badly, except in one game, in which I succeeded in making a decent fight. On the last occasion I was at Simpson's, a few days before the International Tournament was to begin, Lasker, Bird, Van Vliet and a lot of other swells were there. I hope to see one day of the Tournament before it is over. I have been playing two games by correspondence with Brydges. One I have won, an Allgaier Gambit, and the other, a Ruy Lopez, I am on the point of winning. I am playing a match now with the Southsea champion, a Mr. Clayton. He won the first two games, and yesterday I won the third."

Mr. Ginsberg, in the *Manchester News*, says the most noteworthy competitors in tournaments, men who have achieved great distinction as chess players of an imaginative style, have invariably played at the average rate of twenty moves per hour. Morphy's average rate was twenty moves

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and the late Dr. Zukertort played at that rate, in fact, we do not believe there are half a dozen games of his in existence in which he used up his full time of fifteen moves. It was the habit of the doctor to walk about the room simply because he could not possibly sit and stare at the board. We remember in 1893 seeing Zukertort walking about during the progress of his game with Blackburne, and looking on the games played in the minor tournament. We said to him, "Well, doctor, how is your game getting on?" He replied, "I have just put my queen en prise." There was a general rush to his board, and everybody intensely studied the position of one of the finest combinations that was ever made in a tournament, but the author of it did not find it profitable to sit and stare at the position. Lasker invariably plays twenty moves; it is an exception for him to use his full time. Janowski, in his match with Showalter, has shown in the most remarkable manner that good chess is compatible with a quick time limit. Charousek could spare sufficient time to work around the tournament room, to be able to follow every game going on and after play he could put up almost every critical position that occurred during the day.

Steinitz is credited with being the inventor of the so-called "new school" of Chess. The difference between the old school and the new was well illustrated by Anderssen when he was asked years ago for his opinion of Kolisch and Steinitz as Chess-players. "Kolisch is a highwayman," he said, "and points the pistol at your breast: Steinitz is a pickpocket; he steals a Pawn and wins a game with it."

"Surely," said the young man to her father, who had positively refused to entertain the proposition, "you are not prejudiced against me simply because I have no visible means of support."

"No," the old gentlemen replied, "I might overlook that but I understand that you once took part in a chess-match played by cable. Anyone who can find fun in that sort of thing is too cold-blooded to get into my family if I can help it."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 1	Su. Aug. 13
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India 2	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla 3	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 4	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	Th. Aug. 17
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 5	W. Aug. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Aug. 21
Hongkong	M. M Co.	———	Tu. Aug. 22
America	O. & O Co.	Gaelic 6	M. Aug. 28
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 30
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 31

1 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.
2 Left Vancouver on the 31st ult.
3 Left Nagasaki on the 10th inst.
4 Left Shanghai on the 10th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 14
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	M. Aug. 14
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Aug. 15
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	W. Aug. 16
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Aug. 16
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Aug. 18
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Aug. 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Aug. 23
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Aug. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Aug. 29
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 1
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. Sept. 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Oopack, British steamer 2,517, J. Barber, 4th Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, 3rd Aug., General. W. M. Strachan & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 3rd Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, 3rd Aug.,—Kobe, 2nd Aug., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 4th August,—Shanghai via ports, 26th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 5th Aug.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe 4th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sherman, U.S. Army Transport, 3,725, Grant, 6th August,—Manila via Nagasaki, 3rd Aug. —U.S. Government.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,048, G. M. Montford, 6th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 4th August, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Thompson, 7th August,—Glasgow via ports, Kobe, 5th August, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,468, Potter, 7th August,—London via ports, Kobe, 5th August, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kiushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 7th August,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, De Maubeuge, 8th August,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 7th August, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, D. Davies, 9th August,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 8th Aug., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 9th Aug.,—Guam via ports, Copra and Coffee. —Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 9th Aug.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 3rd Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 2nd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kahara, 3rd Aug.,— Hakodate, 31st July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,557, N. Munezono, 4th August,—Kobe 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, J Nagao, 4th August,—Yokkaichi 3rd August, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 4th August,—Kobe 3rd August, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajimaf 5th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, J. De La Lande, 6th August,—Kobe 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Olsen, 6th August, — Otaru via ports, 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 6th August,—Yokkaichi, 5th August, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 10th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 9th Aug., General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, British steamer, 1,900, K. Kirchner, 4th Aug.,—Hongkong via Kobe Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 4th Aug.,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, H. Fraser, 5th August,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 5th San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Norna, American schooner yacht, 89, W. J. Weaver, 5th August,—Cruise.—Captain.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,715, J. Barber, 6th August,—New Castle, N.S.W., Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sherman, U.S. Army Transport, 3,725, Grant, 8th August,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, G. C. Talbot, 9th August,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 9th August—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 9th August,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 9th August, —San Francisco via Mororan, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 10th August,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Thompson, 10th August,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 4th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 5th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, J. Nagao, 5th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 6th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General,— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 6th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 7th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 7th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 8th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 8th Aug.,—Nagasaki via ports, Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Olsen, 8th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seitoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, T. Iwamoto, 8th August,—Kobe, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 8th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, J. Nagao, 9th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mastuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 9th August,—Otaru via ports, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 9th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 10th Aug.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 10th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. J. Donaldson, U.S.N.; Corpl. R. Woodworth, U.S.N.; Mr. A. J. Neville, Mr. S. E. Porter, Mr. E. Ross, Mr. E. N. Bee, Rev. H. H. Elwin, Rev. and Mrs. A. Elwin, Mr. E. Wilkens, and servant; Mr. D. Goetschel, Mr. Stulken, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. E. A Sargeants, Miss Sargeant, Master Sargeant, Mr. F. H. Fox, Mr. Macdonald, Dr. O. M. Wharton, Miss K. Gray, Mrs. F. E. Read and Mr. Sorhagen in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. G. W. Spencer in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. F. E. Harmel, Mr. F. Brockelmen, Mr. J. H. Laughlin, Miss Laughlin, Mr. and Mrs. Tilden, child and amah in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. V. Blad, Major Vaudby Griffen, Mr. E. Malcolm, Mr. C. H. Poincilli, Mrs. Cecil Holliday, Mr. R. Inglis, Capt. Dobie, Mr. R. C. Phillipps, Mrs. and Miss Bennah, Mr. and Mrs. Craigie Ross, child and servant, Mr. Wood, Mr. Selles, Mr. R. Schwol, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. R. Gysin, Rev. M. Steichen, Rev. Ch. Ferrand, Mr. Ch. Yeng, and Mr. J. T. Hamilton, in cabin.

Per British schooner *Esmeralda*, from Guam:—Mr. R. M. Harter, and Mr. G. M. Lago, in cabin, 2 European, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Bombay*, from London via ports:—Mrs. Getley, 3 children and amah, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Messrs. F. De Salivens, A. Shewan, K. Otani, S. Idzuno, R. Inouye, and Mrs. Hanatani in cabin; Messrs. T. Ogawa, G. Sugimoto, Du Rocher, Bourne, and Mrs. Ikegami in second class, and 31 passengers in steerage. For Otaru:—One passenger in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Miss N. Johnstone, Mr. L. M. Turnbull, Mr. and Mrs. D. Scatience, Mr. F. Duncarey, Mr. W. de Berigney, Mr. Wm. M. Treglown, Mr. L. Laploca, Mr. Zuin, Mr. R. M. Turnbull, Mr. R. C. Bray, Mr. M. Fannegan, Miss Hancock, Mr. H. Worbs, Mr. J. W. Butterworth, Mr. E. Schlumberger, and Mr. G. Tajo, in cabin; Mr. S. Kitagawa, in second class; 8 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer, *Kiushiu Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Morgan, and Baron de Macae in cabin; Mr. E. M. William, and Mr. Kowishan in second class, and 102 Japanese in steerage.

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Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. Wing Sack So, Mr. Chew Sai, Mr. Chee Koo, Mr. and Mrs. K. Furuya, Mr. G. Nakayama, Mr. K. Mackenzie, Mr. John Calderwood, and Mr. A. Nagahama, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Arthur Diosy, Mrs. Diosy, Capt. M. D. Angele, Mr. G. G. Lazzara, Mr. R. McCance, Mrs. and Miss McCance, Mr. Pettican, Mr. H. Brenninger, Prof. S. Kawai, Prof. K. Hirano, Mr. E. Fuji, Mr. T. Ozawa, and Mr. T. Ichikawa, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Richard Abenheim, Mr. T. F. Archibald, Rev. Edward Abbott, Mrs. Edward Abbott, Dr. E. Bedloe, Mr. Robert Berg, Mrs. H. P. Bowie, Mr. F. Bume, Mr. F. Brockelman, Mr. Ed. Brandenstein, Mr. Russell Colgate, Dr. Edward Divers, Mr. F. E. Fox, Miss Katherine Grey, Gen. Irving Hale, U.S.A., Mrs. Irving Hale, Miss Hogg, Miss M. Hogg, Rev. J. H. Laughlin, Miss Laughlin, Mr. E. Manuel, Mr. Geo. H. Macy, Mrs. Geo. H. Macy, Miss Macy, Master Macy, Mr. Stefen Mauthner, Mr. Y. Nakajima, Mr. G. Nagasaki, Mrs. G. Nagasaki and child, Mr. E. A. Pan, Mrs. S. E. Read, Mr. N. F. Smith, Mr. C. W. Spencer, Mr. H. Slade, Mr. E. W. Tilden, Mrs. E. W. Tilden, child and nurse, Mr. Hubert Vos, Mrs. Hubert Vos, and Dr. C. M. Wharton, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Corrodi, Mr. Von Yeun and infant, Mrs. Ah Choy and infant, Mrs. Baya and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Hunt, child and manservant, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. de Berigny, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Weekley, and Mr. Thos. Kershaw, in cabin; 11 Chinese, 1 child, and 1 infant, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Consul E. D. von Walree, Mr. Y. Arai, Mr. J. Remusat, Mr. B. Walter, Y. Uyematsu, Mr. R. Yasuda, Mr. N. Mikasa, Major J. Kokubo, I.J.A., Mr. T. Reinmann, Mr. F. E. Fernald, Mrs. Louis Satow and child, Mr. H. Worbs, and Mr. R. Sothagen, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Cretot, and Mr. Ah Fai, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Mr. N. M. McIvor, Mr. Wm. Ross, Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Capt. J. A. Irons, Lieut. L. T. Richardson, Capt. F. R. Keefer, Mr T. Sugimura, Mr. W. E. Bailey, Mr. Wm. Le Couteur, Mr. Geo. Sale, Mr. T. Yoshii, Mr. Y. Naoki, and Mr. C. E. Bailey, in cabin; Mr. T. Ono, Mr. A. Brooke, Mr. K. Kitamura, Mr. Y. Tanaka, Mr. A. R. Forbes, and Mrs. R. V. MacDonald, in second class.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Oregon:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Kobe	3,605	1,961	3,969	—	—	9,535
Yokohama	3,535	2,226	4,152	495	—	10,408
Total	7,140	4,187	8,121	495	—	19,943

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL
Yokohama	64	—	64
Total	64	—	64

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following are silk shippers per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco, August 1:—

	Bales.
Ulysse, Pila & Co.	160
Varenne & Co.	58
Nahholz & Osenbrüggen	43
Otto Reimers & Co.	25
Kito Shokai	256
Doshinsha	156
China and Japan Trading Co.	50
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	28
Total	776

Following are silk shippers per N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, for San Francisco, Aug. 9:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	202
Stelzer & Co.	115
Otto Reimers & Co.	99
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	31
Middleton and Smith	20
Varenne & Co.	10
Kito Shokwai	116
China and Japan Trading Co.	50
Total	643

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 623 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 28 bales.

Following were silk shippers per N.P. steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Ore., August 4:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	64
Middleton & Smith	10
Total	74

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market is still very apathetic. There is no enquiry for yarns, and in all other lines movement is at the minimum.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42 00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 00 to 41.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos 2 100, Plain	102 00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18 00
Chinese	20.00 to 20 75

METALS.

There is little doing, buyers showing still a disinclination to pay the high prices now demanded in response to the rise in home values.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5 70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails, assorted	7 00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅛ to 13 inch)	6.50 to 6 75

KEROSENE.

Last week's quotations practically hold good.

American	$2 38 to 2.42
Russian	2 30 to 2.34
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

A steady trade has been done at practically unchanged quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Taikong	4.30 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is a large business doing, both for America and Europe, at advancing prices; but Japanese are current sellers if they can get the prices they want.

QUOTATIONS

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1120 to 1130
Filatures—No 1, Fine	1170 to 1180
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1100
Filatures—No 1½, Fine	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No 1½, Coarse	1060 to 1070
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Reels—Extra	Nominal
Reels—No 1	1070 to 1080
Reels—No 1½	1040 to 1050
Reels—No 2	1020 to 1030
Re-le—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	1020 to 1030
Kakedas—No. 1	990 to 1000
Kakedas—No 1½	
Kakedas—No 2	950 to 960
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

A beginning has been made on new wastes at quotations given below, but holders are unwilling to go on at these prices, and their firmness stops business.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Filatures, Good	130 to 140
Noshi—Oshu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Oshu, Good	135 to 137½
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	130 to 132½
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	85 to 50
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$85 to 90
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	80 to 82½
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	35 to 40
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	25 to 30

TEA

A considerable business has been passing, the lower grades attracting the principal attention. There is a big stock of nearly 900,000 catties on hand.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 10.

Silver from London ⅛ higher and rates all keeping steady at the moment.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 214 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 7/8% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 3/8% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 3/4
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 3/4

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 10.

Club Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 84.50 Breweries are steady at *yen* 175, Engine and Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 225, Laundries have sellers at *yen* 67.50, Langfeldts at *yen* 140, Oriental Hotels are wanted at *yen* 125. Breweries were again sold at *yen* 180 for forward delivery. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 225, Helms at par, Bretts are wanted at par.

Y. U. Club, Brewery and Oriental Hotel Debentures are in demand at *yen* 108, Brett & Co.'s at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	225 Sa. & B
Japan Brewery Co, Ld. *yen* 50	175 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	225 S.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	82.50 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $124	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	Nominal
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	10 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	142 S.
Helm Bros., $50	50 S.
Hingo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ld., *yen* 50	67.50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 Sa. & B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	100 S.

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 1,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,398.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S., Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

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LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 9.

Japan Breweries can be had at *yen* 177.50 for 1st September. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 225. Offers are wanted for Grand Hotels. Langfelts have sellers at *yen* 160.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have changed hands at 374 per cent. premium. Raub Mines have changed at $62.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...225 Buyers.
Grand Hotel .....215 Sales.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co. .....160 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. .....175 Sales.

Tokyo, August 10.

Redemption Loan Bonds	1 ..	96.80
War Loan Bonds	1...	96.80
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		99.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		410.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		55.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	1...	272.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100		271.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	1...	64.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	1...	63.90
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	1...	108.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	1...	28.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		73.20
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50		25.20
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	122.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	70.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		61.20
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		48.90
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		66.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		52.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		99.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 2nd issue-paid up yen 28		77.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		96.80
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.50
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		20.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		41.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20.70
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		10.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13		29.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2.50		1.60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		230.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		180.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	1...	72.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25		17.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10		5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		33.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		20.10
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		39.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		34.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		10.50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		285.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		225.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		115.0.
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25...		75.50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		2.80
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50		57.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50		22.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50		73.50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22		41.00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40		83.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50		36.80
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50		47.50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40		57.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50		54.50
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25		18.50
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50		14.50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50		54.00

1 Ex dividend.

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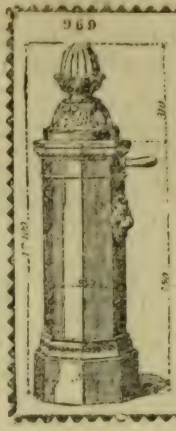
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH, 1899.

DEATH.

At Seneca Falls, N.Y., July 21st, aged 82 years, Hon. CHAUNCEY G. HEATH, father of Mrs. Stuart Eldridge, of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

VERY bad weather has been encountered on the China Coast of late.

THE British fleet on the China station has left Hakodate for Muroran.

A TYPHOON struck Kobe on Tuesday doing considerable damage. The steamer *Argyll* was blown ashore and injured.

THE Emperor William will visit the Queen in November.

IN this issue we publish a full translation of the private school regulations.

SOME 15 lives were lost in the big fire at Yokohama last Saturday.

MR HOSHI TORU is still touring the provinces on a political campaign.

THE political storm-clouds in France are causing much uneasiness in Europe.

THE engagement of the Crown Prince to one of his cousins is announced.

A SCHEME has been published this week for a system of electric-railways in Tokyo.

YOKOSUKA was the scene a big blaze on Tuesday evening, many houses being destroyed.

THE town of Toyama has suffered severely from a fire which broke out on the 12 h inst.

THE weather, though very warm, is still a point or so below the average of former years.

THE *jinrikisha* men of Yokohama continue their opposition to the electric-railway project.

THE Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Umeda, has resigned. He is being urged to reconsider the step.

AN interesting account of an ascent of Asama-yama from the pen of Dr. Perry will be found in this issue.

A WATER FAMINE practically rules in Yokohama and the advent of rain is eagerly looked for.

KAGOSHIMA has been visited by a terrific gale and the damage done is very great. Several lives were lost.

A TERRIBLE hurricane has taken place at the Leeward Islands. Many thousands of people have perished.

SHEN TAOTAI has been denounced as a traitor at Peking and sentenced to three years' banishment in Mongolia.

A TERRIBLE fire devastated one of the principal quarters of Yokohama on Saturday involving a loss of several million dollars.

IT is said that the Liberal and Imperial Parties will work together in the Diet, reserving any disagreements for parochial adjustment.

M. LABORI, one of the Counsel who are defending Capt. Dreyfus at the Rennes' Court-Martial, has been shot in the back. He is suffering terribly.

THE silk boom continues in Yokohama though towards the close of the week, buyers had to hold off in consequence of the high prices demanded by holders.

THE Emperor and Empress have made generous gifts for the relief of people burnt out at Toyama and Yokohama. Private subscriptions amount to a very considerable figure.

WAR seems imminent in the Transvaal. Great Britain is making preparations to send an army of 55,000 men to South Africa, 25,000 of whom will be supplied by India and the Colonies.

THE *Cologne Gazette* learns that the visit of M. Delcassé to St. Petersburg has not resulted in a common agreement to prevent war in the Transvaal, though Leyds' speeches hinted that the Transvaal would be able to count on European support.

THE Emperor has presented handsome gifts to all the Ministers of State and Ministers accredited to foreign countries who were principally instrumental in effecting treaty revision.

A WOMAN living on the premises occupied by Messrs. A. S. Rosenthal & Fried, No. 47, Yokohama, overturned a lamp on Tuesday night, but fortunately she was able, with the assistance of friends, to put out the flames before they had spread far.

TWENTY-THREE arrests have been made in France, including Déroulède and Habert and many aristocrats. They are charged with a conspiracy to overthrow the government. M. Buffet, the agent of the Duke of Orleans, has been arrested on the Belgian frontier.

THE *Times* announces that it is in a position to state that Esterhazy, as an accomplice of Henry, sold to Colonel Schwarzkoppen a hundred and sixty important documents, including details of the mobilization. Henry and Esterhazy divided the proceeds. Parisian diplomatic circles knew Henry to be the real traitor months before his suicide.

THE funeral of Professor Yatabe, who was drowned while bathing at Kamakura, took place on Thursday afternoon, the *cortége* leaving his residence at Kojimachi at 2 o'clock. The remains were interred in Yanaka Cemetery, Shitaya. Among those who attended were Viscount Enomoto; Mr. Okuda, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; and other educationalists.

SOME smart work was done on Thursday at Yokohama by the ambulance corps of the Red Cross Society. Ten "severely wounded" and ten "slightly wounded" men were placed in boats, rowed to the Red Cross steamer *Kosai Maru*, taken on board and berthed in three minutes from their arrival at the ship's side. Prince Komatsu, President, and Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-President of the Society, were present. Tiffin was served on the *Hitachi Maru*.

AT the Kyoto Imperial University there are at present four colleges of science, engineering, law and medicine. Altogether the latter two are not yet open, having only been lately added, work will be commenced in September next, when the instructors dispatched to Europe by the University some time ago in pursuit of special studies are expected to return. Dr. Kinoshita has been appointed Director of the college of Law, in addition to his post of President of the Kyoto Imperial University.

EARLY on Monday morning a man named Masukawa Shokichi, confectioner, aged 57, and his wife Kotake, 37, were murdered at their house in Ogi-cho, Ichome, Yokohama. The crime was discovered at 4.30 a.m. by Shokichi's mother, who found the couple lying in a pool of blood, both stabbed with a knife of some kind. The police were notified, and they found on investigation that a rifled cash box, said to have contained 20 *yen*, had been dropped near the gate of the house.

WE seem to be in the midst of an epidemic of fires just now. At 11.30 o'clock on Tuesday night fire broke out at No. 363, Shioiricho, Yokosuka, a place occupied by Hata Nami, as a boarding house. Altogether 49 houses were totally destroyed and 5 were damaged. An overturned lamp was the cause of the disaster. The street, by-the-way, was totally destroyed about eight years ago, and two years ago 200 houses were burnt in the neighbourhood. One fireman was injured on Tuesday. The loss is estimated at about 150,000 *yen*.

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POLITICAL MATTERS.

Saturday, Aug. 12.

The serenity of the political horizon in Japan is marred by a small black cloud Newspaper organs of the Liberal Party seem disposed to take umbrage about the recent removal of two Local Governors, Mr. Sonoyama, of Nagano Prefecture, and Mr. Kato, of Shizuoka Prefecture. These gentlemen had been the object of bitter complaints on the part of the Progressist politicians in their districts, and a deputation from Shizuoka waited lately upon the Minister of Home Affairs to urge Mr. Kato's removal. Hence the fate that has overtaken them is regarded as a Progressist victory, on the one hand, and as a rebuff to the Cabinet's allies on the other. It is claimed that the Ministry was under a pledge to the Liberals not to make any changes of Local Governors until after the pending elections of City and Prefectural Assemblies.

The consultation committees of the two political parties—the Constitutionists and Imperialists—have held a friendly meeting and decided to cooperate as far as possible. The Constitutionists (Liberals) were represented by Messrs. Hoshi, Matsuda, and Kaino; the Imperialists, by Messrs. Sasa, Motoda, and Saito. For Parliamentary purposes it is evidently the intention of the two parties to work in absolute agreement, but in parochial politics their course is not so clear.

We may mention in this context that Mr. Hoshi Toru has started on another provincial tour, his destination on this occasion being Akita and Yamagata Prefectures. It must be confessed that Mr. Hoshi is the most active leader the Liberals have ever had. He does not let the grass grow under his feet. The position of the Liberal Party is very different now from what it was last year when he returned from Washington.

Tuesday, Aug. 15.

It seems to be true that the Liberals are considerably excited about the removal of the Governor of Shizuoka and Nagano. Their leaders are said to have taken up the question with much resolution, insisting that the Government has behaved without due respect for its supporters. It is quite intelligible that a political party should object, on general grounds, to the removal of two of its members from office. There would be nothing interesting or unusual in that. What surprises us in this case, however, is the assigned cause of the umbrage and the compensation they are said to demand. The cause is that the removal of their two Governors on the eve of the elections for membership of the local assemblies may have a serious effect upon the prospects of the Liberal Party; and the rumoured remedy is that two local chiefs of police with Liberal proclivities should be at once appointed to Shizuoka and Nagano. It is scarcely possible to know how much of this story is true and how much of it false, but we take leave to doubt the greater part of it. For a complaint based on such grounds, and a demand inspired by such a motive, would amount to a frank declaration that official interference in elections is a right and proper thing. The Liberals, however, have always associated themselves conspicuously with the very opposite principle. We have not forgotten their vehement attack upon the Matsu-Kata Cabinet seven years ago because certain local officials were supposed to have acted in the interest of the National Unionists, a party just organized in Ministerial interests. Unless that attack was a veritable comedy the attitude now assigned to them is too inconsistent to be conceivable. We strongly suspect that their enemies are responsible for these rumours.

Wednesday, Aug. 16.

It is tolerably plain that the Liberals have been showing their teeth about the removal of two local governors who were supposed to be of their political complexion. Various paragraphs appear in Tokyo papers with reference to consultations that have taken place between the leaders of the Party and Cabinet Ministers, and statements, more or less vague, are advanced about conditions exacted in consequence of that procedure on the Government's part. The incident elicits two able articles from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the former urging the impropriety of importing party politics into parochial affairs, and the latter pointing out that the prime object of political parties should be to secure the smooth working of the administrative machine. The *Nichi Nichi* points to England as a model, but it is scarcely necessary to give any detailed *résumé* of the article. In our opinion the really reprehensible feature of this incident is the theory evidently underlying the conduct of the Liberals, namely, that officials occupying posts like those of local governors or local chiefs of police should be supposed to interest themselves to any extent, however small, in political intrigues and contentions.

THE TANKO TETSUDO KAISHA.

The Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha has a good record for the first half of the present year. It carried smaller quantities of agricultural produce and of coal than during the corresponding period last year—of coal because there has been a slump in the coal trade, and of agricultural products because the inundations of last autumn impaired the producing power of the northern island—but in all other directions the returns are highly satisfactory. The total length of the company's lines is now 207 miles, and the distance run by its trains during the six months under review was 507,707 miles, these figures being respectively greater by 26 and 35,580 than the corresponding figures for the first half of 1898.

The total revenue for the half-year was 767,046 *yen*, being an increase of 100,204 *yen* as compared with last year, and the average daily earnings per mile were 20 *yen*, being 2.66 *yen* more than last year.

The semi-annual meeting of the *Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha* was held on the 14th instant, when the following statement of accounts was submitted and passed:—

	Yen.
Total Profit	754,327
Carried over from previous accounts	28 995
Total	783,322
METHOD OF DISPOSING OF THE ABOVE.	
To Reserve	38,000
Rewards to Officers	64,118
Liquidation of Debts	10,000
Dividend (at rate of 12.5 per cent.)	624 490
Carried over to next account	46 714
Total	783,322

TAOTAI SHÊN

The great Taotai Shên has been impeached. Nearly all men of eminence in China are impeached at some time of their career. The charge against Shên is that he caused the Woosung Forts to be dismantled, but the *N.-C. Daily News* avers that the real trouble is his want of means to purchase the silence of High Commissioner Kang Yi. We are interested by the change of opinion that Shên's difficulties seem to have engendered. Many and many a paragraph of the severest criticism have we read in the columns of our Shanghai contemporary. In fact, were the newspaper verdict about Shên accepted, he is about as bad as they make them. But the *N.-C. Daily News* has now "much pleasure in publishing the following appreciation of His Honour Shên Taotai which has been sent us by one who knows him well":—

The papers have been giving translations of the impeachments of various officials, amongst them the edict issued against Shên Tun-ho. He is accused of no crime, for the very good reason no shadow of crime could be found against him, but in its place, the Lord High Extortioner has put forward a lot of real or fictitious qualities and motives, said to be found in Shên's breast, as a justification for the degradation, fines, and banishment about to be imposed. Amongst the many friends Shên Tun-ho has made in Shanghai, who know the man's great ability, there is not one who does not feel sorry that the Chinese Government has thought fit to take the course it has with regard to this most able official. So many misrepresentations have appeared from time to time that it is only just some one should speak up, and show the man as he really is. He possesses a commanding presence and great dignity of manner, to which is added decision of character, and much real cultivation. Shên has not only travelled, but studied at Cambridge in England — speaks and writes English fluently, is a scientist, and an able mathematician, and well versed in English law and literature. He has succeeded in elevating himself by Western education, and had he been of any nationality but a Chinese would have forced his way to the front as a leader among men. As a gentleman he is fitted to take his place with the most polished amongst us, being perfectly conversant with the manners and customs of modern society. China by her greed of gold and short-sighted policy is sending into ignominious exile another of the very few of her sons who would be able to help her in the hour of dire need that is now so rapidly approaching and bringing on with it the dismemberment of her Empire.

GEN-NO-SHOKO.

There is an herb in Japan called by some people *gen-no-shoko* and by others *tachimachi-gusa*. The word *gen-no-shoko* is synonymous with "present proof," and *tachimachi gusa* means "speedy herb." Botanists, however, call this plant *geranium nepalense*, and write it with ideographs signifying "brindled-calf herb." It appears that the efficacy of the herb in dysenteric complaints has long been recognised in Japan, and experiments recently made by Dr. Iwai Teizo, of the Red Cross Hospital, go to prove the truth of the theory, and to justify the vulgar epithet of the herb. Many people are said to be now employed gathering the *tachimachi-gusa*, especially on the Waseda common, where it grows in abundance, but if Dr. Kitasato's discovery as to the treatment of dysentery by inoculation obtains the endorsement of facts, this "speedy herb" is late in the field.

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THE EMPEROR AND TREATY REVISION.

A news agency states that His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to confer handsome gifts upon those who took an important part in achieving the Revision of the Treaties; namely, Count Inouye, Count Okuma, Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Kuroda, Count Matsukata, Mr. Sone, and Viscount Aoki, as well as several who held the post of Japanese Representative abroad at the time. These mementoes are said to be very handsome, but their nature is not indicated. The *Japan Times* says that they took the form of exceptionally fine specimens of lacquer.

DISTURBANCE IN YOKOHAMA.

The recent revolt of the Yokohama *jinrikisha*-men against the project of an electric railway is discussed by the *Jiji Shimpo* in animated terms, the gist of the srticle being that these violent demonstrations on the part of ignorant people against labour-saving machines have been incidental to progress the world over, and that they must not for an instant be allowed to interrupt the march of civilization. That is very true, but it is equally true that progress must be adapted to the conditions amid which it takes place, and that ignorance of the kind shown by the Yokohama coolies is to be instructed rather than coerced. After all, Japan has been singularly fortunate in this respect. In spite of the extreme rapidity of her adoption of all kinds of machinery, the labouring classes have hitherto accepted the change with perfect docility. There are eighty thousand *jinrikisha* coolies in Tokyo, if we remember rightly. They made no sort of attempt to protest against the laying of trams, and the result proves that the trams have not in any way interfered with the employment of *jinrikisha*. But if the agitation of the Yokohama men be successful, the electric-railway project in Tokyo is not unlikely to cause some commotion.

A PRIESTLY DYNAMITARD.

A priest has been arrested in Tokyo when in the act of pasting inflammatory placards on telegraph posts. The telegraph post is an excellent medium for advertising. It has been largely utilized in that way during recent years. But the telegraph service being in official hands, permission must be obtained before employing the posts for such a purpose, and the police naturally become curious when they see a man approaching a post with a paste-pot and a placard. The priest did not reckon upon that contingency. His pronunciamento was a violent diatribe against the present Cabinet and against the new Imperial Party, and contained an announcement that he intended to blow up one of the Ministers. Apparently he had no predilection about a victim: any Minister would have done. The police have doubts about his craziness since they found among his belongings a book on the composition of bombs. But there can be no doubt, we imagine, that he never would have blown up any one had he failed to find his way to prison for a lesser crime.

THE TRANSVAAL.

It has long appeared to many persons —ourselves among the number—that the British Government had resolved upon war in the Transvaal, the alternative being such a complete surrender on the part of the Boers as could scarcely be hoped for by the most sanguine observer. Were it in the disposition of the Boers to make a sufficiently radical concession in order to avoid war the present situation would scarcely have arisen. Lord Salisbury's last speech was very significant. He hinted plainly at the existence of a grievance which only the sword could redress. He said that the course persistently pursued by the Transvaal Government was calculated to reduce British subjects to a subordinate position throughout the whole of South Africa. It may be that the Boers have relied throughout on European intervention; it may be that they have relied on their memory of Majuba Hill. In either case they will probably find themselves mistaken. A combination of France and Russia, in opposition to England is the only imaginable contingency, but even if France's domestic affairs left her leisure to enter upon such an enterprise, it is in the highest degree improbable that she could obtain Russia's active cöoperation. Certainly neither Power alone would have the assurance or the ability to interfere. It is very natural that France should harbour resentment against England in connexion with African affairs, and we shall not be at all surprised to learn that M. Delcassé's visit to St. Peterburg was prompted by the purpose which rumour has assigned to it. Should such prove to have been the case, Englishmen will not take it greatly to heart.

Fifty-five thousand men is a large force for a campaign against the Transvaal. It is very nearly the double of the army sent by Great Britain to the Crimea. The Boers can perhaps put twenty thousand men into field, at the most twenty-five thousand. But the nature of the country will impose most onerous duties on an invading force, and it is much easier to provide ample strength from the outset than to send re-inforcements subsequently for the redemption of a compromised situation. We doubt whether the Boers will prove such formidable foes as is generally supposed. Their skill as marksmen is probably over-rated. It must be remembered that they have long been without their old incentive to good shooting: the Transvaal no longer abounds with big game, and the average Boer scarcely gets as much rifle practice as the British soldier. He has not to depend for his safety on the accuracy of his sighting, as used to be the case in the days before gold-mining.

THE CHINA-JAPAN RUMOUR.

The grain of truth in the recently circulated rumour about a China-Japan alliance appears to be that the Commissioners entertained ideas considerably larger than the legitimate limits of their mission. Whence they derived their notions we can not tell; there may be in Peking a section of politicians who would welcome such a project. But as to the possibility of Japan's entertaining any proposition of the kind, there is no difficulty in being quite confident. The newsmongers of China are entitled, of course, to circulate any stories they may hear about that country's intentions or designs, but they ought to be able to avoid the flagrant error of attributing to Japan a disposition to unite with her neighbour in an anti-British, or anti-Occidental compaign. It is against their extraordinary credulity in that respect that every one on this side of the water is justified in protesting.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, we observe, takes the opportunity of reverting to its old contention that the Chinese polity is really a kind of feudalism, the great Viceroys being practically independent of the Throne, and that the wisest plan for Japan would be to accredit diplomatic officials—a kind of Minister-resident—to the courts of these provisional rulers. Coming from the *Jiji*, the proposition deserves attention. But two serious difficulties present themselves. The first is that our contemporary seems to over-rate the autocratic powers of the Viceroys. In many respects they seem to be independent of the Throne, but when it comes to the crucial point their independence vanishes. Look at the results of the last Imperial Commissioner's visit to the provinces. Has it not led to the resignation of the great Viceroy Liu, and to the degradation and punishment of the almost equally great Shên Taotai? Peking has only to send out its envoy and the autocracy of the local satraps disappears at once. The second difficulty is that without the concurrence of the Manchu Government the course suggested by our contemporary would be impossible, unless, indeed, Japan deliberately laid out for herself the programme of contriving the division of China into a number of independent principalities, each under a dictator of its own. That would mean a revolution. The fact is that the Peking Government's acquiescence in progressive schemes has hitherto been actuated chiefly by the hope of centralizing the administrative authority. It was to that prospect that the inauguration of telegraphs was due, and the same line of reasoning has now led to railway building. The Manchus would object very strenuously to such an arrangement as the posting of diplomatic officials in the various Viceroyalties.

JAPANESE EMIGRATION TO MEXICO.

Mr. Apjones—we are not sure of the name, as it has passed through the refracting medium of the *Romaji*—is a gentleman connected with the Japanese Legation in Mexico. He has drawn up a most attractive programme for Japanese emigration to Mexico.

That huge country, with an area of 1,920.240 square kilometres and a population of only 12 millions, possesses vast tracts of uncultivated land which offer a certain return to intelligent enterprise. Nothing is wanted but labour and a small amount of capital. The idea is that, by employing Japanese labour, cotton can be grown in Mexico at about one half of the cost of production elsewhere, and that, if Japan send her surplus population thither, her cotton-spinning industries will derive an overwhelming advantage over all rivals, and, moreover, she can secure the carriage of the cotton for her own ships. According to the provisions of the Mexican immigration laws, lands are granted free to suitable colonists, so that the ways are all in sight, and only the means are needed.

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RUSSIA AND AMERICA.

Mr. Vladimir Holmstrem, endorsed by Prince Ookhtomsky, editor of the *Viedomosti*, writes in favour of a Russo-American *entente* directed against England, on the grounds, *inter alia*, that "the Puritans fled from the spiritual and political tyranny of oligarchical England and laid the foundations of a new commonwealth on strictly democratic lines," and that "the war of independence was one for emancipation from English economic and political tyranny." That is very excellent as a reason for an alliance between Russia and America.

The same writer proceeds thus :—

I shall now demonstrate that in the Chinese question England has already outwitted the Americans. We are quite sincere in wishing to have a strong and friendly neighbour in Asia, and up to the present moment it is the English alone who, keeping in mind their sinister schemes for the creation of a second Egypt or India, have endeavoured to present us as hostile to China and a military aggressive power. Who in the whole of the nineteenth century has been aggressive in dealing with China? England, France, Japan, and Germany—not Russia! The English are apt to point out that our Siberian railway, passing as it does through Manchuria, threatens the independence of China, and implies hostile designs on that empire. But in the original plan the Trans-Siberian Railway never so much as touched Manchuria! It was Japan's *coup de force* that showed us the perils in store for us in Manchuria unless we held ourselves on the alert. Neither did we purpose going to Port Arthur in a military capacity; it was Germany's occupation of Kiao-chou that forced us to make such a move. The independence and integrity of China is a fundamental principle of Russian policy in Asia.

All the time that they were professing an interest in China's integrity and independence the English were always ready to share something or other in China with any one who asked for it, provided always he had no title to his claim and could not support it against the English. England already stands convicted of breach of faith in the Chinese question: she tried to rouse in the United States an enthusiasm for the open door, and in the meantime was working on the lines of a "sphere of influence" policy; she took over Wei-hai-wei from the Chinese on the avowed pretext of upholding the integrity of China, which, as the English maintained, was menaced by us, and never thought of upholding China's integrity against Germany, invited Italy to take a share in the spoiling of the empire, and yet still keeps Wei hai-wei (as she keeps Cyprus, though she neither helped the Armenians nor saved Turkey from dismemberment). The *Times* has just published a letter from Admiral Colomb to the effect that it would be convenient to give over Wei hai-wei to Germany. Yet these people speak of our attempt on the integrity of China, while thinking of giving away territory they have no right to cede to the Power which first made such an attempt.

Conquest is the real word that describes England's policy in China! An American alliance with England would mean an alliance with a policy of conquest. May heaven preserve America from the curse of western imperialism with which England is now tempting her.

It appears to us that Germany and Japan are the Powers attacked by this writer, not England. Japan's *coup de force* induced Russia to push her railways in Manchuria and take virtual possession of that vast region. How convincing! How clearly we here see demonstrated that "the independence and integrity of China are fundamental principles of Russian policy in Asia." With the aid of France and Germany she drove Japan from Manchuria, and, having thus restored China's integrity, she lost no time in appropriating Manchuria herself. Then Germany's occupation of Kiao chou compelled Russia to annex Port Arthur. Good, gentle old Russia! What a paragon of self restraint and propriety he would be if nasty, wicked Powers didn't tempt her to be naughty!

THE "NUNOBIKI MARU."

Saturday, Aug. 12.

Rumour persists that the *Nunobiki Maru* was bound for the Philippines with a cargo of arms and ammunition for the rebels when she went to pieces on the Saddles. The *Chiuo Shimbun* is conspicuously detailed in its reference to this incident. The *Nunobiki*, it says, was an old vessel built "away back" in the seventies. She had served her time and no office would insure her. Therefore her owners, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, resolved to sell her. Certain Kobe merchants, thinking of running her to Vladivostock, offered twenty-eight thousand *yen*. But her owners' minimum was twenty-nine thousand. Then Mr. Nakamura Yaroku stepped in and went above every-body's head with a bid of forty thousand. He represented a syndicate of four prominent members of political society who, while the last Cabinet was in power, had made a big failure over a speculation in general merchandise and engineering work in Formosa. They wanted to recoup themselves now by a transaction in arms for the Filipinos, and they would not have been sorry had their doings, *par parenthèse*, involved the present Ministry in serious trouble. The *Nunobiki* was not arranged for the accommodation of passengers. The statement that she took passengers was all a pretence. Besides her crew the only persons on board were four Filipinos, the principal of whom was a friend of Mr. Pouncey, Aguinaldo's Secretary, who recently paid a visit to Japan. If the *Nunobiki* had achieved her purpose, the result would have been highly profitable. But fate stepped in. That is the story. We give it for what it may be worth.

Tuesday, Aug. 15.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, through the columns of the *Nippon*, prefers a strong charge against the Shanghai agents of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. He declares that they refused to give a free passage home to the shipwrecked men of the *Nunobiki Maru*, and that, had it not been for the exertions of the Japanese Consul, the Mitsui Bussan agents, and the master of the *Menelaus*, to whom Mr. Nakamura tenders most hearty thanks, the men would have been reduced to great straits. He abuses the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in the frankest terms, and appeals to the bar of public opinion against such inhumanity. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which belongs to the same political camp as Mr. Nakamura, takes up the subject with remarkable vehemence, and, without pausing to make any inquisition into the facts, denounces not only this particular procedure on the part of the Company, but also its general management. The President, Mr. Kondo, says the *Mainichi*, sometimes makes voyages to inspect the method of treating passengers, but he can form no real idea of the facts, for the attitude of the Company's employes towards him is like that of a subject towards a Sovereign. We mention this item of the *Mainichi's* criticism because it seems characteristic. Most people will be inclined to think that the President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is not differently circumstanced from the President of any other steam-ship company, all alike being exposed to the same deception. But the impression conveyed by this complaint and by the methods of those preferring it is not good. Everybody must see at once that Mr. Nakamura's story is one-sided, for, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha having invariably shown themselves most liberal in such matters, it is quite incredible that a flagrant departure would have been made in Shanghai from their general rule unless peculiar circumstances existed. What those circumstances were we have no grounds of conjecture, but the most ordinary principles of fairness dictate suspension of judgment until the exact details are known. As for the unsatisfactory treatment said to be experienced by passengers in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers, it seems strange that the public should hear nothing of it until the subject can be turned to uses which are open to a strong suspicion of being vicarious. The whole story looks very like a herring drawn across the trail of a much more serious accusation against Mr. Nakamura himself.

THE ANTI ENGLISH INTRIGUE.

So far as concerns gaining access to the columns of local newspapers and getting currency for a story which derives interest from its sensational character, the plotters against Great Britain in China are having a measure of success. They laid out for themselves the programme of trying to convince the public that China had deliberately conceived the idea of shaking herself free from British interference, and that she had found a willing, though not yet openly declared, coadjutor in Japan. There would, of course, be nothing extraordinary in the Russophile party's wish to prove that China hates England and regards the latter's aggressions as the chief peril to the Middle Kingdom. But that was not their genuine object. What they really wanted to achieve was the currency of a belief that Japan is willing to listen to anti-British proposals, and that the peril of an union of the yellow races still threatens the Occident. They have worked with some adroitness, and we shall not be surprised to find that their industriously circulated canard proves as tenacious of life as did the Cassini Convention. But British and Japanese statesmen are not likely to be disturbed by such shallow machinations.

EXPORT TRADE.

The export trade shows great promise this year. Until the year 1894 it did not pass 100 million *yen*. The figures for the past five years have been :—

EXPORTS.

	Yen.
1894	113,246,086
1895	136,112,178
1896	117,842,261
1897	163,135,077
1898	165,753,753

Now the returns of the Customs for the current year, from January 1st to July 31st, are :—

	Yen.
Exports	106,630,021
Imports	111,522,342
Excess of Imports	4,892,321

The first half of the year is always the principal time for imports, and the second half for exports. There is, therefore, good reason to expect that the exports during the present year will aggregate fully 200 million *yen*. In other words, their volume will have doubled in 6 years.

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SILK.

Saturday, Aug. 12.

Vernacular newspapers have naturally had a great deal to say lately about the boom in silk which is making Yokohama's pulses beat quicker, and happily diverting men's thoughts from the troublesome processes incidental to passing under Japanese jurisdiction. Very seldom in the history of the port's commerce has a bale of silk reached a thousand *yen*, and always when it did so the decline followed rapidly and sharply. But for several weeks past that big figure has been quoted, and, so far from any signs of a reaction being apparent, there is confident talk of eleven hundred *yen* in the near future. Mr. Mogi Sobei, the well known dealer, has furnished to a vernacular contemporary the following table, which is decidedly interesting—it relates to the period from June 1st to August 7th :—

	1899. Bales.	1898. Bales.	Increase or Decrease.
Quantity of silk received in Yokohama from producing districts ...	25,598	16,492	+ 55.4 o/o
Quantity sold to foreign firms	13,162	9,359	+ 46 3 o/o
Direct Export	4.160	1,816	+129 0 „
Returned to Provinces.	1.670	2,130	— 21 6 „
Remaining in Yokohama	7,681	10,536	— 74 6 o/o
Still unsold	4 723	7,803	— 39 5 „

Wednesday, Aug. 16.

A correspondent writes, with reference to our note of the 12th on silk, "When you speak of 1,000 *yen* per bale, what do you mean? We now buy silk from the Japanese dealer in cases containing about 55 *kin* each—present value about 600 *yen* per case or box. If you mean per picul we have passed the 1,100 *yen* point already."

Our note, as stated at the outset, was taken from Tokyo contemporaries. "Vernacular newspapers have naturally had a great deal to say lately about the boom in silk," was our exordium, and then we went on to summarise what these newspapers were saying. The expression used in the original was *kori* (bale), but probably the writer meant 100 *kin*. If the 55 *kin* box was costing 600 *yen* when our correspondent wrote, the price of 100 *kin* would have been 1,090 *yen* omitting *sen*, and that would bear out the account given by our Tokyo contemporaries.

SEIDO CHOSA-KYOKU.

We alluded in a recent issue to the prospect of an Administrative Investigation Office being established under the presidency of Marquis Ito. It appears that the project had its origin in the amendments of the Peers' Law made by the Upper House last session. These amendments are not endorsed by the Imperial Household and have not received the sanction of the Throne, so that it becomes necessary to present the subject for renewed discussion next session. There are also various points demanding consideration in the Law of the Imperial House. For example, the Emperor is entitled by that Law to inflict a measure of disciplinary punishment on an imperial prince, by depriving him of his allowance or annulling his presumptive right of succession to the Throne. But there is no means of taking away his title altogether, a measure which might be necessary under certain circumstances. Then, again, it is beginning to be felt that some limit should be put to the period of possible a princely title's duration. At present the title of *Shinno* continues for five generations only, but the title of *O* goes on for ever. It is plain, therefore, that, since the Princes derive their sustenance from allowances granted by the Emperor out of the Privy Purse, the drain upon His Majesty's resources might ultimately become intolerable. It is felt that Marquis Ito is the statesman to dispose of all these questions.

THE AUTOMOBILE.

A year ago, we read in an American exchange, there were not thirty self-propelled carriages in the United States. But between January 1st and May 31st of the current year, the capital of the companies organized in the four chief cities of America for manufacturing and operating automobiles aggregated 335 millions of gold dollars, or 676 millions of *yen*. "A hundred electric cabs are plying on the streets of New York, and two hundred more are being rushed to completion." Where pavements are smooth and hard the gasoline vehicle has been equally successful. "Mr. A. S. Winslow, of the National Motor Carriage Company, has made some interesting comparisons, based on an average daily run of twenty-five miles for five years—more than the maximum endurance of a first-class horse. His estimates represent ordinary city conditions, and rate the cost of the gasoline used at one-half cent a mile :

GASOLINE MOTOR VEHICLE.

Original cost of vehicle	$1,000 00
Cost of operation, 1 cent per mile, twenty-five per day...	456 50
New sets of tyres, during five years... ...	100 00
Repairs on motor and vehicle...	150.00
Painting vehicle four times	100.00
Storing and care of vehicle, $100 00 per year	500.00
	$2,306.50

HORSE AND VEHICLE.

Original cost of horse, harness, and vehicle...	500.00
Cost of keeping horse, $30.00 per month, five years.	1,800 00
Repairs on vehicle, including rubber tyres	150 00
Shoeing horse, $3 00 per month, five years	180.00
Repairs on harness, $10 00 per year ...	50 00
Painting vehicle four times	100.00
	$2,780.00

THE TOKAI GINKO.

Since the intelligence went abroad that the Tokai Ginko was closely connected with the Japan Cement Company, and would have to shoulder two hundred thousand *yen* of the latter's losses, the Bank's credit has naturally suffered, and people have been hastening to withdraw their deposits. During the present month a hundred and seventy thousand *yen*, or more, has been drawn out, and Tokyo newspapers speak of the Bank's failure as assured. It is curious to observe the frankness of these journalists. They appear to regard the failure of a bank as an insignificant and rather entertaining incident. The manœuvres of the managers to obtain cash for meeting the calls of depositors are described in a manner eminently calculated to precipitate the Bank's ruin, and the whole tone of the comments is agreeably light and irres-

COUNTERVAILING DUTIES.

It is difficult to follow the reasoning of free-traders who contend that the countervailing duties in India are a violation of the doctrine to which English economists are so firmly pledged. Precisely the opposite view commends itself to us. The object of the import duty imposed on sugar by the Indian Government is to deprive the article of the advantage it derives from the protective system of Germany, Austria, and other European countries. Bounties are simply protection in another guise. The ordinary form of protection is to tax all the consumers of a certain staple in order that its producers may reap a profit. The bounty form of protection is to take a sum of money from the proceeds of the general taxes and convert it into profit for the producers of a certain staple. German sugar, for example, is offered to Indian consumers at an exceptionally cheap figure because the German people have been taxed to cheapen it. The Indian Government deprives the sugar of that protective advantage by subjecting it to an import tax, and thus re-establishes the practice of free-trade, which is nothing more than the principle that articles should be produced and sold without official interference of any kind.

ANOTHER TYPHOON.

The unsettled weather of the past few days was due to another *taifu* visitation. The centre of depression developed to the east of Formosa on the 14th instant, and, travelling thence in a north-easterly direction, approached Kiushiu. It then changed its direction, and, passing up to the west of Kiushiu, subsequently took an eastward trend entered the Inland Sea, and, sweeping over Hikone and Gifu, passed out into the sea of Japan on the 16th instant. The places which felt the gale most severely were Kagoshima, Miyazaki, Oita, Matsuyama, Tadotsu, Wakayama, Fukuoka, and Akama-ga-seki.

A telegram from Kagoshima, dated 7.25 p.m. on the 15th instant, says that about 11 a.m. on the 14th the place was visited by a fierce gale, which reached its acme of violence at 2 a.m. on the 15th, and two hours later began to decline perceptibly. The wind changed twice in the interval of 16 hours. Numbers of houses were blown down, there was considerable loss of life, animal and human, and the crops suffered severely.

Another telegram dispatched a little later by the Governor of Kagoshima describes the storm as terribly severe, and says that, according to investigations made up to 4 p.m. on the 15th, 4 men and 5 women had been killed; 2 men and 5 women injured; 350 houses overthrown; 351 houses partially overthrown; 21 boats wrecked; 7 boats damaged; 3 telegraph poles blown down, and that one policemen, injured in attempting to save life, had died of his wounds.

COTTON.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a telegram from New York, dated the 11th instant, to the effect that a sharp rise has taken place in the quotations on the cotton exchange, and that the price of medium grade for delivery in Yokohama at

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the end of October, has risen to $20 a bale, a leap of $1.10 in two days. The *Shogyo* declares itself unable to account for this sharp fluctuation and we share its perplexity. The crop outlook in the United States on July 1st was stated thus :—

	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1823.
Cotton.	87.8	92.2	86 0	52.5	82.3	89 6	82.7

And the visible supply of cotton was as follows :—

1899.	Week ending.	
	July 14th.	July 7th.
American	2,555,843	2,678,329
Other kinds	248,000	146,000
	2,803,843	2,924,329
1898.	Week ending.	
	July 14th.	July 7th.
American	2,019.725	2,688,010
Other kinds	255.000	377,200
	2.274.715	3.065,210

There is nothing in these figures to explain a sudden rise of price, and unless the climate during the past month has been exceedingly unfavourable, it is hard to account for the *Shogyo's* telegram.

TOKYO STREET RAILWAY.

The promoters of the Tokyo Street Railway (*Tokyo Shigai Tetsudo*) have at length submitted their definite proposal to the Department of Home Affairs, and their competitors have all withdrawn their applications, the various companies having agreed to amalgamate. The new applicants do not bind themselves to use any one system of motive power. They ask for latitude of choice, according to circumstance, but their idea is electricity and their estimate is based on that supposition. They promise to pay a reasonable sum to the Municipality for the use of the streets; to submit to a due measure of official inspection, and to keep the roads in thorough repair to a distance of 1½ feet on either side of the rails. There are, of course, proper provisions with regard to weight of rails, maximum gradient (one in ten), maximum curve (35 feet diameter), gauge (4ft. 8½in.), and so on. The speed is not to exceed 8 miles an hour. Two hundred miles of track are shown in the first project, namely, 122 miles of actual distance and 77 miles of double line. The period of completion is put at 6 years, and the capital at 15 million *yen*. This is the estimate :—

	Yen.
Laying of Rails	2,200,000
Sleepers, &c.	1,320,000
Six hundred cars	2,400,000
Source of Power (6,000 H.P.)	1,500,000
Eight subordinate power stations ...	1,000,000
Bridges	1,000,000
Purchase of Land	1,000,000
Repairing Shops	250,000
Carriage	100,000
Surveys and Superintendence	400,000
Various Outlays	400,000
Extras	1,200,000

It is expected that the Home Department will submit this proposal to the Municipality without delay, and that the necessary permit will be granted by the end of next month.

Our Tokyo readers will probably be curious to learn the proposed routes for the projected lines of the new City Railway. We therefore append the list. It will be understood, of course, that the starting and terminal points only of each route are indicated. Thus, two names joined by a hyphen—as Umayabashi-Hachiman; Shiba, Tamachi 1 chome-Kandabashi, &c.—show the place from which a line sets out and the place to which it runs.

Shinbashi-Suitengu, Suitengu-Uyeno, Shinbashi-Kanda, Kandabashi-Iidamachi station, Misakicho-Izumibashi, Yorozuyobashi-Ryogoku, Ryogoku Yedobashi, Ichikokubashi-Yeitaibashi, Yeitaibashi-Susaki, Ryogoku-Hongo station, Ryogoku-Azumabashi, Umayabashi-Hachiman, Umayabashi-Hongotori, Yorozuyobashi-Kandabashi, Yorozuyobashi-Uyeno, Uyeno Sakamotocho, Yoshiwara-Azumabashi, Hongo Higashitakecho, Morikawacho, Morikawacho-Shitaya Kayacho, Mikurabashi Nishimachi, Sayemonbashi-Kajibashi, Bakuninbashi-Yanagibashi, Nanwabashi-Yorozubashi, Shinbashi-Mizutanicho, Unemecho-Sukiyabashi, Shiba Tamachi 1chome-Kandabashi, Fudanokuji-Sakuradamon, Shinbashi-Azabu Sakuradamachi, Ouchimon-Awoyamagosho, Shiba Keisatsushowaki-Hibiya-Koyen, Kanasugibashi Shinobashi, Honcho 4chome-Shinagawa Station, Sukiyabashi Mihashi, Gofukubashi-Iidabashi, Sukiyabashi-Kudansaka, Saiwaibashi-Ushigomemitsuke, Hanzomon-Naitoshinjiku, Nagatacho-Awoyama Minami, Kitamachi 6 chome, Akasakamon-Kojimachi 5chome, Manaitabashi Naitoshinjiku, Awoyama Minamimachi-Yotsuyatemmacho, Tameike-Kinokunizaka-Suidobashi, Manaitabashi-Koishikawabashi, Suidobashi Sugamo 1chome, Kasugacho-Gokokuji, Kawarabashi-Gokokuji, Ushigomemitsuke-Yedogawacho, Ushigome, Sakanamachi-Tanimachi, Shiba Nihonyenoki-Rokkenchoya, Shiba Isaragocho-Azabushinbori, Shimbashi-Roppongi, Azabu Zaimokucho-Shinobashi, Azabu Zaimokucho-Akasaka Tamachi 6chome, Shiba Hamamatsucho-Iigura Yotsutsuji, Akasaka Tamachi-Rogetsucho, Kotohiracho-Shiwotome 1 chome, Reinanzakamachi-Nagatacho 1chome, Dobashi-Sukiyabashi, Konyacho-Kanda Renjakucho, Unemecho-Hatagocho, Yedobashi-Yanagibashi, Danjibashi-Kanibashi, Gofukubashi-Reiganbashi, Yayesubashi-Kamejimabashi, Kajibashi-Danjobashi, Sakurabashi-Hamacho, Sukiyabashi-Takabashi, Odawarabashi Shinobashi, Fukagawa Hachimanbashi-Tsukijima, Mikurabashi-Nakazu, Yeitaibashi Ryogokubashi, Suitengu-Fukagawa Morishitacho, Manmenbashi-Shintakabashi, Shintakabashi-Azumabashi, Aioicho 4chome-Kitatsujibashi, Honjo Yanagiwara Matsushirocho, Kanda Gokencho-Asakusa Sugacho, Shitaya Shichikencho-Shinjiku, Nipponzotsumi-Senjukaido, Azumabashi-Morishitacho, Kanda Izumicho Hongo 1chome, Kanda Ogawamachi-Hongo Kuritoshi-Sakuramachi, Manaitabashi-Motoshirocho, Hitotsubashi Suidobashi, Manaitabashi-Koishikawabashi, Hongo Morikawacho-Hakusanmaye, Hongo 1chome-Suidobashi, Fujimicho-Yotsuyamitsuke, Ichigaya Yanagimachi-Toyamagakko, Shitaya Sakamotoch-Hatajikumachi, Kajibashi-Babasanbashi, Azumabashi-Shiwomibashi.

The completion of this system of lines will effect a great change in the condition of Tokyo. It will bring the present suburbs within easy reach of the most active business quarters. One result of that will be that the better class of merchants will have their residences on the suburban hills and the area of the city will gradually extend.

The projectors of the railway talk of a period of five years for completing it. Why should they require such an immense time? If they adopt the Serpollet system they can have the whole of their lines open to traffic in a year or fifteen months. We presume that they want to obtain some return on their money as quickly as possible, and certainly not an hour should be lost in removing from Tokyo the present reproach of glaringly defective communications. Every one interested in the safety and beauty of the city must pray that it shall not be condemned to electric railways when it can have a system greatly superior in all essentials, not omitting cost, and entirely free from the top-hamper of heavy wires which are at once dangerous and disfiguring.

WATER-WORKS AND FIRES.

In the various detailed and graphic accounts of the recent Yokohama fire, we fail to find any allusion to the hydrants. Where were they? Did they throw a proper head of water? Could they be used at all? Since the water-works were completed in Yokohama an impression has prevailed that conflagrations would never again work any serious havoc. That pleasant illusion has now been completely dispelled. We suspect, however, that the trouble was scarcity of water. The water-works were designed for a population estimated officially on what seemed at the time, a liberal scale. But the estimate proved quite insufficient. It would be wrong to blame those that prepared it. No one could reasonably have foreseen the extraordinary development that Yokohama has shown within the past few years. A forecast proportionate to what has actually happened would have seemed demented a decade ago. So far as the technique of the works is concerned they have acquitted themselves admirably; but they can scarcely be said to achieve their purpose when they supply water during only eight hours out of the twenty-four, and when people have to scramble for the fluid, like "parched demons," as a Tokyo journal puts it. Indeed it is very plainly hinted that the water-works were a source of mischief rather than of succour at the last fire, for they had been trusted to the extent of neglecting other precautions and assistants. Something of the same kind is related about the Osaka water-works also. The growth of the city has far exceeded the margin left by the designers of the works. People are beginning to fear that the same error will be found to have been made in the case of Tokyo also. The population of Tokyo is increasing with great rapidity. Before many years it will probably have reached 2 millions. The water-works are not planned on any basis so extensive as that.

The past few days have induced Tokyo citizens to think longingly about water-works. A cloud of dust has perpetually enveloped the city, making life equally disagreeable indoors and out of doors. The patience of the people is wonderful.

FIRES AND LOSSES.

The number of houses destroyed by the recent fire in Yokohama was 3173. Of these, 49 were only partially consumed, but we may omit that fact for our present purpose. The total insurances effected on this property were 603,665 *yen*, and a sum of over sixty thousand *yen* has been subscribed by charitable people, so that 663,665 *yen* is available to meet the loss. Now it has hitherto been the custom of statisticians, in calculating the wealth of Japan, to take the total number of houses in the empire and multiply by 150; the basis of account being that each house is worth 100 *yen* on the average, and that the chattels it contains are worth 50 *yen*. We have more than once declared our conviction that such an estimate is far below the mark. Let us see how it works out in the case of the recent fire. If 3,173 houses were destroyed, and if we put the value of each house and its contents at 150 *yen*, it results that the total value was 475,950 *yen*. But the insurances alone aggregated 603,555 *yen*, and if we add the subscriptions, it appears that there is a

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sum of 209 *yen* available, on the average, to recoup each householder. That ought to be far more than enough according to the statisticians. But, of course, it is not nearly enough: it does not begin to be enough. The lowest estimate we have yet heard puts the loss at 5 million *yen*, or nearly eight times the aggregate of the insurances and the subscriptions.

It may be urged that Yokohama is a comparatively wealthy place, though it certainly can not be urged that the part of the town destroyed was a wealthy quarter. Let us, then, take the case of Toyama. There the houses destroyed were 5,337, and the lowest estimate of the loss is six million *yen*, or, say, approximately, a thousand *yen* per house. Of course in these conflagrations the property lost is not confined to houses and furniture. Great quantities of other valuables also are burned. But it does seem that, in the face of hard facts, the statisticians might safely double, if not treble, their figures. It may be objected, perhaps, that the balance is redressed by farmers' houses, which are generally rude structures with a minimum of household goods. But if the farmer's house is roughly built, it is generally much larger and more solid than the artizan's dwelling in a city.

INSURANCE AND THE YOKOHAMA FIRE.

Now that the full facts are published about the fire in Yokohama, it is seen that the insurances were much larger than was at first imagined, and that some companies are hit very hard, one having lost as much as 252 per cent. of its paid up capital and reserves. The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes the following table:—

Name of Office.	Paid up Capital.	(A. Reserve.	Total Funds.	Loss by Y'kama Fire.	Ratio of Loss to Funds.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Percent.
Tokyo Fire	1,250,000	519,078	1,769,078	97,859	5.5
Brewery Fire	200,000	83,500	333,500	135,850	40.7
Osaka Fire	180,000	103,750	283,750	101, 00	35.6
House & Goods Fire.	5,500	32 000	37,500	26,400	70.0
Tokyo Goods	25,000	12,965	37,965	34 000	89 6
Meiji Fire	250,000	699,872	949,872	49,000	5.2
Kwanto Fire	25,000	—	25,000	63,000	252 0
Religious Fire	125,000	13,000	138,000	29,520	21 4
Imperial Fire	165,000	—	165,000	19,000	11.5
Yokohama Fire	1,250 000	55,800	1,305,800	48,000	3.7

The Tokyo Fire, the *Meiji* Fire, and the Yokohama Fire enjoy full public confidence, and will probably benefit rather than lose by the incident, for their losses are comparatively insignificant, and the calamity will bring to them a large access of custom. But the case is very different with the House and Goods Fire, the Tokyo Goods Fire, and the Kwanto Fire, which lose 70 per cent., 89 per cent., and 252 per cent. respectively of their paid up capital and reserves. The last-named office will probably be reduced to the proverbial grand piano of the Anglo-Bengalee. These mushroom companies could be spared without disadvantage.

BIG FIRE AT TOYAMA.

Terrible as was the fire in Yokohama on the 12th instant, the conflagration in Toyama on the morning of the same day was worse, for whereas only 3,027 houses were reduced to ashes in Yokohama out of a total of probably thirty-five thousand, Toyama had 5,337 destroyed out of a total of twelve thousand. Forty-nine streets were wiped out in Toyama's case, against twenty-eight in Yokohama's. Five hundred godowns were burned down at Toyama, and the total loss of property is estimated at six million *yen*. The reports are couched in a despairing tone. They say that there is no hope of the town's resurrection. That, however, is probably an exaggeration.

Fuller investigation shows that the property destroyed by fire in Toyama on the 12th instant was insured for a much larger amount than was supposed at first. The total insurances amount to 238,400 *yen*, and the companies affected are:—

	Yen.
The Tokyo Fire	25,000
The Brewery Fire	65,000
The Meiji Fire	14,000
The House and Goods Fire	3,400
The Tokyo Goods Fire	10,000
The Toyo Fire	14,000
The Kwanto Fire	37,000
The Imperial Fire	13,000
The Religious Fire	17,000
The Osaka Fire	40,000

THE WEATHER.

The weather has become not merely a conventional, but also an interesting, topic of conversation, for it really seems a truthful statement that "the oldest inhabitant" has had no previous experience of such a curious season. All traditions have been upset. It did not rain when it ought to have rained in the closing days of June and the opening days of July; it did rain when it ought not to have rained in the latter half of July; it was cool when it ought to have been hot throughout July; and now August is visiting us with a continuity of the equinoctial weather of September. Everything is dislocated. The clerk of the weather might justly emphasise the clause in his prayer seeking forgiveness for having left undone what he ought to have done and done what he ought not to have done, and the victims of his sins of omission and commission have reason to be equally earnest when they say "give us this day our daily bread," for surely if this abnormal state of affairs continues the crops must feel it. As yet there has been no serious injury. The typhoon which visited Kagoshima on the 14th instant is said to have wrought some havoc, but the other places in its line of march report trifling injury, and, under any circumstances, a few hours' wind and rain, however violent, could not greatly hurt the rice crop at the present stage of its development. But we are not out of the wood yet. Gale has succeeded gale, and it is quite evident that these unpleasant visitors have not yet taken their final departure. Indeed another centre of depression is reported from the neighbourhood of Korea, and the appearance of the sky indicates very disturbed conditions somewhere. From the south of Japan come reports of intense heat, but in Tokyo the average temperature throughout August has been 3 or 4 degrees below the yearly mean.

ELECTIONS.

It has been considered advisable to apply to the pending provincial elections the severe code of regulations enacted by the Ito Cabinet for the purposes of the general elections in 1898. These rules forbid any and every species of tampering with electors. Men may not be dined or wined; their travelling expenses must not be paid; their hotel bills must not be defrayed; no promises must be made about grants for the improvement of schools or about aid to temples or services, and so on. Altogether the regulations contemplate an ideal state of political morality in the approaching contest for seats in the City and Prefectural Assemblies. It is a pity that the system can not be extended to the conduct of members after their election as well as before it.

"THREE EYES."

"Three Eyes" (*sangan*) is the name of a magazine having for its object the cementing of an union between *Shinto*, Buddhism, and Confucianism for the purpose of driving out Christianity. The main contention of the periodical is that Christianity is a political agency in disguise, and that it has not changed its character at all in that respect since the time when the Tokugawa Regents concluded that it must be regarded as a national foe and driven out of the country. "Three Eyes" adduces from the pages of Japanese history several instances of professing Christians who behaved with treachery towards their chiefs, and attempts to draw the inference that the foreign faith undermines men's loyalty. Buddhism, Confucianism, and *Shinto* have had their quarrels in the past, but such dissensions were family feuds, nothing more. In the presence of a foreign invader the three should unite to save the country. Such is the general trend of the argument. If it did not travel beyond those lines there would be nothing to condemn, though there might be a great deal to ridicule. But "Three Eyes" quickly lapses into personalities. It has some special aversions, notably Viscount Aoki, and the way it attacks that gentleman and all belonging to him is savage. It rages also at Professor Miyake because he believes in Darwin's theory, thus maintaining that the godlike ancestors of the Japanese race were apes; and it rages incidentally at Mr. Carl Leymann, of the Imperial University, whom we should strongly recommend to take the magazine into court, unless he thinks that such a step would confer on it the notoriety it seeks. Possibly the editors of "Three Eyes" are sincere in their convictions, and perhaps its contributors believe what they write. But to us it looks very much as though this extraordinary publication had been deliberately modelled on the lines of the worst type of yellow journal; in other words, under the guise of a religious campaign it hopes to batten upon slander. We can only say that if it represented the three creeds it professes to champion their condition would be very deplorable. But of course it does not represent them any more than the rough who throws rotten eggs and dead cats at an election represents the political convictions of the candidate. There is one redeeming feature about "Three Eyes;" it has not been suspended. Great as is the obloquy it endeavours, in its obscure way, to cast upon the moral civilization of its country, and dangerous as its mad writings may prove to the preservation of good order, the Authorities leave it unmolested, thus showing that they have acquired confidence in the robustness of the public's common sense. Science has shown that open sewers are less likely to germinate disease than covered drains, but of course that principle could not be safely applied if the atmosphere itself was

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THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

IT is to be regretted, we think, that the Educational Authorities do not publish, for general information, the text of all instructions issued by them in connexion with the recent Ordinance about private schools. We have translated, and now lay before our readers, the Ordinance, the operative regulations connected with it, and an Instruction of the Educational Department. The Ordinance is happily free from the objectionable features which disfigured the draft regulations submitted by the Authorities to the High Council on Education some months ago, and endorsed by the Council. But the Departmental Instruction seems to restore one of the worst of these features; seems to take away with the left hand what had been given with the right. For it absolutely vetoes all religious instruction or religious exercises at schools whose curricula are regulated by the provisions of law. Now it has hitherto been understood that if a private school desired to obtain official recognition—which recognition carries with it the great privilege of exemption from military service up to the age of 28—, it must bring its curriculum into strict uniformity with the provisions of law. Hence it would follow—and so all the Tokyo newspapers interpreted the case—that no private school could obtain for its students the privilege of exemption from conscription unless it agreed to ostracise religion in every form. Great as was the difficulty of reconciling such a restriction with the generally liberal policy of the Government, the public were prepared to conclude that the conservatism which still so strongly sways a section of the country's educationists, had asserted itself again in this instance. But it is now alleged by several newspapers that the Educational Department has issued another Instruction, explaining that the formula "schools whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law" (*gakka wo katei ni hōrei no kitei aru gakkō*) does not necessarily include private schools to which the privilege of exemption from conscription is granted. In short, the veto as to religion is intended to apply solely to schools which form a part of the duly organized educational machinery of the State. A Japanese youth, if he follows the course of education which the nation supports, first enters a primary School, then passes to a Middle School, then to a High School, and then to a University. He enjoys special facilities and exemptions as to examination in passing from one of these institutions to the next. All such places of education are included in the classification "State Schools" (*Kanritsu gakko*) and "Public Schools" (*Kōritsu gakko*). But there are also some private schools which, though they receive no aid from the Central Treasury or the Communal taxes, nevertheless model their curricula and methods strictly on the lines of the official institutions, and in consideration of so doing, and of submitting to official supervision, are allowed to establish a connexion with the Public Schools, the whole forming a system which may be called the State's educational machinery. To the units of that system alone the restriction as to religious instruction is intended to apply, according to the latest interpretation of the Department's Instruction. Other private schools, if they do not link themselves to the State system, will be able to obtain the privilege of exemption from conscription, provided that they satisfy the Authorities as to their worthiness of that consideration.

It is a pity, we say, that the Department of Education does not give to this interpretation the same publicity as that afforded to the anti-religious Instruction. The latter was published verbatim, whereas the modifying interpretation is said to have been embodied in a secret document.

We explained this new phase in our issue of the 9th instant, but we refer to it again in detail, because of the great importance of the subject, and because our Tokyo contemporaries continue to write in a strain most condemnatory of the Educational Department, to which they apply a contemptuous epithet. They are evidently convinced that the modification has been made solely in deference to the strong revolt of public opinion, as reflected in the columns of the press. We do not believe that: Count KABAYAMA'S character is too well-known. But for its own sake and in order to relieve the anxiety felt by many persons, the Department would do well to give publicity to all its Instructions. According to the new reading of the law, schools like the *Doshisha*, the *Eiwa Gakko*, the *Morning Star* and so on, will be able to obtain for their students exemption from military service up to the age of twenty-eight. We heartily hope that such is the case.

MARQUIS ITO.

MARQUIS ITO occupies the enviable position of being the only statesman in the empire capable of undertaking radical reforms without any fear of provoking strong opposition. It may almost be said of him that he has made no great mistakes in the past. Every innovation with which his name is associated has inured to the benefit of his country, and his countrymen would to-day be satisfied to believe that any innovation now proposed by him must equally inure to their benefit. On the strength of that conviction the *Yomiuri Shimbun* urges the Marquis to undertake three reforms; the first, relating to the nobility; the second, to Imperial nominees for the House of Peers; the third, to representatives of the highest taxpayers in the same House. The *Yomiuri* is very severe on the nobles. They have been sometimes called "the bulkwark of the Throne"; but the Throne's true bulkwark is the forty million subjects who would, one and all, die to defend it. Inherited nobility is an absurdity. Its effect is merely to give a man a ridiculously exaggerated idea of his own social importance and to keep him in ignorance of things which every useful member of the nation ought to know. A patent of nobility earned as a reward for great public service by a men of high talent and attainments, is a wise and proper distinction. A patent of nobility coming by right of succession to a man who is presumably no better than his neighbours and probably inferior to them in many respects, is a monstrous anomaly. These are the stock arguments of radicalism. They are dangerous arguments in a country like Japan, where most of the great hereditary nobles trace their descent from scions of the Imperial family. The *Yomiuri* wants life-peerage only. In other words, it would abolish the whole of the hereditary nobility, and it invites Marquis ITO to undertake the task with a light and confident heart. It also objects to the present method of nominating life members of the Upper House. These men are supposed to be chosen because of their conspicuous condition or because of some great service rendered by them to the State. But very few of them fall really into that category. The great majority have been recommended to the SOVEREIGN by various Ministries merely because, as a matter of political convenience or personal claims, sinecures had to be found. We can not discover what kind of remedy our contemporary would apply to that abuse: it merely formulates a complaint and trusts to Marquis ITO'S genius to find redress. Finally, there is the question of the highest-taxpayers' representatives in the Upper House. They are returned almost entirely in the agricultural interest now, and the *Yomiuri* would have them equally representative of trade and industry. Of course, any change of that nature would require the consent of the Diet.

THE REPORTED CHINA-JAPAN ALLIANCE.

LEADING Tokyo journals have a great deal to say about the rumour of an offensive and defensive alliance between China and Japan. They are unanimous in declaring the idea to be altogether absurd, and in expressing astonishment at the profound ignorance of the persons circulating it. When, they ask not unreasonably, when will the people of the West cease to have periodical visitations of nightmare about the yellow races and

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about Japanese ambition? They admit that Japan has become more friendly with China of late, and they claim that this country has a right to be heard first in any conference about China's destiny; but they declare frankly that Japan has thrown in her lot with the Occident, and that to suspect her of turning her back on the civilization she has espoused and upon the nations to whose comity she has taken such pains to obtain admission, is a wild fantasy. Were China swayed by a passion of revenge for the events of 1894-5, Japan might be inclined to strike hands with her, as BISMARCK would have done with JULES FERRY; but China, so far from bearing malice, is beginning to regard Japan as a sincere friend, and the opportunities that Japan descries in such friendship will be utilized to lead her neighbour into the circle of Occidental society not to unite with her in a bigoted and retrogressive racial struggle.

It is amusing to observe that the prime circulator of the story is beginning to construct a back-stairs. "We are informed," says the *N.-C. Daily News* "that, owing to the bursting of the secret-mission bubble of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER to the MIKADO of Japan, the questions of returning the ex-Peiyang fleet to China &c., have been laid on the shelf for the present." That illustrates the perfect working of a canard manufactory. Declare that a storm is in the air, and then, when it does not come, say that the prediction has averted it. The "&c" of the Shanghai journal is particularly tactful.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Count Oki seems to be very ill. He has been suffering for some time from gastric trouble, and the malady has now assumed a character which causes some uneasiness.

A news agency reports that *pour-parlers* are taking place between the Governments in Rome and Tokyo, with a view to the conclusion of a convention providing for special rates of customs duties in the silk trade.

The inundations in Hokkaido happily seem to have been of comparatively trifling magnitude. Only 350 houses were flooded, and not more than ten appear to have been washed away or seriously injured. Two deaths, however, are reported.

The Treaty with Greece, negotiated by Mr. Makino, is said to be now in the hands of the Privy Council, and will probably receive the Emperor's ratification in a few days. The exchange of ratifications will take place in Athens.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro has returned from the United States, having had the honour of receiving a degree from the Harvard University. He seems to have enjoyed the hospitality of several leading Americans, and he speaks of his trip in terms of great enthusiasm.

It is stated that a kerosene well has been discovered in Kagoshima Prefecture. The exact locality is not mentioned, but Count Matsukata and Mr. Mayeda Masana are said to be interesting themselves in the discovery, and at their suggestion experts have been sent to examine the place.

The Emperor and Empress have contributed 2,200 *yen* each to the relief of the sufferers by the recent inundations in Tokushima and Okayama, and 800 *yen* to the sufferers in Kochi Prefecture. They have also given 6,500 *yen* to the Toyama sufferers and 3,500 *yen* to those of Yokohama.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* justly speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Lay's excellent trade report which has just been reproduced in these columns. It says that the Foreign Office ought to procure copies of the report and send one to each Japanese Consulate abroad, so that it might serve as a "primer of instruction" in the art of compiling such documents. We are entirely of the *Chiuo's* way of thinking, but we may add that something more than the perusal of primers is needed to make Lays.

Mr. Diosy despatched from Nagasaki on the 10th instant a telegram of farewell. We do not know who received it, but it is said to have taken this form:—"On the eve of my departure from Japan I wish to say how much I have appreciated the great kindness of the reception given me in Japan. Now that I have seen what is good and what is bad in Japan, I conclude that a great future is before her, and my feelings of affection for her have been increased."

Japan has at present only one extradition treaty with a foreign country, namely, that concluded with the United States in 1887. Negotiations are now in progress, however, for the conclusion of similar agreements with Great Britain, Belgium and Mexico. Such matters move slowly. A long time has elapsed since we first heard of the subject, and it will probably furnish material for several journalistic paragraphs before the end is reached. Meanwhile, however, in the absence of treaties there is always a resource in that extensive remedy, "comity."

Mr. Kubota Beisen has long enjoyed the reputation of being the greatest living representative of the *Shijo* school of painting. He is undoubtedly a great artist. His works show all the delicacy of expression and directness of method that characterise the best Japanese painters. He has now completely lost his sight. The calamity is cruel. A curtain is suddenly drawn between him and the scenes which had such deep meaning for him and which it was his sole pleasure in life to depict.

Mr. Otani Kahei, as has been already stated in these columns, is about to visit the United States and Canada with the object of endeavouring to procure a remission of the duty imposed by the former on tea. A farewell entertainment will be given in his honour on the 18th instant at the Maple Club. Count Matsukata, Viscount Aoki, Viscount Tajiri, Mr. Takahira, Mr. Sone and about two hundred others have promised to be present.

From the 15th of this month, the newly fixed duty of 100 per cent. *ad valorem* will be levied on leaf tobacco imported from abroad. It is expected that the tax will suffice to protect the Government's monopoly, so far as that class of tobacco is concerned. But the question of cut tobacco now presents itself. Under present arrangements, cut tobacco can be imported without paying any onerous duty and at such a price that cigarettes manufactured from it in Japan will be able to undersell any similar article of entirely domestic production. Already steps have been taken by shrewd speculators to utilize this opportunity.

The cartoonist of the *Fiji Shimpo* gives us his idea of mixed residence as it presents itself to the average Japanese. On one side of the picture we have a Japanese woman carrying on her back a child, in her arms an immense bundle. Her husband walks before her. His hands are hidden in his capacious sleeves, and he carries nothing except a weight of supreme astonishment at the aspect of two foreigners making their advent on the other side of the cartoon. One of them is a male biped choked in a high collar and crushed by a bell-topper. Round his neck is slung a big satchel, over his left arm is thrown a collection of wraps, and in his right hand he carries, with difficulty, a colossal carpet-bag. The other foreigner is a woman. Her stature is enormous—head and shoulders above her husband. She has a vast aquiline nose surmounting a moustache more than incipient, and she is burdened with nothing heavier than a toy parasol.

Two Japanese youths have just completed the feat of swimming from Tokyo to Yokohama. Their names are Oka Tomokichi, and Yamamoto Hikokichi, their ages 18 and 20 respectively, and they learned swimming at the Nakano Natation Ground, near Kaigun-bashi, in Kobikicho. Each tied upon his head four eggs and two pieces of dried bonito to serve for food, and they set out from Kaigun-bashi at 6 a.m. on the 8th instant. The current in the neighbourhood of Haneda gave them a great deal of trouble and swept them near the shore, and their attempt to eat their provisions in the sea off Kawasaki was a failure, as they dropped the eggs in the water. They obtained some rice, however, from a fisherman and pushed on to Yokohama, reaching that place at 3.40 p.m. Apparently they were not accompanied by a boat; for we read that a friend had carried their clothes to Yokohama and was waiting for them on the shore. The distance covered must have been over 20 miles.

The town of Nagoya is beginning to attract a great deal of attention. It promises to grow into a place of much importance. Many Japanese have turned their steps thither, and two foreign firms have opened branches there. Labour is still cheap in Nagoya, and not only are the people industrious, but they also seem to possess the spirit of effective thrift in a large measure, for they amass considerable sums, which they deposit at the branch offices established in their town by the Nippon Ginko, the Mitsui Ginko, and the Daiichi Ginko. Nagoya has made long strides in its manufacturing industries during recent years. Its production of enamelled wares, of fans, and of lanterns is remarkable, and it may also be said to constitute the market of the well-known Seto potteries, while the trade of Owari, of Mino, and of Mikawa all flows

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towards it. The construction of the Central Railway will bring it into direct communication with the silk-producing districts of Nagano, and it will probably become the emporium of a trade which now finds its way to Yokohama. What Nagoya wants is water communication with Atsuta. Were a canal cut the future of the place would be assured.

The Government has rescinded the Ordinance recently issued, imposing restrictions on travel to Korea. It seems to have been a hasty and ill-judged measure. There was a strong suspicion, indeed, that Japanese subjects had been implicated in the dynamite outrages in Söul, but a mere suspicion of that nature could not justify the course adopted. The procedure was very like a fiasco, and the only excuse to be found for it is that it was an error on the side of caution.

The Italian Representative in Peking has evidently formulated his country's new demands, but thus far they have been successfully concealed from the public. It is not likely that privacy can be permanently preserved, however. Official methods in the Chinese capital forbid anything of that kind. Meanwhile the Representatives of Great Britain and Japan seem to be playing the part of mediators, so it is a reasonable supposition that a peaceful solution will be found.

The old story is again ventilated about secret commissions offered and received in connexion with the building of a first-class cruiser for Japan in Germany. It was the Yellow Journal of Tokyo that served up this tale originally, and, after a sufficient interval, we make its acquaintance again in other columns in the form of a *réchauffé*. A certain Mr. Miyashita, not having obtained his proper share of the commission, is said to be about to sue his coadjutors. There is, of course, no fault to be found with the mere fact of commissions having been paid, but the story has a corollary pleasant to the newsmonger, namely, that a Minister of State and some other officials are among the creditors for the amount held back. That is the kernel of the canard.

We take the following interesting paragraph from *Bradstreet's*:—

The average value of the product of agricultural lands per acre or square mile is often computed, but probably few of us have seen similar computations relating to the sea. Prof. Heusens, writing in the German geographical periodical, *Globus*, has figured out an average of this sort for the North Sea, which is well known to be one of the world's great sources of value derived from fisheries. He says the value of the fish caught in the North Sea yearly by the countries bordering it is about $11,000,000. The yearly catch is never known to be less than $37,500,000 nor more than $45,000,000. The North sea, including the Skager Rak or gulf between the southern part of Norway and Sweden, has an area of 225,884 square miles, and, therefore, the average value of the North Sea fisheries each year is $18.15 for every square mile of the sea. England and Scotland take the lion's share of the wealth of these waters, the annual value of the English fisheries being about $21,250,000; Scotland, $6,650,000; Holland, $4,750,000; France, $3,120,000; Germany $2,500,000 Norway, $950,000; Belgium, $900,000; Denmark, $400,000.

Detailed regulations have now been published for putting into operation the Law of Strategical Zones which was passed by the Diet last session. The purpose of these zones is to keep a clear space of certain dimensions around first-class fortifications so that nothing shall interfere with their offensive and defensive capacities. There are eleven places on the list at present, namely, Kure, Tokyo Bay, Saseho, Maizuru, Tsushima, Nagasaki, Shimonoseki, Hakodate, Yura, Naruto, and Geivo. At each of these places the lines of fortification are marked, and a zone 7,000 yards wide is then traced outside the lines. Within such zones people are not allowed to reside, except on certain conditions, neither is photographing, sketching, or trespass in general permitted. The detailed regulations do not contain anything of interest to foreigners. They provide chiefly for the manner of regulating residence within the zones.

PRIVATE SCHOOL REGULATIONS.

We have already given the gist of the Private School Regulations, a course which appeared sufficient. But, having received a request for the publication of the Regulations in full, we now proceed to translate them:—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 359.

August 3rd, 1899.

PRIVATE SCHOOL REGULATIONS.

ART. I.—Private schools are subject to the supervision of chief local offices, except in cases specially provided for.

ART. II.—Any person proposing to establish a private school must obtain permission from the supervisory office.

In the event of the abolition of a private school, or a change of founder, the fact must be reported to the supervisory office.

ART. III.—A private school must have a duly determined principal, or a person authorized to represent the school and manage its affairs, and his appointment must be sanctioned by the supervisory office.

All provisions of this Ordinance that relate to principals of schools are correspondingly applicable to persons who represent schools and manage their affairs.

ART. IV.—Persons coming under any of the following cases shall not be eligible for the post of principal or teacher at a private school:—

1. A person who has committed a major offence. Provided that this restriction does not apply to political offenders whose civil rights have been restored.

2. A person who has committed a minor offence involving the punishment of hard labour.

3. A person who has been pronounced insolvent and has not recovered civil rights, or a person who has been declared bankrupt and has not yet discharged his debts.

4. A person who has been deprived of his official position as a disciplinary measure, unless two years have elapsed since the deprivation, or unless he has been pardoned.

5. A person who has been deprived of his teacher's certificate, unless two years have elapsed since the deprivation.

6. A person who is regarded as a disreputable character.

ART. V.—A private school teacher, unless he is in possession of a teacher's certificate of suitable grade, shall furnish testimonials of his erudition as well as of his acquaintance with the Japanese language, and shall obtain the approval of the chief local official in the case of an elementary school, a deaf and dumb school, or a school of the same class as an elementary school, and of the Minister of State for Education in the case of other schools. Provided that a knowledge of the Japanese language need not be certified in the case of a teacher employed to give instruction in foreign languages, or in some special technical subject, as well as in the case of a teacher at a school established for the purpose of obtaining foreign pupils.

ART. VI.—Should the testimonials mentioned in the preceding Article be deemed insufficient, the supervisory office shall, in compliance with the desire of the candidate, subject him to examination.

ART. VII.—Should it be considered that a private-school principal or teacher has become unsuitable, the supervisory office may cancel the permission granted to him.

ART. VIII.—A private school, unless it is qualified to serve as substitute for a public school, shall not have the right to admit a child of school-going age which has not discharged its educational obligations. Provided that this restriction shall not apply to children which have received the sanction of the Head-man of a City, Town, or Rural District, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 21 and 22 of the Elementary School Regulations.

ART. IX.—Should it be considered that the method of establishment or of instruction, or any other feature of a private school, is injurious from an educational point of view, the supervisory office may order a change to be made.

ART. X.—In any of the following cases, the supervisory office may order the closing of a private school.

1. If there has been an infringement of the law.

2. If there is reason to apprehend disturbance of public peace or good order, or detriment to public morality.

3. If the fixed course of instruction has been suspended for six months or more.

4. If there has been a violation of an order issued by the supervisory office under the provisions of Art. IX.

ART. XI.—If a supervisory office considers that an institution is discharging the educational functions of a school, it shall intimate the fact to the persons concerned, and require compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

ART. XII.—Against a decision rendered according to Art. X. an appeal may be made to a court of law.

ART. XIII.—Any person who, after receipt of the intimation mentioned in Art. XI., fails to take the steps prescribed in the first clause of Art. II.; or any person who violates the provisions of the second clause of Art. II.; or any person who, after receiving the order of closure provided in Art. X., continues to carry on a private school, shall be punished with a fine of from 5 *yen* to 100 *yen*.

ART. XIV.—Any person who acts as principal or teacher in a private school without obtaining the permission provided in Art. III., and in Art. V., or any person who continues to act as principal or teacher of a private school after having had his permission cancelled according to the provisions of Art. VII., shall be punished with a fine not exceeding 30 *yen*. Any person who wittingly employs such a principal or teacher shall be liable to similar punishment.

ART. XV.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art. VIII. shall be punished with a fine not exceeding 20 *yen*.

ART. XVI.—The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply correspondingly to private kindergartens.

ART. XVII.—The Minister of State for Education shall issue such regulations as may be necessary for putting this Ordinance into operation.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

ART. XVIII.—This Ordinance shall go into force from the 4th day of the 8th month of the 32nd year of *Meiji* (August 4th, 1899).

ART. XIX.—In the case of already-established private schools which have not obtained permission for their establishment, permission, as provided in this Ordinance, must be obtained within 3 months from the date of the Ordinance's operation.

ART. XX.—Any person who is occupying the position of a principal or teacher in a private school at the time of the operation of this Ordinance, and who desires to continue in that position in the same school, shall, unless he is in possession of a teacher's certificate of suitable grade, make application to the supervisory office within the space of three months from the date of operation of this Ordinance, and shall receive the permission referred to in Art. III or Art. V.

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DETAILED REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PRIVATE SCHOOL ORDINANCE.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT ORDINANCE.

No. 38.

Art. I.—Any one who, in accordance with Art. II. of the Private School Regulations, desires to obtain permission for establishing a private school, must forward to the supervisory office an application containing the undermentioned particulars, and accompanied by a plan of the site, the school buildings and the boarding house :—

1. The object of the school.
2. The name.
3. The grade.
4. The rules.
5. The financial scheme and the method of maintenance.

Provided that any changes made in the particulars of the above clauses from 1 to 3 inclusive, or in the site, school building or boarding house, must be reported to the supervisory office ; and for any change in clause 4 the permission of the supervisory office must be obtained.

Art. II.—The following points must be included in the school regulations :—

1. The period of study, the age of admittance, the limits of study, and the arrangements as to holidays.
2. The curriculum and the hours of study.
3. Arrangements with regard to examinations.
4. Arrangements with regard to entering and leaving the school.
5. Arrangements with regard to tuition fees and entrance fees.
6. Arrangements with regard to rewards and punishments.
7. Arrangements with regard to boarding houses.
8. Arrangements with regard to the duties of officers.

Art. III —Any one who, in accordance with the 1st Clause of Art. III. of the Private School Ordinance, or the 1st Clause of Art. V. of the same, desires to obtain permission to become the principal of a private school, or the representative of a school, or a teacher, must send to the supervisory office an application accompanied by the applicant's record.

Art. IV.—With regard to the examination mentioned in Art. VI. of the Private School Ordinance, it shall be conducted, in the case of an elementary school, a deaf-mute and blind school, or a school of an elementary kind, by the examiners of teachers for Elementary Schools, and in other cases by the examiners for teachers for Normal Schools, Middle Schools, or High Schools, or by a committee specially nominated by the Minister of State for Education.

Art. VI.—Private schools with regard to which special provisions exist according to their kind, shall be respectively governed thereby.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

Art. VI.—Notification No. 15 of the 14th year of *Meiji* (1881), issued by the Department of State for Education, shall be rescinded from the date of this Ordinance's operation.

EDUCATIONAL-DEPARTMENTAL INSTRUCTION.

It being essential from the point of view of educational administration, that general education should be independent of religion, religious instruction must not be given, or religious ceremonies performed, at Government Schools, Public Schools, or schools whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law, even outside the regular course of instruction.

(Signed) Count KABAYAMA,
Minister of State for Education.

(Dated) 3rd August, 1899.

OFFICIAL PERMISSION!

A good joke is circulating in local shipping circles at the expense of one of those petty officials in the Japanese service who make a fetich of "the spirit and the letter of the law." The P. & O. *Rohilla*, though drawing only 24 feet of water, touched the mud when going alongside Yokohama Pier on Monday, and as a consequence had to lie on the bank until next day. As the shades of evening fell on Monday, the Harbour Master's launch drew alongside the stranded steamer and hailed the Captain. "Have you permission to lie here?" said a voice from the launch. "Oh, no," said Captain Lockyer. "Then you can't stay here." To which the Captain mildly replied "I'm afraid I must stay here, permission or no permission ; we're on the mud." "But you haven't official permission." "Well, I don't want to stay here, I can assure you" responded the worthy skipper. Soon after it dawned on the official personage that his protests were of no avail when a steamer has struck the mud of Yokohama harbour, and he retired in some confusion. The story recalls an incident not uncommon in the manage at Woolwich same forty years ago, when a certain facetious riding master happened to be on duty. He would direct an inattentive cadet to mount one of the knowing old horses that could always "depose" their riders at a given signal, and when presently, the unfortunate youth bit the tan, Mr. Butler would call out in a stentorian voice :—"Now then, Sir? What do you mean by dismounting without orders on the wrong side?"

CORRESPONDENCE.

BRITISH INDIAN TRADERS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the first instalment of extracts from Mr. Lay's Report on the Trade of Japan that appeared in the last but one issue of your "Weekly" it is found incidentally mentioned that of the British Colonies and Dependencies originally purposely left out of the operation of the Treaty made between Great Britain and Japan, Queensland, Natal, and India had subsequently agreed to participate in the Treaty.

If this statement is correct for India it is very important to British Indian merchants doing business in Japan, as goods coming from India are now treated as coming from a non-treaty country and are charged accordingly at the higher rate of duty.

I shall therefore feel obliged if any of your readers can inform me from what date the Indian Government has adhered to the Treaty between Great Britain and Japan, and if there is any official declaration or notification by the Japanese Government on the subject.

Yours faithfully, BRITISH INDIAN.

Kobe, 12th August, 1899.

[British India has not yet come under the Revised Treaty, but negotiations to that end are in progress.—ED. *J. M.*]

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am urged by Dr. Sun Yat Sen to correct my letter of the 8th instant. In that communication I stated that the members of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Yokohama belonged to Kang Yu-wei's party. This is not a fact I now learn ; the Chamber was formed for purely commercial objects, so far as the Chinese merchants of Yokohama are concerned. I still urge that the original promoter, Leung Kei Chuan, is one of Kang's men. But the Yokohama Chinese merchants are too shrewd to allow political leaders to sway them and they at last excluded Leung and organised the Chamber without him. Therefore I beg to correct my former assertion.

Yours, &c., YUNG-KU-WAN.

Aug. 15th, 121 Settlement, Yokohama.

INTERNATIONAL AQUATICS.

Y.A.R.C. *v.* SUIFU-RYU OTAHA DAI NIPPON YURIJO.

Three international swimming races took place on the Sumida-gawa, Tokyo, on Saturday afternoon. The first came off at a little after four o'clock, when what tide there was was running up the river. A fresh breeze made the water very choppy and unpleasant to swim against. As in last year's competition, the 100 yards and ¼ mile were both won by the Japanese swimmers, while the Y.A.R.C. succeeeded in winning the ½ mile, thanks to Harold Irwine's plucky swimming. The course was marked out in front of the Nippon Ginko's Boat House by two lines of barges crowded with enthusiastic Japanese students who hardly stopped cheering from the moment each race started till it finished. The hundred yards course was straightaway, but the ½ mile and ¼ mile were in stretches of 100 yards between two pontoons that distance apart. The hundred yards was swum with the tide and wind, which will account for the very fast time made.

100 YARDS.

Y. Kondo	1	K. Tanaka	3
D. Weed	2	J. F. Drummond...	4

A very even start, Kondo and Weed immediately going to the front. A neck and neck race between these two ended in favour of the former by a foot. Drummond was a disappointment and seemed quite unable to do anything against his opponents. Time, 1 min. 1½ sec.

QUARTER MILE.

M. Harada	1	H. E. Hayward ...	3
H. Goddard	2	S. Toriyama.....	4

Goddard at once assumed the lead, with Harada and Toriyama in close attendance, Hayward dropping behind. About half way down the first length, Harada went to the front and touched the pontoon first. Coming back again he further increased his lead, and finished the third length nearly 10 yards ahead of Goddard, who was about the same distance in front of Toriyama ; Hayward a long way behind. Going up on the third lap the position of the leaders remained unchanged, but Hayward began to come up and succeeded in passing Toriyama before the turn for the home stretch. He further improved his position in the last length and almost caught Goddard, who finished about 15 yards behind Harada, Toriyama a very poor fourth. Time, 7 min. 25 sec.

HALF MILE.

H. Y. Irwine.....	1	M. Mizoguchi	0
Kiyota	2	H. A. Poole	0

This race proved the surprise of the day, as it seemed impossible that Mizoguchi would be beaten. He was unable to finish, however, and it appears that he was not in condition. From the start he and Kiyota took the lead, with Irwine close up, Poole soon falling to the rear. These positions remained unchanged for five lengths, Mizoguchi and Kiyota swimming side by side, with Irwine about five yards behind and Poole dropping further behind each length. Coming up the course the sixth time Irwine began to creep up, and reached the pontoon with Kiyota ; Mizoguchi, who seemed hardly able to struggle to it, here giving in ; and Poole, who was soon now quite a hundred yards behind followed suit soon after. An exciting and plucky race ensued between Irwine and Kiyota, the two making a ding-dong fight of it all the way down the seventh and up the last stretch, Irwine going to the front about 10 yards from home and winning by about 7 feet. Time, 16 min. 21 sec.

The latest traveller who will attempt to penetrate Thibet, the forbidden land, is Mr. John Bookwalter, a millionaire of Springfield, Ohio. He leaves for India shortly, and by permission of the Czar will join the Russian exploring expedition, which will penetrate Thibet. Bookwalter, who is confident of the success of his trip, intends to visit Lhassa and interview the Grand Lama.

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BIG FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

THOUSANDS OF HOUSES AND STORES BURNT OUT.

DESTRUCTION OF FIVE THEATRES AND SEVERAL SCHOOLS.

MANY LIVES LOST: MILLIONS OF PROPERTY CONSUMED.

VIVID DESCRIPTIONS BY EYE-WITNESSES.

Yokohama, August 13.

One of those vast and dreadful conflagrations to which Eastern cities are peculiarly liable, broke out in Yokohama on Saturday night, and laid waste one of the wealthiest, most important, and densely populated quarters of the native town. It is hard to say what is the exact extent of the damage done or the loss of life consequent on the outbreak. Even at the time of writing the scene of the dreadful visitation is smoking and smouldering, with patches of flame here and there, and any systematic enquiry into the details of the losses is impossible. Thirteen lives, however, are known to have been lost, and the property destroyed must have been worth many millions of *yen*.

The alarm was given just about nine o'clock on Saturday evening, and at first little notice was taken of it by the residents on the Bluff and in the Settlement who thought there was only in progress one of the ordinary blazes which occur from time to time in Japanese town. Half an hour later, however, the lurid red in the western sky showed that the fire was assuming big proportions, and very soon fierce crackling and a series of small explosions made themselves heard even so far away as the Bund. On arrival at Senshiu-bashi, some idea could be gained of the giant character of the conflagration. At ten o'clock the flames were leaping from street to street at greyhound speed; the heat, even with the width of the Creek between the flames and spectators on the bridge, was intense; and the roar of the flames as they swept from house to house, now licking up a flimsy cottage of wood and paper, now finding a tougher task in some stone godown or brick store, could be heard hundreds of yards away. The fire, it seems, had started at some house near Ashibiki-cho not far from the Yoshiwara. Apparently the flames had obtained a firm hold of the first house before their existence was discovered. When the alarm sounded the police and firemen were promptly on the spot, but it was soon evident that their efforts could not prevent a very serious disaster. Indeed, it may be doubted if the most efficient brigades of London or New York, with the best appliances, could, under the circumstances, have saved the doomed area. The fierce southerly gale—of *sirocco* like intensity—which has been the cause of so much discomfort for days past, was blowing at its height, and swept the flames from house to house with marvellous rapidity. It was like the blast from a smith's bellows, and anything inflammable that lay in its path was bound to go. Of course even under these adverse circumstances the fire might have been checked, or its area circumscribed, had the buildings involved been of a solid character. But the major portion of the neighbourhood where the fire started was merely covered with lower class Japanese dwelling houses, wood walled and thatch-roofed, and naturally these burned like tinder. One mean street after another was attacked, and soon it was evident that there would be a clear sweep of the whole district. Had matters rested there the disaster would have been bad enough, and tragical enough, for the poor householders concerned; but the money loss would have been immensely less than what actually proved to be the case, and the Japanese city of Yokohama would have been spared the loss of some of her most noted streets.

HOW THE FLAMES SPREAD.

It was soon apparent that nothing could stop the progress of the flames; and that everything in the path of the fire must go until some large open space was reached over which the flames could not leap. With alarming rapidity the conflagration made its way in a northerly direction, and soon a dozen streets were blazing. Then, increasing mightily in volume, the fire began to spread itself laterally, and soon the blocks near Senshiu and Tsuruno-hashi were burning fiercely. The scene from near Senshiu-bashi was one of infernal splendour. Far as the eye could reach was one roaring furnace of flame. Occasionally, as an oil shop or a timber yard was attacked, there would be dense volumes of smoke and clouds of sparks which were swept whirling away by the howling wind, and, alighting far away, assisted in spreading destruction still further. At other times the flames sunk low, but the whole perspective was lighted with a red glow like that of a furnace at half blast, and then all the details of the grim picture could be seen. Most curious was the appearance of the telegraph and telephone poles. The wind was generally too strong to allow them to burn brightly, but with an occasional lull a bright flash of flame would start from top to bottom, only to be extinguished by the next violent gust, and replaced by a dull red glow. Many of them, like red hot iron pillars, were the only objects standing in a space that had been swept clear of houses. Here and there, too, some stoutly-built godown opposed itself to the fiery devourer, and formed a little island in a perfect sea of flame and smoke. No pen but that of an epic poet could describe the whole scene; it was like a Canto of the Inferno translated into reality.

THEATRE STREET DOOMED.

A little longer, and it was clear that Isezaki-cho, the famous Theatre Street, dear to globe trotters, the Strand of the Japanese theatre-goer, was doomed. Isezakicho was one of the broadest, most animated, and most picturesque streets of the native quarter. It contained five theatres of standing popularity, and countless taree shows, shooting galleries, acrobatic exhibitions, story tellers' places, tea-houses, restaurants, and other haunts of the pleasure-loving Japanese. All the lighter-side of Japanese life in the great port was associated with it. Great, therefore, was the consternation, when the fiery whirlwind reached this quarter. Most of buildings were of a character but poorly calculated to offer resistance to the flames, and before long the whole thoroughfare was one huge furnace.

PANDEMONIUM LET LOOSE.

The inmates of all the houses and establishments in the path of the fire realised that all hope was gone, and made wild efforts to save what they could of their personal effects. The scenes in the streets to leeward of the conflagration beggar description. At any fire in the native town excitement reigns supreme. But such wild and uncontrollable panic, such mad hurrying to and fro, such shouting and confusion have probably never been witnessed in Yokohama since the great fire which destroyed a great part of the foreign settlement in the early days. The heat and smoke were almost intolerable; and it is a wonder that in such an atmosphere and amid such terrible excitement there were not scores of cases of suffocation and crushing to death. Coolies rushed wildly up and down the streets with trucks laden with a few valuables and personal effects that had been hastily packed. Old women were seen struggling, with their *tatami* and *hibachi*, and the dear domestic tea kettle, to a place of safety. Even window frames were torn out of the sashes and taken away. The streets leading to the Creek were nearly impassable on account of the struggling masses of men and women, and the police were too busily occupied with other matters to be able to make any attempt to regulate the traffic.

THE WORK OF THE FIREMEN

Hard, and indeed heroic, work was done by the Brigade men, but the streams of water which were directed on the burning mass were as effectual as Mrs. Partington's mop against the force of the Atlantic Ocean. Everything that lay in the line of the wind was hopelessly doomed. All that could be done was to prevent the fire spreading from the sides, and even that was hard enough. For instance, the blocks by the creek side near Tsuruno-hashi, which at first appeared to have a chance of escaping, at last succumbed, and very soon the Mi Kyokai (the Greek Church) was threatened. The buildings on the opposite side of the road were ablaze and showers of sparks blew across to the church and settled on every part of the roof and walls. The edifice, however, is a fairly stout one of brick and plaster, with little or no wood on the exterior, and, though a little scorched, it escaped serious damage. At one time, however, it stood in the midst of an area of fierce flame, and the fire made its way for a good distance beyond.

THE SCENE AT MIDNIGHT.

At midnight the conflagration was still at its height and was fast nearing the creek near Yoshida-bashi. At length the fire, which had now levelled the whole of Isezaki-cho, attacked the Isezaki-cho Police Station. A brick structure of fair solidity, the station offered some resistance, but the fierceness of the flames rendered futile all the efforts to save the building, and all within was soon a roaring and blazing furnace. In a short time the whole place was completely gutted. A similar fate was reserved for the Yoshida School, and the Post Office at Fukuromi cho, while the Musashi Shogyo Bank, and a school where lectures are given by foreign missionaries had already succumbed to the flames.

KEROSENE JUNKS ON FIRE.

At half-past twelve the whole creek side near Yoshida-bashi was in a blaze, and even the sampans and junks anchored by the shore had caught fire. Many of them were loaded with kerosene cases, and the flare of the oil lent additional fierceness to the flames. The coolies on board had to save themselves by swimming across the water. It was feared at one time that even the breadth of the creek, which is considerable at this point, might not prove a sufficient obstacle to the spread of the fire; and keen attention had to be directed to the burning boats, for fear that some of them, getting free from their anchorage, might float across or down stream and add still further to the disaster. Indeed, in one instance these fears were realised, for the Presbyterian Church between the Creek and the Railway Station was at one time burning, and a wood seller's shop, a maccaroni merchant's establishment, and a fried fish eating house were twice set on fire by sparks. The members of the late Yokohama Fire Brigade, however, did good service in putting out the flames, and a further spread of the fire was happily prevented.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

By one o'clock it was evident that the fire had at length reached its limit, and that with care no farther danger need be apprehended. There was still a considerable volume of flame, but the climax had been passed, and though during the rest of the morning the flames rose and fell fitfully with the gusts of wind it was well within the power of the firemen to prevent any further extension of the conflagration. It was not, however, till five or six o'clock that the heat and flame had so far abated as to admit of any organised exploration of the devastated district, and even at noon to-day there were smouldering embers strewn everywhere, while here and there a heap of charred timbers burst into a blaze, and some great heaps of ashes, veritable volcanoes on a small scale, threw out a scorching heat within a far from narrow radius.

THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE.

To make the limits of the fire area clear to readers it is necessary to explain that the district affected forms roughly a trapezoidal figure, of which the western side is a line parallel with the Creek near Ashibiki-cho, while the southern

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side is marked by the creek spanned by Senshin bashi, Tsuruno-hashi, and Horai bashi, and the northern side by the creek crossed by Toyokuni-bashi, Yoshida-bashi, and Yanagi-bashi. The remaining side would be formed by a line—not a mathematically straight line, of course, for the fire played curious tricks—drawn from the neighbourhood of Wakatake-cho to near Choja-machi. Practically the whole of the buildings within this line were destroyed.

FREAKS OF THE FIEND.

As we have said, the flames took occasionally eccentric courses. In Choja-machi, Ku-chome, for example, there was a galvanised iron building standing in the midst of desolation, but quite bright and clean, with not even a scorch visible, and to all appearances perfectly intact. In the same neighbourhood a wood yard, with quantities of loose timber lying about, was untouched, though a few yards off the ground had been swept clear of all buildings. In Yanagi-cho a carpenter, evidently in a large way of business, escaped scathless, though it might be imagined, from the nature of his calling, that he would be peculiarly liable to injury. However, he probably owed his immunity to the substantial nature of the building. Indeed, a visit to the fire-swept region shows strikingly the advantages of stone or brick-built houses. Most of the solidly built godowns remain standing, though subjected to the fiercest heat—they stand out like little islands in a sea of desolation. Object lessons like these should teach the Japanese, if anything will, that comparative safety from the fires which destroy whole towns can only be attained by more solidity of construction and the selection of non-inflammable materials.

In several cases we noticed that the fire had leaped over a house on the outskirts of the destroyed area, and had spared it while reducing to ashes its neighbours. In some of these houses the inmates were to be seen this morning carrying on their household work as usual, undisturbed by the clouds of ashes and the smoke-laden atmosphere. In one place, near the spot where the fire originated, the back part of several houses was destroyed, but the families were camping comfortably in the front portion, seemingly undisturbed by the events of the night. The southern side of Chitose-cho has been completely destroyed; the northern side is uninjured. Right in the centre of the fire area a small garden, enclosed in a brick wall, remains intact, though the trees in it are of course smoke-withered and drooping. The house to which it belongs has been destroyed. A big and apparently well-built bathhouse in Horaicho, Shichichome, is gutted completely. The fierceness of the blaze is explained by the numerous kerosene tins scattered among the ruins; there must have been many oil shops within the doomed district. Despite the terrific heat, the stock in the few ironmongery stores does not appear to have undergone much damage; the bar and hoop iron remain untwisted, and even sheets of galvanised iron, though of course damaged, are not, as one might have imagined, crumpled up like burnt paper.

THE DEATH ROLL.

Of the lost of life it is impossible to speak positively at present. It may be hoped that there were not many lives sacrificed, for the comparatively early hour at which the fire was discovered, and the easy means of egress from a Japanese house, rendered escape a comparatively simple matter. Five bodies had been reported found up to noon this morning. Four of the victims were found in the godown attached to a *sake* merchant's shop in Isezakicho. They had apparently been surrounded by flames and were unable to escape. They made an attempt to seal up the doors with clay in order to keep out the smoke and heat, but met an agonising death from suffocation. Another man was found in Chojamachi. He had been attempting to save some of his property, and had been asphyxiated by smoke and afterwards severely burned.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

The disaster, grim as it was, was not without some humorous features. In the very centre of the scene of the Brigade's operations there was a foreign loafer, evidently very fresh from the saloons of China Town, who was offering energetic advice to the officials, and telling them that if they would only let him take command he would very soon dispose of the matter. The treatment of this genius was very characteristic of the better class of Japanese constable. In England or on the Continent he would have been brusquely dismissed, with a shove or the thrust of a sword hilt. But the constable of Japan, mindful of instructions "to be kind to the foreigner and lead him gently in the right way" argued deferentially with this person, and mildly withdrew him from the centre of observation. Equally amusing was the remark of a Continental gentleman, apparently imperfectly versed in English, who greeted an Anglo-Saxon spectator with the words, "The fire burns," which, as a statement of fact, was absolutely indisputable.

THE COST OF IT ALL.

Estimates of loss must necessarily be of the vaguest. The authorities have no idea, and no figures are available for making a calculation. Taking into consideration, however, the destruction of buildings, furniture, and personal property, the total loss must amount to many millions of *yen*. One thing that strikes a foreign observer who inspects the desolated region is the perfect quietness and philosophy with the Japanese take their cruel loss. There is no sobbing, wringing of hands, or even tears. In many cases people who have lost their all wear still a cheerful smile. *Shikata ga nai* seems the prevailing sentiment. Things are bad, but it makes them no better to howl like a baboon or cry like a baby. Certainly, for bearing up against misfortune, and smiling in the face of fate, there are few peoples superior to the Japanese. To lose one's all—for in most cases, of course, probably in the case of all the lower class houses—there is no insurance; to pass through hours of wearing anxiety and terror, and to spend the night in the streets—all this does not constitute a pleasant experience, and one can not help admiring the manly fortitude with which the situation is met.

HELP FROM FOREIGNERS.

We are glad to note that Mrs. Walton, a lady staying at the Central Hotel, called at the Settlement Police Station on Sunday morning, and offered to subscribe 200 *yen* towards the relief of the sufferers. An officer was sent with her to the City Office, where she was enabled to place the money in the hands of a responsible official. We hope—and we have no doubt on the subject—that this initiative will be liberally followed up by the foreign residents of the Port. There will be doubtless acute need of any amount of money that may be forthcoming.

LATER

Sunday, Midnight.

The scene has been considerably changed since morning. The Japanese police have been working very energetically all day in clearing away rubbish, demolishing standing walls, marking off districts, and erecting hoardings, so that the district is not quite so desolate a wilderness as it looked at daybreak. However, even now (midnight) the fire has not nearly burned out; the embers are still smouldering, and now and then a fitful blaze is roused by a gust of wind. No great attention is paid to this; the danger of the fire spreading has disappeared with the abatement of the gale, and a matter of fact it is difficult to see how any other course could be adopted than that of letting the fire burn itself out, for the water supply would probably not suffice to extinguish it.

THE DEATH ROLL.

The police announced that eight more bodies have been recovered making thirteen in all so far, and the fear is expressed that a good many children have met an awful fate amid the flames. Six bodies were found under the rains of the Tsutaza Theatre, one in the Okagawa creek, and one in a well at the back of a house in Yoshida Machi. A large number of persons more or less seriously injured have been taken to the Juzen Hospital.

THE EXTENT OF THE LOSS.

Official statistics now to hand reveal the full extent of the calamity. In all 3,027 houses have been destroyed, and a space half a mile in length by many hundred yards in breadth has been swept by the flames. The following schools were demolished:—Yoshida Gakko; Hiranuma Senzo's School; Yokohama Gakko; Oimatsu Gakko; Shogyo Gakko; Kotobuki Gakko; Ota Gakko; Horaicho Mission Meeting House. Other public buildings which have been destroyed are:—Tsutaza, Hagoromoza, Isamiza, Nigiwaiza, Riogokuza, theatres; Isezakicho Police Station and Fukutomi Post Branch Offices, Seisho-ji and Bentensha Temples, and the Musashi Ginoko; the Hinode Kan and Toyo Kan bazaars.

The following shows the damage done in the various streets:—Kumoicho; 1 cho; Ashibikicho, 1 cho; Hisakatacho, 1 cho; Nigiwaicho, 1 cho; Choja-machi, go-chome to hachi-chome; Isezaki cho, itchome to nichome; Naniwacho, *in toto*; Horaicho, sanchi me to shichome; Fukutomi-cho, itchome to sanchome; Yoshida-machi, itchome to nichome; Yanagicho *in toto*; Wakabacho, 1 cho; Wakatakecho *in toto*, Umegaicho *in toto*; Hagoromocho, itchome to nichome; Sugatamicho, itchome to nichome; Matsagaicho *in toto*.

WHERE THE FIRE STARTED.

It is officially stated that the fire originated in a bath house kept by Shimamura Matsu at Kumoi-cho, Itchome, near Ashibiki-cho.

HOW FOUR MEN DIED.

Yokohama, August 14.

There are few fresh details to note with regard to the great conflagration of Saturday night. It is stated—though we have failed to obtain official confirmation of the theory—that the four men who met a terrible death by suffocation in a godown off Isezakicho did not themselves seal up the doors with clay, as was stated yesterday. The story is that they were engaged inside the godown when a party of coolies, such as are always to be seen at a fire securing premises in the hope of reward later, came along, banged the doors on the unfortunate men, and sealed the interstices. The poor fellows, judging from the positions in which their bodies were found, made desperate efforts to release themselves before death mercifully put an end to their agonies.

THE DEARTH OF WATER.

A curious point is that the bath-house in Kumoicho, where the fire originated, was itself saved. One explanation as to why the fire spread so rapidly is to be found in the fact that the water-supply was by no means abundant. There were only about 120 thousand gallons on the Noge reservoir at the time of the outbreak, and nearly the whole of this was used, so that the supply had to be practically suspended on Sunday. This was not the only incidental hardship, for the destruction of such vast quantities of valuables has caused a rise of some 15 per cent. in staples, while of course house-rent is enormously higher. Indeed, sufficient houses cannot be obtained for love or money; they are all occupied.

HELPING HANDS.

Liberal contributions have been made towards the relief of the sufferers. We mentioned in yesterday's issue the donation of Mrs. Walton. On Monday the following sums were received:—Messrs. Z. Hara, T. Hara, S. Mogi, Y. Mogi, K. Otani, C. Minoda, S. Hiranuma, F. Watanabe and U. Suzuki (Tokyo), *yen* 1 000 each; R. Kimura, C. Fusejima and I. Wakao *yen* 500; M. Masuda *yen* 250; S. Matsumoto, H. Yagishita, T. Furuya, K. Koma and T. Saiki *yen* 100; Mr. and Mrs. Y. Takahashi *yen* 60; Messrs. J. Hagijima, S. Kotke and S. Sagara *yen* 50, &c.; Messrs. A. S. Rosenthal and Fried *yen* 300.

BILL OF COSTS.

The Kobe Chronicle places the total loss at

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three million dollars, which seems rather under than over the mark. The insurances, details of which are given in another column, cover 354,500 *yen* and 770 houses. It may be taken for granted that these houses were only the larger business places, and that the poorer class people have lost their all.

It appears that there were 484 firemen, drawn from the Bluff and Japanese town, engaged on the fire. Several of these, and a few members of the police force, sustained more or less serious injuries.

HOW ONE PLACE WAS SAVED.

One curious story is told concerning the business premises of Mr. Shimizu, a contractor, of Yoshida-machi. This establishment escaped injury, though buildings all round were levelled. The explanation is that the owner, shortly after the outbreak of the fire, telephoned to Tokyo for the dispatch of a company of firemen from the metropolis. They at once proceeded to Yokohama by steam-launch, and on their arrival Mr. Shimidzu offered a reward of *yen* 4,000 if they could save his place of business, which they succeeded in doing.

THE INSURANCE.

	yen.
The Meiji Fire	35,000
The House and Goods Fire	72,895
The Yokohama Fire	70,000
The Japan Brewery Fire	40,000
The Tokyo Goods Fire	15,000
The Osaka Fire	100,000
Total	352,895

Further subscriptions for the relief of sufferers from the fire are announced :—

	Yen.
Yokohama Specie Bank	3 000
Mr. Soma Nagatane	300
Mr. Takashima Kayemon	500
Two Chinese	500
Chinese Chamber of Commerce	1,000
Yokohama Licensed Quarter	500
Mr. Uyeno Kohachi	200
Inmates of the Seishuro	100
Mr. Yajima Kozaburo	100
Mr. Matsumura Seiroku	200
Mr. Iizumi Kinjiro	200
Mr. Iwasaki Yoshijiro	100
Mr. Kuwabara Fukujiro	100
Mr. T. M. Laffin	200
Mr. Hori Yeisuke	100
Mr. Abe Kobei	200
Mr. Yamazaki Yagoro	100
Mr. Mihira Inosuke	100
Mr. Uchiyama Keizaburo	100
Yorozu Choho Office	300
Staff of *Yorozu Choho*	200
Teikoku Chokin Ginko	100
Mr. Shimidzu Mannosuke	1,000
Dai Hyaku Ginko (branch office)	1,000
Mr. Mamiya Yuzayemon	100
Mr. Matsushita Kura	100
Messrs. Witkowski & Co.	100
Mr. Tanuma Taroyemon	100
Mr. Suzuki Ichisaburo	100
Mr. Kanamaru Kenjiro	100
Mr. Horita Ryuji	100
Mr. One Mitsukage	100
Mr. Higuchi Tokujiro	100
Mr. Nishimura Kisaburo	100
Mr. Soda Kimsaku	100
Mr. Ishikawa Tokuyemon	100
Mr. Nakayama Shimpei	100
Mr. Asada Matashichi	100
Mr. Ando Sosuke	100
Mr. Watanabe Konosuke	100
Mr. Shiwobara Matatchi	100
Yenkyuji	100
Mr. Harada Matakichi	200
Mr. Takase Saburo	500
Mr. Suzuki Uhei and eleven others	1,733
Mr. Shibusawa Sakutaro	700
The Mitsui family	3,500
The N.Y.K. (Yokohama Branch)	1,500
Messrs. Siber, Brennwald & Co.	300
The Grand Hotel (employés and guests)	415
Messrs. Faure, Brandt & Co.	200
,, Winckler & Co.	300
Mr. Okano Rihei	200
,, Harada Hisakichi	200
Messrs. Bruhl Bros.	100
Mr. Iwasaki Yoshijiro	100
,, Ando Sosuke	100
,, Imamura Dorai	100
,, F. S. James	100
,, Matsumoto Shinzo	100
,, Ohama Chuzaburo	100
,, Tsuchi Kosuke	100
,, Ozeki Teijiro	100
Messrs. Akiyama and Lowder	100
,, Simon & Co.	100
Mr. Suzuki Shotei	100
,, F. C. Sale	100
The Yenshisha	100
Mr. Kimura Masujiro	100
Mrs. Onishi Fusa	100
Chinese Merchants	2,056
Mr. Tanaka Zensuke	100
Mr. Guissani	100
Mr. Yagishita Tatsuzo	100
Mrs. Sawada Ko	100
Mr. Tanaka Shigeru	100
Mr. Tanabe Ryokichi	100
Mr. Otani Kobei	100
Mr. W. B. Walter	100
Mr. Kobayashi Keisuke	100
Mr. Odagiri Chushiro	100
Mr. Sekimura Gensuke	100
Mr. Toyama Yaroku	100
Mr. Hataki Sennosuke	300
Mr. Kuragata Hidekichi	200
Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co.	500
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	300

Subscriptions of less than *yen* 100 are numerous and the total so far is upwards of *yen* 60,000.

Wednesday, Aug. 16.

Naturally the fire has caused a great rise in the price of labour and materials. Wood is extraordinarily dear and carpenters' plasterers' stonecutters' brick-layers' and matting-weavers are demanding 20 to 30 per cent. advance.

Another dead body has been recovered from beneath the ruins of the Tsuiaza Theatre, that of a man named Kamegi, employed on the premises. Another man has died of his injuries at the Juzen Hospital, making 15 deaths in all.

The latest estimate of the number of houses destroyed is 3,173.

H.I.M. the Emperor on Tuesday despatched a Chamberlain to make a special report to His Majesty.

Mr. Hayashi Tamio, Manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has sent 3,000 sets of Japanese cups and chopsticks, and six tubs of pickled vegetables, for the relief of the sufferers. Dr. Whitney and Dr. Rokkaku are attending to the injured. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce has raised 1,000 *yen* for purposes of relief. Numbers of homeless persons are still receiving food and water at various schools and other buildings.

It is stated that several gamblers were playing cards on Saturday evening in a shed attached to the bath-house where the fire originated, and that a lamp was overturned. About 50 sufferers angry at their losses proceeded to the bath house armed with poles and clubs, and dragging out the proprietor, Otokichi, gave him a several beating, so severely injuring him that his life is despaired of. His wife was also injured. Several of the assailants were arrested by the police.

BIG STORM AT KOBE.

The *Kobe Herald* of Tuesday says :—The *Argyll* was driven ashore on the point where the old Naval Yard stood, shortly after 5 o'clock. She now lies broadside on. Several residents were on the spot soon after she struck, and rendered valuable assistance in various ways. Owing to the sudden way in which the storm came up Captain Thomson was on shore, but at considerable risk he was hauled on board within a very few minutes of the accident, Mr. Sim and several Kobeites assisting in handling the shore end of the lines. The Pier is a wreck, and the Boat House [illegible] sorry spectacle. In connection with the latter place it may be mentioned that the bathing stage is demolished and that, but for the timely and zealous work of two members of the Committee—Messrs. Kalkhof and Bethell—it is probable most of the boats would not be intact now. It is a most fortunate thing for Kobe that this storm broke over the district at low water, for had it occurred at high water the whole place would have been submerged several feet. As it was, the state of the tide being almost low, about half of the old Settlement was under water to some extent, and not a few residents had to wade knee deep on leaving their offices.

Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., kindly informed us on Wednesday that they were in receipt of a telegram to the following effect :—

"The steamer *Argyll* during yesterday's typhoon at Kobe broke adrift and went ashore and is high and dry below the boat house, but is apparently undamaged. There will of course be some little delay in getting her off and despatching her to her destination (New York)."

ASAMA-YAMA.

(COMMUNICATED.)

As so many reports of the disturbed state of Asama have appeared in the newspapers an account of an ascent of the mountain made only yesterday (the 13th) may be of interest to your readers. Our party, consisting of an English doctor, a Japanese gentleman, and the present writer, left Karuizawa on horseback at 5 a.m. and reached the foot of the mountain in less than two hours. We found that at the place where we tied up our horses every leaf and every blade of grass was covered with a very fine ash, the adhesive power of which is certainly remarkable, as there has been heavy rain since the 7th. As we proceeded up the mountain we observed numerous traces of the eruption of the 7th inst. Pieces of newly ejected lava and small stone were to be seen everywhere, some of them resting on bushes, others in clumps of grass. Then there were some singular-looking cavities in the upper part of the mountain, all of a small size, measuring about 2 feet in diameter. The pumice found in these holes was in colour and feel quite unlike that found at other parts of the mountain slope ; in fact it bore the appearance of having been recently ejected. We had to face a very strong, cold wind on our way up. The wind was so strong that only two of the party were able to keep on their feet. Our Japanese friend was blown over and picked himself up with his clothes torn to shreds, his hat gone, and feeling very sore He struggled on manfully for some time, fighting against violent fits of coughing, caused by weak lungs, until met by us on our way down the mountain. We found the wind so violent on the summit that approach to the edge of the crater was out of the question. On one side of the crater the fumes of sulphur were suffocating ; on the other the wind was sufficiently powerful to blow one into the crater. More than this, we found ourselves enveloped in a cloud, and our eyes were blinded by the surface ashes that were swept up by the wind, so that we found it impossible to keep to the track leading to the edge of the crater, but, both having been up before, we judged that we were only a few hundred yards from the spot.

We were rewarded for our pains by the magnificent view that we obtained on our way up. Behind us everything was clear. To the North the Kusuke mountains looked lovely ; on the South the Koshu mountains reared their lofty heights, with Fuji surmounting them. The cold on the summit was like that of midwinter in the lowlands, and we should have been glad of gloves and fur lined coats. We sat down to take a small meal, but the flying dust was so thick that every sandwich was coated before eaten and our drinks were anything but enjoyable. We reached Karuizawa at 4 p.m., after resting over an hour at the foot of the mountain.

I may interest readers to know that a party

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of tourists ascended the mountain on the day of the last eruption, and had only reached the foot when the terrific rumbling commenced and the ashes began to fall in the neighbourhood. According to the accounts of persons staying in Karuizawa the weather which preceded the eruption somewhat resembled that which it is said usually precedes similar phenomena in Italy and elsewhere. The sky was overcast and the heat sultry and oppressive. The noise heard resembled that of distant guns. On our way down the mountain it commenced to thunder. At first we thought that the sound portended coming danger and were about to make a rush for a place of safety when another peal made it clear to us that we had no cause for fear. Some of those who are well acquainted with the mountain allege that the shape of the crater, since the eruption of the 7th, has considerably altered, but subsequently to that date the weather has not been favourable for minute observations—either it has rained, a high wind has been blowing, or the mountain has been clouded. Hatless tourists are to be seen returning to Karuizawa almost every day, and the peasants that live near the base of the famous volcano will be provided with head coverings of the latest fashion for many months to come.

AN ASCENT OF MOUNT ASAMA.

By R. B. Peery, Ph.D.

It was in the summer of 1897. In order to escape the burning heat of the plains, a large party of Americans and Englishmen living in Japan and China had fled to the mountain resort of Karuizawa. On arrival we were all weary and dull, and little disposed to exertion; and the days were spent in rest and quietude. Every day we looked up at Mount Asama, the largest and most accessible living volcano in Japan, as she stood like a mighty sentinel a few miles away to the west, towering proudly above all the other mountains, and continually sending up clouds of curling smoke. She is a fine mountain, sloping symmetrically from a broad base to a sharp cone, and looking exactly like the pictures of volcanoes we used to see in our old geographies. From her commanding position she seemed to frown down upon us and say, "I dare you to climb me"; and we inwardly replied, "Just wait until I am strong again and I'll stand on your highest peak."

The cool nights, pure air, and refreshing breezes soon drove away the listless languor with which we came, and we began to feel fresh and strong again. With returning vigor came an increased longing to make good our promise, and from the summit of Asama gaze into her ever-burning fires. Climbing to the top of some smaller mountain each day for training, we soon felt able to attack our giant.

On a warm evening in August a party of seven set out for the ascent. That we might reach the summit before daybreak, see the fires by night, and watch the sunrise, we started at eight o'clock in the evening. It had been raining during the day and the sky was still cloudy, so it was with much misgiving that the party set out. If the weather is bad the ascent is not only difficult but one can see nothing after reaching the top.

Our outfit consisted of a basket of food, some water bags, and numerous overcoats and blankets. Although it was very warm in Karuizawa we knew it would be extremely cold on the mountain.

The journey across the plain, and part of the ascent, was made on native ponies—very hardy and sure-footed, but quarrelsome and vicious. To keep them from getting together and fighting it was necessary that a *betto* accompany each pony. We could not ride side by side as people do in the West, because Japanese ponies are aways mad at each other, and bite and kick whenever they get wilhin reach; so we went one after the other in single file, after the manner of Eastern caravans.

Riding around the base of a beautiful green mountain standing out in the plain, detached from all the others, we came to a village where our *bettos* stopped to get a new supply of straw sandals for themselves and horses, (for horses too are shod with straw here). On leaving this village we at once entered the foothills, and began to ascend rapidly. The road wound around grassy slopes, and through charming woods, and the ride was delightful. Soon we came to the base of Asama herself, and our ponies had a steep climb for about one mile. From this point it was necessary to ascend on foot. Leaving the horses and all baggage except that which was indispensible on the mountain in the care of three *bettos*, we took the others to carry our luggage, and began the ascent proper. The journey thus far had required four hours, and it was just midnight.

The clouds that were so thick and threatening when we started had melted away, and a glorious moon, with myriads of stars, made the huge mountain beautiful. A more lovely night could not have been desired.

We found the first half mile of the ascent so steep that we were forced to stop and rest every few minutes, and some of the party already began to despair of ever reaching the top. Fortunately, the ascent became more gradual after the first hard climb. There are no large cliffs or stones to climb over: the mountain is composed of lava and scoria that has been beaten down by wind and rain until it is smooth and comparatively solid. The indistinct path is hard and easy to walk on, except for the steepness. There is no attempt at grading; it runs straight up the mountain.

Although the foothills are well timbered, there are no trees or shrubs on the mountain proper; but we found hardy mountain plants growing almost up to the summit. These little plants do not cover the surface, and the general appearance of the mountain is bald and barren.

Our progress was slow. We could not climb longer than fifteen minutes without stopping to rest; but we thoroughly enjoyed it, as the party was lively and the night grand. It happened that this was the season when shooting stars are most numerous, and we amused ourselves by watching and trying to count them. Sometimes as many as a half dozen would be flying across the sky in opposite directions, and the effect was very pretty. We counted several hundred.

During our stops for rest the guide told us something of the history of the mountain. Its fire is always burning, and when it was first kindled no one knows. In historic times many destructive eruptions have occurred at irregular intervals, and native records contain full accounts of them. It seems that when the mountain is ejecting smoke there is little danger of eruption, but when the smoke ceases for long periods it is tolerably sure to erupt. This is probably due to the accumulation of sulphur, which abounds in the crater.

In Japan and China certain gods are thought to reside in mountains like Asama, and temples or shrines to their honour are erected on the summit. It is customary for the people to resort to them for worship, and the best known mountains are yearly visited by large numbers of pilgrims. Early in the fourth month of each year all the men in the villages near Asama ascend the mountain, after carefully purifying themselves. Each person takes a bamboo pipe filled with water, with which he occasionally wets his straw sandals, to keep them from being burnt.

With a recital of such interesting items as these the guide, who was well informed on all things pertaining to the mountain, entertained us at each stop.

After many alternate climbs and rests we approached the summit, and the ascent became steeper and more difficult. The path was narrow, and the sides of the mountain so steep that it almost made one dizzy to look down. The change in temperature was very perceptible. At the foot of the mountain it was quite warm and we took off our coats, but we soon put them on again; then we buttoned them up close; next we put on our overcoats, and finally wrapped ourselves up in blankets.

After several hours had been spent in climbing and we were almost exhausted, the path wound around a high point and emerged on a small plateau. Higher up to the left we saw the sulphur fumes and smoke rising thick and fast; and we knew the crater was near. Another short pull, and we stood on its edge.

It was just three o'clock in the morning.

My first sensation was one of fear and awe. There, only a few feet away, seen indistinctly through the gloom and smoke, was an immense opening into the very heart of the mountain. From the vast depths below came a great roaring sound, a weird hissing, sputtering, and cracking; and dense volumes of smoke and sulphurous vapor were rolling up and almost suffocating us. The strong fumes inflamed our nostrils and made our eyes smart.

We had hoped to see a boiling lake of fire and brimstone at the bottom of the crater—which is said to be visible at times—but the steam and vapor obscured the view, and we could not see to any great depth. Along the sides of the crater jets of steam and smoke were issuing from the crevices of the rocks as from steam pipes, and the ground on which we stood was hot. Seen through the darkness, it appeared a terrible yawning gulf, ready to swallow us up.

Many loose stones were lying about the edge of the crater, and we amused ourselves by rolling them into it, and hearing them tumble to the bottom. At first there was a sound as of rapid rolling down a rough decline; then tumbling over cliff after cliff; then a long silent period of suspense, and finally a great splash into a liquid mass far below. The excitement of rolling these stones was so great that some members of the party would venture too near the edge, and there was continual remonstrance about it. But the very one that remonstrated loudest, caught by the same fascination, would be the next one to venture beyond prudent limits.

After looking down into the murky depths and rolling stones until tired, we sought out a spot partially sheltered from the piercing winds, and wrapping our blankets closely about us, opened our baskets and ate ravenously. Then we chose a suitable spot from which to watch the sun rise, and sat down to wait for it. It was now four o'clock and already lines of gray had streaked the east. The whole horizon gradually assumed a dim reddish hue, and it seemed likely that the sun would rise at any one of half a dozen places. There was lively guessing as to just where he would appear, but we were not long left in doubt. By degrees the golden light seems to gather in one place, and the glorious sun appeared in solemn state.

"Night's candles are burnt out, and jocundday
Stands tiptoe on the misty mountain tops."

A more beautiful sunrise it has never been my lot to witness. The sublimity of God's handiwork was reverently spoken of, and we all felt ourselves drawn nearer to Him who made the mountains and the sun.

After feasting our eyes on the beauties of the sunrise until satisfied we climbed to a higher point just back of us, to get a view of the landscape.

My pen is inadequate to convey a fit impression of the scene spread out before us. The glad earth, just wakened from slumber by the sunbeams, was rejoicing in the new day. Look which way we would, as far as eye could reach mountain was piled upon mountain; and the valleys between were filled with white fleecy clouds, from which the mountain tops alone protruded. Far away to the south could be seen grand Fuji, towering solitary and alone; while in the west appeared the high Shinano range, its tops white with snow. The mountains nearer us, covered with green trees, were glistening in the morning sun. From our feet for miles away down into the plains stretched the great wastes of lava and stone; and, to crown all, the terrible crater at our side was continually roaring, hissing and sputtering, and shooting up its eternal columns of sulphurous smoke. A scene so beautiful and at the same so terrible we had never before witnessed.

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After seeing the crater by daylight we were able to form a much better idea of it. It was an immense hole of fire and steam about half a mile in width, and more than a mile in circumference. The crater is remarkable for its depth. It has baffled all attempts at measurement, but those who have had an opportunity to look down its sides when comparatively little steam was escaping judge it to be several thousand feet deep, and perhaps as deep as the mountain is high above the surrounding plain. A large city could be tumbled into it.

Wishing to see the crater from all sides we walked around its whole circumference. There is a large crevice on the west side where one can approach tolerably near, and from here we could see hundreds of feet down the perpendicular sides. The stones were burnt red and white, and here and there the yellow brimstone was oozing from them. While we were gazing into the crator from this point clouds of sulphurous smoke came up so thick and strong as to drive us hurriedly back from the edge; but as soon as the winds chased them away we approached again.

It was from this opening in which we stood that a vast stream of molten lava issued, in the last great eruption, and ran far down into the plain; a true river of fire, instantly destroying several villages and large forests that were in its path. We can trace its course from this point, and see the great desert of ashes and stone still extending far out into the plain. It looks like a huge winding serpent, lying against the side of the mountain.

On this side of the crater are ugly fissures of unknown depth; some very narrow, others broad and impassible. Hissing columns of steam and smoke issue from them, whispering of the smouldering fires underneath the crust. We found one sheltered little nook that was kept nice and warm by the steam which issues from the sides. At this altitude of eight thousand five hundred feet it is very very cold, and our teeth were chattering; so we got down into the little nook and warmed ourselves nicely by this natural radiator.

Going on around to the south side we found a considerable plateau, extending back from the crater for a quarter of a mile, at the outer edge of which was a mighty precipice. Gazing out on this plateau through the steam and smoke rising up from fissures in the intervening space, at two of our party standing on its farther edge, and then seeing the awful pit of fire behind, Dore's illustrations of Dante's Inferno were vividly recalled to my mind. I wonder if that grand and sad Italian saw anything more weird and awful than this in the infernal regions!

After going all round the crater we sat down near its edge, and busied ourselves with thoughts of it. What irresistible force has been here displayed! what fiery messengers of death have emerged from this pit! The last destructive eruption, which occurred in 1783 was one of the most frightful of which we have record in the history of volcanoes. The guide sat down by our side and, while we were gazing at the fiery pit, told us of that last great eruption.

For five years the mountain had been closed and no smoke had issued from it. Little by little it began to smoke again, and gradually increased until it reached such proportions as had never been seen before. The column was more than one hundred and fifty feet wide, and it shot straight up into the sky to a magnificent height. This unusual smoking continued for two days and the people in the neighbouring provinces were terrified. Soon the mountain became more active. There was a sudden ejection of lava and stone accompanied by a great noise, and then columns of living fire were thrown up into the sky. The whole mountain seemed to be on fire, burning sulphur and lava rolling down its sides to the very foot. The noise was like that of a thousand thunders. Enormous red-hot rocks were hurled forth and flew whizzing through the heavens. The people deserted their villages, and many of them were killed by falling rocks as they fled. [illegible] lava was piled to a depth of four feet, and half of the village was burned. The waters in the rivers were clogged up and polluted by cinders and ashes, and all the fish died. All vegetation and timber was completely destroyed in parts of two provinces, and a dreadful famine followed. At midday it was so dark that the people were compelled to use lanterns.

After the eruption had continued for two or three days a great river of mud and lava issued from the crater on the north side, and completely buried the vast forests and all the villages. Hundreds of people lost their lives. The mud was intensely hot, and continued bubbling and boiling for twenty-five days.

In all, forty-two villages were destroyed in this eruption, and a district ten miles square was converted into a desert.

Simultaneously with the eruption the baths at Kusatsu, more than twenty miles away, suddenly became so hot that all the bathers perished.

The size of the stones thrown out is astonishing. Some of them were fifty feet wide and one hundred long, and were thrown up into the air in such quantities that they fell like leaves of trees. The largest one on record fell into a river several miles from the the mountain, and formed an island. It is two hundred and sixty-four feet long by one hundred and twenty wide. What a terrific force must have been there, to vomit forth such immense stones, and in such quantities!

After listening to the guide's recital of these awful happenings the crater possessed an additional interest for us, and we gazed into its lurid depths for some time in silence. Then, with one long lingering glance at the magnificent panorama spread out before us, we began the descent. One goes down rapidly, and it required just one hour and a half's walking to take us back to our horses.

Tired and hungry, we spread blankets on the ground, threw ourselves upon them, and ate a hearty breakfast. Then mounting our ponies we set out on the return trip. Being in a hurry to get back, and over-confident as to our ability to manage the horses, we ran on ahead of the *bettos*—a rashness for which we paid dearly. Although we tried to keep the ponies about ten yards apart, two of them finally got together and had a big fight. We dismounted without ceremony, and managed to separate them; but one pony ran away and we could not catch him until the *bettos* came up. After that we were content to return at a slower pace.

When we finally reached Karuizawa it was with heavy eyes and weary limbs, but no one regretted the weariness or pain. The scenes of the day were indelibly stamped on our minds, and will remain in memory's picture gallery to brighten many a reminiscent hour in after life.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The announcement following the call for more troops to go to Manila, to the effect that the officers for the new regiments will be chosen solely on the basis of experience and proved ability, has brought out much favourable comment all over the United States.

Another big coal combination has been organized. This time it is the Pennsylvania and Erie Coal Company, which, according to reports, has practically secured control of all the mines in the Pittsburgh district which ship by rail.

In Pittsburgh, as in many other centres of industry, the present demand for labour is conceded to be unprecedented, no able-bodied labourer or skilled mechanic with an inclination to work finding it necessary to hunt long before being engaged at good wages. Indeed, the conditions in Pittsburgh are such that citizens from interior towns are flocking into the city. And it is also in order to note that the immediate future offers no promise of the demand for manual labour abating.

Mr. Charles Broadway Rouss is building [illegible] mausoleum in Winchester, Va. It is a model of the Parthenon, and will be completed in a year at a cost of $100,000. It will be thirty six feet long, twenty five feet wide, and nineteen feet high, with solid pediments in the front and rear. The roof will composed of three stones, each three feet long and nine feet wide, weighing twenty five tons each. Each pediment stone will weigh twenty-three tons. Around the mausoleum will be thirty-six fluted columns, each column and cap cut from solid granite.

Bishop John P. Newman, whose death was recorded in July, was one of the most eloquent preachers in the Methodist church. Of humble origin—an "east side waif," it is said—he early displayed great powers as a preacher. He was especially known through his intimacy with General Grant and his pastorate of the Metropolitan church in Washington. He was also chaplain of the senate during three congresses, and was appointed by President Grant inspector of United States consulates, making a tour of the world in that capacity. He was elected to the bishopric in 1888.

The University of Chicago has declared for free speech among the members of its faculty. Recent speeches of Dr. von Holst and Professor Laughlin against the policy of expansion brought the subject up for discussion at the congregation of the university. It was determined by vote that the principle of complete freedom of speech on all subjects was the fundamental principle on which the university was founded, and that while the professors are at liberty to speak their minds on all public questions, their utterances are to be regarded as representing their own opinions only.

The American Hay Fever Association is the only known society bound together by the ties of disease. It was first heard of many years ago, when Henry Ward Beecher was a leading spirit, and the gathering ground of the organization was said to be the White Mountains, in New Hampshire. Later New Mexico was proclaimed the sneezer's Mecca, and Captain Philip Reade, U.S.A., appeared as chief scribe. Now it is given out that Marquette, Mich., is the head centre in place of Petoskey, originally selected, and it is said that the fall meeting of the association will see a thousand members in attendance.—*Kansas City Star.*

Writing to the *Saturday Evening Post* of Philadelphia, Mr. Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, declares:—I confess that after more than two years' management of the affairs of the most rapidly growing municipality in this country, I fear for the character of future municipal government if the education of the masses does not progress more rapidly than it has. Legislatures will not be honest in the face of public apathy; governors will not touch the public pulse if its beat is indistinct; mayors will not respect public criticism if it is confined merely to the mouthings of parading "reform" organizations, too often devised to conceal the wolf's head under the skin of the lamb.

A Louisville dispatch reports that a meeting of all the independent distillers in the State has been called for some time in August. It is proposed to make an agreement with the Kentucky Distilleries & Warehouse Company concerning the production for the fall of 1899 and spring of 1900. The leaders in the Kentucky whisky trade realize that unless some agreement between the independent distillers and the combine regarding production is reached, the seasons of 1899 and 1900 will see the market where it was a year ago. They consider that 20,000,000 gallons is the logical total output for next year. Unless some agreement is reached, it is estimated that Kentucky will produce fully 30,000,000 gallons next year.

The New York *Evening Post* is sarcastic at the expense of the Nicaragua Canal Commission. It says:—The New Isthmian Canal Commission with commendable energy are getting at [illegible] work. It was at once apparent to

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them that a study of the Panama route—in Paris—was indispensable and so a committee, headed by Admiral Walker, is to sail immediately for a period of arduous research in that city. It was foolishly objected that copies of all the documents are available in this country; but nothing short of the "originals" will satisfy such resolute inquirers. Paris is believed to be free from yellow fever, whatever is the case at Panama, and, anyhow, a little trip there can not make much of a hole in the $1,000,000 appropriation. And it is said that the French capital yields many delightful forms of recuperation from severe labour in the "archives."

Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth, who died at Washington on June 30, was undoubtedly the most voluminous writer of fiction in the literary history of America and probably of the world. More than eighty novels are credited to her, and at one time her vogue was very great among lovers of the sensational and sentimentally romantic type of literature. Among her books were "Ishmael, or From the Depths," "The Hidden Hand," "Retribution," "The Deserted Wife," and "The Haunted Homestead." Of these "Retribution" was the first and "The Hidden Hand" the most popular. The latter was first published in the New York *Ledger* about 1854, and was reprinted in that paper no less than three times in response to earnest requests. It was dramatised, and a few years ago no self-respecting dramatic company failed to include it in their list of plays. The character of Wool, the old and faithful negro servant; Capitola, the heroine; Black Donald, the villain, and Colonel Black, the good old man, were well drawn and a never-ending source of amusement to old andyoung.

Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll, the well-known free-thinker, died of apoplexy on July 21st. He was born at Dresden, N. Y., on August 11th, 1833, and was the son of a Congregational minister. He received a common school education, removed to Illinois in 1843, and began practising law at Shawnee-town in 1854. In 1857 he removed to Peoria, and in 1860 he was defeated as Democratic candidate for congress. In 1862 he was appointed colonel of the 11th Illinois Cavalry; was captured by the Confederates near Corinth, Tenn., and shortly after his release resigned his commission and resumed his law practice. In 1866 he was appointed attorney-general of Illinois, and in 1868 was a prominent candidate for the governorship. In 1878 he nominated James G. Blaine for the presidency in the National Republican Convention in a speech which attracted wide attention by its eloquence. In 1877 he declined the proffered office of United States Minister to Germany. His law practice was reckoned to be the largest in the United States, and it was his habit from the beginning of his career never to accept a retainer in what he knew to be an unjust cause, or where he believed fraud was intended by the applicant. He was probably one of the finest orators the United States ever produced. As an original thinker he was remarkable, and had not his attacks on Christianity been so needlessly violent it is not improbable they would have had much more effect. His published works run into many volumes, and they have obtained an enormous circulation wherever the English language is read. Colonel Ingersoll's benevolence made him esteemed even by persons who did not approve of his religious views.

NOTES FROM CHINA.

We take the following from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

The *Sinwénpao* states that Viceroy Liu of Nanking has decided to retire into private life at once, and that, although the Empress Dowager may grant him sick leave, he is determined to go on applying for permission to retire from office until he finally gets it. From other sources we further learn that the reason of this determination was mainly due to the irritating and haughty conduct of the High Commissioner Kang Yi, who while at Nanking simply turned the *régime* established by Viceroy Liu upside down without deigning to consult with the latter whose guest he (Kang Yi) really was, except on the most trivial matters. When we know that Viceroy Liu has always been a proud man, brooking no rival one can understand this outrage upon his feelings and his indignation against his uncouth but cunning visitor, and we therefore need not be surprised to learn that when Kang Yi at last left Nanking for Soochow, leaving a train of misery and chaos behind him, the Viceroy Liu was the only official who did not go to bid the former *bon voyage* at the jetty at Hsiakuan.

The retirement of this great Viceroy will be universally regretted in Japan. It was by his doing that the last batch of 35 students came to Japan and are now studying various useful sciences at the educational institutions in this country. The removal of such men as Liu and Shen from the scene, means another nail in the coffin of Chinese reform.

Owing to the exertions of the Viceroy at Nanking, the sentence on Taotai Shen Tun ho has been commuted to banishment for three years, and during that period Mr. Shen will serve as secretary in Mongolia to a Chinese General who is a personal friend of the Viceroy H.E. Liu K'un-yi.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says that so many officials are resigning that the Empress Dowager has ordered the punishment of those who apply for leave without pressing necessity.

The *North China Daily News* has a good article on the severity with which merchant captains are dealt with by Marine Boards of Inquiry. It says:—We have pointed out before the gross inequality with which the merchant captain is treated. In no other profession is a man ruined for life after a long and successful career for making one mistake, while the Pope of Rome is allowed to be the only infallible human being. We do not propose to join issue with such reasonless people as Admiral de Horsey, who writes to the *Times* that Captain Watkins (of the *Paris*) was not fit to command a walnut-shell. Is that his opinion of Admiral Tryon, who by a mistake lost a valuable ironclad and hundreds of lives? Or of his numerous comrades in the Royal Navy who get their ships ashore from time to time? Are all these men unfit to command walnut-shells? The best Judges on the Bench make mistake after mistake, and have their judgements reversed on appeal, but they are not therefore dismissed the Bench or suspended for two years. Do doctors never make a mistake? Were the two Generals who lost the battle of Maiwand, not by a single mistake but by gross incompetence, dismissed the service? The fact is that Captain Watkins' mistake is punished not on account of its own gravity or with any consideration for his general character as a seaman—it is obviously preposterous to say that such a man is unfit to command an ocean steamer for two years—but because it happened on a steamer worth £200,000, with a valuable cargo and a large number of passengers. This, which is the customary way of treating merchant captains, is grossly unfair, and a more glaring instance of it than the case of Captain Watkins it would be hard to find. It really means that one unaccountable mistake outweighs the whole of a man's professional character and previous services.

In less than twelve months, remarks a Shanghai contemporary, the Roman Catholic Mission in Kiangnan is for the second time deprived of its Bishop. The 14th of August will by the first anniversary of the death of his Lordship Mgr. Valentine Garnier. His successor, Mgr. J. B. Simon, only received the Episcopal Consecration, on the 25th of June last. Our readers will remember that, as a mark of esteem, the Consular Body as well as the local authorities attended at the beautiful ceremony of his installation, in the Church of Tungkadoo. *Ad multos annos* was then the wish of all. Not fifty days have elapsed, and the new prelate has been called to a happier land. His death occurred almost suddenly on the 10th of August, at 9 50 p.m., at the R. C. Church, Wuhu. Mgr. Simon was born on the 20th of December, 1846, entered the Society of Jesus on the 25th of August, 1868, and arrived in the Mission here on the 18th of October, 1886. His remains will be interred at Wuhu. The late bishop was a native of Nantes.

Our Shanghai morning contemporary of August 11th contains the following sad tale of the sea:—"The British barque *Kitty*, owned by Messrs. Hopkins, Dunn & Co., of this port, and bound from Newchwang to Amoy with beancake, foundered about 3 a.m. on Monday last during the recent typhoon, some thirty miles north-east of Amoy. The master, Captain James Maher, a well-known coaster, carried his wife and two children. The crew consisted of a foreign mate and nineteen Chinese. The boatswain's statement of the loss of the *Kitty* is that on the morning of the 5th inst. they encountered very bad weather when some eight *li* from Amoy, and, expecting a typhoon, the Captain hove the ship to. At the time the weather was very thick. A terrific sea sprang up and, the ship giving violent lee lurches, the cargo shifted, and put the vessel in a perilous condition. In the evening the Captain ordered the masts to be cut away as the storm was increasing, there was no possibility of trimming the cargo, and the ship was out of command. Unfortunately, when the masts went over the side, they smashed all the boats but one and tore the deck planking, so that the water began to find its way below. All Sunday the ship tumbled about terribly, and the decks were not approachable, nevertheless hopes were entertained that a coasting steamer would heave in sight. Nothing was seen, however, but a native sail or two running for shelter. At 2 a.m. on Monday the action of the vessel told them that the end was near, sea after sea poured on board and each left the vessel with less freeboard. An hour afterwards the Captain advised the men to get into or stand by the life boat which was lying on the hatch, bottomless, launching her being out of the question. The captain put his wife and two children in the stern of the boat, and almost immediately afterwards the vessel gave one violent lurch and disappeared. A number of the men were injured and knocked senseless by the in-rush of water. However, the tank-lined boat got away clear with the Captain, his wife and two children, and a number of the Chinese whilst others clung to the life-lines, outside. The darkness was intense, but by the occasional phosphorus-crested waves other members of the crew were seen clinging to bits of wreckage. But the boat was unmanageable, the oars had washed out of her, and before many minutes she got broadside to the trough of the sea and turned over and over, each time dropping one or two of the occupants. Almost the first to disappear was the Captain's wife, and shortly afterwards the Captain himself. The Captain's children, a little boy and girl, were supported by the Chinese, but finally, about 5 a.m., were washed from their grasps, the plucky fellows being almost too exhausted to save themselves. The foreign mate lost his life and out of the crew of 19 only 10 were saved. These were rescued by the *Alesia* next day.

Kang Yi, the Empress Dowager's High Commissioner of "Reorganisation," who arrived at Shanghai from Soochow on August 10th, was expected to leave for the North by the China Merchants' steamer *Hsean* on the 13th. This Lord High Extortioner, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, has been heard to express his satisfaction at the result of his work in this province, having set the machine going to supply his Imperial Mistress with an extra annual income of a million and a half taels, but he has been constantly growling that his visit has been summarily cut short, as he expected to sweep Chekiang clean also. It seems that the Empress Dowager heard through various sources that her Commissioner was driving the people

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into rebellion and a telegram was at once sent to Kang Yi ordering him to stop his demands on the people for tribute rice still due the Government and to return to Peking at once.

A riot is reported to have occurred in the district of Au Jén, Kiangse, and some Catholic property was burnt down. Soldiers have been sent to restore order and an official has been instructed to settle matters. In the district of Ying Tan, of the Kwangsh in prefecture in the same province, hostile demonstrations were also made against the Catholic missions and the case has been entrusted to investigation by a deputy.

The Upper Yangtze Syndicate (Limited) has been registered by Ingle, Holmes and Sons, with a capital of £40,000 in 39,000 £1 ordinary shares, and 2,000 1s. deferred shares. Its object is to carry on the business of contractors of railways, tramways, and other works; miners, builders, etc. The first directors—to number not less than two nor more than five—are to be appointed by the subscribers. The qualification is £100, and the remuneration £400 each per annum and a share in the profits.

BRETT AND CO., LIMITED.

The annual meeting of shareholders of Brett and Co., Limited, was held on Friday afternoon at the premises at No. 61. Mr. J. H. Boag, Managing Director, presided, and there were also present Mr. G. Blundell, Mr. J. H. Curtis, Mr. H. McArthur, Mr. G. V. Brindley, Mr. G. M. Woolsey, and Mr. F. W. Thomas (manager).

The Chairman submitted the report and accounts, which have already been published in full. In doing so he pointed out that there had been a considerable improvement in the result of business during the past year, and the record shown in the report was a highly satisfactory one. They were now able to show a credit in place of a debit balance, and the directors found themselves in a position to recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. for the year. He thought the shareholders had cause for congratulation on that result. It had been found necessary, in order to take advantage of the old customs tariff, to order a considerable quantity of stock in excess of immediate requirements, and funds had to be raised for this purpose, but the loans had been repaid and the debentures reduced by *yen* 200. The Chairman also referred to the fire on June 21st, and remarked that new and more commodious premises would be erected than those that had been destroyed. He moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis and carried, and on the motion of Mr. McArthur, seconded by Mr. Woolsey, it was decided to give the advisory board *yen* 150 each for their services.

Mr. Woolsey called attention to the fact that the goodwill of the business was entered under the heading of assets at *yen* 3,000. Would it not, he asked, be desirable to reduce, with a view to finally eliminating, that amount?

Mr. McArthur took the view that the goodwill could with perfect propriety be reckoned as an asset and adduced some local instances where the good-will of businesses had a very large commercial value—in some cases, indeed, disproportionately large to the capital invested and the value of plant and fixtures. He thought the goodwill of the business was worth now quite what they gave for it.

The Chairman said the Board had not lost sight of the point Mr Woolsey had brought forward, and they would consider it at a later date, when the company's position admitted of their doing something in the way of effecting a reduction. He pointed out, however, that to write off any considerable sum from this item at the present moment would be creating a debt. He trusted that the time would not be far distant when they would be able, in addition to paying [illegible] to write off a considerable portion of the goodwill.

The matter then dropped, Mr. Woolsey and the others present appearing to be satisfied with the Chairman's explanation.

Votes of thanks to the Managing Director, the manager, and staff concluded the meeting.

CUSTOMS HOUSE RULES.

The following translation of Customs House Rules has been handed to us:—

The Yokohama Custom-House Departments, according to the Revised Regulations, shall be as follows:—

1. Branch Office of Auditors' Department.—Here are received reports concerning the import and export of goods, ships' manifests, deposits, certificates of ships' nationalities, and other documents. There is also a small room provided for the sale of various forms and revenue stamps, as well as a place for the men of the Fire Insurance Companies.

2. Examiners' Department.—Here are examined goods according to invoices sent from the Branch Office of the Auditor's Department, and decision is made whether the goods are taxable or not, and if so at what rate of duty. Besides inspecting goods at the Import Examining Office, and the Export Office the Examiner examines goods at the Travellers' Baggage Examining Office, the Post and Telegraph Office, the landing place for oil at Ishikawa-Nakamura, the landing place for explosives at Horinouchi-mura, the Yusen Kaisha Central Store, &c. To all such places he goes by appointment.

3. Appraisers' Department.—Here are appraised the qualities and values of goods, and chemical examination is made in case of necessity. The Examination-room is in the West corner of the House, and the specimens room is upstairs, both being under the oversight of this Department.

4. Auditors' Department.—Here are investigated the results of examinations according to informations sent from the Examiner's Department, and import or export is permitted or rejected accordingly. With regard to taxable articles, this department decides whether the application of tax rates is justifiable or not. If justifiable it sends the informations to the Collector's Department, and after acknowledging the payment of the customs gives the written permit. Special permits, acknowledgements, certificates, and tonnage are dealt with in this Department.

5. Collectors' Department.—This Department investigates and settles questions relating to the collection of customs, tonnage, storage, and official fees (except those paid in stamps). The Treasurer's Office is near this Department.

6 Shed and Warehouse Department.—This Department has control over every sort of roofed warehouse. Its functions are divided into three departments. (1) It takes cognizance of all goods landed and shipped. (2) Stamps the examination seal on goods and permit. If goods are not taken delivery of or not shipped within the regulated limit, the Department may confiscate the goods. (3) It has control over the Government Customs Preserving Warehouses as well as supervising Private Customs Preserving Warehouses. This Department, like the Examiners' Department, sends out its officials to appointed places.

As the above mentioned Departments have direct relations with the owners of goods and all sorts of applicants, they are for convenience situated downstairs, and at the window of each Department its number is written.

7. Director's Secretariat.—This Department deals with affairs coming directly under the notice of the Director.

8. Statistics Office of the Director's Secretariat.—Investigates and prepares statistics of imports and exports, and all other matters.

9. Accountants' Department.—Deals with all matters coming within the range of the accountants' duties.

The above mentioned Departments are upstairs.

10. Inspectors' Department.—This Department has control of the Custom-Police and deals with contraband trade and evasion of customs; protects goods; investigates and punishes, if necessary, violation of the rules. This Department is situated by the side of the wharf. Its affairs are divided into three classes: Miscellaneous affairs, land affairs, and sea affairs. There are several inspection places in the yard of the Custom-House. Beyond the Custom-House, the whole of the port area is divided into four inspection sections, and in each section several inspection places are provided.

The places of landing and shipping goods are as follows:—

1. Within the Custom-House Yard.—(common goods).

2. Ishikawa Nakamura, landing place for oil and combustible articles.

3. Hori-no-uchi, landing place for explosives.—Besides these three there are places appointed specially, according the application: such as that for landing goods at the yard of Midoricho Central Warehouse; the new Wharf Cotton Landing Place; and the yard of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Kaigan-street (landing and shipping). Wharfs for passengers going on board foreign-going ships are the West Wharf and the East Wharf.

The Yokohama Customs has authority over affairs within the limit of the following 11 provinces and Ogasawara Island: Rikuzen, Iwaki, Hitachi, Shimoosa, Kazusa, Awa, Musashi, Sagami, Izu, Suruga, and Totomi. At Shimizu Port a Branch House is established. Inspection offices are established in the following eight places: Tsukiji, Tokyo, Byobunra, Uraga, Kami-miyata, Tateyama, Shimoda, Choshi, and Ishimaki. Branch offices deal with Customs affairs, and the Inspection offices are engaged exclusively in customs police duty.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Dr. Lowson writes to the *Hongkong Daily Press* to point out that Mr. Rehwoldt, who recently died of plague at Hongkong, was probably infected through the medium of rats.

A London paper states that the Japanese Government has decided upon buying armour-plate for several new warships from the Terni Steel Works. "The armour-plate turned out recently by the Terni Steel Works has been shown to be superior to that of Krupp and Harvey."

We learn that an insane Volunteer jumped overboard from the U.S. transport *Grant* between Nagasaki and Yokohama and was drowned. A boat was lowered but the sea was too rough to enable the rescue to be accomplished. A stoker belonging to the *Grant* died on Saturday afternoon, from heat apoplexy, it is supposed.

Mrs. Walton, who gave 200 *yen* towards the funds now being raised for the relief of the sufferers by the great fire at Yokohama, has won a name for herself as a Lady Bountiful in the Kowakidani district, and many of her charitable deeds performed while staying at the Mikawaya Hotel are finding their way into the papers.

Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, K.C.B., who has been placed on the retired list owing to age, has just attained his sixty-fifth year, and completed his fiftieth year of service. He was actively engaged in the Black Sea during the Crimean war, and was in the operations before Sebastopol. He commanded the Naval Brigade during the operations against the Malays in the Peninsula. Sir Alexander, who has been aide-de-camp to the Queen, has held, among other appointments, that of Commander-in Chief of the China Station where he became very popular.

In the course of a recent report the American Consul at Tamsui writes:—The Japanese authorities are showing some interest in the tea trade, and an attempt has been made to organise all native tea-men into associations, with a view to general improvements in the method of cultivation. It is hoped that their efforts will result satisfactorily. There has been each season a marked deficiency in the better grades of Oolong, as compared with the preceding year, owing, it is generally claimed by the natives, to unsuitable weather. The true cause, a local expert asserts, in the neglect to prune the bushes and fertilise and irrigate the soil. No care whatever is taken of the plant, which in some plantations is practically allowed to grow wild. Then the picking is improper, the leaves being pulled off in bunches instead of one by one, thus separating the grades. It is accordingly feared that unless the local authorities take the matter in hand and adopt some system of compelling the owners of gardens to take better care of the plant, Formosa tea, like Amoy Oolong, may in time de-

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terriorate to such an extent that it will cease to be in demand.

Kang Yi, the Imperial High Commissioner, recently memorialised the Empress Dowager on the following proposed scheme for the Nan-yang Army:—To raise 100 000 men, of all arms; 20,000 to be quartered at Woosung; 20 000 at Fushan (near Chinkiang); 20,000 at Kiangyin; 20 000 at Chinkiangpu. The great question, however, is one of finance; hence nothing has been done so far in the matter.

The China Navigation Company's steamer *Shantung*, while on a voyage from Java to Hongkong went on the rocks, as already reported, off the coast of Sciria, about 30 miles from Singapore, on the 9th ultimo. The following day she was sighted by her sister ship the *Hupeh*, bound from Hongkong to Samarang, which changed her course for Singapore to obtain assistance and returned with a tow boat and four lighters. The bulk of the cargo was transferred to the *Hupeh*, after which the *Shantung* was successfully floated and taken to Singapore. The damage sustained is considerable. The *Hupeh* brought on cargo to Hongkong.

The first-class battleship *Hatsuse*, which was launched by Mme. Arakawa, wife of the Japanese Consul-General, for the Imperial Japanese Navy, from the Elswick shipbuilding yard, carries a new system for ammunition supply to the auxiliary armament. It will be by a system of electrical hoists, devised at Elswick, which will be the most complete method yet put into any vessel. The objection to using power for this purpose has been met by designing the hoists to be worked by hand in case of failure of the power; of course, at a somewhat slower rate, but yet quicker than any method hitherto devised. The saving in manual labour thus ensured is very great. The ship will be provided with Belleville boilers. The makers of the engines are Messrs. Humphreys and Tennant, and it is anticipated that the vessel will more than realise her contract speed of eighteen knots. The great guns of the *Hatsue* have not been definitely decided upon—that is, they are to be 12 in., but the exact pattern is not settled. A new gun has recently been turned out by Armstrong's, from which great results are expected, if it is successful in passing all the tests to which it will be subjected at the hands of the officials of Whale Island. This new gun, of course, is wire-wound, but is nearly 50 ft. long, being some 12, ft. longer than its predecessor.

Mr. A. H. Groom, as Chairman of the Kobe International Committee, has addressed the following letter to Governor Ohmori, but up to latest advices from Kobe had not yet received a reply:—

Kobe, Aug. 7th, 1899.

His Excellency Governor Ohmori.

Your Excellency,—I beg to bring to your notice a matter which appears to the International Committee of very great importance. Since the coming into operation of the Treaties dated for 17th July, much inconvenience has been felt by foreigners at being required to sign documents draw up exclusively in Japanese, and as to the purport of which they were compelled to rely upon translations made by their employés or other unofficial persons. It has therefore occurred to the members of the International Committee, who, I may say, are quite unanimous in pressing the matter, that it would be a great convenience, and perhaps allay anxiety in some cases, where foreigners are not in reach of a good translator, if the method adopted by the Customs authorities for so many years were followed, and an official translation attached to documents issued by the various Government departments and local authorities, and which it may be necessary for foreigners to fill in.

The opinion is entertained that you will agree with us in holding that an official translation of all such documents is much to be preferred to one that may be drawn up by private persons, possibly unfamiliar with legal phrases, and if your Excellency could see your way to bringing about this reform, you would be conferring a great boon upon the foreign community.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, August 11.

The English newspapers generally applaud the significant language of the Queen's speech with reference to the Transvaal. The *Daily Chronicle* alone charges Mr. Chamberlain with forcing war.

The latest news from Pretoria is that poesibly a week will elapse before a reply is given relative to the joint inquiry suggested by the British Government.

Shanghai, August 12.

The *St. James's Gazette* says that all the shipping companies under charter with the Admiralty for transport purposes were notified yesterday to hold transports ready for immediate despatch.

"THE TIMES" ON THE REAL TRAITORS.

The Times announces that it is in a position to state that Esterhazy, as an accomplice of Henry, sold to Colonel Schwarzkoppen a hundred and sixty important documents, including details of the mobilization. Henry and Esterhazy divided the proceeds. Parisian diplomatic circles knew Henry to be the real traitor months before his suicide.

GERMAN EMPEROR TO VISIT ENGLAND.

Shanghai, August 14.

The Emperor William will visit the Queen in November.

DREYFUS.

The public hearing of the Dreyfus case has been resumed,

POLITICAL UNREST IN FRANCE.

Twenty-three arrests have been made in France, including Déroulède and Habert and many aristocrats. They are charged with a conspiracy to overthrow the government. M. Buffet, the agent of the Duke of Orleans, has been arrested on the Belgian frontier.

RUSSIA, FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

The *Cologne Gazette* learns that the visit of M. Delcassé to St. Petersburg has not resulted in a common agreement to prevent war in the Transvaal, though Leyds' speeches hinted that the Transvaal would be able to count on European support.

TERRIBLE HURRICANE.

A terrible hurricane has taken place at the Leeward Islands. Many thousands of people have perished.

THE ATTACK ON M. LABORI.

Shanghai, Aug. 15.

M. Labori, counsel for Dreyfus, was shot with a revolver in the back when going into the Court room, and seriously wounded. The assailant escaped.

HELPING THE OLD COUNTRY.

The Times understands that the Government accepts, both in principle and fact, the offers of Colonial contingents, which, together with the troops from India, will make a force of twenty-five thousand for South Africa, in case of necessity, in addition to thirty thousand more from England.

SERIOUS NEWS FROM PARIS.

Shanghai, August 16.

The Paris newspapers regard the situation in the gloomiest light. They predict a revolution.

M. LABORI.

M. Labori is suffering terribly.

CRICKET.

In the test match between England and Australia, the English eleven scored 435 for four wickets. Hayward and Jackson went in first, and scored 137 and 118, respectively.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Saigon, August 11.

The communication of the military *dossier* to the court martial at Rennes is over, and M. Paléologue will begin to submit the diplomatic *dossier* at once. It will be finished to-morrow. The impression thus far produced upon the advocates of Dreyfus is good.

M. Casimir-Perier, in his evidence given before the Court Martial at Rennes, repeated the deposition made by him to the Court of Cassation, and protested energetically against the assertion that Dreyfus had entered into engagements with him. "Dreyfus," M. Perier said in effect, "did not enter into any engagement. The nature of his letters was changed."

General Mercier, former Minister of War, is endeavouring to bring out the guilt of Dreyfus, as demonstrated first, by the facts of the information given to foreign governments; secondly, by the *bordereau*, of which Dreyfus alone could have been author, and thirdly, by his admissions. The General added that great precautions were necessary in making use of the secret documents relating to this affair lest foreign complications should be caused. He concluded his deposition by affirming the guilt of Dreyfus.

Dreyfus, furious, cried to General Mercier, "Prove it."

M. Casimir-Perier has asked to be heard in contradiction of General Mercier in the Court's session on Monday. There is great excitement.

Saigon, August 15.

At the moment when the Rennes Court-martial was about to open its session, an individual, poorly clad and about 20 years of age, fired a revolver at M. Labori and hit him in the back. The would-be assassin escaped. M. Labori will probably be confined to bed for some eight days.

In the course of the hearing, M. Cavaignac and Generals Brillot Chauvine and Zurlinden, former Ministers of War, declared their belief in the guilt of Dreyfus, basing it notably on the *bordereau*. Dreyfus protested. The session is postponed until Thursday. At the close of the hearing there were numerous cries of "Vive l'Armée!"

[M. Labori and M. Demange are counsel for Dreyfus.—Ed. *J.M.*]

PLOTTING IN FRANCE.

Saigon, August 13.

M. Deroulède, President of the League of Patriots, was arrested this morning in consequence of the discovery of a plot having for its object a change of the form of Government in France. Several members of the League of Patriots have also been arrested. Other arrests are imminent among the members of the young royalists and of the Anti-Semitic League.

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TYPHOON AT KOBE.

MUCH DAMAGE TO SHIPPING.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Kobe, Aug. 15, 8.30 p.m.

A typhoon raged here this afternoon, during the course of which the British steamship *Argyll*, Capt. William S. Thomson, which was on the berth for New York, was driven ashore, broadside on, near Ohno. The pier is a wreck and several vessels have had narrow escapes. Considerable damage has been done ashore and afloat. It is now calm.

THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE NORTH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, Aug. 15, 10 p.m.

H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Barfleur*, *Victorious*, *Undaunted*, *Iphigenia*, *Hermione*, *Alacrity*, *Daphne*, *Whiting*, and *Fame* have left for Muroran. The *Aurora* has gone to Wei-hai-wei; the *Brisk* left for Shanghai this morning, and the *Linnet* is to leave for the North.

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

Solution of Problem No. 433.

By K. Erlin.

First Prize *Tägliche Rundschau* Problem Tourney.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt sq	1—B to Kt 2
2—P to K 4 ch	2—K takes Kt (must)
3—Q to Kt 5 mate	
	1—Kt to K 8
2—B to R 3!	2—K takes Kt
3—Q to K 4 mate	if 2—B takes Kt
3—P to K 4 mate	if 2—Kt to Q 6 or B 7
3—Q to K R sq mate	if 2—Any other
3—Kt to Q 7 mate	

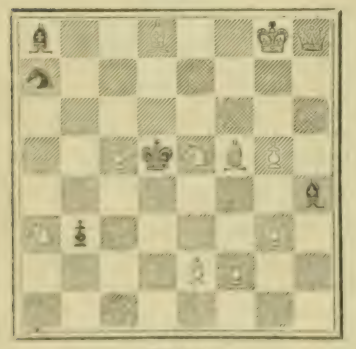
Other variations depend upon those given.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Mauco, and L.M.A.

Problem No. 436.

By O. Nemo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

A Gem from Russia.

This game is a fine example of the manner in which an expert takes advantage of even the slightest slip of his opponent.

RUY LOPEZ.

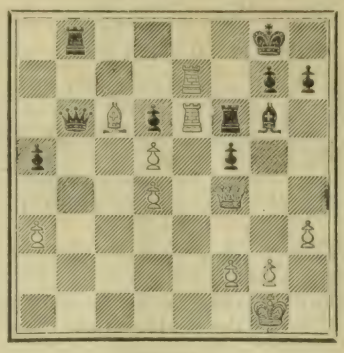
White—Maximow. Black—J. R.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	9 Kt K4	Castles
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	10 Kt(B3) Kt5	P KR3
3 B Kt5	K R3	11 Q R5	P Q4
4 Castles	Kt xP	12 Kt B6(!)	PxKt
5 P Q4	Kt Q1	13 QxP	PxKt
6 BxKt	KtPxB	14 BxP	B K2
7 PxP	Kt Kt2	15 B B6	BxB
8 Kt B1	B B4	16 PxB	Resigns.

End Game.

The following interesting ending occurred recently in an offhand practice game between two Adelaide Chess players:—

BLACK.



WHITE.

White forced mate by the following ingenious line of play:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 RxR	PxR	5 BxBch	RxB
2 Q R6!	B B2	6 QxRch	K R sq
3 QxBP	R KB sq	7 Q mates	
4 B K8!	Q Q sq		

End of the London Tournament.

Lasker first.—Pillsbury shares second prize.

The final games of the Tournament were played Monday, July 10. Lasker takes first prize, $1,250; Pillsbury, Janowski and Maroczy divided second, third and fourth prizes, each receiving $575; Schlechter was fifth, $325; Blackburne sixth, $250; Tschigorin seventh, $200; Showalter eight, $150; Mason ninth and final prize, $100.

The score stood as follows at the close:

	Won.	Lost		Won.	Lost
Lasker	22½	4½	Showalter	12½	14½
Pillsbury	18	9	Mason	12	15
Janowski	18	9	Steinitz	11½	15½
Maroczy	18	9	Cohn	11½	15½
Schlechter	17	10	Lee	9½	17½
Blackburne	15½	11½	Bird	7	20
Tschigorin	15	12	Tinsley	6	21

The ages of the masters are as under:—Bird, 69; Steinitz, 63; Blackburne, 57; Burn, 51; Mason, 50; Tschigorin, 49; Showalter, 39; Tarrasch, 37; Lasker, 31; Janowski, 31; Cohn, 30; Maroczy, 29; Pillsbury, 27; Schlechter, 25.

Lasker, the winner, did his greatest execution in the latter part of the tournament. While he suffered at the hands of Blackburne in one of the earlier rounds and drew four games, he did not meet with a single reverse in the second part and he drew only three games, winning the rest. Altogether, he lost 3 points in the first part and 1½ only in the second. The champion thereby established a new tournament record. Never before in the history of the game has a player accomplished such a feat.

Janowski's form remained unaltered throughout the tourney. He lost 4½ points in the first part of the contest and a like number in the second. While he did good work against certain players, he played indifferently against others. With a little more care he might have taken the second place without having to divide with Maroczy and Pillsbury. He lost in the second part to Mason, Pillsbury and Steinitz and drew with Blackburne, Lasker and Tinsley.

Maroczy lost 5 points in the second part and 4 in the first part of the contest. The Hungarian fell off a little in the final rounds. He was beaten by Janowski, Lasker and Mason and drew with Bird, Pillsbury, Schlechter and Showalter, winning the rest.

Pillsbury, like Janowski, made the same number of points in the second part as in the first. He, too, lost 4½ points. He lost outright to Blackburne, Lasker and Tschigorin and drew with Bird, Maroczy and Showalter.

The Viennese player, Schlechter, fell 1 point off in the second part of the tournament. He lost to Janowski, Lasker, Pillsbury and Tschigorin and drew with Blackburne, Cohn and Maroczy, thus losing 5½ points as against 4½ in the first part.

Blackburne in the second part lost to Maroczy, Lasker, Steinitz and Tschigorin and drew with Janowski, Lee, Mason and Schlecter, thereby losing 6 points, as compared with 5½ in the first part. Tschigorin lost 6 points in each of the two stages of the contest. Showalter did half a point better in the last stage. His final score, 12½ wins and 14½ losses, does not really represent his actual strength. Mason, on the other hand, did better work toward the end than at the beginning of the contest. In the first part he had lost 9 points, while in the second part he lost only 6.

Cohn and Steinitz, with 11½ each to their credit, follow the prize winners. Cohn went all to pieces in the second part, in which he lost 9½ points, as compared with 6½ in the first part. Steinitz, too, did half a point worse in the second than in the first. This is the first tournament for over thirty years in which the ex champion has been unplaced. Of the other competitors it need only be said that Bird remained in the same form all through, that Lee played best in the second part and that Tinsley also managed to lose one game less in the second part than he did in the first.

Games from the London Tourney.

Janowski outplays Pillsbury.

Vienna Opening.

White—Janowski. Black—Pillsbury.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	25 P B4	K R2
2 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	26 Q KB3	R KKtsq
3 Kt B3	B Kt5	27 K R2	P Kt3
4 KtxP	Castles	28 PK Kt3	P QR4
5 B K2	P Q3	29 Q Q5	R KBsq
6 Kt B3	BxKt	30 B Q4	Q B2
7 QPxB	KtxP	31 Q B6	K KKtsq
8 Castles	Kt Q2	32 Q Q5	R KBsq
9 R Ksq	QKt B3	33 P R4	P R4
10 B Q3	Kt B4	34 P Kt3	P R5
11 BKK5	P KR3	35 Q B3	K R3
12 B R4	B Kt5	36 PxP	R KKtsq
13 P KR3	KtxB	37 RKKtsq	Kt B sq
14 QxKt	BxKt	38 K Kt5	Kt K3
15 QxB	P KKt4	39 B B6	Kt Kt2
16 B Kt3	Kt Q2	40 Q Q5	Q K sq
17 Q B5	K Kt2	41 Q Kt2	Q B2
18 QRQsq	R Ksq	42 BxKtch	RxB
19 P KB4	RxRch	43 RxR	QxR
20 RxR	Kt B sq	44 Q Kt5ch	K R2
21 P KR4	Q Q2	45 QxP	K R sq
22 Q Q3	PxRP	46 Q R5ch	K Kt sq
23 BxP	Kt Kt3	47 Q Kt5	Resigns.
24 B B2	P KB4		

Maroczy's fine play.

Queen Pawn Opening.

White—Showalter. Black—Maroczy.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P K3	22 Q Kt2	Q Kt4
2 P K3	P Q4	23Kt(R4)Rsq	PxP
3 B Q3	P QB4	24 BPxP	QxP
4 P QB3	Kt QB3	25 QxQP	B B5
5 P KB4	P KKt4	26 R Kt2	B K3
6 PxP	QxP	27 Q K4	QxQ
7 Kt B3	Q K5	28 BxQ	RxP
8 Q K2	P KB4	29 BxKt	PxB
9 QKt Q2	K B3	30 Kt B2	RxKt
10 Kt B sq	R KKtsq	31 RxR	R Q sq
11 RK Ksq	B Q3	32 R R2	RxR
12 B Q2	Kt K5	33 RxR	P Kt6
13 Castles	KtxB	34 Kt K sq	B Q4
14 Kt(B)xKt	P QB5	35 K Qsq	BxR
15 B B2	BxP	36 KxB	P K7
16 R R sq	B Q3	37 KtxP	BxKt
17 RxP	B Q2	38 K B3	B Q4
18 R Ksq	Castles	39 P Kt3	PxP
19 R R4	Q Kt2	40 PxP	BxP
20 P KKt4	PxP	41 KxB	K Kt2
21 Kt K sq	P K4	42 Resigns.	

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Aug. 12th:—

	Dr. Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,633,667
Amount of convertible notes issued	214,365,594
Government deposits	37,101,107
General deposits	2,926,375
Exchange liability	46,608
Total	301,073 353
	Cr.
Discount notes	45.982.711
Foreign discount notes	6 687,873
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	69.141,012
Exchange liability	2,818,406
Government bonds	4,011,324
Property	1,916.775
Bullion and Specie	105,615.249
Total	301,073.353

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ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those ...	209,989,052
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,777,724
Silver	
Total	103,777,724
Securities :—	
Government bonds	36,949,121
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,186,439
Commercial notes	36,075,767
Total	106,220,527

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	269,510	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	16,507,188
Government deposits ...	...12,919,684	—
General deposits	—	2,595,676

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Grant, U.S. Army Transport, 3,646, B. M. Beeford, 11th August,—Manila via Nagasaki 8th August. —U S Government.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, Campbell, 11th August,—New York via ports, and Kobe 9th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 11th August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 9th August, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Presidente Sarniento, Argentine schoolship, 3,000, Capt. Onofre Befbeder, 11th August,—San Francisco.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 11th August,—Shanghai via ports, 5th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 13 h August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 11th August, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 13th August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 26th July, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Jason, British steamer, 1,412, ——. 13th August, —Singapore, 1st August, Genoral.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 12th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 14th August,—Vancouver, B.C., 31st July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 14th August,—Kobe, 12th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Grant, U.S. Army Transport, 3,646, B. M. Beeford, 14th August,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, 14th August.—U.S. Government.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 14th August,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 13th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Rattler (6), British gunboat, 715, Lt.-Com G. A. Hardinge, 14th August,—Nagasaki via Kobe.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 15th August,—Hongkong via ports, 6th Aug., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Cubitt, 15th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 14th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Stentor, British steamer, 4,398, Jackson, 16th August,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 15th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, 15th August, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3 003, R. Archibald, 17th August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 16th August, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 11th August,—Otaru via ports, 6th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 11th August,—Kobe, 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 11th August,—Otaru via ports, 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsurugisan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,438, —— 12th August,—Uraga, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Nagao, 12th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 11th August, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 13th August,—Otaru via ports, 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 17th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 12th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 17th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 16th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, I. Miyagi, 17th August,—Kobe, 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 11th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, D. Davies, 11th August,—Iloilo, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 12th August,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,048, G. M. Montford, 13th August.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, J. B Murray, 12th August,—Marseilles, London, and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 12th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,771, W. Towell, 13th August,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Grant, U.S. Army Transport, 3,646, B. M. Butford, 13 h August,—Nagahama Quarantine Station. —U.S. Government.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K Iwanaga, 13th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,468, Potter, 13th Aug.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 14th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 14th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Grant, U.S. Army Transport, 3,646, B. M. Beeford, 14th August,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Telena, British Tank steamer, 3,124, Scott, 15th August,—Rangoon via Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,267, J. Nagao, 15 h August,—Vladivostock via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, Campbell, 15th August,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 16thth Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R Swain, 16th August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 16th August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Jason, British steamer, 1,412, Fusett, 16th Aug., —Kobe, Cotton.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 17th Aug.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 15th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 15th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 11th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 11th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, J. Nagao, 13th August,—Yokkaichi, Generals.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 13th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 14th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 16th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Olsen, 17th August,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. B. Runge, and Mr. G. F. Cummins, in cabin ; 2 in steerage. For Tacoma :—Mr. and Mrs. Windsor and 2 children, Mr. O. H. Barker, and Mr. M. Weil, in cabin ; 73 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. Buse, Mr. Coote, Mr. Morries, Mr. T. Iwasaki, Mr. Cornish, Mr. J. Hirayama, Mr. H. Iwasaki, Mr. W. Moss, Mr. R. Docking, Mr. Apcar, Mr. Brasses, Baron Iwasaki Hisaya, Capt. J. Ferguson, Capt. Anderson, Mrs. N. Lewis, Miss Rozier, and Miss Sieza, in cabin ; Miss T. Sugimoto, Mr. S. Iyeno, Mr. Gen Lee, Mr. K. Shibaoka, Mr. T. Miyashima, Mr. G. Tsukada, Mr. D. Gargan, Mr. K. Shimada, Mr. Y. Kaburaki, Mr. S. Fukumota, and Mr. S. Murata, in second class ; 46 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. F. W. Thomas, Miss Thomas, Mrs. A. J. Allen, Mr. Alfred Teizer, Mr. C. W. Pudington, Mr. E Horikoshi, Mr. T. Yamada, Miss Masu, and Mr. E. August, in cabin. For Nagasaki :—Mr. H. Paulooski, in cabin. For Shanghai :—Mr. C. M. L. Sites, and Mr. C. S. Leavenworth, in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mr. Wm. Liebes, Mr. Benj. Graham, Mrs C. H. Brooke, Miss Grace Brooke, and Mr. Jno. Brownlee, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. John S. Bradstreet, Mr. M. B. Blake, Mr. W. P. Burden, Mr. A. M. Burns, Miss Crawford, Mr. H. Conley, Mr. G. Condon, Mr. F. D. Cochran, Dr. Leila Doolittle, Mr. R. E. Defendorfe, Mr. Farquhar, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hutchison, Mr. S. Houghton, Rev. and Mrs. Hanson, Mr. E. Iselin, Hon. Kentaro Kaneko, Mr. E. C. Kellner, Mr. Geo. Lees, Mr. D. D. Mann, Mrs. Melrose, Mr. and Mrs. Nosse, and child, Mr. F. Nordheimer, Mr. Walworth Pierce, Dr. J. Clifford Perry, Miss Rutherford, Mr. V. Sakharof, Mr. A. Findlay Smith, Mrs. E. B. Sampson, Mr. J. E. L. Tathson, Mr. A. G. Vanderbilt, Prof. Watase, and Mr. Wheelwright in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe :—Mrs. Talbot, 2 children, Miss Scott, Lieut. A. W. H. Lee, Mr. J. R. James, Mr. Denbeigh, Miss Denbeigh, and Mr. B. Hyde Pearson, and servant in cabin, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. O. C. Johne, Mr. S. Enomoto, Mr. Hey, Mr. Thebaud, Lieut. L. D. Bruckart, U.S.A., Captain Morgan, U.S.A., Mr. J. Reidie, Miss M. Young, Mr. John West, Mr. F. Toke, Miss J. E. Lee, and Mr. Richardson in cabin. Through :—Lieut.-Com. Hanus, U.S.N., Dr. Von Wedekind, U.S.N., Mr. Hughes, Rev. and Mrs. J. Carrington, Dr. G. Da Silva, Miss Da Silva, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cheerkoff, Dr. Nieszkouskey, and Mr. M. Kisseliff in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. W. O. Ordish, Dr. and Mrs. G. P. B. Wright, Mrs. C. P. Hance, Misses Seth (2), Mr. Seth, Mr. R. F. A. Hastings, Mr. A. Coutts, Mr. G. E. Painter, Mr. and Mrs D. W. Craddock and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Seaton, Capt. C. F. Mould, Mr. T. C. Hutchings, Mr. Rickter, Mr. Flakowski, Mr. Delchevalerie, Mr. Gielen, Mr. F. Komor, Mr. J. D. Black, Mr. M. E. Fenwick, Mrs. E. L. Keen, Mr. F. Kronenberg, Mr. N. McIvor, Mr. Becker, Mr. E Becker, Mr. H. Faber, Mr. F. Fernald, Mr. H. de Gray, and Rev. C. T. Warren, in cabin. For Vancouver :—Mr. A. Herbert, Mr. E. P. Frost, Mr. E. H. Warner, Mr. Ed. Carroll, Jr., Mr. L. R. Danziger, Major L. H. Ruckeer, Mr. F. C. Wilkinson, Mrs. E. Lindsay and infant, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Clark, Mr. F. Ludecke, and Mr. W. O. Rowe, in cabin ; 12 intermediate, and 240 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Bombay*, for London via ports :—Mr. Issac E. Thalman, and Mr. Reginald Bodden, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hitachi Maru*, for London via ports :—Mr. Will. L. Winslow, Mrs. and Miss Harvey, Mrs. E. Becker, Mr. E. Jubit, Mr.

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Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. J. David, Mr. B Luckau, Mr. H. E. Campbell, Mr. L. Brodersen, Mrs. C. Brodersen, Mr. and Mrs. Centrewall, Mr. F. R. Mowrer, Mr. Rld. Lomax, Dr. Grunenwald, Mrs. and the Misses Rustomjee, and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wright, Mr. K Okawa, Mr. Fukagawa, Mr. Cho Nonchen, Mr. J. W. Copmann, and native servant, Mr. W. Gibson, Mr. John Lambert, Mr. J. Richler, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. and Mrs. Tuska in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports:—Comte F. W. Bernstorff, Mr. Wall, Mr. Toeppfer, Mr. F. W. Hoffmann, Mr. Fischer, Mr. C. Windmüller, Mr. Faga, Mr. U. Matsuura, Mr. H. Ichihara, Mr. Sho Miyamoto, Mr. Y. Tsutsui, Mr. G. Morita, Mr. B. Matsumoto, Mr. Bichard, Mrs. Bichard, child and amah, Miss C. J. D. Taylor and servant, Mr. Bernard, Mr. P. Chirou, Mr. J. Selles, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. and Mrs. Ruegg, child and amah, Mrs. and Miss Yanny, Mr. Jourdan Machertoon, Mr. F. Thiele, Dr. J. M. Yausse, Mr. Georges Buquet, Mr. S. Moutrie, child and amah, Mr. H. Henkel, and Mr. C. Noss, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. T. Yonetsu, Mr. M. Yonetsu, Mrs. K. Yonetsu, Mrs. S. Yonetsu, Mrs. M. Yonetsu, Mr. I. Sumimura, Mr. T. Yano, Mrs. T. Yano, and Mr. J. Suzuki, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. J. F. Allen, Mr. J. C. Bentz, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cheetkoff, Rev. and Mrs. John Carrington, Dr. J G. da Silva, Miss A. C. da Silva, Mr. Douglass Dickson, Mr. Jas. H. Ebersole, Mr. M. Enya, Mr. M. Fujita, Mr. A. J. Hughes, Lieut. Commander G. C. Hanus, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. Paul Heroult, Mrs. H. Kojima, Mr. M. G. Kisseliff, Dr. Meskowskey, Mr. F. Morgan, Mr. A. J. Neville, Mr. A B. Templeman, Mr. N. Takahashi, Dr. Luther L. von Wedekind, U.S.N., and Mrs. S. Wada, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,150 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 93 bales.

Following were silk shippers per T. K. K steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco, Aug. 16:—

	Bales.
Varenne & Co.	85
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	26
Otto Reimers & Co.	26
Sieber & Co.	5
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	204
Total	346

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 1	M. Aug. 21
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 2	W. Aug. 23
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Salazie 3	To. Aug. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	M. Aug. 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Aug. 28
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Aug. 30
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 31
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
America	T. K. K.	H'k'ng Maru	Tu. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Sept. 7

1 Left Nagasaki on the 18th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst.
3 Left Shanghai on the 17th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Aug. 18
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Aug. 23
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Aug. 23
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Aug. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Aug. 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	To. Aug. 29
Europe, via Suez	M. M. Co.	Salazie	W. Aug. 30
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 1
America	O. & O.	Coptic	Sa. Sept. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	W. Sept. 6
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Sept. 7

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The yarn market is very dull. There is only a trifling demand, and quotations are nominal. Very little business is doing either in grey shirtings or fancy cottons and woollens. Woollen cloths are rising on account of higher home cost.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.26 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos 2/100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18.00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

The market has quite a holiday apathy, only a few small transactions being reported.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 18 inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

Prices are still on the rise.

American	$2.42 to 2.46
Russian	2.50 to 2.40
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Taikung	4.30 to 4.60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been considerable activity in the market, the demand from Europe being especially keen, causing an advance of *yen* 40 to 50 in fine filatures and *yen* 20 to 30 in Kakedas.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1200
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1160 to 1170
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1080 to 1090
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1060 to 1070
Commercial Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1080
Re-reels—No 1½	1050
Re-reels—No 2	1020
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	1080
Kakedas—No. 1	1040 to 1050
Kakedas—No 1½	
Kakedas—No 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

The market shows excitement, but foreign buyers find actual prices too high to admit of operations.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—Filatures Best	145 to 155
Noshi—Filatures Good	130 to 145
Noshi—Oshu, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Oshu, Good	135 to 137½
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	130 to 132½
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$85 to 90
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	80 to 82½
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	40 to 45
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	35 to 40

TEA.

There is a great deal of third crop leaf, but the quality is poor. Tea of the higher grades is scarce. A fair amount of business has been done in inferior qualities.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 17.

No alteration in silver from London, and rates are keeping steady with quotations as under for the mail closing per *Empress of China*.

Sterling—Bank T. T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/8
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	2 1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51½
On Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214½ to 14
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/4% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/4% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75⅛
— Private 10 days' sight	75⅜
On India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27⅜

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 17.

Breweries changed hands to-day at *yen* 180. Laundries at *yen* 65. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 225. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 125. Offers are wanted for Langfeldts. Bretts are in demand at par cum last dividend. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85.

Debentures, Y. U. Clubs, Breweries, and Oriental Hotels, can be placed at *yen* 108, Brett & Co.'s at par.

North Chinas changed hands to-day at Tls. 197.50.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	225 Sa. & B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	180 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	220 S.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	85 S
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $[illegible]	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	Nominal
Brett & Co., Ld., $50	10 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	141 S.
Helm Bros., $50	50 S.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	65 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	30 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 Sa. & B.
Brett & Co., Ld 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,298.41; 4, *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Credit of Working Acc.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 17.

Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 210.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	225 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	210 Sales.
Club Hotel	87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel	125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co.	160 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	177.50 Sales.

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Tokyo, August 17

Redemption Loan Bonds	1 ..	96.65
War Loan Bonds	1 ..	96.65
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	..	99.35
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	..	416.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	..	55.80
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	1 ..	272.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100	..	271.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	1 ..	64.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	1 ..	64 60
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	1 ..	108.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	1 ..	28.50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	..	74.60
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	..	62 00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	..	16.30
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1 ..	120 50
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1 ..	80 50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	..	61.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	..	47.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	..	68.30
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	..	53.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	..	102.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 3rd issue—paid up yen 28	..	82 50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	..	96.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	..	50 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	..	31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	..	43 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	..	20.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	..	40.20
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	..	20 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	..	9 50
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 23	..	28.40
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	..	2 60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	..	236 20
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	..	185.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	1 ..	72.40
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	..	23,00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	..	8.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	..	32.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	..	20.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	..	36 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	..	32 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	..	34.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	..	10.50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	..	272.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	..	228.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	..	116.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	..	75 50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	..	2.80
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	..	58 60
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	..	22.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	..	76 50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	..	41 20
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	..	90 50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	..	37.00
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	..	49 00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	..	76.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	..	54 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	..	54.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	..	18.50
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	..	13.00
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	..	42 00

1 Ex dividend.

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa, Tokyo, August 16.

The market was dull.

Sold, Japanese rice 8,381 hyo; arrived, Japanese 7,071 hyo; in stock, Japanese 352,056.

Retail net Yen—First quality 7 sho 7 go; second, 8 sho; third, 8 sho 4 go; fourth, 8 sho 8 go; fifth, 9 sho 3 go.

TEA MARKET.

Yokohama, August 16

Arrivals of new Tea:—1,084 boxes.
Purchases of new Tea—6,300 catties.
Tea in stock—857,500 catties.
Purchases of tea after official hours on the preceding day:—17,601,500 catties.

POSTAGE STAMPS of the British Empire—40 varieties; post free 1s. 3d., including Barbados, Gold Coast, St. Lucia, Falkland Islands, Gambia, Hongkong, Newfoundland, Labuan, Leeward Islands, Niger Coast, Mauritius, Trinidad, Seychelles, Western Australia, Tobago, Natal. Guaranteed genuine—Address:—C. L. HOATHER, 18 Canning Street, BRIGHTON, ENGLAND. List of Cheap Sets post free on application.

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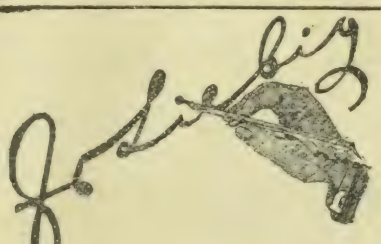
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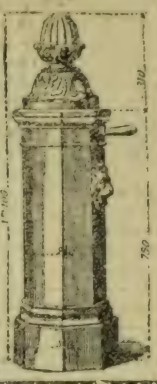
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

☞WITH this issue is published the half-yearly Index for January-June, 1899.

THE plague has appeared in Spain and Portugal.

THE Japanese Judges for the Paris Exhibition have been nominated.

THE infantry and artillery of the Jamaica militia have volunteered for the Transvaal.

THE weather has been very hot during the past week. The advent of rain is eagerly looked for.

AQUATIC sports take place in Yokohama harbour this afternoon.

THE famine news from Russia grows more distressing every mail.

THE Rennes Military Court is still receiving evidence in the Dreyfus case.

THE *Gorsedd*, lost recently off Cape Finisterre, was laden with Burmese rice.

THIS has been the most disastrous year in the annals of the Australian coasting trade.

OFFICIAL notification has been given of the taxing of foreigners from the 1st September.

THE dead body of a foreign seaman was found in Yokohama harbour on Thursday morning.

OVER 80,000 *yen* has now been collected for the relief of sufferers by the great fire at Yokohama.

THERE is talk of building a summer retreat for the Crown Prince at a thermal spring in Miyagi Prefecture.

THE P. & O. officers had their revenge at cricket last week defeating the Y. C. and A. C. by one run.

OWING to the sudden illness of Mr. Friedlander, the Chess-column is omitted from this week's *Japan Mail*.

DESPITE the heat, His Majesty the Emperor continues in Tokyo and transacts business from an early hour each day.

SOCIALISTIC riots have occurred in Paris, the military being called out to repress the mob. Several lives were lost.

THE Czar has ordered that Talienwan shall be opened to the free commerce of the world as soon as the railway is finished.

SENTENCE of death was pronounced in the Chiho Saibansho last Saturday on Miller, the Yokohama triple-murderer. He has appealed.

A TEA-FIRING coolie has been arrested in Tokyo charged with the murder of a confectioner and his wife in Yokohama last week.

ELABORATE measures of fire-patrol have been adopted in Yokohama: it seems like locking the stable door when the horse has gone.

THE t.b.d. *Sazanami*, the fourth of eleven boats being constructed by Yarrow & Co. for the Japanese Government, was launched at Poplar on 8th July.

MARQUIS ITO has been appointed President of a new department in the Palace which will have the revising of various statutes dealing with the Peers.

THE situation at the Transvaal is still strained, but President Kruger is understood to have made some proposals that the British Government are now considering.

SELF-GOVERNMENT is to be granted Cuba, the President of the U.S. to appoint the Governor of the Island and the Chief Justice, all the other officers being elective.

A BIG farewell dinner has been given to Mr. Otani Kahei who is proceeding to America as the delegate of the Tokyo and Yokohama Chambers of Commerce, etc. He will be present at the Philadelphia Exhibition.

ACTION has been brought against the Captain of the steamship *Argyll* for damage to a pier in course of construction at Ono, near Kobe, which the steamer is said to have destroyed when she drifted ashore.

LIEUT.-GENERAL Sir Frederick William Edward F. Forestier Walker, K.C.B., late in command of the Devonport regimental district, replaces Sir Wm. Francis Butler, K.C.B., in command of the troops at the Cape (South Africa).

THE French officers M. M. Voulet and Chanoine having been recently accused of cruelty to natives in the Soudan, Colonal Klobb and Lieutenant Meunier were despatched to investigate the facts. When they arrived Voulet ordered the troops to fire, and Klobb and Meunier were killed.

COLONEL A. L. Hawkins, commander of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment, died at sea on the night of July 18th, three days out from Yokohama, on board the transport *Senator*. For a month he had been gradually failing and sank so low that life ebbed quietly away five minutes before midnight.

THE gold mines in the neighbourhood of Kelung are, we are told, yielding splendid returns, and the proprietors, Japanese, are contemplating putting in additional stamps. But they are anxious to do the thing as secretly as possible so as not to invite too much attention to their enterprise.

AT 1.10 on Friday morning a fire broke out at a *geta*-shop at No. 62, Ogicho Nichome, Yokohama, occupied by Kosuge Zenkichi. Four houses and 2 store-houses were totally destroyed, and 9 houses were damaged. The cause is unknown. Small fires broke out at several other places the previous night.

THE arrival of the 24th U.S. Infantry at Manila, says the *China Mail*, has provided some amusement. This is one of the coloured regiments. A Sergeant was walking along the street the other day when he was saluted with the question: "Well, sergeant, what are you boys doing here?" "Why, boss," was the ready retort, "we'se heah to take up de 'White Man's Burden!'"

DESPATCHES from Pretoria state that President Kruger's definitive reply has not been sent yet, but only a tentative summary of the Transvaal's new proposals, which provide for a quinquennial franchise, and give one-fifth of the representation in the first Volksraad, with an understanding that there shall be no further interference in the internal affairs of the Transvaal.

A CANTON telegram printed in the *North China Daily News* runs:—The Protestant and Roman Catholic converts of Tseng-chenghsien, a district belonging to the metropolitan prefecture of Kuangchonfu, where there are large numbers of the two sects, have recently come to blows, and considerable bad blood has been engendered between them.

AN Allahabad telegram states that Major Shiba, of the Japanese Army, paid a visit to Lundi Kotal not long ago and was much impressed. One of the chief things that took his fancy was the mountain battery which he said he considered the most serviceable, handy, and mobile he had come across during the three years he has spent travelling round the world collecting tips. He was also hugely delighted with the Gurkhas, none of whom he had seen before as a regiment, and he exclaimed on seeing them, "Why they are most ridiculously like our men."

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A QUESTION OF REGISTRATION.

It is rumoured—and the rumour has found its way into print—that some difficulties have arisen with reference to a sale of property on the Bluff in Yokohama. The owner of the property being absent in England, the sale was effected by telegram, but when the buyer proceeded to the Local Office to register the transaction, the officials "wanted to cancel the old title to the list, which, as is the case with all the property in the Settlements, was a lease in perpetuity, and wanted to substitute a Japanese lease for it." That is the story as told by a local contemporary. Of course, if true, it would be very serious, for Japanese law does not recognise perpetual leases, except under the provisions of a treaty, and the substitution of a Japanese lease for a Settlement perpetual lease would be a radical alteration of the title. We believe, however, that the facts of the case have been misunderstood. It is a question, not of substituting one form of lease for another, but of paying or not paying the registration fee. According to arrangements which have already been explained in these columns, the contents of the registers kept at the Foreign Consulates were transferred, free of charge, to the Japanese registers. But this referred, of course, to matters registered at the Consulates prior to the operation of the Revised Treaties. Unfortunately the date of that operation was involved in some obscurity owing to an error committed by the Japanese negotiators of the French Treaty. Thus Consular Jurisdiction ceased in the case of the great majority of the Foreign Powers on July 17th, whereas in the case of France and Austria-Hungary it remained in existence until August 4th. The transfer of the land in question was effected, unless we are misinformed, after July 17th and prior to August 4th. Had the purchaser been of French or Austro-Hungarian nationality, he could have registered the transaction at his own Consulate, and then the copying of the registration into the Japanese ledgers would have been free of cost. But, not being of either of those nationalities, Consular intervention was not available. That is clear enough. In this instance, however, there seems to have been a complication; namely that the actual sale was made before July 17th, though the transfer could not be accomplished until after that date owing to non-arrival of the necessary documents. We are disposed to think that, under such circumstances, the local officials might reasonably waive their claim to payment.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

Signs of unrest are beginning to make themselves apparent in political circles, and, as is usual on such occasions, public writers undertake minute analyses of divisions, real or probable, that have taken place in the ranks of parties, adding *exposés* of the motives actuating the various sections. According to these analysts, the Liberals show three lines of cleavage. There is, first, a very powerful body (the *Kwanto-ha*), headed by Mr. Hoshi Toru, who have grown tired of waiting for the substance of power and were recently bending their energies to obtain the leadership of Marquis Ito and form a new Cabinet before the opening of the next Diet's session. Unsuccessful in their overtures to the Marquis, they are now turning their eyes to the Satsuma statesmen. Secondly, there is another strong body (the *Tosa-ha*), whose members are exasperated by the rapidly growing influence of Mr. Hoshi. They profess to see in him a man who, under pretext of developing his party's power, is really working for his own hand, and they think that the only remedy for the state of affairs confronting them is a thorough re-sorting of the political cards, in the sense of uniting the packs of Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, and Count Itagaki. That, of course, would mean the complete disruption of the Liberals and the Progressists, and the construction of a new party out of their fragments. Finally, there is a section (the *Kiushiu-ha*), under the leadership of Mr. Masuda Masahisa, who occupy a position midway between the two former sections, but, in the event of a crisis, would probably throw in their lot with the *Tosa-ha*.

Such is the analysis. In our opinion, the three factors of unrest in the political sphere are, first, that the "outs" are beginning to feel the cold of their position; secondly, that there is a growing jealousy of Mr. Hoshi Toru, whose personality is not so attractive as his abilities are conspicuous; and thirdly, that the Progressists have fallen into a slough of despond from which they will probably make some desperate effort to emerge. But whether it all means any immediate disturbance of existing conditions we can not pretend to say. Probably not.

NATIONAL EXPORT EXPOSITION OF PHILADELPHIA.

Owing to the characteristically American energy of the committee entrusted with the management of the approaching Philadelphia Exposition's affairs, the public have been able to form a very clear idea of the great enterprise. Each mail from San Francisco has brought to Japan several copies of the *Exposition Bulletin*, a publication which contains full information about everything connected with the project. A million dollars (gold) has been spent on the buildings and grounds of the big display, and the plans and elevations show that the money has been spent at once judiciously and artistically. There are to be various "villages,"—a Chinese village, a Puerto-Rico village, a Cuban village, and a Philippine village,—peopled by genuine inhabitants of those regions, and intended to illustrate the daily life and industrial pursuits of the peoples that have recently come under American sway. America is beginning to find a large opening in foreign markets, and it seems natural that she should organize an exhibition of her exportable goods—much more natural than that she should hold an international exhibition where a display is made of foreign goods which she does everything in her power to exclude.

The Exposition is to commence on September 14th and will last until November 30th. Connected with it there will be an International Commercial Congress, to which all the nations of Europe have promised to send delegates. Japan will probably send Mr. Otani Kahei and Mr. Yamamoto (of Kobe), but possibly she will be more largely represented.

THE TOKYO CITY RAILWAY.

Monday, Aug. 21.

The fond hope that a compromise had at length been effected between the rival projectors of city railways in Tokyo has again proved delusive. There were at one time as many as 70 different groups of projectors in the field, and it seemed vain to expect any speedy adjustment of so many conflicting interests. Gradually, however, they were understood to have been reduced to three, and finally these three combined to forward the application which was said, a few days ago, to be about to receive the sanction of the Home Department. But once more the storm of rivalry has begun to blow. The people who find themselves out in the cold have held a meeting, and are agitating vehemently, and the City Council also is said to have protested that the right of granting a charter ought to rest with it. All this means, we presume, that Tokyo will drift back into the old quagmire of do-nothing. It is probably, without a solitary exception, the most backward city in the world for the capital of a civilized nation, and that disgraceful condition is to be continued by the bickerings of its citizens.

Wednesday, Aug. 23.

An examination of the project submitted to the Authorities by the promoters of the Tokyo City Railway does not impress us very favourably. They have chosen a 4 ft. 8½ inch. gauge and their passenger cars are to be 7½ feet wide. A single line of such a tramway, if laid in one of the second-class streets of Tokyo, which is 20 feet wide, say, would leave 6¼ feet on either side of the car for the public traffic. A double line would monopolise a width of 20 feet—7½ ft. for each car and 5ft. between them as they pass —, so that unless the street were at least 40 feet wide, wheeled vehicles would not find room on either side. After the very miserable experience furnished by the horse trams, which have completely ruined the best streets of Tokyo, it may reasonably be hoped that the Authorities will not again be betrayed into the error of sacrificing the convenience of general traffic to the interests of a small band of capitalists. Indeed, the whole scheme seems to be on a clumsy and needlessly large scale. The rails are to weigh 60 lbs. per yard, and the cars, when carrying their complement of passengers, will weigh 10 tons. Then there is the top-hamper—a cable suspended 18 feet above the ground, just at a time when the Municipal Authorities are thinking of following the last teaching of science, and putting the telegraph, telephone, and electric-light wires under ground.

The financial part of the scheme is still less attractive. Fifteen million *yen* is to be spent, and the work is to take five years. It is possible to arrive at an approximate idea of what that means. The capital of the present horse tram company is a million *yen* and it pays 35 per cent. dividend. To convert the same line into an electric railway would require an expenditure of 4 millions, so that the dividend, roughly speaking, would be 8¾ per cent. In other words, an electric line laid through the most populous streets of Tokyo, according to the scheme now before the authorities, might be expected to pay about 8 per cent., after deducting the royalty to the Municipality and the cost of road repair to which the projectors

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pledge themselves. If that is the very best return that could be hoped for, what are the prospects for a line traversing the less densely populated, and even the suburban, quarters of the city? The horse trams have monopolized all the most paying districts, and the projectors of the electric railway are left to content themselves with what remains. It seems to us quite plain that they are going to make a huge failure. They may begin the railway, but they will never finish it. Misled by the prosperity that has attended the operation of the present Tram Company, people will probably take up the shares of the scheme and pay the first instalment. But it will soon be discovered that the return is insignificant, and instead of being furnished with a good net-work of communications and thus relieved from the reproach now attaching to it, Tokyo will find the way blocked by a bankrupt company which can not do the work itself, and will have acquired vested interests that may not be ignored. We venture to hope that this stupendous mistake will not be made.

The Imperial News Agency reports that the City Improvement Committee of Tokyo is at length beginning to bestir itself. Several years ago, a programme of improvement was drawn up by the Department of Home Affairs, requiring a decade for its completion and involving an outlay of 20 million *yen*. The City Assembly thereupon appointed a Committee to consider ways and means, and the Committee went to work in a very leisurely manner, holding one meeting in 1897 and another in 1898, and making no approach to a decision. But now that the street-railway project is likely to become a practical reality, the Committee is said to be persuaded that the time for action has come. It met on the 21st instant, and adopted some resolution, which, of course, is kept secret, but which is supposed to relate to the immediate re-construction of the main roads joining the city and the suburbs.

Thursday, Aug. 24.

We learn from Tokyo journals that Mr. Takata has taken up the "Serpollet" system, and made application for permission to use it for the street railways of the capital. We trust that he may succeed, for in the "Serpollet" seems to lie the sole hope of supplying the city's urgent want of communications. The "Serpollet" would cost one half less than the electric system; its working expenses would be 20 per cent. less, and the whole of the lines could be open for traffic in 18 months, whereas the electric people talk of 5 years, and would probably require 8, if, indeed, they ever carried the job to completion at all. All the details of the "Serpollet" seem incomparably preferable. The cars would weigh only 5 tons instead of 10; the guage would be 3½ feet instead of 4 feet 8½ inches, and there would be no top-hamper. Besides, the adoption of the "Serpollet" would mean the introduction of foreign capital. French and English capitalists offer to take one half of the shares, so that the financing of the scheme presents no difficulties whatever. There has been a great deal of talk about introducing foreign capital. The public will be curious to see how this proposal is received. Foreigners are not likely to put their money solely into enterprises which deter the Japanese, leaving the latter to exploit everything profitable on their own sole account.

The projectors of the Tokyo Street Railway have made, to the Department of Home Affairs, various proposals of a fair and tactful character. For example, they propose that if the gross earnings of the railways should average 50 *yen* per mile daily throughout a period of six months, the following payments shall be made to the funds of the municipality:—

Average gross earnings per mile daily during six months	Per-centage of gross earnings to be paid to Municipal Funds.
From 50 *yen* to 75 *yen*.	2 per cent.
„ 75 „ „ 100 „	3 „
„ 100 „ „ 125 „	4 „
„ 125 „ „ 150 „	5 „
„ 150 „ „ 175 „	6 „
„ 175 „ „ 200 „	7 „
„ 200 „ „ 225 „	8 „

These payments, worked out in accordance with the total length of the line, give the following results:—

Average gross daily earnings per mile.	Total gross earnings.	Percentage paid to municipality.	Total paid to municipality.
Yen.	Yen.		Yen.
50	3,650 000	2	73 000
75	5,475,000	3	164,250
100	7 300,000	4	292,000
125	9,125 000	5	456,250
150	10 950 000	6	657 000
175	12,775,000	7	894 250
200	14,600,000	8	1,168 000

Other conditions are that the Company will keep the streets repaired to a distance of 1½ feet on either side of the rails; that the Municipal Authorities may at any moment order a special inspection of the Company's affairs, including its accounts; that the fare, irrespective of distance, shall be 5 *sen*; that the period of charter shall be 75 years; that the length of the lines, as planned, shall be 200 miles, but that the Municipality shall be competent to order the construction of additional lines in any essential places; that no street less than 24 feet wide shall have a line laid there, and no street less than 36 feet wide, a double line; that the work must be commenced within 6 months and finished within 5 years, the latter figure to be subject, however, to reduction or extension in conformity with the scheme of City Improvement; and that the Company shall be entitled to a renewal of its charter at the end of 75 years, and the Municipality to purchase the lines at a proper figure, should such a course be deemed necessary.

THE CHINA-JAPAN ALLIANCE.

It turns out, as we supposed at the time, that Reuter was misinformed when he announced that the Russian Representative in Peking had addressed an official warning to the Chinese Government with reference to the rumoured China-Japan alliance. The Tokyo papers now state that the truth of the matter having been investigated by the Foreign Office in Tokyo, Russia is found not to have made any official communication of the kind to the Chinese Government.

It is very singular to find the *N.-C. Daily News* suddenly veering round and declaring that this alliance "seems to us now the best step that China can take." The story of the alliance was originally circulated by the Shanghai journal. It led its readers to believe not only that China had proposed such an union, but also that Japan had accepted the proposition; it declared that the purpose of the alliance was to eliminate Great Britain, whose aggressions China feared and who constituted an inconvenient obstacle to a final understanding between Peking and St. Petersburg; it said a great many bitter things of Japan, and it denounced the union as a consummation to be stoutly opposed by the civilized Powers of Europe. In fact, the Shanghai journal's original view of the case was that the alliance had for its object the beating back of the white race by the yellow, and above all, the exclusion of England from an arena where she interfered irksomely with Russia. Yet to-day it alludes to the project as "the best step that China can take," and adds "we can not but think now that the Japanese are acting wisely and we hope that they will succeed."

The fact is that the *N.-C. Daily News* approached this question originally under the influence of a misleading prejudice. It imagined that Japan would consent to enter into any union having for its purpose a conservative and restrictive policy. There is certainly nothing in Japan's modern history to justify such a suspicion. If she agreed to lend her assistance to her neighbour it would be solely with the object, first, of leading the Chinese into the path of progress, and, secondly, of developing their strength of self-defence, which can not be accomplished in any way except by inducing them to adopt Western systems. Many students of the time—we ourselves among the number—believe that the practical guidance of Japan is the only guidance China is at all likely to follow, and since Japan has fully learned the lesson, and has demonstrated her knowledge of it, that "protection by mimicry" is the only safe policy for an Oriental race, no doubt can be entertained for a moment that any influence acquired by her in China would be exercised in the cause of civilized progress. Japan has been admitted to the comity of Western nations, and the sooner we recognise her frankly as one of the elite, the less likely shall we be to make illogical displays of distrust and prejudice in discussing her acts.

YOKOHAMA COOLIES & ELECTRIC TRAMS.

It is stated that the dispute between the drawers of *jinrikisha* in Yokohama and the projectors of an electric tramway has been compromised. The ardour of the coolies has been considerably abated by the heavy losses that several of them suffered in the great fire, and, moreover, some of their number have been brought under the provisions of the Admonition Law. Still, when it was announced that a meeting of "stalwarts" was to take place on the 17th instant, the police, imagining that this theme was to be again discussed, adopted vigilant precautions. The meeting, however, confined itself to denouncing the defects of the local administration displayed in connexion with the recent fire, and, on the whole, there was reason to think that the agitation against the electric trams had died out. Nevertheless, the members of the Town Assembly seem to have been unwilling to face any more disturbance, and a compromise is said to have been effected in the sense that, even if permission to build the railway be obtained, work will not be commenced for two years. We sincerely hope that this rumour may prove unfounded.

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THE POST OFFICE ROBBERY.

Tuesday, Aug. 22.

The post-office clerk who recently succeeded in purloining registered letters containing remittances that aggregated some seventeen thousand *yen* was a lad of 18 with a salary of 28 *sen* a day. These facts form the basis of a strong criticism in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpo*, which argues that a virtually untried *employé*, receiving such paltry emoluments, should not have been placed in a position of so much responsibility. There is no denying the force of that argument, but we must in justice note that the Government has for several years been complaining of the system under which such things are possible. Count Inouye, when he was Minister of Finance, insisted, with conspicuous vehemence, on the necessity of paying larger salaries to the officials engaged in postal and telegraphic business. His Excellency justly said that it was quite out of the question to obtain the services of good men for the emoluments now offered. The curious character of the situation becomes plain when we observe that a common navvy in Japan, whose daily wage 25 years ago was 18 *sen*, now receives 60 *sen*, or nearly the double of the pay given to the clerk who had to handle letters containing thousands of *yen*. Of course a dishonest man will be dishonest, whatever the munificence of his salary. But the point is that, whereas the earnings of the labouring classes have increased enormously during the past fifteen years, the salaries of officials have remained almost the same, and competent men naturally turn in the direction of the larger emoluments.

Wednesday, Aug. 23.

There is naturally a good deal of excitement about the recent wholesale robbery of registered letters by a post-office clerk. Some people talk of instituting legal proceedings against the Minister of State for Communications, on the ground that the Department ought to be held responsible for the safe delivery of registered letters in every contingency except a convulsion of nature or some incalculable accident. But the law of Japan, as it stands at present, contains no provision under which the Minister could be held liable. It is stated that when Viscount Nomura presided at the Department of Communications a law was drafted which would have afforded the necessary protection, and that arrangements had been made to submit it to the Diet under the regimen of Baron Suyematsu. But we greatly doubt whether any law would guarantee the senders of registered letters against losses of the magnitude recently recorded. In England, we believe, the Post Office Authorities do not undertake to indemnify the sender of a registered letter against a loss exceeding £2, and to recover even that amount it is necessary to use one of the officially prescribed envelopes. All events, under existing circumstances, every intelligent user of the post in Japan ought to know perfectly well that to register a letter constitutes no guarantee of its safe delivery. Registration merely furnishes a means of tracing the letter in its passage through the post. That is not enough, of course. The Authorities ought to accept some measure of responsibility. But to expect them to indemnify up to an unlimited amount would be extravagant.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The half-yearly meeting of the Bank of Japan took place in the Bank's buildings on the 19th instant at 1.50 p.m., the President, Mr. Yamamoto, in the chair. It appeared from the Report that the much-discussed loss of five thousand *yen* from the Issue Department of the Bank had been the subject of minute investigation long before the fact of the theft became public, the Directors being of the opinion that the ends of justice would be furthered by keeping the matter private. All efforts to discover the culprit had failed, and, after mature deliberation, the Directors had come to the conclusion that, since the loss could not possibly be attributed to any want of due precaution, or any failure to observe the rules, on the part of special officials, the Bank should take the responsibility. Mr. Okura Kihachiro, in moving the adoption of the Report, eulogised the general management of the Bank's affairs and declared that the shareholders had absolute confidence in the officials of the institution, who, they trusted, would continue steadily in their course, unmoved by any irresponsible criticisms. The Report was adopted *nem con.* The following are the main figures :—

	Yen.
Net Profits for the half-year	2,677,461
Fixed Dividend 6 per cent.	900,000
To Reserve Fund	300,000
Rewards to officers and Entertainment expenses	140,000
Additional Dividend 6 per cent.	900,000
Carried to Next Account	437,461
Total	2,677,461

FIRE ON THE "KAWACHI MARU."

A slight fire broke out in the fore-peak of the N.Y.K. steamer *Kawachi Maru* lying in Tilbury Docks, early on the morning of the 14th July. In attempting to put out the fire the fourth officer, Yamasaki, lost his life. The fire was suppressed in two hours, and the chief officer and others of the crew were slightly injured in attempting to rescue Yamasaki. The fire was discovered by a policeman while going his rounds. The Japanese boatswain called the chief officer, Mr. Ellery, who, accompanied by the fourth officer, Yamasaki, went to ascertain the cause of the trouble. In spite of the remonstrances of the first officer, Yamasaki descended the hatchway, evidently with the intention of discovering the seat of the fire. As Yamasaki descended the hatchway he was seen to fall forward, but no effectual attempt to rescue him could be made because of the pungent fumes rising from the hatchway, by which both the chief officer, Mr. Ellery, and the second officer, a Norwegian named Hordael, were overpowered. Many of the crew were affected, in this way. Meanwhile a stream of water was being poured into the fore-peak, and the fire was soon extinguished; but it was nearly two hours before the police could venture into the fore-peak to recover the body of the fourth officer. When he was brought up on the deck artificial respiration was resorted to but without effect.

The fire on the *Kawachi Maru* is believed to have originated through an ignited cigarette having been carelessly thrown among the inflammable materials stored in the forepeak. The following official account was issued by the company :—"A slight fire broke out in the forepeak of the steamship *Kawachi Maru* lying in Tilbury Docks, early this morning. In attempting to put out the fire the fourth officer, Yamasaki, lost his life. The fire was suppressed in two hours, and chief officer and others of the crew were slightly injured in attempting to rescue Yamasaki."

MR. AMENOMIYA AND HIS DETRACTORS.

The name of Mr. Amenomiya was connected with the notorious water-works-pipe scandal of Tokyo, and some of his enemies have been assiduous in keeping that matter alive—unfairly, we think, for if the law courts could not find anything to censure in the conduct of Mr. Amenomiya, it is right that their verdict should be accepted by the public. When it became known that he was the principal promoter of the new scheme of city railways, the iron-pipes business was again brought upon the *tapis* by writers who either believed honestly that it would be injurious to the interests of the citizens to leave such an enterprise in his hands, or were anxious for reasons of their own to put a spoke in his wheel. He has given an interview to one of these scribes. The gist of what he says is that he was the first, the very first, person to perceive the large profits which might be derived from street railways in Tokyo; that the idea occurred to him in 1886; that instead of attempting to restrict the enterprise to a small party of capitalists, he made it generally known; that, in 1893, he invited a hundred friends to the Maple Club and submitted his project to them; that then and there a company of sixty promoters, each willing to put up ten thousand *yen*, was formed, and that ever since that time other companies have been organizing themselves and entering into competition, the Amenomiya Company, on its side, doing nothing but compromise, until now it has only a third share in the enterprise it originated. "If you want to abuse me," said Mr. Amenomiya in conclusion to his interviewer, "call me a fool for not working in my own selfish interests. Then you will be telling the truth." It certainly would have been a great deal better for Tokyo if Mr. Amenomiya had taken a smaller number of persons into his confidence, for then the city would probably have had railways long ago. But would it have been better for Mr. Amenomiya and his friends? Will it be well for them now to have even a third share in a costly electric railway when the main lines of traffic are monopolised by horse-trams?

HOW GREAT BRITAIN KEEPS THINGS TO HERSELF.

The *North China Daily News*, in a recent article illustrating the anomalies of consular jurisdiction—a subject of which we have had a surfeit in Japan—quotes certain historical records which show clearly that the first settlement at Shanghai was a concession solely to British subjects and to no others. That was in 1845. Nine years later, it having been found that other nationals were gradually coming to live in the British concession, and their being doubts as to whether the land regulations enacted in 1845 could be applied to these people, a new set of regulations was drawn up. It was then that France obtained a separate settlement, which she has ever since retained, and it was then that the British settlement began to lose its exclusive character, and entered upon the course which ended in rendering it absolutely cosmopolitan, as it is to-day. The result illustrates England's methods in the East. Wherever she goes, all the world is free to follow.

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THE KIUSHIU RAILWAY.

Now that the facts about the Kiushiu Railway have come to light, the question presents a new aspect. What the public were told at first was that certain great capitalists—the Iwasakis were actually named—had formed a scheme to obtain sole possession of the line, and to that end were endeavouring to bring about a depreciation of the stock so that they might conveniently absorb it all. Their *modus operandi* was to put their own nominees into the principal managerial posts, and thus to contrive that the accounts should not justify the payment of large dividends. It was a round-about scheme, and doubtless some folks believed it, for the sure way to obtain credence for a story is to paint its chief characters in black enough colours. But those that knew the Iwasakis were not likely to be misled. The truth, as now established, is that, instead of being content to follow the example of other Japanese lines, and, eschewing every improvement of a costly character, make the payment of fat dividends the unique consideration, a spirit of progress was infused into the management of the Kiushiu road by its superintendent, Mr. Sengoku, and instead of banking all the traffic receipts for the purposes of the half-yearly accounts, reasonable sums were devoted to improving the rolling stock, repairing the line, and putting things generally in creditable condition. The tables are therefore completely turned, for whereas the folks who recently started an agitation against Mr. Sengoku called themselves "the reform party," it now turns out that their proper name would be "the anti-reform party."

DEATH OF MR. MARUYAMA SAKURA.

A some-time conspicuous figure has disappeared from the scene in the person of Mr. Maruyama Sakura, a member of the House of Peers, who died on the 18th instant. Mr. Maruyama was known in Japan as an eminent student of Japanese literature, but his name attracted foreign attention for the first time in 1872, when he had the courage to publish an argument for the purpose of demonstrating that the present Emperor is not the legitimate Sovereign of Japan, being a descendant of the Northern Dynasty, which enjoyed the support of the Ashikaga chief, Takauji, whereas, in Mr. Maruyama's opinion, the rightful title rested with the Southern Dynasty. For that attempt against the safety of the State he was sentenced to minor imprisonment for life, but, being subsequently pardoned on the occasion of a general amnesty, he again appeared upon the political stage in 1881, when in conjunction with Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro and others, he organized the *Teisei-to* (Imperialist Party) in opposition to the Liberals and the Progressists. In fact, from having been an opponent of the Government, he became its supporter, and the Emperor, with his Majesty's usual magnanimity, nominated him a member of the House of Peers when that body came into existence in 1891, and raised him to the First Class of the Fourth Order shortly before his death.

THE FUSAN AFFAIR.

The recent trouble between Russian naval officers and the Japanese Consulate at Fusan was not allowed to rest there. A report was made, according to Tokyo journals, to the Russian Representative in Söul, and he in turn sought instructions from St. Petersburg, the result being that a joint commission of inquiry, consisting of the Russian Consul at Nagasaki and the Japanese Consul at Chemulpo, were ordered to proceed to Fusan and prepare a report, which will ultimately be discussed by the Russian and Japanese Legations in Söul. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes very sarcastically about this affair. The sum and substance of the matter, it says, is that some Russian officers, having taken much more alcohol than was good for them, engaged in a brawl of a discreditable character, and now the miserable business has been carried into the sphere of diplomacy and seems likely to become an international question. It appears to us, however, that to discuss the affair in that fashion may be a little premature.

KOBE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The foreign residents of Kobe are evidently resolved to consummate their design of electing an advisory committee. In fact, the election of the Committee has probably taken place already, since it was fixed for the 22nd instant between the hours of 4 and 7 p.m. We have many doubts about the useful potentialities of such a committee. The idea of its promoters is worthy of all praise. They intend the committee to serve as a kind of bridge for the gulf separating foreigners and Japanese, so that mutual misunderstandings may be prevented and a means of intercommunication provided. That is excellent in its way. But let us look a little more closely into the matter. By whom are the members of the committee to be elected? By the registered foreign residents, as we understand the programme. "Registered" means, of course, persons who have been duly registered according to Japanese law. But Japanese officials alone have cognisance of such persons. It will not be possible for the promoters of the movement to ascertain whether an elector possesses the required qualification. Then, again, whom will the committee represent? The foreign community of Kobe? There is no longer a foreign community of Kobe. With the abolition of the Settlements the Occidental residents became merged in the Japanese nation, and the entities previously known as "foreign communities" passed out of existence. Will this committee be able to function as representing the foreigners of Kobe, and will the Japanese authorities find themselves in a position to recognise it in that capacity? The answers to those questions seem very doubtful.

COPYRIGHT IN NEWSPAPER REPORTS.

A very interesting question has been brought up by the proprietors of *The Times*, namely, whether there is copyright in the report of a speech. The immediate subject of discussion was the publication of a book called "Appreciations and Addresses delivered by Lord Rosebery." Mr. John Lane was the publisher and Mr. Charles Geake the editor, and they inserted in the volume five speeches of Lord Rosebery's, taking them verbatim from the columns of *The Times*. Counsel for *The Times* contended that the work of the reporter was not a mere mechanical production, but that it involved literary labour and the application of mental power. Counsel for the defence replied that a verbatim reproduction of another man's words could not reasonably be copyrighted. Judgment had not been delivered at the date of our latest advices, but the trial had brought out one fact, namely, the wonderful accuracy of *The Times*' reports. Lord Rosebery edited his speeches for the publisher of "Appreciations and Addresses," and he did not find it necessary to alter one single word in *The Times*' reports of the five speeches that formed the subject of the action at law.

ARREST OF AN OFFICIAL.

The Tokyo papers announce the arrest of Mr. Suzuki Kaoru, Chief of the Forestry Section in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is a long story but the gist of it may be easily stated. The residents of Fukushima Prefecture cast their eyes upon a forest which, they thought, could be made profitable. They prepared an application protesting that the timber of the forest was absolutely essential for constructing an embankment to avert innundations, and they forwarded the application through Mr. Suzuki, who had not then attained the position of Chief of a Section. Some delay occurred, and, in the meanwhile, Mr. Suzuki became chief of the Forestry Section, whereupon the applicants, thinking that their petition must certainly be granted, proceeded to fell timber without further delay. The police interfered, and finding the men's title fictitious, arrested them. In the examination that followed, it transpired that a sum of 2,000 *yen* had been paid to Mr. Suzuki to secure his good-will, and that the plea of embankment building was quite baseless. So Mr. Suzuki also was apprehended. Such is the story. In relating it, the Tokyo journals lament Mr. Suzuki's folly, and say that he has put an untimely end to a career full of promise.

THE RENNES COURT.

We observe that even the Paris correspondent of *The Times* applies the term "Court martial" to the Rennes tribunal before which Captain Dreyfus is undergoing trial. We, too, have hitherto used that term, but a French friend points out that it is misleading. A "court-martial" is a tribunal specially constituted for the trial of a particular offence. Its sole function is to investigate and pass judgment upon that offence, and it is dissolved as soon as its judgment has been confirmed by the authorities. But in France there are military courts of a permanent character. Their personnel changes yearly, according to a fixed routine, with the exception of certain functionaries who, being legal experts, hold their offices continuously. These courts are competent to try all offences committed by military men, whereas a court-martial has no competence—except on a campaign—to exercise jurisdiction in cases which come under the purview of civil law. The Rennes tribunal is a "military court," not a "court-martial."

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AIDS TO NAVIGATION.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha is struggling hard to obtain State aid for the prosecution of its shipping enterprise in Chinese waters. Its field of operations is the maritime carrying trade on the coast of China and in her inland waters. Recently two fine vessels were built to the Company's order in home dock-yards, and three more are now to be obtained abroad. But very keen competition is anticipated on the part of the companies already engaged in the business. Two years ago they began to put aside a reserve of 20 per cent. of their gross earnings, and they have now, it is said, a total sum of nearly two million taels in hand, which could, of course, be used for competitive purposes. The Directors of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha are understood to have submitted these facts to the Government, and also to have pointed out that, in view of the extensive schemes of railway construction now approaching consummation in China, it is of the utmost importance to establish a connection between these new shore routes and the lines of marine communication. The Minister of State for Communications is said to have given a favourable hearing to these representations, and it is expected that the Company will receive a subsidy from the second half of 1901. Meanwhile the Directors propose to increase the capital by 2½ million *yen*.

THE OTSU AFFAIR.

Mukobata Jisaburo, the *jinrikisha* drawer who showed so much promptitude and pluck on the occasion of the Otsu affair, was rewarded by the Japanese Government with a decoration of the 8th class and a pension of 36 *yen* annually for life. The Emperor of Russia also decorated him, and granted him a yearly pension of a thousand *yen*. The gifts seem to have been too much for the moral equilibrium of Mukobata, who is an entirely uneducated man. The Japanese local authorities, acting under instructions from Tokyo, have done everything in their power to keep him straight, but he rebels against supervision or restraint, has developed spendthrift habits, and made a complete failure of the business in which he embarked after abandoning his *jinrikisha* trade. The local officials are said to have given him up as a hopeless case, and to have applied to Tokyo to be relieved from the necessity of supervising his doings.

A NEW OFFICE.

We have alluded more than once to the probability that a new office would be established for the purpose of investigating certain questions connected with the Law of the Imperial House and the Peers Law. The forecast has now been verified. The office is called *Teishitsu Seidō Chōsakyoku*, or "Bureau for investigating the Imperial System." It will have a President, and Vice-President, a secretary, managers (*shuji*) and members (*goyōgakari*). Marquis Ito has been nominated President. He was invested yesterday at half-past ten in the forenoon by the Emperor, and remained in conference with His Majesty until noon.

THE "MIYAKO" DESPATCH-BOAT.

Last month there was launched at the Kure dockyard a despatch-boat called the *Miyako*, of 1,800 tons displacement and 20 knots speed. She was planned six years ago, and since that time various alterations have been made in the design, so that her hull is said to be an excellent and up-to-date piece of work. But, according to the *Nippon*, her engines have proved thoroughly unsatisfactory. Even before her trial trip several repairs were found necessary, and the result of her trial trip, recently made, was that she had to be towed back to Kure. The *Nippon* contrasts this failure with the great success attained at Yokosuka in the case of the *Akashi*, and takes the opportunity of recalling the crack that developed in the Kure Dock when it was approaching completion, the inference being that things are not well managed at the southern station. We shall not be surprised to find that these statements are withdrawn as incorrect in our contemporary's next issue.

TALIEN.

The Czar's edict about the opening of Talien to the trade of the world contains the saving clause, "so long as the place is rented by Russia." No duties are to be levied on imports or exports, but this exemption does not apply to goods imported for the purpose of being conveyed into Russian territory: they will be subject to whatever duties may seem expedient. Tonnage dues, harbour dues, anchorage dues, and so on will, of course, be payable, and the medical inspection system hitherto enforced will continue in operation. Finally, the place is to be called, not "Talien," but "Dalmi," a change which appears to be a corruption of the original name.

It would appear from the above details, which are furnished by a telegram from Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg, that Talien is to be a free port, like Hongkong. Russia will not levy duties there, and we see little probability of the Imperial Customs being allowed to extend their jurisdiction to the place. Of course, if that interpretation be correct, the port will flourish apace, and will rapidly deprive Newchwang of its import and export trade. It is possible, however, that the "freedom" will apply to goods for local use only, and that stations will be established to levy octroi on goods passing into the interior of China.

ENGLAND AND ITALY IN CHINA.

England appears to be lending her aid to secure China's agreement to Italy's demands—not perhaps, the whole of them, but some at any rate. The privilege of mining at Sishan is specially referred to as having been made the subject of a representation by H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires in Peking to the Tsungli Yamên. It is also stated that Mr. Bax Ironsides took the same opportunity to urge upon the Chinese Government the advisability of immediately granting the concession for the Hankow-Lokau Railway, in which British subjects are interested.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A telegram from Matsuura (in Tango), dated 6.30 p.m. on the 20th, says that the cruiser *Takasago* touched the ground in Hioki Bay. She got off without damage.

It is announced that, beginning from the 26th instant, excursion tickets will be issued every Saturday from Shimbashi and Yokohama to Zushi, the period, including return, to be three days.

It is stated that the Emperor will travel in the San-in-do districts next April. A telegram from Matsuye says that steps have already been taken to prepare a place for His Majesty's reception in that town.

It has been proposed to build a residence for the Prince Imperial at the Awone thermal springs in Miyagi Prefecture. A petition has been received from the people of the locality in that sense, and the Household Department is expected to undertake the necessary investigations in a short time.

Baron Kitagaki, who distinguished himself so much as Governor of Kyoto, has been nominated by the Emperor a life member of the House of Peers. Independently of the honour attaching to such a position it has now considerable financial importance, since it carries with it a salary of 2,000 *yen*, and requires only three months service in the year.

The caricaturist of the *Fiji* makes Italy and China the subject of his last cartoon. Italy appears in a suppliant posture, and using the language of childhood, cries *atai ni mo okure* (p'ease div' me some too). China, in flowing costume, particularly old-fashioned, is holding up a concession for railway-making and mine-exploiting, and the other Powers, grouped in the back-ground, are laughing merrily at the spectacle.

Complaints are made about the conduct of the Chefoo Taotai. He is said to have doubled the *likin* on cotton yarns. Only yarns arriving by steamer are subject to this increased import: those coming by Chinese junks being exempt. The matter is considered important, as Japanese yarns have begun to find a large sale in the districts of China for which Chefoo is the port of entry, and complaints have accordingly been preferred through the proper channels.

Since the Revised Treaties went into operation twenty foreigners have applied for diplomas to practise as physicians in Japan and nine have asked for pharmaceutist's licenses. All these applications have been granted. The figures stand thus according to nationalities:—

PHARMACEUTISTS.	
British	8
German	1
PHYSICIANS	
British	4
American	16

The recently circulated rumours of a coalition between the *Osaka Shosen Kaisha* and the China Merchants S. N. Company are renewed. The latter association has a capital of 4 million taels and a fleet of 29 steamers, but owing to official "squeezes" it can not carry on its business profitably. That is the story, at any rate. We do not think that Japanese steamship Companies are models of good

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management at present, whatever they may become in the future, but they are at all events secure against the abuse which is said to be crippling the China Merchants.

The plague is said to have made its way to Nagasaki. Two cases were found among the crew of the *Fukuoka Maru* when she reached that port on the 17th instant from Formosa. The public, having been deceived by false alarms on the subject of the pest, will probably hesitate to believe this latest account, but it is declared to be trustworthy.

Tokyo newspapers allege that Baron Sonoda, Chief of the Hokkaido Administration, has devised a plan for the rapid development of the northern island. The project extends over a period of ten years, and involves a grant of 4 million *yen* annually from the Treasury. No particulars are given. It is not probable, we imagine, that the Government will be disposed to endorse such a programme under existing financial circumstances.

The Liberals are about to organise a great meeting of their Party in Yamagata Prefecture on the 1st and 2nd proximo, and among the resolutions they have decided to present for adoption, there are some of considerable interest; for example, that the State purchase of private railways shall be consummated; that the prison expenditures shall be transferred to the charges of the Treasury; and that harbours shall be constructed and a university established in the Tohoku district. The prison expenditures would have been transferred to the Treasury years ago had not the Liberals opposed that reform for the sake of getting the Land Tax reduced. Times have changed.

In a recent issne we described the dissensions which had occurred among the shareholders of the Kiushiu Railway. The apparent source of trouble was that the dividends had entered a descending grade, which fact was attributed, not to any genuine decline in the Company's business, but to the machinations of certain great capitalists who wanted to get entire control of the line, and had entered into collusion with the managers for the purpose of depreciating the shares. Hence a so-called "reform party" was organized, and considerable friction resulted. It is now stated that the reformers have been beaten, and that the management will not be disturbed.

The tobacco crop this year is said to be exceptionally good in quality and of altogether unprecedented quantity. Some damage has undoubtedly been done by the recent gale, especially in Kiushiu, but it is not of sufficient magnitude to affect the general result. The area under cultivation last year was only sixty-five thousand acres; this year, it is over a hundred thousand acres, and the yield is expected to aggregate 125 million lbs., against 71 millions last year. We take these figures from the *Shogyo Shimpo*. According to the Tobacco Monopoly Regulations, the Government is entitled to fix the area of land devoted to the culture of the leaf, and, of course, to contract for the whole yield. There can be no doubt, therefore, about the extent of the land under cultivation.

Rumour seems to have maintained its usual ratio of exaggeration in the matter of the post-office robbery. It put the aggregate thefts from registered letters at seventy thousand *yen*, whereas the true total is only thirty thousand. The actual loss was rightly stated—namely, a little over two thousand *yen*. Several of the post-office officials have tendered their resignations in connexion with the affair. Japanese law does not at present impose upon the authorities any obligation to compensate the senders of registered letters in case of loss, but it is understood that the subject will occupy the attention of legislators in the next session of the Diet. Of course, if responsibility is taken, it must be to a limited extent.

Tsujikawa Shosuke, a lad of 18, has been utilizing his opportunities with wholesale unscrupulousness. Being in a responsible position at the Yedo-bashi post-office, he commenced, some time ago, to appropriate registered letters. His first essay dealt with a cheque for 750 *yen*, but he soon rose to higher levels, one of his thefts being a packet of securities for 14,980 *yen*. Altogether he laid hands on over sixty thousand *yen* before detection and arrest, but it appears that his actual spendings did not aggregate more than 2,263 *yen*. There is doubt as to how he disposed of the remainder. Some say that he burned such cheques or notes as could not be easily negotiated, but at all events the loss resulting from his thefts will not be large.

The enemies of the Liberals and of Baron Sonoda, Chief of the Hokkaido Administration, have found materials for a scandal in connexion with some works of reclamation at Otaru. They say that, whereas the citizens are anxious to undertake the enterprise themselves, deeming it highly profitable, Baron Sonoda is employing all his influence to obtain it for Messrs. Hori Toru, Amenomiya, and Inouye Kakugoro, and that he has actually postponed the date of the election of a moiety of the members of the Local Council in order that the Liberals may have time to arrange for the return of their own representatives. These kind of charges are so common that they become quite wearisome. We know how thoroughly easy it is to obtain space for the ventilation of a scandal in the columns of certain Japanese journals, and we discount the statements accordingly.

The jail-wardens throughout the empire have given the Japanese newspaper press a severe slap in the face. According to the prison regulations hitherto in force, prisoners have been forbidden to read newspapers or periodicals. A change was recently effected in this law, in the sense of abolishing the veto. But it appears that some discretionary power remains with the wardens, for they have held a meeting and decided that, as the newspapers and periodicals of Japan do not at present contain matter calculated to exercise a reformatory effect upon criminals, such publications must still continue to be excluded from the jails. It appears to us that the wardens, if they have really taken such a course, show considerable want of discrimination, as well as some ignorance of the fundamental principles of reform. It is not enough to punish the bad: the good also must be rewarded. There are among Japanese newspapers and periodicals a great many whose moral tone leaves nothing to be desired. Why should these be tabooed because there happen to be others occupying a much lower level? Would the wardens think it right to place the whole inmates of a jail, good, bad, and indifferent alike, on a reduced scale of diet because half-a-dozen ill-behaved criminals required that kind of discipline? The course they are said to have adopted with regard to newspapers is exactly analogous. They punish all indiscriminately because some are open to reproach.

The Yokohama Specie Bank has announced that, on the 9th of September, after the regular meeting of shareholders, an extraordinary meeting will be held to consider a proposition for doubling the capital of the Bank—*i.e.*, raising it from 12 million *yen* to 24 millions. There had been talk of this for some time, but until the publication of the above notice no assurance could be felt.

The Tobu Railway has been completed and will be opened for traffic on the 26th instant. It runs from Kita-Senju, in the Western suburb of Tokyo, to Kuki, a point on the Sendai line a little beyond Omiya. There are seven stations in all and many places of interest lie in the districts traversed by the line, as the Daishi of Nishi-arai, the Fudo at Kaigan, the peach forest at Kongo-ji, the Fudo of Kishigaya, the pines of Goza, the wistaria of Ushijima, the Dairokuten of Kasukabe, and the temple of Yeifuku at Sugito.

The Söul-Chemulpo Railway has made another halt *en route* to completion. The public have been so often disappointed about it that we have lost the exact record of its various postponements. Everybody expected, however, that the end of this year at latest would see it open to traffic. But the last news is that the bridging of the river has presented unforeseen obstacles, and the completion of the line will therefore be delayed by about six months. That means, we presume, that traffic will not commence before May or June next.

Thirty-seven persons have been nominated Judges for the purposes of the Paris International Exhibition. Among the names are those of such well-known artists as Messrs. Kawabata Gigokusho, Hashimoto Gaho, Takamura Koren, Kuroda Kiyoteru, and so forth. On the other hand, there are some, notably 13 journalists, whose qualifications for the duties of a connoisseur have not yet received public recognition, though it does not follow, of course, that they are unfit for the task. The question of judges of works of art invariably provokes a good deal of rancour when it comes upon the tapis. The trouble began nearly twenty years ago, when a principle obtained recognition that the feelings of an exhibitor must be considered as well as the qualities of his exhibits. There is something to be said in favour of such a sentiment where family heir-looms are concerned, but it is altogether out of place in the case of exhibits of modern manufactures for the purposes of an international display. It appears to us that the three main points to be considered in judging articles for the Paris Exposition are, first, their artistic qualities, if they are objects of art, or their useful qualities, if they are objects of utility; secondly, the purity of their decorative designs; and thirdly,

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their adaptability to Western purposes. It does not follow that a man must be an art connoisseur to pass an intelligent opinion on some of these points. On the contrary, the question can be best elucidated by a combination of artistic views and business views. It is impossible, therefore, to endorse the verdict of a leading Tokyo journal which describes the committee of recently appointed judges as an after-dinner farce.

A fire on Wednesday in the Fukagawa district of Tokyo—seven out of every ten conflagrations in the capital seem to occur in that quarter—created quite a serious alarm, for though there was no wind, and though the time—11.35 a.m.—was favourable for vigorous measures, such a vast column of smoke ascended, followed soon by flames clearly visible at a great distance despite the bright sunshine, that people diagnosed something quite out of the common. The nature of the combustible material, however, explained these appearances: it was fish oil. The fire had its origin in the ashes of a carpenter's pipe, and it immediately attacked a vast quantity of crude fish-oil which had been stacked in barrels, some days previously, awaiting refinement, the place being a refining factory. Of course a conflagration thus fed refused to be extinguished, but the firemen succeeded in limiting it to the block of buildings where it broke out, and the tale of loss was three storehouses, one factory, four dwellings, and three godowns.

There is still some desultory talk about an Ito-Okuma-Itagaki coalition, but no one treats the matter seriously. Those that ought to know declare that Marquis Ito would not ally himself with any political party now in existence. He wants what is called a *riso teki seito*; that is to say, a party cemented by genuine political principles, not by desire of office, nor yet by the destructive mania of opposition. It would certainly be the crown of Marquis Ito's career if he, the maker of constitutional government in Japan, should live to see his labours justified by the rise of such a party. But there is no denying the fact that parliamentary institutions were introduced in this country just at the time when they were on the point of becoming discredited in Europe. The people's will, that ideal "broad basis" of stable government, has proved itself a very shaky foundation, and the nineteenth century closes with the general growth of a conviction that nations achieve greatness not because of parliaments but in spite of them.

It appears that a dispute of some magnitude has occurred between the tea-inspecting offices in Kobe and Yokohama. On the 1st of July, 404 boxes of tea were inspected in Kobe, duly passed and shipped for Yokohama. On their arrival in Yokohama, 268 boxes out of the total were found to contain tea which the inspectors could not pass. The usual course, definite condemnation, would have been taken, had not Mr. Otani Kahei suggested that a more moderate plan would be to send the tea back to Kobe for re-inspection. At first the Kobe inspectors declined to be a party to that arrangement, but ultimately they fell in with it and the tea was re-shipped. When it reached Kobe, however, the inspectors at that port confirmed their original verdict as to its soundness, so that the complication has assumed a perplexing character. Meanwhile the owners of the tea have preferred a complaint about the manner in which it was handled in Yokohama.

With reference to this subject—the decadence of the democratic idea—, which recently constituted the theme of one of the London *Spectator's* characteristic articles, the *Kokumin Shimbun* makes some supplementary remarks, in the sense that nothing has tended so materially to discredit party government as its proved inefficiency in the field of foreign politics. England's mistakes of foreign policy have been due to that cause, says our Tokyo contemporary, and England, recognising the fact, is in a fair way to remedy it. France, too, has come to appreciate that a Foreign Secretary should hold his office independently of parliamentary vicissitudes. In connexion with this subject, we have often thought that a different method of analysis might be adopted with advantage. Instead of considering what error on England's part, for example, led to her so-called "mistakes" of foreign policy, we might apply ourselves to consider what particular qualities on the part of her rivals led to their so-called "successes." From such an analysis we should rise with the conviction that parliaments are the repositories of the national conscience. The code of morality most conducive to diplomatic triumphs is one that would be torn to pieces at the bar of public opinion in any country sufficiently enlightened to be constitutional.

Although the Japanese do not extend to foreigners the privilege of owning land in this country, they appear to be active in securing that privilege for themselves in Söul, a line of conduct which, being the way of the world, can not be greatly blamed. In Korea the method of transferring urban lots is peculiar. Contrary to the fact in other capitals, the chief value appears to be attached to buildings, the site upon which they stand being regarded as an adjunct. Hence title deeds are drafted so as to give prominence to the buildings, the land being included in the formula "together with vacant land measuring so and so." At first the Koreans showed no reluctance in making these transfers, but, about a year ago, a Japanese subject who had purchased a house and lot in Söul found, when he applied for a title-deed, that the authorities would not grant it, their plea being that the land of which the lot in question formed a part was destined to be converted into State property. Diplomatic pressure had to be exercised for the removal of that obstacle, and things reverted to their old groove without friction. But it appears that difficulties have been again raised by the Authorities, and that the privilege of acquiring real property in the Korean capital is temporarily suspended. It must be rather perplexing for a Japanese diplomat to discuss such a point.

When the Yokohama Committee inspected the House of Detention at Kajibashi, last year, they concluded that it was by no means a fit place for the incarceration of foreign prisoners. Curiously enough, its fitness is to be put to a practical test as one of the very first results of the operation of the Revised Treaties. The man Miller, having appealed against the judgment of the Yokohama Court, goes to Kajibashi, in the natural course of things, pending the hearing of his appeal. But the Authorities themselves recognise that, the arrangements at Kajibashi being adapted solely to Japanese modes of life—and poorly enough adapted, for the matter of that—would be quite unsuitable for a foreigner. They have consequently appropriated for Miller's use a room in the buildings attached to the officers of the Chief of Police; a good-sized, lofty room with a doorway on a much larger scale than the three-feet-high "crouch-entrance" (*kuguri-do*) of the ordinary Japanese cell. Miller will have a mat for a bed, and will be accommodated with a chair. His food is to consist of bread, and a kind of stew of barley, vegetables, and beef-fat. Of course one's sense of proportion is considerably disturbed by the publication of these petty details, but we have to thank the agitators who for years have been devoting leading articles to such magnificent problems as a rut in a road, mud on a bridge, or the pattern of a convict's coat. They have created an atmosphere of distrust which magnifies the dimensions of every mote into a mountain, and blurs the line of division between the cardinal and the comic.

The storm which bombarded Kagoshima on the 14th instant reach Hakodate on the 16th, and caused an inundation which swamped 647 houses. But Kagoshima was the great sufferer. Latest news is to the effect that in the parts of the Prefecture south of the Kagoshima district even greater loss of life and property was caused than in Kagoshima itself. From Miyazaki Prefecture, also, news arrives that six persons were crushed to death, five wounded, and 115 houses overthrown.

Telegraphic news from the Governor of Kagoshima gives the exact details of the havoc wrought by the storm of the 14th instant. They are as follow:—

	Urban District.	Rural District.	Totals.
Killed	12	82	94
Wounded	62	57	119
Houses Overthrown	872	9,377	10,249
Houses injured	87	3,254	3,341
Boats wrecked	59	593	652
Boats washed away	—	35	35

RED TAPE.

A curious illustration of Japanese red tape is mentioned by the *Jiji Shimpo*. It appears that when a Department of State desires to subscribe for a newspaper, the latter is required to send in a formal statement of cost, although the price of the journal is already matter of public knowledge. Then, if the Department desires to become a subscriber, the newspaper must furnish another document, promising to reduce its charge by so much *per diem* during a period of suspension, should such a fate overtake it, agreeing to be given up at any moment that suits the Department's convenience, and setting forth the sum to be paid to it. Finally, when these conditions are satisfied, the journal is ordered, and a third document of agreement has to be sent in. The *Jiji* decided that the value of a subscription would not compensate it for all this trouble, and so it declined to furnish a copy to a certain Department. The facts are used as a text by our contemporary for a sermon urging officials to remember that they are the servants of the public from whom they receive their

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FOREIGN RESIDENCE.

THERE was a time, not many years ago, when people supposed that if the interior of Japan were freely accessible to foreigners, members of the upper middle classes of Europe and America would come to seek in this country the quiet, reposeful, and comparatively economical life which can not possibly be obtained amid the trouble, fuss, and hurry of western commercial society. The *Jiji Shimpo* still entertains the hope. For a man of moderate means, it thinks, Japan offers an ideal retreat. All the irksome etiquette of European customs may be dispensed with, all the wearisome conventionalities ignored, and amid beautiful scenery in a salubrious climate, one may lead a comfortable untrammelled existence, ignorant of the heart-burnings of cliques, relieved from the slavery of the tall hat and the frock coat, and guaranteed against the worry of servants. There is here no lack of the faithful valet or the willing abigail, and many a decade must elapse before problems of that kind present any difficulty.

There is a great deal to be said in favour of the *Jiji's* idea—not by any means a new idea—, but there is much also to be ranged on the other side of the account. To the latter category belongs, above all, a total absence of any of the refined amusements and intellectual pursuits that Europe and America offer in such abundance. Music, the drama, art, the march of scientific discovery, the vigorous struggle of the political palœstra, the sight of the leaders of thought and the sound of their voices, the great contests of physical skill in which Anglo-Saxons delight, the splendid museums that bring us into touch with buried generations, the light of women's loveliness, and, last but not least, the chiming of the church-bells—all these things fade out of the life of a man who makes Japan his place of abode. We do not mean to say that this country is without music, without the drama, without art, without beautiful women, or without scientific progress. But it might as well be without them all so far as the resident foreigner is concerned. The music of Japan is beyond our comprehension: it makes no sort of appeal to us. The drama we recognise to be of the highest class, if histrionic skill alone is considered. To the European or American, however, it is merely a curiosity. It reveals to him phases of a life entirely outside his own; a life of which he is historically ignorant and with which he has no ethical sympathy. Its appliances are crude, its spectacular effects insignificant. But perhaps the reader will say that no such depreciation can be extended to Japanese art. We grant the force of the reservation in the field of applied art, but we insist that for the average foreigner pictorial art has practically no existence in Japan. Once in every year, it may be twice, he goes to visit a gallery where vast expanses of wall-space are covered with parodies of a dead art—and very miserable parodies at that—; an art which, when it travels beyond the suggestions of nature, derives its motives from subjects entirely outside the ken of an Occidental. What compensation do such displays offer for the salons and academies of Europe and America, where the great art movement of the civilized world is reflected on a thousand canvases through the medium of noble inspirations? There is absolutely none of these soul-elevating opportunities in Far-Eastern life. We do not want to be uncomplimentary to the Japanese fair sex when we speak of the absence of the light of woman's loveliness. The words are chosen carefully. It is one thing to see a few pretty faces and graceful costumes almost lost in the sombre monotony of a dingy crowd; it is another and a totally different thing to see the varied beauty that glows at a fete in Europe or America, with all the dazzling adjuncts that our luxurious civilization provides. But there is no need to pursue the comparison. Every gain has its loss, as the Chinese proverb truly says. For a tired man, or for a man with special resources and purposes, Japan is an ideal place of abode. It has lost much of its old time recommendation, cheapness; but money still goes a long way, and the *Jiji* speaks justly when it claims for society in this country a happy freedom from many of the restraints and conventionalities that have become so painful in the West.

CHINESE FINANCE.

WE have alluded more than once to the visit recently paid by an imperial commissioner, KANG YI, to Kiangnan and Chêkiang. From the *N.-C. Herald* we now learn that the object of the mission was financial. Peking wants 20 million taels of additional revenue to meet its liabilities. It has an income of 80 millions, and it desires to raise it to 100 millions. According to the system hitherto in vogue in China, provincial balances of revenue are retained in the local treasuries instead of being forwarded to Peking, and it is only by sending a special commissioner that the sums available for national uses can be ascertained. With the telegraph at hand for purposes of communication, the advisers of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER sees no reason why statements of account should not be submitted every third month to the capital from the provincial governments, and the surpluses also duly forwarded to the central treasury. Of course, if that system can be introduced, it will be a great reform. China will, by and by, have a national budget, all the details of which will be publicly known, and the great significance of such a change can not be over-estimated. There is also a pessimistic view of the imperial commissioner's doings, and our Shanghai contemporary is evidently disposed to take it—the view that the EMPRESS-DOWAGER is not thinking of financial reform at all, but merely that she wants money and does not care how she obtains it. We need scarcely observe that the least favourable construction of Chinese official action generally finds readiest credence among foreigners.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN JAPAN.

Experiments have recently been conducted under the direction of Mr. Matsushiro, an expert of the Department of Communications, to determine the advisability of applying the system of wireless telegraphy to the interval of eight miles between the island of Mikomata and Shimoda in Idzu. This is not the first trial that has been made of the system in Japan, but the result of previous tests confirms the conclusions arrived at in Europe, namely, that, however valuable the method may prove for a single route of communication from point to point, its use on a large scale is impossible, in the present state of science, owing to the interferences mutually exercised by neighbouring lines. There is already a submarine cable from Shimada to Mikomata, but owing to the shallowness of the water and the frequent roughness of the sea, the cable is frequently damaged and the costs of repair are extensive. The place, therefore, seems specially suited for wireless telegraphy. Even in the case of such a short distance, however, the poles set up at either end will have to be a hundred feet high, and how to brace them against accident is a serious question.

JAPANESE SHIPPING.

The Department of Communications publishes a return—somewhat belated—of Japanese foreign-model ships at the close of 1897. The figures are:—

	Number.	Tonnage.	Increase over 1896. Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	626	426 624	56	63.401
Sailing Vessels	171	27,412	6	301
Total	797	454,036	62	63,701

In addition to the above there were 887 unregistered steamers of a tonnage of 32,423 tons, so that the whole number of steamers was 1,684 and the aggregate tonnage 486,459 tons.

Commenting on the above figure, the *Keizai Zasshi* notes that the average size of each registered steamer at the end of 1897 was 681 tons and of each sailing ship 160 tons, being respectively 9 tons more and 4 tons less than the corresponding figures for 1896. With regard to ship-building in Japan, among 80 steamers aggregating 78,234 tons, and 19 sailing vessels, aggregating 2,728 tons, which were registered in 1897, 57 steamers aggregating 10,698 tons and 18 sailing vessels aggregating 2,472 tons, were built in Japan.

Chevalier de Testa, the Dutch Minister, is now in the country, and will not therefore be able to receive at the Legation on the 31st August, the birthday of the Queen of the Netherlands.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the pages of the *Fūzoku Gwahō* the last Tōkyō Amateur Theatrical performance is censured. But the fault-finding is of a very general kind, and has evidently been penned by somebody who is a stickler for Japanese etiquette and usages. The writer was shocked by the play itself. A man who while he held a doctor's degree descended to the level of a mere stock-broker, and who thus violated the sanctity of learning, should never have been converted into a hero. Then the close contact into which young gentlemen and young ladies were brought with each other and the occasional darkening of the hall were quite shocking to this Japanese Mrs. Grundy.

* * *

When Dr. Tsubouchi gave up the editorship of the now extinct *Waseda Bungaku*, he announced his intention of devoting himself to the study of ethical subjects. As a result of his investigations in that line he has published in Nos. 4 and 6 of the *Nihon Kyōiku* two articles entitled "Fundamental Mistakes in the Current System of Ethical Education." Dr. Tsubouchi has been engaged in educational work for many years, and is so well known in the literary world that anything he says should have great weight. His contention is that at the present time all ethical teaching in Japan is most unsatisfactory. No intelligible system is followed. Every teacher is left to do what seems right to himself, and most of these teachers have no special qualifications for the tasks they have undertaken. In many Primary Schools, the moral instruction given to the pupils consists for the most part in the constant reading in their hearing of the Imperial Rescript on Education, a very useless proceeding, Dr. Tsubouchi ventures to say, since the terms used in that Rescript are necessarily general and abstract, and were not intended for the guidance of children. In many schools the children are required to learn the sentences of the Rescript off by heart, and by this means it is sought to teach the youth of the land how to do what is right. Dr. Tsubouchi ridicules the whole thing as a piece of silly journalism done for the sake of making a show of extra loyalty to the Throne.

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Captain Mahan's works are one after the other appearing in Japanese, with the full permission of the author, it seems, judging by an extract from one of Captain Mahan's letters to the translator of the recently published *Kaiken ni okeru Beikoku no Kokuri* (The Interest of the U.S. in Sea Power). The translator of this work is a Mr. Mizukami Hikoroku, who is the owner of the copyright of the Japanese edition. Hall's *International Law* has been rendered into Japanese by Mr. Tachi Sakutarō, who, as post-graduate of the Imperial University, had previously made a special study of International Law. The work sells at 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy at the Tōkyō Hōgakuin, Kanda. Many previous attempts have been made to translate Hall's elaborate treatise into Japanese, but to Mr. Tachi, say the reviewer, belongs the credit of having achieved success.

* * *

The *Teikoku Bungaku*, in a long article, discusses the style of Japanese suited to the rendering of foreign philosophic works. It is of opinion that the logical faculty is not highly developed in Japan, and thinks that the use the Japanese have made of Chinese literature partly accounts for this. In Chinese the thought is sacrificed to the form, and there seems to be an everlasting striving after the effect produced by mere figures of speech, Expressed in ordinary language the thoughts seem very commonplace. Then the Chinese writer seems to aim at vagueness and to make mystery do service for depth. The faults of some Japanese translators of European works have been traceable to their desire to mould their sentences in conformity with Chinese models, but in this process the meaning of the original has often been sacrificed to the exigencies of the language into which it has been rendered. Realising this, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, Dr. Nakamura, in translating Professor Dodd, adopted a semi-colloquial style in order to make the meaning quite clear. Though in this object Dr. Nakamura has succeeded, it cannot be said that from a literary point of view his book can be held up as a model. The style of language used in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* and some other magazines is wanting in lucidity and very laboured. Language suited to a full and telling expression of philosophic thought has yet to be developed in Japan, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*. In order to help forward this development the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* for many months published lists of terms more or less in use in this country, but they grew wearied in well-doing and the vocabulary has been left uncompleted.

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The same magazine, commenting on the dearth of good translators, refers to the small pecuniary profit attached to the work and to the fact that some of the best translators have retired from the field in disgust. In the meantime the operation of the New Copyright laws will make all translation much more expensive.

In a review of Mr. W. G. Aston's *History of Japanese Literature*, the *Teikoku Bungaku Zasshi* says that although the account given of modern works is very imperfect and misleading, the history as a whole is original and suggestive, and in the matter of arrangement is preferable to anything that exists in the Japanese language. The writer is of opinion that Japanese historians lack system and originality and hence they make the poorest use of the abundance of good material in their possession. He also says that the modern students of Japanese literature are more interested in philology than pure literature, and hence lack the qualifications to compile histories.

* * *

In an article comparing China and Japan, published in the *Tōyōtetsugaku* (No. 6), Dr. Katō Hiroyuki lays much stress on what he calls "The Unbroken Imperial line." He says that the strong feeling of loyalty to the throne in Japan is principally owing to the fact that the reigning family has never changed, and adds that it is because China has known so many dynasties that real loyalty is almost unknown. Dr. Katō's arguments would not appear conclusive to the majority of foreign readers, but this is not the place to discuss them. Dr. Katō says that in China the right to rule is based on the supposed or actual possession of virtue. The theory is that all sovereigns are virtuous, and that to enforce obedience to their laws is to make virtue compulsory. In addition to this there are many theocratic elements in the Government. In Japan the rights of the sovereign are solely based on blood descent. The Governments of both countries may be called patriarchal. This form of government is regarded in Europe as primitive, and as a matter of fact there is no country but Japan that has made much progress while so governed. Though China's intercourse with westerners has been very intimate, there is little tendency to borrow anything from the foreigner, and at the end of the nineteenth century we see the Empress Dowager insisting on the Government's being conducted on the old lines. Dr. Katō is of opinion that all strong Governments must have two bases, one being sentiment and the other reason. In Japan the sentiment of loyalty to the throne is deep-seated, and in her Constitution Japan has backed this sentiment by placing the relations of rulers and ruled on a rational foundation. Though originally there was much that was alike in the forms of government adopted by the two countries, of late years China and Japan have been travelling in opposite directions. Still, says Dr. Katō, Japan's Government is essentially patriarchal.

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The *Tetsugaku Zasshi* publishes a very long article by Leung Keichin on the interpretation to be given to the teaching of Confucius. It may be known to some readers that Kang Yu-wei and Leung Keichin both maintain that the principles for the recognition of which they have endangered their lives are those of the Chinese Sage himself. Could they pursuade the Chinese people as a whole to believe this, their success would be almost certain. Stated briefly, this is what Leung Keichin has to say of the teaching of Confucius. (1) Confucius was not a conservative. He was dissatisfied with the state of political affairs at that time and proposed various reforms. (2) Confucius was an advocate of equality of rights and was a sturdy opponent of despotism. He even maintained that men and women were equal in the eyes of the law and should be treated as such. Quotations from the *Shunju* on this subject are given. (3) Confucius was an advocate of making virtue universal, and was opposed to the notion that it was to be confined to a class represented by a single ruler.* (4) Confucius was in favour of China's showing a bold front to other countries; of her cultivating the spirit of independence among her people. The effeminacy which now characterises the bulk of the nation was in no way engendered or encouraged by his teaching. He taught that in many cases death was preferable to submission and dishonour. (5) Confucius was in favour of a broad liberal policy in politics. He realised that a great country like China contains the greatest variety of talent and he was in favour of giving the fullest scope for the development of that talent. The veto put on freedom of thought and inquiry which for the past 2,000 years has barred the road to progress in China is in direct opposition to

* With its usual conciseness the Chinese language only requires 4 characters to express these ideas. The first term used is 推善 *Kenzen*, lit. the universalisation of virtue, the second 獨善 *Dokuzen*, the isolating of virtue, confining it to individuals.—(Writer of the Summary.)

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the true spirit of Confucianism, which is expressed in the opening sentences of the *Chūyo* (*Doctrine of the Mean*): Comprehensiveness was the keynote of the sage's system, and nothing could have been further from his thoughts than the narrow-minded exclusive policy now pursued in China. (6) The teaching of Confucius was all in the direction of elevating the soul of man above his body. The body according to the great sage is in all things to be subordinated to the soul. Just as in Buddhism there are two methods of interpreting the teaching of Shaka, known in Japan, as the *Daijō* and *Shōjō*,* so there are among the exponents of Confucianism two distinct schools, one represented by Mencius and Chuontsz the other by Siuntsz and others. There is no doubt, says Leung Keichin, that Mencius and Chuongtsz rightly understood the great philosopher, and if the interest of the Chinese people in the true doctrines of Confucianism could be revived the nation would enter on a new life.

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* (No. 26) in an interesting article on the management of great business houses entitled *Shōten yori Seitō* (Change the Management rather than the Constitution of the Business House) draws attention to the way in which the leading Japanese firms have adapted themselves to the new situation. They have in a great many cases entrusted the control of their affairs to men who have made a study of foreign ways of doing business, and as a consequence the management has been thoroughly remodelled. In the Mitsui Company Messrs. Masuda and Nakamigawa have worked wonders in the way of getting rid of out of date methods of doing business. Sweeping reforms have been made in the Osaka Sumitomo and Hirooka firms, and it is reported that Kōnoike is about to follow suit. The reasons which have necessitated these measures are thus enumerated by the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. (1) The excessive competition prevailing at the present time. (2) The changes in the Laws and the necessity of conducting all business transactions in accordance will the new regulations. (3) Changes in the tastes of the people and in the nature of their demands. (4) The importance attached to foreign commerce and the necessity of employing men who have some knowledge of the laws and circumstances that control foreign markets. . . . Another characteristic of modern business houses has been the desire to have men of influence at the head of affairs. The heads of the Yūsen Kaisha and the Bank of Japan have all been prominent personages, but the real work of reform has invariably been in the hands of subordinates. The reform of which we speak, says the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, has by no means been confined to the great firms, there is a strong movement in the same direction among the second-class houses. What is taking place in the business world presents a striking contrast to the backwardness of political parties. These remain just as they were 15 or 20 years ago. No wonder that the subject should be attracting the attention of leading politicians.† * * *

The *Taiyō* in an article entitled *Semmon no Chishiki wo fukyū seyo* points out that the uses to which special knowledge can be put to in Japan at the present time are very few and that as a consequence a great many students are forced to work for a living at occupations for which their University training in no way fitted them. There is a wide gulf between business and learning. Scholars live in a little world of their own and often find it very hard to keep body and soul together as long as they faithfully pursue their special lines of research. Supposing, says the *Taiyō*, that after years of training an aspiring man succeeds in writing a book on philosophy, how many are there in the whole country who will be sufficiently interested in the subject to read this book? Not more than a thousand at the outside. Of these how many will purchase the book? Perhaps 200. So that by months or perhaps years of labour the young man finds that he has only succeeded in earning enough money to provide for his simple wants for a few months. Though scholars do not write for profit, unless they are blessed with independent means it is impossible for them to go on writing at a loss; and thus it comes about that after two or three unsuccessful attempts at maintaining himself by his pen the University graduate accepts a post in a bank or a business firm and enjoys the bliss of receiving a regular salary instead of living in the precarious fashion of many English 18th century writers. But to the looker-on this state of affairs seems most unsatisfactory. Years of special training yield no result whatever in a large number of cases. The University course is no preparation for the bread-earning which is to follow; in fact, in some instances is rather a hindrance to efficiency in the walk of life which the graduate has been forced to follow. The number of graduates who obtain posts as teachers in middle schools is very limited. The majority feel that the specialty of their knowledge is a drawback to success; that they would have been better fitted for the lives they are forced to live had their education been of an entirely different type. The remedy recommended by the *Taiyō* is the popularising of knowledge by professors. The masses do not know the value of special knowledge, says the *Taiyō*. This they can only be taught by means of lectures delivered in a popular style without any unintelligible technical terms. Scholars are to blame for isolating themselves from the business world so much. They must come out of their shells and make an effort to attract the attention of ordinary men. There are two men who have laid themselves out to do this as far as they are able, one being Dr. Inoue Enryō and the other Dr. Tsuboi Shōgorō, but the majority of scholars speak to and for the benefit of the learned world alone.

The remedy suggested is no doubt a good one, but notwithstanding all that can be effected in the way proposed, there is no getting over the fact that for many years past the supply of specialists in Japan has been out of all proportion to the demand and that not one student out of a hundred allows pecuniary considerations to influence him in the choice of a subject of study. The supposed superiority of the poverty-stricken scholar to the poorly educated man of wealth is at the bottom of the whole thing. In the choice of a profession the Japanese student is guided by sentiment and not by reason.†

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In the magazine just quoted appears a paper by Mr. Murata Tsutomu comparing the course of events in Japan during the Meiji era with Italian history at the time of the Renaissance. In the physical features of the two countries there is much that is alike, says this writer. But what is most striking is the keen susceptibility to new influences and ideas manifested by both peoples. That movement in Italy which began with Petrarch and ended with Leo X. finds its parallel in Japan during the past thirty years, says Mr. Murata. There is not a single line of life or thought in Japan that has not felt the effect of the newly imported ideas. Even the writers who profess to be ultra-national like Mr. Takayama give utterance to an Occidentalised Nationalism that differs widely from the nationalism preached by men of the type of Motoori. Japanese ideas as to the importance of state education and the like have been borrowed wholesale from Germany. But in Italy the time of the Renaissance politically and morally was anything but bright. The unrest caused by the imbibing of so many new ideas led men to doubt the reliability of ancient institutions and rules of life. This experience has, as regards morality, been repeated here. To-day it would be hard to say what moral standard controls our lives. Some appeal to Confucianism, some to Buddhism or Christianity, others still more equally speak of the Nippon Shugi or the Imperial Rescript on Education as furnishing guides to life. But the truth is Japan is at present without a standard of ethics. I cannot believe with Buckle and Draper that morality makes no real progress in the world. Not can I, on the other hand, believe that a country's fate depends entirely on its morality, but I go as far as to think that when a great intellectual awakening is accompanied by moral decay like that of Italy in the 15th and 16th centuries and like that Japan of to-day, there is cause for anxiety and a call for resort to such preventative measures as are available.

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The following recently published works demand a passing notice. Mr. Osada Shūto has translated from the French the Napoleon love stories under the title of *Koi no Napoleon*. The book, according to the reviewers, has found a great many readers. It sells at 60 *sen* per copy at the Shunyō-do, Tōri, 4 chōme Nihonbashi, Tōkyō. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that Bismarck's life is to be written up in the same way and will appear in Japanese before long.

Professor Whitney's *Life and Growth of Language* has been translated by Mr. Hoshino Koichi and sells at 45 *sen* a copy at the Fusambō, Kanda, Tokyo. Dr. A. V. Dicey's work on the English Constitution has appeared in Japanese, the translation occupying 900 pages. It is published by the Waseda Semmon Gakkō at 1 *yen* 75 *sen* a copy. The

* We gave a full explanation of this in a former Summary.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

† The reference is to Marquis Ito specially, who has been lecturing in a very earnest manner on the necessity of radical changes in the methods of organising and managing political parties.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

† Petrarch was found dead with his head resting on an open book. Not a few of Japan's ardent students have for years lived next door to dire poverty, but with the open book ever before them.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

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translators are Messrs. Takata Sanai and Umewaka Seitaro. The best work on Botany to be had in Japanese, we are told by competent judges, is Professor Miyoshi Gaku's volumes of lectures, which has over 350 illustrations and which consists of 600 closely printed pages. The price of the work is *2 yen* 25 *sen*. It is for sale at the Fusambō, Kanda.

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In the *Kyōiku Jiron* Dr. Inouye Enryō makes some very practical and pertinent remarks on the subject of Education, of which the following is an epitome. The cause of education is subordinated to the increase of armaments and hence extensive programmes only exist on paper. The wherewithal to carry them out is not available. The increase in the salaries paid to Primary School teachers is quite inadequate. Men who formerly received 10 *yen* a month receive 15, but considering the rise in prices together with the fact that these teachers have always been underpaid the original figure should have been more than doubled. But it is said that the country is not at present in a position to make the required outlay. There are three kinds of school-teachers. (1) There are men who make the post of teacher a stepping-stone to something better, who never intend to make a profession of teaching. (2) There are others who pursue this calling because they feel it is for them the best or easiest way of making money. Poor as it is, the pay attracts them. (3) There are a few who are born teachers and who follow the profession out of love for the young and a desire to confer benefit on the country by teaching. Now the question is, how far will the proposed increase in salaries attract the right kind of men? Are the teachers who are endowed with special talent and whose inclinations are all in the direction of school work likely to be deterred by pecuniary considerations? And on the other hand will not the higher pay attract an undesirable class of mere hirelings who will do their work in a perfunctory and ineffective style. The chief reason for the low esteem in which teachers are held has nothing to do with the salaries they receive or the position they occupy in the social scale. Even in provinces like Nagano, where school-teachers are well treated and comparatively well paid, there are not more than two or three teachers in the whole province who possess sufficient property to qualify them to vote for a member of the Diet. There is no doubt in my mind that a simple increase of salary will not give to the teacher that respect and consideration which are so essential to success. I therefore propose that one of the following four qualifications should be required for holding office as a school-teacher. The candidate should (1) be a man of rank (*Shaku-i*), (2) or a scholar; (3) or a man of virtue and reputation, (4) or a man of property. If men of this kind could be drafted into the service of the Education Department school-teachers would at once be respected. After speaking thus I feel it incumbent on me to set an example, and hence purpose to start a Primary school myself. It is said that the nobles school in Tōkyō does not succeed since the pupils feel that they are superior to the teachers. It is quite essential to success in teaching that instructors should gain the respect of their pupils, that the latter should recognise the superiority of the former. How to attain this object is the great educational question of the day—a question that is quite distinct from the remuneration which teachers should receive. What I should like to see is teachers occupying the front seats in all social functions and coming to be regarded as worthy of the very highest respect by all classes of society. The change proposed may take some time to effect, but it seems to me to be quite practicable.

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* quotes from the *Shinseiki* and the *Taiyō* certain strictures of the daily press and comments thereon. The burden of what the two magazines referred to have to say on this subject may be stated in a very few sentences. They allege that the Japanese newspaper of the present day is wholly mercenary; that instead of leading the people it follows them and panders to all their corrupt notions and vitiated tastes. Such a thing as independent writing is almost unknown. The plea for the form they have taken is that they would not sell if they were radically changed. They reflect the lower sentiments of the people in most cases. Who is responsible for this? The editors, say some; the proprietors says the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. The pay of editors is a miserable pittance and the one object of the proprietor seems to be to obtain copy at a low figure without regard to its quality. There is no standard anywhere, and the result is a public press that is quite unworthy of the nation and the age.

The dissatisfaction with the modern Japanese newspaper seems to be universal among those educated Japanese who are able to read and appreciate foreign journals. To the foreign reader the *Jiji Shimpō* and one or two other journals seem to reach a higher level than their contemporaries, notwithstanding numerous defects, but Japanese judges, will not admit that even these journals constitute an exception to the rule.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN THE EAST.

Mr. Archibald Little, having been asked by the editor of the *Matin* to give some information with reference to the rivalray between France and England in the Far East, made the following interesting reply, which we take from the *N.-C. Daily News*.

London, 27th June, 1899.

SIR,—You have been good enough to ask me to inform the readers of the *Matin* what, in my opinion, are the motives of British opposition to French colonial expansion in the Far East and elsewhere. I am the more willing to do this because a just appreciation of the facts cannot but aid in dissipating the misunderstandings that so constantly arise between our two Governments.

There is, in my opinion, only one cause of the whole evil; it is the rigorous application of preferential tariffs which seems to be the pivot of French colonial policy.

While, for example, in the English ports of Singapore and Hongkong, French merchandise enters free of every tax, one is burdened in a French colony close by, in Cochin-China, with import duties varying from 35 to 50 per cent. But this is not all. If English products are imported into Cochin-China *vid* Singapore there is an additional duty of 33 per cent.

To escape this ruinous surtax, the Singapore merchants concluded to have a depôt for their goods at Saigon, and send them direct from London without passing through Singapore. But here a new tax awaited them. If three days after the arrival of the steamer the goods were not removed, a tax of five francs was imposed, to take one example, on every cubic metre of cotton goods.

What is the result? The prompt result has been that the importation of English cotton goods at Saigon, which in 1893 amounted to 4½ millions of francs, fell in 1897 to 1,075,000 francs. I further resulted that the native dealers who were not allowed to procure freely and at their ease the goods they wanted for their trade have left the French possessions and established themselves in the English dependencies near by.

A final result is, that the trade of Singapore and Hongkong is, while I write, in the most flourishing condition, and that of Saigon is languishing.

Shall I give you another example of the same kind? We need not go far to find it. The most direct route to go from Western China to Hongkong is by the Red River in Tonkin. This passage is about 300 *kilomètres* in length and belongs to France. Well, to traverse it, your colonial Government imposes a transit duty of 10 %, while it only costs 2½ % *ad valorem* to cross the whole of China.

If we leave Indo-China and go to Madagascar, what do we see? We see there that in virtue of a treaty concluded in 1860, at the moment when France announced her protectorate over the island, British products had only to pay an import duty of 10 per cent. Do you know what duty, notwithstanding this clause, these products are made to pay to-day? They are made to pay duties varying from 56 to 79 %; all British trade being thus excluded from the island, while at the same time our ships are forbidden to engage in the coast trade.

These are the motives which urge English merchants to do all in their power to oppose any new acquisition by France abroad. Any territory occupied by France becomes, in effect, by the sole fact of that occupation, a territory closed to the trade of the world, and any progress realised by French expansion is immediately followed by a restriction of the commercial rights of other countries.

Do not look for and do not seek for any other cause. Rivalry, jealousy, do not exist. At Shanghai for years English and French have worked side by side in perfect harmony. Never a dispute, never a disagreement even. The subjects of the two countries take their seats according to the chances of election—and to their mutual advantage and benefit—to turn in the French Municipal Council or the Anglo-American Municipal Council.

It is, in reality, only the question of commercial policy which divides to day the two countries; it is not to be doubted that with a little time and a little patience we shall make an end of this difficulty as we have made an end of others.

STRANDING OF THE "ARGYLL."

ACTION AGAINST THE CAPTAIN.

The stranding of the *Argyll*, says the *Hiogo Evening News* of Monday, has given rise to litigation which will be of considerable interest to shipping companies. It appears that some days ago Fujita Matsutaro, a contractor, filed a petition for damages against Captain Thompson, of the *Argyll*, firstly for the destruction of a pier he was constructing at the spot where the *Argyll* went ashore at a cost of Y 6,000, and secondly, for the interference with his work caused by the operation of floating the *Argyll*. The plaintiff in his petition further asked that an inquiry for the presence of evidence should be made, which the Kobe Chiho Saibansho granted.

On Monday afternoon, accordingly, Judge Niwa proceeded to the *Argyll*, and an inquiry was held in the cabin of the stranded vessel. Mr. Matt. Smith, representing Dodwell & Co., the agents of the *Argyll*, and Mr. Wileman, British Vice-Consul, were also present.

The object of the inquiry was explained to the Captain, and Mr. Ono (Manager to the Seamen's Club at Kobe), Captain Nire (of the N.Y.K.), and Mr. Kaya were sworn as experts to examine the evidence and furnish a report.

The judge, plaintiff, the captain, and the others concerned proceeded to examine the boilers, etc. of the vessel, and it was agreed that the experts should be allowed to ask any questions of the officers of the *Argyll*.

The case will come on for hearing on the 23rd inst.

The t.b.d. *Sazanami*, the fourth of eleven boats being constructed by Yarrow and Co. for the Japanese Government, was launched at Poplar on 8th July.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TYPHOONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—If you refer to the journals of August, 1869, you will see that the weather then prevailing presents a great similarity to the "weather" of the present year. Yokohama and Kobe experienced on the 18th and 19th August of that year one of the most severe typhoons, if not the most severe, recorded. A great number of ships in the harbour suffered severe damage.

Yours, &c., AN OLD RESIDENT.

Yokohama, August 18th, 1899.

KUBOTA BEISEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In a recent issue you announced that Mr. Kubota Beisen had become totally blind. A similar rumour found its way into the Tokyo journals. As the fact is that within the last few days the eyesight of that very eminent artist has been *almost completely restored*, you will give much satisfaction to his many friends by a line in your paper to that effect.

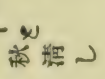
Very respectfully,

HENRY P. BOWIE.

Tokyo, Nagatacho, nichome, 28bar,
August 17, 1899.

P.S.—I should add that I saw Mr. Kubota last evening and he requested me to send this communication.

Apropos his recovery, he sent yesterday to the *Yorozu Choho* the following *hokku*:



A PROTEST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Monsieur,—J'ai été absolument scandalisé avant-hier.

Des soldats américains ont joué indignement la comédie de mendiants. Ils demandaient quelques sous pour avoir du pain. On ne refuse jamais de donner à ceux qui ont faim. Comme d'autres européens sans doute, comme certains japonais, j'ai donné ce que j'avais sous la main. Or, j'ai remarqué que les mêmes soldats ont joué à la même place la même comédie pendant assez long-temps, se moquant et de ceux qui donnaient et de ceux qui ne donnaient pas. Qu'ont-ils fait de l'argent récolté? Ma curiosité ne va pas jusque là. Les généreux ont été des naïfs peut-être; malgré tout je trouve honteux que des volontaires qui sensément ont combattus pour la grande cause de la liberté jouent de pareilles comédies.

Croyez à ma considération distinguée.

UN FRANÇAIS.

J'aimerais bien à ce que le fait soit signalé dans votre journal.

(TRANSLATION.)

Sir,—I was absolutely scandalised the day before yesterday.

Some American soldiers have been playing an unworthy farce as mendicants, asking a few coppers to get bread. One never refuses to give to those who are hungry. Like other Europeans no doubt, and like some Japanese, I gave what I had with me at the time; but, noticed that the same soldiers played the same farce in the same place, laughing alike at those who gave and those who did not give. What did they do with the money thus collected? My curiosity does not go so far. The generous were simpleminded perhaps, but none the less I think it shameful that volunteers who are supposed to have fought for the great cause of liberty should play such farces as this.

Yours, &c., A FRENCHMAN.

I should like the fact noted in your paper.

THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS AND THE REGULATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—At the unanimous request of the representatives of the Christian schools named below, I send you the following for publication:—

The representatives of six Christian schools—Aoyama Gakuin, Azabu Ei-wa Gakko, Doshisha, Rikkyo Chu Gakko, Meiji Gakuin, Nagoya Ei-wa Gakko—met in conference on August 16th in Tokyo to consider what course to pursue in view of the recent Instructions of the Educational Department excluding entirely all religion from private schools receiving any recognition of the Department, and decided to submit to the representatives and officials of the various Christian schools affected by these regulations the following statement of opinion for their consideration:—

The Constitution of the Empire grants religious liberty; the Instructions of the Educational Department definitely and more completely than ever forbid all teaching of religion, as well as religious exercises, to all schools seeking Government recognition. We feel that this position of the Educational Department is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution of the Empire, in practically restricting the liberty of parents in deciding upon the education of their children. We are here not raising any objections to the Educational Department's making such restrictions for public schools supported by public funds; but we feel that to put these same limitations upon private schools supported by private funds works great injustice. We feel even more strongly that these regulations make it impossible for Christian schools to secure the recognition of the Government and its accompanying privileges. We are of the conviction that for any Christian school founded on Christian principles, supported in any measure by the gifts and prayers of Christian people, to exclude in any degree Christianity from its ruling principles or from its school life would be disloyalty to our common Lord, and to the churches aiding our schools. We call upon all officers and teachers of Christian schools to take a firm and decided stand upon this matter, not yielding any Christian principle for the sake of securing or maintaining Government privileges.

DAVID S. SPENCER,
Secretary of Committee.

Aoyama, Aug. 16th, 1899.

POST OFFICE INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In face of Post Office delinquencies of late, the enclosed table of fees and amounts you can insure for in England may be of interest.

Yours sincerely, SUBSCRIBER.

Fee.	Limit of Compensation.
2*d.*	£ 5.
3*d.*	£ 10.
4*d.*	£ 20.
5*d.*	£ 30.
6*d.*	£ 40.
7*d.*	£ 50.
8*d.*	£ 60.
9*d.*	£ 70.
10*d.*	£ 80.
11*d.*	£ 90.
1*s.* 0*d.*	£100.
1*s.* 1*d.*	£110
1*s.* 2*d*	£120.

THE RULE OF THE ROAD.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It would be well if the rule of the road in Japan were generally known and understood. I was a witness to-day of an incident which might have resulted in a serious accident. A trap driven by a foreign gentleman with betto sitting behind was coming along at a fair pace. On the driver's right hand side of the road at a sharp angle a jinrikishaman met the trap, and went actually under the horse's head before he could stop his vehicle. The jinrikishaman was on his left hand side of the road, and had the foreigner been on *his* proper side there could not have been any collision. The trap was clearly in the wrong, but the foreign gentleman drove on without the slightest notice, leaving the jinrikishaman gazing after him with astonishment at his narrow escape. If he had not been very sharp in backing his vehicle he would certainly have been run over, and his fare too. The apparently absolute indifference of the foreigner aroused my indignation.

I am, Sir, yours truly, F. S.

Yokohama, August 24th, 1899.

A PARODY.

Of course Markham's great poem, inspired by Millet's picture of the "Man with the Hoe," has suggested some parodies. One of them is delightful. It is called "The Man with the Load," the load being whiskey, and the picture inspiring it a limp, besotted and ragged individual, leaning against a post, and sleeping the hiccoughy slumber of alcohol, his battered hat in the foreground and three pigs in the distance.

Bowed by a weight of fiery stuff, he leans
Against the hitching-post and gazes 'round!
Besotted emptiness is in his face,
He bears a load that still may get him down.
Who made him dull to shame and dead to pride,
A thing that cares not and that never thinks,
Filthy, profane, a consort for the pig?
Who loosened and let down that stubbly jaw?
Whence came the scum adhering to those lips?
What was it clogged and burned away his brain?

Is this the thing the Lord God made and gave
To have dominion over sea and land;
To love and to be loved; to propagate
And feel the passion of Eternity?
Is this the dream He dreamed who shaped the suns
And pillared the blue firmament with light?
Down all the stretch of Hell to its last gulf
There is no shape more hideous than this—
More tongued with proof that Darwin didn't know—
For where in all the world of brutish beasts
Is one from which this monster might have come?

His blood flows in the frail, disfigured babe
O'er which the pale, heart-broken mother bends.
But what to him are those hot tears she sheds,
What cares he for the taunts his children bear,
The hungry cries they raise; their twisted limbs?
Through this dread shape the devil boldly looks,
And in that reeling presence mocks the world!
Through this dread shape humanity is shamed,
Profaned, outraged, dragged down and brought to scorn—
Made to inhale fumes from the slime he spews
And hear him jest at Virtue and at God.

O masters, lords, and rulers in our land,
Must this foul solecism still
Be tolerated in an age when men
Grasp power from the circumambient air
And speak through space across the roaring gulfs?
Must this vile thing be left to wed at will
And propagate his idiotic spawn,
A shame upon the age in which we live,
A curse on generations to be born?

O masters, lords, and rulers in our land,
How may ye hope to reckon with this "man"?
How get along without the vote he casts
When there are public offices to fill?
How will it be with candidates when he
No longer hangs upon the reeking bar
Prepared to fight, to stab, to murder, and
To vote for him who furnishes his drinks?

S. E. Kiser, in *The Chicago Times Herald.*

It is stated that the Admiralty experts have discovered a process for rendering wood non-inflammable, which they are pursuaded can be used with the utmost advantage in the construction of warships. It is already used in two vessels now being built at Devonport. It will be largely utilised in place of steel for the permanent fittings. This will not only mean a diminution in the tonnage but a decrease in the cost of the vessels.

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THE MILLER TRIPLE-MURDER CASE.

SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Judgment was given in the Miller case on Saturday, the accused being sentenced to death. The Court room at the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho was completely filled by Japanese, with a sprinkling of foreigners, and the atmosphere of the small and badly ventilated apartment was stifling in the extreme. The Court was announced to sit at 11 o'clock, but it was nearly noon before Judge Sato, Assistant Judges Shidara and Morii, and Procurator Tsutsumi, took their seats. Mr. Inouye and Mr. J. F. Lowder were the only members of the bar present.

Miller's comportment was throughout perfectly calm, and his appearance, owing probably to the discipline of the gaol, was more wholesome than early in his trial. In fact, but for the beard of several days' growth, his general look was not at all unprepossessing. He listened attentively to the reading of the judgment, but betrayed no emotion throughout.

The President at once commenced to read the findings of the Court in Japanese, the operation occupying some forty-five minutes. The document was an exhaustive survey of the evidence in the case, more complete and fuller than an English Judge's summing up, and informed with an argumentativeness that savoured more of the bar than of the Bench. As a feat of intellectual grasp and legal acumen it was certainly no mean performance. The closing reference to the keen regret the Court felt in having to pass the capital sentence on a subject of a Treaty Power created an excellent impression among the foreign section of the audience.

The judgment was translated to the prisoner by Mr. Kobayashi Beika (J. E. de Becker). The substance of it was as follows :—

In *re* the case of Robert Miller, a native of New York State, United States of America.

The following is the sentence, in the public trial of the accused for murder, rendered by the undersigned presiding and associate judges this 19th day of August, 1899 (19th day of the 8th month of 32nd year of *Meiji*) in the Yokohama District Court, in the presence of Public Procurator Tsutsumi Sadajiro.

Whereas, in the opinion of this Court, the accused Robert Miller did about 5 o'clock on the morning of the 17th July, 1899, wilfully and with malice aforethought murder Tonooka Sue, Suzuki Aki, and Nelson Ward in the premises known as No. 133, former Foreign Settlement, Yokohama City, and whereas the Court considers that the act of the accused against the person of Nelson Ward is the most grave of the offences committed by the said accused, the Court directs that the murderer of the said Nelson Ward shall be punished by death.

Among the various objects attached and produced as evidence, the hammer, razor, and three-cornered file are to be returned to the relatives of the late Tonooka Sue; the shirt, coat, trousers, and hat are to be returned to the accused; the petition to be allowed to carry on the business and the report *re* employees are both to be returned to Sawaguchi Jukichi. The entire cost of the proceedings is to be borne by the accused.

This judgment was followed by a most exhaustive *exposé* of "reasons." The manner in which accused did the crime was described in these words :—

About 5 o'clock on the morning of the 17th July, 1899 (17th day of the 7th month of the 32nd year of *Meiji*) the accused was in the premises known as the "Rising Sun Inn," a liquor saloon kept by one Tonooka Suye, at 133, former Yokohama Foreign Settlement, and finding an American named Nelson Ward fast asleep on a couch in one of the downstair rooms he seized the opportunity to kill him. First the accused inflicted two wounds on Ward's throat with a razor, one being 22 and the other 7 centimeters in length. The blade of the razor then broke, but Ward had not been killed. The accused then seized a hammer to complete his work. The head of this hammer was 3 *sun* and 4 or 5 *bu* in length, the striking portion being about 9 *bu* square, and it was also furnished with a claw for extracting nails on one end. With this claw-like end of the hammer the accused Ward several times on the [illegible] wounds in the latter's head on the left side. Ward then rolled off the chair on to the floor and immediately the accused struck him several times from behind, inflicting some severe wounds on the right side of the back of the head and killing him instantaneously. The accused then went upstairs and entering the bedroom of Suzuki Aki, where the latter was sleeping soundly, struck her several times with the sharp claw-like end of the hammer before described. The blows were delivered with great violence, and several wounds were inflicted on the left side of her head, with the result that she was immediately killed. The accused then entered the adjoining room where the mistress of the house—Tonooka Suye—was lying fast asleep on a foreign style of bed, and, approaching her bedside, rained a shower of blows upon her with the sharp claw-like portion of the hammer, inflicting eleven severe wounds on her head and face and causing her immediate death. Of the three crimes committed by the accused it is considered that the circumstances of the case show that the act against the person of Ward is most serious, while there are mitigating circumstances in the case of the act committed against Suye.

The Judges recalled the relation in which Miller stood with Suye, his expectations of living with her as her husband, his disappointment at her turning against him, and his jealousy of Ward.

All these facts are sufficient to show that Suye originally treated the accused with great consideration, was friendly with him, and as he himself stated she even asked him for money when they met on the street, showing that she received cash from him at first. It shows why Suye allowed the accused to lodge in her house when he was without means, and also why she could not eject him from her premises even when she disliked to have him there, and it shows the fact that he recognized that the accused would have grounds for being angry with her should she not put the house in his name. It is the regular custom of women of Suye's class to treat their guests according to the amount of money spent by the latter, but some allowance can be made for the natural anger and chagrin of a man in the position of the accused when treated in this manner. The unkind and rude treatment embittered the accused against Suye and formed the motive which led him to determine to commit the crime of murder; therefore there are mitigating circumstances which must be taken into consideration when judging this case.

With regard to the case of Suzuki Aki, it appears that she several times interfered with the accused when he was about to help himself to drinks, and that she several times told him to leave the house and go away. It also seems that she was most unfriendly towards the accused and that a bad feeling existed between them. The above facts are stated by Tanaka Tome, but they are so insignificant in their nature that the provocation afforded to the accused cannot be taken into consideration as a mitigating circumstance.

With regard to Nelson Ward, he was well received at Suye's saloon in consequence of spending money freely, and as to the house being put his name the matter could not have been arranged unless Suye herself had made up her mind to do so. For the accused to revenge himself upon Ward in the same way as upon Suye was an entirely gratuitous act and transgressed all limits of reason, accordingly the Court considers the nature of this offence to be most serious.

The situation of affairs on the day before the crime was then reviewed at length, and Miller's movements before and after the murder were referred to. Summing up, the Judges held that the following facts were amply sufficient to prove that the accused was the perpetrator of the crime which had been committed :—

1.—That the shirt produced was found concealed on the premises where the murder was committed, and that on both the arms and breast of this shirt there are many traces of blood-stains;

2.—That when accused went to James Curtis' place shortly after the crime was committed, he was *not wearing any shirt*;

3.—That accused went upstairs hurriedly to change his [under ?] shirt, without even waiting to drink the liquor he had ordered;

4.—That the trousers produced are blood-stained in front;

5.—That the trousers were found concealed in the upstairs room of James Curtis' house wrapped up in a blanket, after the arrest of the accused;

6.—That the trousers were worn by the accused on the previous evening;

7.—That the accused leaned over the counter on entering Jas. Curtis' saloon as if he were drunk, probably with the intention of hiding the blood-stains on his trousers. This fact is assumed inasmuch that accused, when he went upstairs, *walked up quite steadily with no appearance of being in liquor*;

8.—That the coat is stained with blood:

9.—That both the coat and trousers were worn by accused since the previous evening.

The coat was actually worn by the accused until it was taken off in the presence of the Judge of Preliminary Examination, and the reason that it was not concealed by accused was that there were only a few small blood-stains which probably escaped his observation, as they were situated on the back portion and lining of the coat. It is clear, judging from the blood-stains on the shirt, that the coat was not worn at the time the murder was committed, and the accused probably thought there were no traces of blood on his coat.

The fact that the accused used a razor in killing Nelson Ward is demonstrated by the protocol of survey drawn up at the scene of the murder, that a broken razor was found by the side of the corpse, and that Surgeon Fuji Yukio states in his report that there were two horizontal cuts on the throat of the corpse which must have been inflicted by means of a keen-edged weapon. It is also proven by the fact that there were two parallel streaks of blood discovered on the chair on which Ward had been lying apparently in the position where his neck must have been resting, and the surgeon surmises that the neck wounds were inflicted while Ward was still reclining on the said chair. According to the Surgeon's report wounds were inflicted by external force, and the weapons used were a sharp edged weapon and a dull-edged heavy weapon. It is clear from the protocol of survey that the handle of the hammer used was lying beside Suye's corpse and that the head of the hammer was concealed in the kitchen of the Rising Sun Inn. The iron hammer produced showed traces of blood-stains, and the shape and severity of the wounds inflicted, so it is considered, prove that this hammer was employed by the accused in committing the crime. According to the above-mentioned medical report, the position of the wounds on the bodies of Aki and Ward show that they were inflicted while the victims were asleep; and as regards Suye it is stated that she was also attacked while asleep and killed in her bed. The report further states that in the opinion of the surgeon Suye made more or less resistance, and this statement agrees with the evidence given by one witness that he heard the cry of a woman. It is therefore inferred that Suye actually made resistance when attacked by the accused.

It is evident from the protocol of survey and the drawings annexed thereto that the accused first endeavoured to kill Ward by cutting his throat with a razor and then used an iron hammer to despatch him, that Ward slept downstairs with accused, that accused went to Suye's room after passing through Aki's room, and that the handle of the hammer was lying by the side of Suye's corpse. These facts show that the accused started his murderous work by killing Ward, and that Suye was the last victim.

Other points noted were as follow :—

The accused has frequently stated that he did not know Ward and in fact had never seen him, but when the accused was in John Charles Parrot's house with Parrot and Bernard Kane Ward came in and talked with Kane and then both Kane and Ward went out together. After a short while Kane came back and boasted that he had been treated by Ward. Then accused made use of the language—"I will fix the son of a b——." This fact is testified to by both Parrot and Kane. As Ward spent a lot of money in Suye's house where accused was staying the statement of the accused that he did not know Ward is not worthy of credence. If the accused really did not know Ward and the latter's relations between Suye and Aki, then the motive which actuated the accused in killing Ward must have been a wish to secure himself from interruption when murdering Suye and Aki, as argued by the Public Procurator. If Ward was only killed for the purpose of preventing him from interfering when Sue and Aki were being killed, the act of the accused in murdering him must be considered as even more detestable than if it proceeded from hatred of the man. It is, however, too harsh to suppose that Ward was killed without any provocation at all when the facts of the case show certain grounds for the act.

The triple murders committed by the accused was deliberately planned and carried out by him,

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he waiting until his victims were sound asleep, therefore his action comes under the scope of Art. 292 of the Criminal Code, which provides that any person who murders another with premeditation, wilfully, and with malice aforethought, shall be sentenced to the punishment of death.

With regard to the act committed against the person of Suye, there are extenuating circumstances in favour of the accused according to Arts 89 and 90 of the same Code, and by virtue of the provisions of these Articles the punishment of the accused is commuted by one degree and therefore is penal servitude for life. But according to Art 100 of the Code "when an individual is declared guilty, in the same case, of several offences, for which he has not yet undergone condemnation, the most severe penalty is alone pronounced," therefore, the case of Nelson Ward being the gravest of the several offences committed by the accused, the latter should be punished for his act against the person of the said Nelson Ward, the penalty for the said act being death.

The Court dismissed altogether the plea of the inherited insanity of Miller, and also the argument of brain deterioration through drinking Japanese whisky. Proceeding, the statement of reasons added :—

According to the protocol of survey, and the medical report, the scene of the murder presented a most sickening spectacle by reason of the fact that fragments of bone, flesh, and brain matter were strewn about the rooms, while the place was literally drenched with blood, but it is not presumed that the accused deliberately tried to cause this state of affairs in addition to the mere act of murder.

According to the evidence of Tanaka Tome, the iron hammer employed by the accused in the committal of the crime, was used in Suye's saloon for the purpose of breaking ice. It is clear from the protocol of survey that the three-cornered file was lying on the table beside the dead body of Ward, and that Tome stated perhaps it belonged to the tool-chest kept in Suye's house.

It is not clear as to whom the razor belonged, but, if it does not belong to the accused, it must have been in Suye's saloon. In short the accused searched for weapons to be used in accomplishing the murder, and obtained the razor, iron hammer, three-cornered file. He thought the razor the most suitable weapon, so he first used the razor, but as it broke he then used the iron hammer. If the razor had been of better temper there would have been no such sickening sight as was seen at the "Rising Sun Inn," as the razor would have answered the purpose. The razor blade having snapped in two, the accused made use of the iron hammer, and owing to the weight of this weapon and the powerful muscles of the arm that wielded it, the accused without any special intention succeeded in creating a shocking scene of carnage and butchery. It is clear that the accused never anticipated any trouble in destroying all traces of his crime as far as blood-stains on his clothes were concerned. All such atrocious deeds increase the burden of guilt and there are no grounds for acquitting the accused on the premises. To bring in a verdict of not guilty would be equivalent to encouraging shocking crimes of a similar nature.

Another point was dealt with as follows :—

The Counsel for the defence maintained that indirect evidence is most dangerous and that no felony should be judged on such a basis, but the value of all evidence is based on the degree of credibility inherent in it and not on its external classification. If circumstantial evidence is to be regarded as dangerous, even direct evidence may be regarded with suspicion. If stress be laid upon the distinction between circumstantial and direct evidence, at least the former requires that many facts should link together into a chain of evidence; therefore in making inferences as to the accuracy of certain facts it is actually easier to arrive at a correct decision by means of circumstantial evidence than by means of direct evidence. Supposing that a witness declares that he was an eye-witness of a certain crime, if there was no circumstantial evidence admitted to corroborate his statement it would be exceedingly difficult to ascertain the truth or falsehood of his testimony. In both English and American Law there are many provisions to the effect that direct evidence, unless supported either by other direct evidence or corroborated by means of circumstantial evidence, may not be admitted as conclusive. This proves that direct evidence is considered in practice equally as dangerous as circumstantial evidence. In short, in collecting evidence the question of credibility must be carefully considered, and the truth of a case cannot be discovered by simply being swayed in consideration of the arbitrary classification of the evidence adduced.

In conclusion the Court said :—

It is the benevolent desire of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor that all strangers within our Empire should be treated with magnanimity, and it is also the wish of our people to extend kindness and hospitality to aliens resident in this land.

At this juncture, when Japan has taken her place among the comity of nations, and her legal autonomy has been restored, it is most distressing to the judicial officials to be placed under the painful necessity of sentencing a citizen of one of the Treaty Powers to death.

The Court deems it most regrettable that in the pleading of the accused and the earnest arguments of his counsel, it is unable to discover any adequate grounds for defence.

As Law and Justice must be strictly upheld and vindicated, no matter what circumstances exist, the Court, notwithstanding the extreme reluctance of its members, finds itself compelled to perform its duty in the premises.

The iron hammer, razor, and three-cornered file which were used in committing the crime are not confiscated, as they were in Suye's house and it is presumed they belonged to her.

As regards the costs of this public trial it is considered proper that the whole amount should be borne by the accused in accordance with Art. 45 of the Criminal Code.

Given at the Yokohama District Court
(during vacation)
Presiding Judge, SATO HAKUAI.
Associate Judge, MORII RYOSANU.
" " SHIDARA ISAWO.
Clerk, TATO TOKUTARO.

The prisoner was told that five days were allowed for the lodging of an appeal.

Mr. Inouye at once gave notice of appeal ; and the proceedings terminated.

CRICKET.

P. & O. VERSUS Y.C. AND A.C.

In brilliant August weather a match was played on Saturday afternoon between elevens made up by officers from the P. & O. steamers *Rohilla* and *Rosetta* and a team from the Y.C. and A.C. The shipmen this time had their revenge, winning the game by the narrow margin of one run. Scores :—

P. & O. OFFICERS.

Mr. Elliot, c. Clarke, b. Libeaud ...	39
Mr. Swiles, st. Duff, b. White... ...	2
Mr. Gibbon, b. Libeaud...	3
Mr. Johnston, c. and b. Libeaud ...	7
Mr. Parr, c. and b. White	1
Mr. McGinnis, c. White, b. Libeaud ...	6
Mr. Pollitt, b. Libeaud	3
Mr. Nicholls, b. Libeaud	2
Mr. Finch, b. Libeaud	0
Mr. Gill, c. Bathgate, b. Clarke ...	5
Mr. Gaffin, b. Libeaud	2
Mr. May, not out...	0
Mr. Thompson, c. Melhuish, b. Clarke ...	0
Extras	10
Total	80

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	M.	W'kets.	No Balls.
Mr. White ...	45	30	2	2	—
Mr. Libeaud..	80	27	2	8	1
Mr. Goddard.	25	8	1	0	—
Mr. Clarke ...	14	4	1	2	—

Y.C. AND A.C.

Mr. Bathgate, b. Elliot	4
Mr. P. B. Clarke, b. Swiles	1
Mr. Melhuish, l.b.w. b. Elliot	0
Mr. Brady, b. Swiles	0
Mr. F. E. White, b. Johnston	25
Mr. Duff, b. Elliot	14
Mr. H. W. Kilby, not out	20
Mr. Stewart, b. Johnston	0
Mr. Libeaud, b. Johnston	0
Mr. E. B. Clark, b. Johnston	3
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. Parr, b. Johnston ...	2
Mr. C. Thwaites, b. Elliot	0
Mr. Edwards, c. Parr, b. Elliot... ...	0
Extras	1
Total	79

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	M.	Wickets.
Mr. Elliott ...	105	34	9	5
Mr. Swiles ...	35	20	2	2
Mr. Johnston ...	65	24	2	5

NOTES FROM CHINA PAPERS.

News has been received in Hongkong that one of the steamers of the Compania Maritima, Manila, is aground on the coast of North Luzon. The vessel is alleged to have been looted and burned by the rebels.

Manila newspapers report restlessness among the natives of Cebu. The Chinamen are removing their goods to the hills, and the Americans are establishing small garrisons along the coast towns. A small gunboat is cruising in the neighbourhood watching for filibusters.

The accident on H.M.S. *Bullfinch* occurred while the vessel was steaming at a speed of thirty knots. The connecting rod high pressure cylinder broke, flooding the engine room with steam and causing the fatalities already reported.

The Hongkong Electric Company proposes to double its capital by the issue of 30,000 new shares of $10 each, the issue to be made at par and the new shares to be offered in the first instance to the holders of the existing shares.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 2nd Aug. says :—H.M.S. *Endymion* is coaling at Tanjong Pagar. She will leave on Friday afternoon or early on Saturday morning after the delivery of the French mail from Europe, to relieve H.M.S. *Orlando* at Manila, the latter proceeding to Hongkong for some repairs before leaving to join the fleet in the north.

The *Independencia* states that the properties of the various religious orders in the Philippines are valued at many hundred thousands of dollars. Properties in Hongkong, Malacca, and other ports of Asia purchased by gains and profits derived from the Filipinos are valued at 200 million Mexican, and the annual rentals are 15 million.

It is reported in one of the vernacular papers that Yü Lu, Viceroy of Chihli, may possibly be transferred to a southern Viceroyalty, and that K'uei Chün, Viceroy of Szechuan, may be transferred to Tientsin in place of Viceroy Yü Lu.

The coasting steamer *Saturnus* has been looted and burned by Filipino rebels in San Fernando harbour. The supplies captured were of the utmost value to Aguinaldo's followers. The *Saturnus* was under the American flag.

We quoted from the *N.-C. Daily News* the other day a paragraph stating that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, at Wuchang, had received the Empress Dowager's decree to close all the schools established by him last year in obedience to the Emperor's Reform decrees. We now learn from the same paper that Viceroy Chang has since remonstrated with the Empress Dowager on the subject and asks that a trial, at least, ought to be made with the schools and that the scholars now in them should be allowed to graduate and show their usefulness before the institutions are forced to close. As the Empress Dowager does not wish to offend Viceroy Chang just now, she may possibly grant the request.

A gallant rescue from drowning was effected in Hongkong harbour on 6th inst. by Mr. L. F. Hussey, second officer of the steamer *Chunsang*. A Chinaman who had been doing some work on the vessel fell overboard. He had gone down twice before the Europeans aboard were informed of what had occurred. Seeing that there was no time to lose, Mr. Hussey, without divesting himself of his clothing, jumped into the water. He had to dive down close on twelve feet to get at the Chinaman, when he caught him by the queue and brought him to the surface. The Chinaman had all but gone, some time elapsing before he was brought back to consciousness. Mr. Hussey was also very much exhausted, but soon recovered, and was warmly congratulated by his brother officers for his courageous deed.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The *Gorsedd*, lost recently off Cape Finisterre, was laden with Burmese rice.

A clergyman sends the following to the *Church Gazette*:—A young Ritualistic curate, applying for a vacancy, dated his letter St. Anthony's Day. The vicar, an old-fashioned Evangelical, headed his reply, "Washing Day."

The German Emperor has invented a "journalist attaché," and posted him at Washington. His duty is to read the papers. This is cynically said to be already the chief occupation of the diplomatic circle, but they have to dine a good deal as well.

On returning to America Mark Twain will settle in Florida. It was there that he passed his earliest years, and he has lately bought the old homestead and is arranging for it to be restored as nearly as possible to its state when he first knew it.

The gold mines in the neighbourhood of Kelung are, we are told, yielding splendid returns, and the proprietors, Japanese, are contemplating putting in additional stamps. But they are anxious to do the thing as secretly as possible so as not to invite too much attention to their enterprise.—*The Formosan*.

The eminent Belgian Orientalist, Monsignor de Harlez, has just died at Louvain, were he held a chair since 1867. He was the author of many works on the Sanscrit, Zend, Persian, Chinese, and Japanese languages, and held the the office of Honorary Chamberlain to the Pope. He was a frequent contributor to learned publications on Oriental subjects.

A coolie named Sugenami Mirezo was arrested in Tokyo on the 21st inst. and charged with the crime of murdering in Yokohama the other day, the confectioner Masukawa Shokichi and his wife Kotake. The man was lately in the employ of Messrs. Averill & Co., as a tea-firer, but after the murder fled to Tokyo. The accused has been sent to the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

In order to relieve a chronic stomach trouble, the Rev. Hughes Perry, pastor of Moria, Utica, New York, resorted to a water cure, and for 48 days lived entirely on water. During the fast Mr. Perry was not confined to his bed at any part of the time, and took short walks daily. He experienced intense hunger for the first two days, but afterwards was quite comfortable He is now rapidly improving, and the ailment has apparently disappeared.

Reports have freely stated that the Chinese Government has ordered two ironclads, of 8,000 tons each, and six protected cruisers, of 3,500 tons each, from the Vulcan Company at Stettin. The ships are to be ready about the end of 1901, and will cost ten million taels. Fifty quick-firing guns have also been ordered. The Vulcan Company was compelled to decline part of the order, owing to the time limit, and because it will be occupied for a long period to come with contracts with the German Government. The order will consequently be split, and possibly some portion go to British yards. In other quarters it is asserted nothing is known in the yards of Stettin of such an order.

The following extract from the Canton Notes in the *Hongkong Daily Press* shows that there are some plucky Chinese soldiers:—

Some days ago a junk running between Fatshan and Lopau was attacked mid-way by pirates coming in long boats. The junk-master, being greatly frightened, dared not offer any resistance, but there were on board five soldiers who insisted upon defending the junk to the last, firing at the pirates, who returned the compliment. So in the ammunition of the soldiers was exhausted and the pirates succeeded in boarding the junk, but the soldiers, whose bravery did not fail them, drew their swords and fought desperately with the pirates, succeeding in killing two of them and driving the rest away. One of the soldiers got hold of a pirate during the struggle and fell overboard, both being drowned. Four of the soldiers were killed and the other two seriously wounded. The bravery of the soldiers was reported to the authorities, who have rewarded the two survivors and amply compensated the families of the deceased, who also received a substantial sum subscribed by the passengers and the junk-master.

An extraordinary adventure with a balloon accompanied some sports at Bradford on 8th July. An ascent had been arranged, and two passengers were going in the car with the aeronaut. At the moment of leaving, the aeronaut was dragged off the edge of the car, and the balloon rose rapidly with the two passengers, neither of whom had any experience in such travelling. They waited, however, until the balloon got into open country, and then, pulling the valve-rope, make a rapid descent into a wheatfield, fortunately alighting in safety. They had travelled twenty-seven miles in fifty minutes.

The Australian correspondent of the *Syren* states that the present has been a year of unprecedented disaster to vessels connected with the Australian shipping trade, and it is understood that the losses occasioned thereby to Australasian shipping companies and firms are exceptionally heavy, but will be largely met out of reserve funds provided for such contingencies, apart from insurances affected. Since January 1 about a score of vessels have been totally wrecked, while upwards of 150 casualties to coasting and other vessels have been reported. The month of May was singularly prolific in maritime catastrophes.

Recently the German Consul at San Francisco received instructions to seek out an emigrant named Richard Daverkosen, who was entitled to a sum of 300,000 florins to be paid to him by the Netherlands National Bank. The latter was written by the sister of Daverkosen, and was dated from Aix-la-Chapelle. The letter stated that Daverkosen had taken part as an officer in the Franco-German War, and that his family, who were very wealthy, resided near Arnheim. The missing man was found in prison. He was starving in San Francisco, and he had been sent to prison for stealing 30 cents from the poor-box in a Roman Catholic Church there.

A Canton telegram printed in the *North-China Daily News* runs:—The Protestant and Roman Catholic converts of Tsêng-chêngkisien, a district belonging to the metropolitan prefecture of Kuangchoufu, where there are large numbers of the two sects, have recently come to blows, and considerable bad blood has been engendered between them. One of the missionaries, a German, applied to Admiral Ho, chief of the Inland Naval forces, to arbitrate between the two contesting factions, but the Admiral refused, giving as an excuse that he could not see his way to settle cases between the followers of the two religions, which could be better done by the Consuls of the opposing missionaries.

The San Francisco *Chronicle* of the 10th ult. says:—Although the *Nippon Maru* is now speeding on her way to the Orient, the Board of Health has not yet finished with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. In spite of the fact that Dr. Cohn and his assistants wrought considerable damage to the decks, furniture, and carpets of the steamship by their bungling pretence at fumigation, the Board of Health has sent into the steamship company a bill for the work done. Agent Curtis of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha refused to pay the bill. The Federal fumigation, which was carried out by men who understood such work and who were provided with proper apparatus, was performed without damage to the ship and at no expense to the owners. The State fumigation was ineffectual, cockroaches and rats having thriven under its effects, and the damage done to the ship was considerable. Instead of paying the Board of Health, the steamship company will put in a bill for wantonly or ignorantly destroyed furniture, and if necessary will take the matter into the Courts.

A SUGGESTIVE INDIAN INCIDENT.

A most characteristic and suggestive piece of news is recorded from India. The religious riots which have recently disturbed Tinnevelly—the southernmost district of Madras, so well known to the missionary world—have ended in wholesale conversions, not to Christianity, but to Mahommedanism. The riots are said to have arisen in this way. The Shanars, a particularly low caste, almost outside the arena of Hindoism, are very numerous in Tinnevelly, and of late years, being industrious and enterprising, have been exceedingly prosperous. As is usual with mankind under these circumstances, they have become socially ambitious, and, besides building themselves annoyingly nice houses, they have sought promotion as a caste, pretending to be Khsetreyos, or members of the warrior caste, the second in Hindoism, and therefore entitled to admittance to the temples of the Maravars, a most respectable caste of the same district. The claim, we take it, was put forward in an insolent manner, with threats of using force, or even with forcible entry to the temples. This was more than the Maravars could stand, for, though such promotions are not unknown in Hindoism, they are usually pressed quietly, with heavy fees to Brahmins, and a production of old records manufactured for the occasion. The Maravars therefore rose in arms, called up the bad characters who in every Indian district are always ready for a row, and set themselves to beat and plunder the Shanars. They wrecked their house, stole their jewels, flogged their women and tore jewels out of their ears and generally conducted themselves like soldiers in a city taken by storm. The Shanars, while defending themselves with some courage, appealed to the British officials for protection, and ought, of course, to have received it, but were foiled by one of the weaknesses of British administration. The officials, naturally enough, inquired of the local authorities, as to the merits of the case, and the local authorities, sympathising entirely with the Maravars, and holding the Shanars to be dogs of a particularly impudent kind, lied artistically, and succeeded in concealing the danger of the situation. The British officials therefore did nothing, the riots grew worse and worse, and the Shanars, beaten, plundered, and outraged, at last sought relief by embracing Mahommedanism in great numbers. Six hundred in one village were converted in a day, other villages followed, and by the latest accounts the process was still going on so rapidly that the next Magistrate may find all Shanars, instead of low casts Hindoos, firm believers in Islam. That, of course, is for them a final relief from oppression and from danger. They cease to claim entrance into the temples, and the Muravars cease to claim any right of quarrel with them; it being a principle of Hindoism that all creeds are equally true for those who profess them, and therefore tolerable provided that they preserve a certain social isolation. A Hindoo will not bear a breach of caste or an offensive pretension within his own religious circle, but he has no quarrel with either Mahommedans or Christians simply as such. Moreover, attack becomes highly dangerous. Raiding on Shanars as outcast Hindoos with impudent pretensions, and raiding on Shanars turned Mussulmans, are two very different things. In accepting Islam the Shanars enter at once into the fellowship of the proudest and most united of the "castes" of India, a corporation which not only fails to defend its, but never never dreams of giving them an inferior place. Upon this one point Mahommed succeeded completely. Islam is a true brotherhood, no doubt a brotherhood often as of Cain and Abel, but still a brotherhood in which no one pretends to be better than the next man by reason of birth, or wealth, or colour, or indeed anything except official and temporary rank. A Shanar, once a Musculman, may marry the Sultan's daughter, and no one will remark upon his origin. These Shanars, therefore, who have turned Mussulmans are thenceforward safe,

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respectable, and even proud, and will probably become, as the Hindoos of the slopes of Mysore became, unusually fanatic. This is the way Mahommedanism has grown to be a great power in India. The notion that Indian Mussulmans are foreigners is absolutely without foundation. Perhaps five per cent. of them may be foreign in ultimate origin, the descendants of Arabs, Persians, Afghans, or Turcomans, but the remaining ninety-five are children of the soil who have gradually become convinced that Islam is true, or have found it a convenient creed, or have yielded, as the Mysoreans of the passes yielded, to military pressure and Royal threats. Once converted, it will be observed, they do not relapse, first because, for reasons stated below, they have no wish to relapse, and secondly, because Hindoism has no place for those who, having once been within its pale, have finally gone outside. It is not true that Hindoism makes no converts. The Brahmins have made scores of thousands within the century among the aboriginal tribes, sometimes admitting a whole clan at once but they will not take back perverts. Their sanctity has been destroyed; they have become, as it were, another species of human being; and they can be cleansed, if at all, only after they have been purified by suffering endured through many births.

It has always been to the writer a matter of grave perplexity to understand why the victory of Islam in India has not been more complete. The creed, no doubt, with its clear-cutting dogmas, its Sultan in the sky, and its demand that its votaries must be all alike, does not suit the higher castes, with their mystical tendency, their confidence that absorption in the All can be attained only by the domination of the spirit over the flesh, and their profound belief—the most singular of all their beliefs—that the methods of attaining purity, and, therefore, ultimate absorption in the Divine, may differ for different men and castes; but why the lowest classes, which are almost or quite outcast, which are often non-Aryan, and which are not dominated by abstract ideas, continue to resist the immense temptations Islam has to offer is a puzzle. Its central idea, the unity of the Godhead, is, as all experience shows, a most attractive one. They are not asked when they embrace the faith, as they are asked when they become Christians, to cease to be Asiatics,—to accept a new morality, new methods of household discipline, or new ways of guiding their whole lives down to their very diet. They are not told to suppress their passions, to give up hating, to throw away the immense protection derived from belonging to a powerful corporation with iron social rules. They are, in the main, left where they were, save for a change in opinion, in return for which the enter at once the most potent of all the castes, receive immense social promotion, and become imbued—this is a marked fact among them all—with the idea that the world ought to belong to them, and that in no long time their right and the fact will become identical. These offers have such effect, too, that when accepted they change the whole nature of those who accept them. It has repeatedly happened in Eastern Bengal, where the Ferazee or Wahabee missionaries are always at work, that an oppressed village has embraced Mahommedanism, and that thenceforward its villagers who were cowards have become men of whom the Zemindar's clubmen are afraid, men who, if hard driven, will fight like Pathans. Why is it that with such temptations and so little to lose, so many millions of the lowest Hindoos, whose faith burdens their minds and degrades their position, resist the Mussulman teaching, which, if accepted, at once opens for them a new and a lighter world? We suppose the true answer is, hard as it may be for Englishmen to believe it, that Hindoism does take a strong grip on the soul even of its humblest votaries, that the hope of advance in the next birth is one not to be resigned, and that pariahs do really believe their pariahdom to be the just consequence of their sins in previous stages of existence, and therefore to be borne uncomplainingly. It must be so, and yet, as we see, Mahommedanism has fifty millions of votaries in India, of whom forty-five millions at the very least are the descendants of converts,—converts of persuasion and not of the sword. The sword never was employed except in rare case and special localities—the most remarkable case being the edges of the Mysore plateau—for two reasons: that the Emperors never had the strength to do it, and that it was never their interest to make the attempt. They wanted devoted subjects, not Dervishes. As, however, the British rule in India slowly shakes the Hindoo mind, and faith in Hindoo ideas grows weak, we may see the attraction of Mahommedanism grow stronger, and the numbers of its votaries increase until at last we find ourselves ruling a Mussulman Empire with Hindoos interspersed. We do not say it will be so, for no man can read clearly the strange jumble of contradictory thoughts which are passing through the Hindoo brain—one of the keenest brains in the world, but with the defect that it can hold contradictory ideas, as it were in solution, within it—or foresee their outcome, but it may be so; the Shanar incident may be a symptom, and then there will be mighty problems to be solved. A Mussulman India might overtax even the Anglo-Saxon power of sitting, tranquilly unsympathetic, at the top.—*The Spectator*.

ENGLISH NOTES.

The following extraordinary advertisement appears in the *Surrey Mirror*:—

A gentleman wishes to highly recommend Groom Coachman; single or pair; willing, obliging; 18 months excellent characters; no objection house work; plain gardener or a cow; married when suited; aged 30.

Some time ago Australia was not inclined to subscribe towards the cost of an Antarctic expedition under British auspices. Now, however, it is reported that the Queensland Premier has announced that he intends to ask Parliament to grant £1,000 in aid of the proposed Antarctic exploration expedition, to which the British Government has promised substantial financial assistance.

The Prince of Wales possesses a remarkable pigeon. His Royal Highness's bird, so it was stated at the committee meeting of the National Flying Club, won the great race of 500 miles from Lerwick to Sandringham. In 1898 it flew from Boston and Newcastle to Sandringham, and from Banff this year. In the Lerwick-Sandringham race the birds were liberated at Lerwick at 3 a.m., and arrived at Sandringham at 3 2 and 3.5 p.m., doing the distance of 500 miles at a velocity of 1,252 yards a minute. The Prince's bird averaged 1,307 yards.

The British Museum has secured many more of the Marlborough gems, especially those of the Renaissance period, than is generally supposed. Unfortunately, the most celebrated of all the gems in the collection, the cameo of Cupid and Psyche, has not been secured for England. It was purchased for an American commission, and it will probably find a resting-place in the Boston Museum. It might have been otherwise had Mr. Butler's generous gift of £1,000 to supplement the funds at the disposal of the British Museum been available a day earlier.

Mr. J. P. Howard, in the *Church Times*, mentions an interestiug proof that incense was sometimes used in the Church of England after the Reformation, a fact which will now hardly be disputed. There is a black marble mural monument on the south wall of the chancel of All Saints', Carshalton, the inscription on which runs as follows: "Under ye middle stone yt guards ye ashes of a certayne Fryer, sometime vicar of this place, is raked up ye dust of William Quelche, B.D., who ministered in ye same place since ye Reformac'on. His lott was through God's mercy to burn incense here about 30 years, and ended his course April ye 10th, 1634, being aged 64 years." Mr. Howard asks whether the use of incense thus recorded was "fumigatory."

Cardinal Vaughan, preaching lately in East London, expressed his belief that the Ritualist clergy are "the real fishers of men, who are bringing England back again to the true faith." "I intend," the Cardinal added, "to utter no word of censure, no line of controversy. I feel too deeply, far too deeply interested, in this great religious movement to think that mere human power can mould the minds of all these honest men seeking after truth. I go back to the words of my text, to the example of my Divine Master, and there I see clearly traced out the line I ought to pursue. The whole of this singular phenomenon is the work not of fishermen, but of prayer and Divine grace. Of all the countries that, under the lead of kings and princes, apostatised in the sixteenth century, none is showing such a return as England. The reason, we believe, is because for centuries there has been going up to God a continuous stream of earnest, loving prayers for the return of England to the faith."

In connection with the death of Mr. John Scott, shawl manufacturer, recently, it is recalled that about 50 years ago, when the sale of Paisley shawls had fallen off and the firm had a very large stock, disaster seemed to be impending, but Mr. Scott induced one of the Ladies-in-Waiting to submit one of his shawls to the Queen, who was pleased with it, and shortly afterwards wore it when driving in the park. For a time Paisley shawls became fashionable throughout the country, and Keer and Scott were enabled to get rid of the whole of their large stock at enhanced prices.

About a mile from the City and in the very heart of the East End stands Stepney Parish Church, one of the most ancient and historic of London's churches. It was already in existence when St. Dunstan was Bishop of London in 959, and the building as it is to-day dates from the time of Edward IV., 1471-83. The rector and his church council are anxious to cleanse the interior of this really beautiful edifice, to restore the stone work, remove the galleries which cut across the Gothic windows and darken and disfigure the whole building, and to reseat the body of the church. About £3,500 is needed for the purpose. It is not universally known that every British subject born at sea belongs to the parish of Stepney.

Some interesting relics of the once famous "Tom's" Coffee House, in Russell-street, Covent-Garden, the rendezvous of the wits and beaux of the early Georgian days, have been sold at Sotheby's auction rooms. They include the original sketch of Richard Haines, proprietor in 1723-1764, by Sir Nathaniel Dance, P.R.A.; the celebrated snuff-box used at "Tom's," of tortoiseshell and silver, with the busts of Charles I. and Queen Anne in high relief; and "Tom's" club-book and list of members, including the names of Samuel Foote, David Garrick, Lord Clive, Samuel Johnson, Marquess of Granby, and many other political, literary, and theatrical celebrities of the last century.

Big Ben no longer booms at night, its striking being stopped temporarily on account of the serious illness of Lady Horatia Erskine, wife of the Sergeant-at-Arms. The famous clock possesses an ingenious mechanism for setting in motion the massive hammer which brings out the tone of the 16 ton bell. The striking machinery is driven by weights of something like a ton and a half, which hang on a shaft 174 feet deep. It is so arranged that, the chimes having given their performance, the hammer falls on the big bell within one second of Greenwich mean time. Whatever complaints may be urged against the musical tone of Big Ben, and musicians say it is a terribly bad "E," the clock in the House of Commons tower keeps wonderful time, and does not vary a second a week all the year round.

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The annual report of the Prison Commissioners for Scotland, just issued, calls prominent attention to the fact that there was during 1898 a large increase in the number of committals to prison. They exceeded the average of the previous five years by more than 5,000. The total receptions were 56,561—a figure which has never before been reached in Scotland. This, says the report, is a very disappointing fact, having regard to the general improvement in the condition of the population, and it demands the attention of all who are interested in the welfare of the people. A very short inquiry shows that the rise in the commitments to prison has been proportionately more rapid than the increase of population. Tables are given to prove that, while in 1844, which is the first year of which complete records were kept, there was one commitment to prison for every 140 of the population, last year there was one commitment for every 75 of the population. In other words, the percentage of the committals to prison has almost doubled during the last 50 years. It is not, however, to be supposed, say the Commissioners, that the high numbers of prisoners are due to the prevalence of serious crimes, for they have been mainly brought about by the great increase in the number of new statutory offences and by the greater strictness with which drunkenness is dealt with by the police within the last 40 years.

The Lunacy Commissioners must make some odd and entertaining discoveries when inquiring as to the sort of amusements provided for imbecile inmates of workhouses. It is the benevolent wish of the State that these poor creatures should have their lives brightened so far as possible, and, with that object, recreations of an innocent and not too exciting sort should be furnished. But there are guardians and guardians; while some are said to look tolerantly even on cards, others regard dominoes and draughts as beset with moral dangers. When the Commissioners lately visited Lincoln, they found that the only amusement for the imbecile ward was a map of England in blocks, the entertainment consisting in fitting them together, and then beginning again. Even among infants in the nursery, that ancient form of juvenile entertainment has largely gone out of fashion; the modern child scornfully expresses the opinion that there is no fun in it, while its intelligent mind is beset by a suspicion that geographical knowledge is being insidiously imparted under the disguise of play. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Commissioners found the imbeciles at Lincoln looking "dull and cheerless"; any human being would soon become so if cut off from all other amusements than map-making.

The *Medical Press and Circular* says that Lord Salisbury has discovered and completed an important chemical process in his private laboratory at Hatfield, and that the results will be made known to the world on his behalf at a forthcoming meeting of one of the learned Societies. The scientific world has for long known that it had in the English Premier a devoted student to chemical science. Despite the arduous duties attached to his official post, he, nevertheless, snatches every available opportunity of prosecuting his favourite study.

Lord Bathurst, in responding to a toast in praise of Peterborough Hound Show stated that there were now 221 packs of foxhounds in the United Kingdom, namely 180 in England, 26 in Scotland, and 15 in Ireland. These packs comprised 8,000 couples of hounds, and they necessitated the employment of 100,000 pounds sterling per annum for their keep.

A hotel around which many interesting associations cling is Morrison's Hotel, at the corner of Nassau-street, Dublin. It is now in the market for sale. The hostelry was formerly one of the towns residence of the Dukes of Leinster, and the arms of the Fitzgeralds are placed immediately over the principal entrance. The duel between Daniel O'Connell and D'Esterre—which terminated fatally for D'Esterre, and cast a cloud over O'Connell's life—was arranged in this hotel; while in later times it was the scene of the arrest of Mr. Parnell on the 13th October, 1881, as a "suspect" under the Crimes Act. The Irish leader was apprehended in bed early in the morning and immediately conveyed to Kilmainham.

The Royal Company of Archers, who recently entertained the Prince of Wales at dinner at Holyrood, has an interesting history, which dates back more than two centuries. The company constitutes the Sovereign's Scotch bodyguard, and at one time or another nearly every Scottish family of note has been represented in it. By the terms of a charter granted in 1703 they present three barbed arrows to the Sovereign when residing at Holyrood, and Her Majesty has thrice received this offering. The Captain-General of the Corps of Archers, who is always a nobleman of high rank, is Gold Stick for Scotland.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* gives some startling figures relative to the wholesale slaughter of birds and insects in the cause of fashion. The statistics relate to two consignments only which have lately reached England. They included 8,000 birds of Paradise, between 500 and 600 cases of osprey feathers, nearly 200 of peacock feathers, three or cock jungle, 500 small birds of various kinds, 4,500 crested pigeons, 600 bronze pigeons, 800 Argus pheasants, over 3,000 Impeyan pheasants, and half-a-dozen boxes of beetles, containing many thousands of insects.

The attention of the Admiralty has lately been called to what may prove a most serious matter, if it is allowed to go on unchecked. This is the filling up of certain deep-water channels at the mouth of the Thames in such a way that, if not prevented, there will be grievous difficulty in the navigation, not only of the Thames as a highway to London, but of the Medway as an approach to Sheerness and Chatham for our largest men-of-war. Captain G. E. Richards, of the *Triton*, has been directed by the Admiralty to take the matter in hand, in order that by the result of his survey the extent of the mischief may be made known, and proper steps be taken to apply a remedy. That the time has arrived for something to be done is shown by the recent piling up of the battleship *Dreadnought* on the Shingles patch, though this, to be sure, was partly the result of a defect in her steering-gear. From the same cause, not very long ago, the *Edinburgh* ran into and sank the *Scottish Chief* in the Medway.

The so-called Church of Humanity, that is to say, the select body of men and women who are usually styled Positivists, has sustained the loss of its most distinguished apostle in England. Dr. Richard Congreve, who has just died at the age of 80, was a pupil of Arnold at Rugby, and afterwards a Fellow and tutor of Wadham College, Oxford. He abandoned the Anglican faith, however, and for nearly half a century had devoted himself to expounding for his countrymen the doctrines of Comte.

Sir Alexander Armstrong, whose death is announced, was a member of the Medical Department of the Navy, which he entered in 1842. His meed of fame rests chiefly on his personal contribution to the cause of Arctic Exploration. He spent five years in Arctic regions searching for Sir John Franklin's expedition, and he was on the *Investigator* when the North-West Passage was discovered. He had since done much good work on Naval Hospitals in the Mediterranean and in England, and the last post he held was Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy. He had, further, written his experience in the North and his views on Naval Hygiene. Arctic explorations have advanced much in late years; and Nansen and his compeers are well aware that this advance was only made possible by the stepping stones laid down by the great explorers of the past.

NEWS FROM SOUTH FORMOSA.

(From the "China Mail.")

When one is melting it is difficult to summon energy sufficient for the task of writing "South Formosa Notes." Beyond the ordinary routine of business and pleasure the chief item which, during the past fortnight, has occupied the minds of foreigners here is the inauguration of the new treaty between Japan and Great Britain. The 17th of July was royally commemorated by His Excellency General Takai inviting the foreign community to dinner. The dinner was held in the house of one of the wealthiest Chinese in Taiwanfoo. A Japanese company has rented the building and extensive grounds for a hotel. The dinner scene (before the operations of eating and drinking began) was quite impressive, gay, and thoroughly Japanese, with a few tints here and there to remind us we were in the house of a rich Chinese. The gay uniforms and decorations of the officers, the fairy-like strings of coloured Japanese lanterns, the hilarious laughter of host and guests, along with the thundering voice of the fire-crackers, all combined to make quite a pretty picture.

On the one side of the table were drawn up the General himself and a large number of officers, on the other were Her Majesty's Consul supported by about fifteen Britishers—being the big half of the entire foreign community in South Formosa. To begin with, the gallant General made a short speech welcoming the foreigners, and expressing the hope that the new treaty between Japan and Britain would tend to unite the two nations more closely than ever. Consul E. A. Griffiths replied in a most felicitous strain. He congratulated the Japanese on the abolition of extra-territoriality, recalled the fact that in the decade or two of years during which he had resided in Japan he had made not a few close friends among the Japanese, and said he trusted the inauguration of the new treaty would bring about a closer friendship and a better understanding between the two nations. Dinner was enlivened by the music, gay dresses, and graceful movements of *geisha* girls. On the whole, one could not help feeling that the Japanese are doing their level best to make themselves worthy of admission as a civilised Power.

The abolition of extra-territoriality introduces a few new elements into our lives here. For example, the prison with six cells for occupation. Who is to be the first occupant? All told, I suppose there are certainly under thirty British subjects here, hence evidently the authorities expect a big proportion of us to break the laws of the land, and thus render ourselves worthy of incarceration.

Another new element is the fact that every medical practitioner must satisfy the authorities as to his or her qualifications, and then for five *yen* purchase a license permitting him to continue practice. In this matter the authorities seem to be pretty strict so far as European doctors are concerned, but I hear of nothing being done to restrict the operations of hundreds of Chinese quacks. Until a large number of qualified doctors are ready to take the place of the quacks, it would be almost a pity to put them down; because, though only quacks, they have introduced quinine, santonine, Epsom salts, and castor oil; and these four medicines have saved many lives in South Formosa.

Another subject which may more or less affect some members of our little community is that of education. The Government seems determined to get the education of youth largely, if not altogether, into the hands of Japanese. How this will affect the foreigners who carry on educational work among the Chinese remains to be seen.

THE WHITE ANT PEST.

I suppose your Hongkong readers, as well as your readers all over China, are as much interested, because as much bothered, by white ants, as we are in Formosa. Here they are swarming. In ten years I have seen large beams, which were painted with tar mixed with large quantities of carbolic and arsenic, eaten to a shell by these destructive termites. Being prevented on the outside, they worked their way up the *centre* of brick pillars and walls, and thus managed to enter the wood-work absolutely unseen. The plan I have adopted—and so far it seems to be absolutely successful—is to insert blocks of granite into every pillar or wall, and thus before the ants can possibly get up to the wood-work of a house they must at these blocks come out and show themselves, when they can easily be dealt with by a coolie.

For long I have had the opinion that white ants must have a communication with the ground, *i.e.*, with the large queen ant, or they die out. During the past couple of months I think I have proved this almost to a demonstration. Two months ago

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I had the granite blocks (mentioned above) inserted. In the roof of the house at that time there were thousands of white ants. Almost wherever you stuck in a chisel they came pouring out. To-day chisel where you please and not one can be found. They have either died in the wood or come down to earth. When the granite blocks cut off their earthen passage they gradually became fewer and fewer, and ultimately disappeared altogether.

There is another pest very like the white ant in appearance but different in this way, that it lives in wood without ever going to the ground at all. They are sluggish in movement, do not make earthen tunnels, and leave behind them a kind of excretion like very fine flower seed of a dark brown colour. The Chinese call them *Kan-hia*.

TAXATION.

A few things have also been occupying the Chinese minds here. Though we hear occasionally of raids by banditti, and of a good many cases of plague in town and villages in the neighbourhood of Tainanfoo, still these are nothing to what they were a few months ago.

The chief subject, however, which occupies the Chinese mind is that of taxation. Of course, *any* system of taxation would be unwelcome to the Chinese, but there seems to be a good deal of inequality in the scale applied. For example, lately in a country district some farmers complained to me they were taxed so heavily they could not live. One man told me that when the Japanese official informed him how much his sandy fields were to be taxed, he replied that he could not make that amount out of the fields, and therefore offered them as a present to the Government. The offer was refused, but the payment of the tax insisted on. Another man—a fisherman—told me that in the same way he offered his shanty of a house to the tax collector, but it was also refused and tax demanded. These do not seem to be isolated cases; I have been told of not a few similar ones in other parts of the country.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

Yesterday I witnessed an incident which indicates progress both from a Japanese and a Chinese point of view. Almost all the space to the west of this city is occupied by scores of fish-ponds—the property of private individuals. Yesterday I saw a Japanese wade into one of these ponds, cast his net, and slowly pull in his haul to the bank. At first I heard some low-toned mutterings and curses from a little crowd of nearly a hundred Chinese. Then, when the man had secured his fish they rushed at him, collared him, his fish and net, and marched him off to the police station. It was neatly done. This incident indicates progress, because not many months ago, had Chinese dared lay hands on a Japanese in that fashion, they would in all probability have got beaten for their pains. The fact that the Chinese dared arrest the thief shows that they now get justice from the authorities.

THE GROWTH OF GREAT ARMIES.

(By H. W. Wilson in the "Pall Mall Gazette.")

If we examine the great military systems of Europe in the present day we shall be struck by the fact that in all countries, with the solitary exception of England, they are modelled upon that of Prussia, itself the idea of Scharnhorst, but virtually forced upon Prussia by the conditions which Napoleon imposed in the treaty of September, 1808. Without that treaty it is more than doubtful if all the foresight and patriotism of an obscure reformer could have turned aside the routine and conservatism that surrounded Frederick William III. Fortunately for Prussia, three circumstances combined to compel change. In the first place, the great catastrophe, which wise men had foretold, had happened to prove the rottenness of her existing system. In the second place, the terrible oppression of the French had profoundly moved the nation, and the example of Spain had shown it that a national, not a mercenary, army could alone win freedom from the invader. In the third place, there were Napoleon's conditions limiting the Prussian army to 42,000 men. From these causes sprang the system of compulsory short service for all able-bodied males.

Prussia has always been a military State, and must always be. From the first she has had no natural, strongly-defined frontier. On the south east an arbitrary line severs her from Russia. At Edykühnen, but for the customs, the traveller would not know that he was passing from one empire into another. On the west it is the same, though to a less degree. German Avricourt is not sundered from French Avricourt by any great natural obstacle. In default of natural frontiers, open almost in every quarter to sudden and easy attack, first Prussia and then Germany have been compelled to fall back upon the strength of their own right arm. Having no chains of mountains to defend them, and to give time for the assemblage of their armies, they have carried organization to its highest pitch; so that forty-eight hours after the words "Krieg, mobil," a million men will be nearing each of the two most exposed frontiers.

"Accessible to all, in the way of every Power which wishes to enlarge its boundaries," says Von der Goltz, "having on her frontiers populations who claim that their centre of gravity lies outside her embrace, having on no side natural obstacles to protect her, a weak Germany would have to pay all the costs of any political transformation of the Continent. But this cannot happen . . . if a strong arm and a redoubtable sword protect the heart of Europe." In the same way the fact that England's life is wrapped up with her trade, and that this trade is most intensely vulnerable, compels her to aim not merely at being a strong naval Power, but at being sufficiently strong to seal the fleets of any other Power in their ports. Not grasping ambition or predilection have compelled either England or Germany to their onesided development, but inexorable necessity.

The real importance and fighting value of the Prussian army were understood by no other Power till 1870. The successes of 1864 and 1866 were by the mass of men ascribed to a superior arm. In vain Colonel Stöffel wrote to Napoleon III: "One is almost afraid to think that we have at our gates a rival Power, which the moment it finds us in the least inconvenient can dispose of more than 900,000 soldiers all trained to the profession of arms. . . . How shall we struggle with an army so *thoroughly knit together*, double, nay, triple ours?" He was told that the Prussians were mere militia, not to be compared with the French veterans of Algeria. When the catastrophe came, the gross mismanagement of the French General Staff and the incapacity of the officers obscured the merits which the French long-service system undoubtedly possessed, and led the world to jump to the conclusion that Germany had won because of universal service and short service, overlooking the *Massendruckerbergerthum*, or wholesale sulking, which had occurred in the German army during the great battles. Others slavishly copied Germany, forgetting that in the words of Von der Goltz, 'every good organization bears the peculiar mark of the national character." But the German system had some transcendent merits. It was simple; it was inexpensive; and it produced armies of enormous size. Yet from the strain which it imposes upon the young and able bodied men, it can never be cheerfully borne execept where the danger from without, as in Germany, is very great, or the desire for revenge and aggression is passionate, as in France, or where the people are under the iron heel of a despotism, as in Russia. It is a system which is entirely unsuited to a colonial Power, and hence it has never obtained in England.

THE ECONOMIC STRUGGLE.

Between the eve of the Franco-German War and 1899 the nominal strength of the five great Continental armies on the war-footing has risen from 4,500,000 men to about 18,000,000 men. This fact may, at first sight, seem to contradict what has been said as to the development of armaments. It may be said that this shows the pace to have been desperately forced of recent years. But facts do not altogether bear out this supposition. All over Europe the period of service has been reduced from about eight years, which was the average in 1868, to two years or less for the infantry and three years for the cavalry and artillery. The natural consequence is that more than three times as many men are being trained, and, it should be remembered, the population has at the same time considerably increased, so that four times the force that was raised in 1868 can be raised to-day without any greater strain. Where the strain does tell is in the financial direction, upon States such as France, Russia, and Italy. These three have spent wildly and have vastly augmented their debts. Yet it would be unfair to blame Italy for what has been forced upon her by circumstances. Germany's finances, carefully managed, are in excellent order, and to all appearances she has gained and not suffered from this period of intense military rivalry. In fact, she is slowly killing France by economic pressure, while French public men, instead of seeing this, are helping the process by inordinate outlay upon their fleet and by an extravagant colonial policy. Though to some sentimentalists such an economic struggle may seem wicked, there can be no dispute that it is far less barbarous and causes far less suffering than actual war. If France is driven to the wall it will be mainly though her own fault, because she has failed to secure clean and upright administration, and because she has pledged her soul to schemes of agression. It is perfectly certain that no Power wishes to attack her, and that she and Russia are precisely the two States which could, with the most perfect security, relax their armaments.

When we hear these colossal armaments attacked as wholly wrong and harmful, it would be well to remember that there is another side to this view. "Civilisation," said Napoleon, "does everything for the mind and nothing for the body." Compulsory service counteracts to a great degree the mischief. It cannot be denied that in England, with our one-sided education, developing the intellect and neglecting the character and the body, the results have not been altogether satisfactory. Our streets are full of stunted men; there does seem some realization of the Japanese caricature, which represents a band of dwarf-like, sickly Englishmen performing for the benefit of a crowd of burly Japanese, Germans, Russians, and Frenchmen. No point has attracted so much attention as the improvement wrought in a very few years by military service in Japan. Says Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, a very acute observer, "Physically, I think the Japanese will become, before the close of the next century, much superior to what they are now. . . . The systematic military and gymnastic training of the able bodied youth of the Empire ought, in a few generations, to produce results as marked as those of the military system in Germany—increase in stature, in average girth of chest, in muscular development." Lord Charles Beresford, a more recent observer, tells us, "The remarkable increase of the physical development of the men who serve in the army is worthy of notice. It was so apparent that I questioned the officers as to the reason." If we are still to cling to the old ideal of *Mens sana in corpore sano*, it would seem that here militarism is really doing good service. Nor can the fact be overlooked that for England, with her immense urban and small rural population, some such physical training would be of peculiar importance and value. The *Spectator*, criticising a former article of mine, has asserted that just as good soldiers and sailors came from the towns as from the country. Yet it is notorious that our finest force, physically, the Metropolitan Police, is almost entirely recruited from the country; and any naval officer would explain that country-born lads are preferred for the navy.

THE DRILLED ARTISAN.

Morally, militarism is not the corroding influence which it is pictured to be. *Sous-offs* and *Biribi* may be correct pictures of the *dessous* of the French army, though even that I doubt; but, if so, with men such as the forgers of the French General Staff at the head of the army, what are we to expect? Is it not at least possible that the nation is rotten and has produced an army which corrupts instead of educates? Von der Goltz's saying seems to gain a new force. It may be that France, in copying Germany, has not adopted the system which she needs. But in the Germany of to-day the idea of reducing men to brute machines has been abandoned. Efforts are made to develop their intelligence and will-power, and already the consequences are beginning to be seen in German industry. The iron trades delegates who some years ago inspected German workshops were greatly struck by the order, obedience, and discipline which prevailed among the men. Dr. Englis, in his address to the Institute of Marine Engineers last January, urged that "the discipline undergone by young Germans in the army has a powerful influence, since it produces habits of order and respect." To these opinions we may add the testimony of a competent German authority on sanitation. Professor Jager writes:—"That the States which have devoted attention to the rapid development of national military training have not, as had been predicted, ruined themselves, but advanced at a stupendous rate, is a fact known to all. Nor is this phenomenon unnatural, for military training promotes health, and health is living capital. . . . More important still is the strengthening of the nerves attendant upon such service. The man with a military training is much more alert, quicker to decide, and quicker to act, than the person who lacks such schooling. All this increases his capacity for work, and gives him an advantage, intellectual as well as physical, over the *State cripple* [the man who has for some defect been rejected from service]." This is in thorough accord with the fact that the expectation of life in Germany is steadily rising.

If there is anything in the evolutionary theory

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of politics and organic life, it does look as though the immense army, which averts war and improves the nation's health, were the natural antidote to the strain of modern life, and as though the Powers which do not thus train their youth would suffer. I have said nothing of the work which armaments do in preventing war and guarding the national life, as this is quite obvious. Are we sure that progress lies in abolishing this practical training for the body and the nerves?

Herr Schippel, the Socialist deputy for Chemnitz, has recently protested against disarmament, which, he urges, is the idea of the bourgeois and Radical, and which would inevitably increase the difficulty of the economic problem, by augmenting greatly over-production. Such opinions cannot be lightly waved aside as anti humanitarian and prejudiced attacks upon the Czar's manifesto.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Aug. 19th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,752,386
Amount of convertible notes issued...	214,803,171
Government deposits	39,870,939
General deposits	2,913,455
Exchange liability	34,890
Total	304,374,842

Cr.	
Discount notes	53,365,289
Foreign discount notes	6,136,245
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	64,034,123
Exchange liability	2,005,662
Government bonds	49,601,393
Property...	1,917,122
Bullion and Specie	105,315,005
Total	304,374,842

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes those ...	215,980,491
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	104,057,259
Silver	
Total	104,057,259
Securities :—	
Government bonds	32,543,622
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	8,839,844
Commercial notes	48,539,766
Total	111,923,232

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	279,535	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	5,106,889
Government deposits	2,769,832	—
General deposits	—	12,920

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

TAILIENWAN OPENED TO TRADE

Shanghai, August 17.

The Czar has ordered that Talienwan shall be opened to the free commerce of the world as soon as the railway is finished.

THE PLAGUE REACHES PORTUGAL.

The plague has appeared at Oporto and Lisbon.

THE COMMAND AT THE CAPE.

Lieut.-General Sir Frederick William Edward F. Forestier Walker, K.C.B., late in command of the Devonport regimental district, replaces Sir Wm. Francis Butler, K.C.B., in command of the troops at the Cape (South Africa)

[Sir Frederick Forestier Walker served as Assistant Military Secretary to Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Cunynghame during the Kaffir war of 1878, and was mentioned in despatches (C.B.). He was employed on special service throughout the Zulu War of 1879, first as Principal Staff Officer to No. 1 Column, being present at the action of Inyezane, and during the occupation of Ekowe, and subsequently on the Line of Communications, and in command of Fort Pearson and the Lower Tugela District (mentioned in despatches, medal with clasp) Served with the Bechuanaland Expedition under Sir Charles Warren in 1884-85 as Assistant Adjutant and Quarter Master-General (C.M.G.). It will be seen that Gen. Walker has considerable South African experience. He is perhaps destined to play an even more stirring part in the history of the Cape Colony and its dependencies.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

Shanghai, August 18.

There are various indications that *pourparlers* of some kind are proceeding in the Transvaal, tending to an agreement.

President Kruger is considering a new scheme, which has not been officially submitted to the British Government, for granting the franchise after five years' residence, the grant to be unaccompanied by any irksome conditions, and for giving to the Rand one-fourth of the seats in the Volksraad. It is understood, however, that Kruger asks for a quid-pro-quo regarding Great Britain's suzerainty.

Shanghai, Aug. 23.

President Kruger's reply has been received. The purport is not publicly stated. It is believed that the joint inquiry has not been accepted, but that fresh proposals are advanced.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.

Despatches from Pretoria state that President Kruger's definitive reply has not been sent yet, but only a tentative summary of the Transvaal's new proposals, which provide for a quinquennial franchise, and give one-fifth of the representation in the First Volksraad, with an understanding that there shall be no further interference in the internal affairs of the Transvaal.

The infantry and artillery of the Jamaica militia have volunteered for the Transvaal.

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

Shanghai, August 21.

M. Labori is rapidly recovering.

At the Dreyfus trial Major Cuignet, an officer of the Staff, created a sensation by positively affirming the authenticity of a letter from Colonel Schneider, the Austrian Military Attaché, which Schneider had declared to be a forgery. The letter referred to the guilt of Dreyfus. It is expected that Austria will send to the French Government a formal contradiction of Major Cuignet's assertion, and will request the withdrawal of his statements.

AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE.

Goluchowski had a five hours' conference with von Bülow on Saturday.

ANARCHIST OUTBREAK IN PARIS.

SERIOUS FIGHTING.

Shanghai, Aug. 22.

An Anarchist outbreak has taken place in Paris. St Joseph's Church was sacked. Order was restored after desperate collisions between the police and the mob, which lasted for 3 hours. The Cavalry had to charge. Three hundred and sixty persons were injured.

PLAGUE IN SPAIN.

The plague has appeared at Barcelona and elsewhere in the Spanish Peninsula.

FRANCE IN THE SOUDAN.

Shanghai, Aug. 23.

The French officers M. M. Voulet and Chanoine having been recently accused of cruelty to natives in the Soudan, Colonal Klobb and Lieutenant Meunier were despatched to investigate the facts. When they arrived Voulet ordered the troops to fire, and Klobb and Meunier were killed.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

A SENSATIONAL TURN.

A warrant of arrest has been issued against M. Guérin, President of the Anti-Semitic League, for complicity in the conspiracy against the safety of the State; but he has shut himself up with fifty armed friends, and refuses to quit the head-quarters of the League.

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

M. Bertulus, *Juge d'Instruction*, has affirmed the innocence of Dreyfus before the Court-martial at Rennes. Picquart accuses Lieut.-Col. du Paty de Clam of various irregularities and demands to be confronted with him. The Court has risen.

Saigon, August 20.

Captain Cuignet and General de Boisdeffre have affirmed the guilt of Dreyfus before the Military Court at Rennes. General Gonse has demonstrated that it is impossible that Esterhazy should be the author of the *bordèreau*. He has instanced numerous indiscretions committed by Dreyfus and confirmed the avowals made by Captain Lebrun Renault. The session will be continued on Monday.

The hearing of witnesses will be continued to-day at Rennes.

Saigon, August 24.

Eight witnesses were examined to-day at Rennes. The deposition of Esterhazy was read. M. Gonse disavowed the proceedings of du Paty de Clam. Deputy Labori was present at the audience.

THE PARIS RIOTS.

Saigon, Aug. 22.

Disturbances have been produced in Paris at the approaches to the Rue de Chatrol. Many persons were wounded and many arrested.

CALM IN FRANCE.

Saigon, August 23.

Calm reigns in Paris. Nothing is changed in the situation in Chatrol street.

At Rennes depositions continue to be given.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE BRITISH FLEET.

Muroran, August 18, 7 p.m.

H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Barfleur*, *Victorious*, *Undaunted*, *Iphigenia*, *Hermione*, *Alacrity*, *Daphne*, *Whiting*, and *Fame* left for Yamada bay this afternoon.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Hakodate, August 23.

The German flagship *Deutschland*, with Prince Henry of Prussia on board, arrived here this morning.

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(FROM "THE AMERICAN.")

SERIOUS ACCIDENT NEAR BOSTON.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 9.

The pier at Bar Harbour collapsed to-day while it was crowded with pleasure seekers from an excursion. Twenty people are known to have been drowned and fifty were injured. Only a few of the bodies have been identified but it is believed all will be called for before night. The wounded were sent to the hospital. The cause of the accident is not known but it is believed that the pier foundation had been washed out by the action of the water, so that when the structure became crowded it gave way under the weight. When the sudden crash came the cries of the wounded, who were caught in the debris, were heartrending. Many people who were thrown into the water were saved, one man who was an expert swimmer saving four lives.

SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR CUBA.

Washington, August 5.

At a Cabinet meeting, yesterday, specially called to consider the question of self-government for Cuba, the matter was discussed in all its bearings.

It was finally decided to give the people of Cuba self-government under an American Governor to be appointed by the President. It was also decided that the President of the United States should appoint the Chief Justice of the island while the other Justices shall be elected by the people.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O Co.	Gaelic 1	M. Aug. 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Aug. 28
Europe	N D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 2	M. Aug 28
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Aug. 31
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
America	T. K. K	H'k ng Maru 3	Tu. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	M. M Co.	———	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Sept. 7

1 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 23rd inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Aug. 25
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Aug. 29
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Salazie	W. Aug. 30
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Salkio Maru	W. Aug. 30
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 1
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. Sept. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Sept. 6
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	W. Sept. 6
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Sept. 8
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Sept. 9

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 17th Aug.,—Kobe 16th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 18th August—Yokkaichi, 17th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawamuro, 18th August,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 17th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 18th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe 17th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 18th Aug.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, P. H. Going, 19th August—Kobe, 17th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 19th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 18th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 19th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 18th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ragnar, Nerwegian steamer, 1,220, Lindermann, 19th August,—Shanghai via Moji, Coal and Coke,—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harries, 19th August,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 18th August, General.—W. M. Strachan.

Trieste, Austrian steamor, 3,203, A. Mitis, 20th August,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong 16th August, Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Alesia, German steamer, 3,533, Kunth, 20th Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai 15th Aug., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kalgan, British steamer, 1,158, R. Bennett, 20th August,—Cebu, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 20th August,—Otaru via ports, 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 21st August,—Kobe 19th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 21st August,—Otaru via ports, 16th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 21st August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 20th August. Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D. Jones, 21st August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 20th August, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 21st August,—Yokkaichi, 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,200, ——, 21st Aug., —Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 15th August, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 21st August,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Allegre, 22nd August,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 21st August, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Sheridan, U.S. Army Transport, Capt. Higgins 22nd August,—Manila, via Nagasaki 19th Aug.—U.S. Government.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 22nd August,—Yokkaichi, 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), British Despatch Boat, 1,700, Com. De Lisle, 22nd August,—Yamada, 20th Aug.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 23rd August,—Kobe, 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 23rd August,—Kobe 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiwan, British steamer, 1,109, H. Huder, 23rd August,—Iloilo, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 23rd August,—Otaru via ports, 18th Aug, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 24th August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 5th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 18th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 18th August,—Vancouver via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 19th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 19th August,—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 19th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, I. Miyagi. 19th August,—Keelung via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 19th August,—Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 19th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 20th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 21st August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 21st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawamura, 22nd August,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 22nd Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D. Jones, 22nd Aug.,—Victoria, C.B., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harries, 22nd August,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 23rd August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 23rd August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 23rd August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 23rd August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Stentor, British steamer, 4,308, Jackson, 23rd August,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 23rd August,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Cubitt, 23rd August,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Trieste, Austrian steamer, 3,203, A. Mitis, 23rd August,—Trieste via ports, General,—Browne & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 23rd August,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Nakajima, 23rd August,—Yokkaichi, Generals.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 23rd August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), British Despatch Boat, 1,700, Com. De Lisle, 23rd August,—Sendai Bay.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,200, Krech, 24th August,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sheridan, U.S. Army Transport, 3,700, Higgins, 34th Aug.,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 24th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut.-Col. M. Hanada, I.J.N., Mr. M. Kashiwagi, Mr. S. Matsui, Mr. K. Asakura, Mrs. Y. Narita, Miss K. Fukuhara, Miss Y. Fukuhara, Miss S. Fukuhara, and Mr. R. Fukuhara, in cabin; Mr. M. Imayama, in second class; 23 Japanese, and 2 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, from London via ports:—Count Inouye and 4 Japanese in cabin.

Per British steamer *Kalgan*, from Cebu:—Mr. Ellis in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Johns, Miss Frere, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Com. Belknap, U.S.N, Dr. Haas, U.S.N., Mr. E. W. Paten, Mr. A. I. Hart, Mr. C. Rockstrohen, Mr. R. D. Fischer, Mr. M. Schulasky, Mr. M. Hollfendorff, Mr. J. W. Copman, Mr. C. Copman, Mr. C. Wilkinson, Mr. A. R. Morris, and Mrs. Lawless, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. F. Berliss, and Mr. T. R. Smith, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. B. Kendrick, Mr. H. R. Murchmeyer, Mr. Hugh Bancker, Mr. H. W. Heritage, Mr. H. Frohstorfer, Mr. John May, and Mr. R. L. Goodale, in cabin. For Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Chas. Christy, Miss Laura Farrell, Mrs. Irene Ransome, Mr. E. S. Mullins, Miss Lovena Farrell, Mrs. N. Levering, and Capt. Frank Thompson, U.S.N., in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. A. R. Appach, Mr. J. K. Boswell, Mr. R. H. Boyce, Mr. Geo. Clark, Mrs. Geo. Clark, Mr. E. Carroll, Jr., Mr. G. E. Conway, Mr. A. Cooke, Mr. D. A. Danziger, Mr. E. P. Frost, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. Alfred Herbert, Capt. W. W. Hewett, R.N., Mr. Jas. R. James, Mrs. Lindsay, child and amah, Mr. Ludecke, Miss Mactier, Vicomte de Polignac,

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Capt. Richards, Mr. W. O. Rowe, Major L. H. Rucker, U.S.A., Mr. E. Schlumberger, Miss Cavendish Taylor, Mr. L. Cavendish Taylor, Mr. W. P. Thomas, Mrs. W. P. Thomas, Mr. P. B. Turnbull, Mr. R. M. K. Turnbull, Mr. Jay Waldeck, Mr. E. H. Warner, Lieut. O. de L. Williams, and Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Alfred Heizer, Mr. C. B. Oldfield, Mrs. J. L. Plummer, Capt. Harington, Lieut.-Col. The O. Gorman, Mr. Chee Shau, Capt. and Mrs. J. J. Cronin, Mr. R. Schwanke, Mr. A. Trojan, Mr. E. A. Sargent and native servant, and Mr. Faber and friend, in cabin; 6 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. S. Minakishi, Mr. Asakawa, Captain R. G. Tate, R.N., Mrs. W. G. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. W. Peard Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Russell, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. F. Karpe, and Mr. M. Leopold, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. D. Brill, Mr. R. Ferguson, Mr. R. Inglis, Capt. S. Inamura, I.J.A., Mr. E. R. Morris, Capt. and Mrs. Arthur, Mr. and Master Arthur, Mr. Kyoko Shai, Count K. Hirosawa, Capt. J. Steedman, Mr. J. Ibaya, Mr. H. Hayashi, and Mr. M. Koide, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Formosa*, for London via ports:—Mr. A. H. Massey, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Preussen* by *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Dr. H. Kimura, Mr. W. Richter, Dr. Y. Velthein, and Mr. and Mrs. Doyle, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,035 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 127 bales.

Following were silk shippers per P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco, Aug. 23:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	87
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	31
Kiito Shokwai	145
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	71
Doshinsha	70
China and Japan Trading Co.	50
Total	454

Following were silk shippers per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*:—

Jardine, Matheson & Co.	101
O. Reimers & Co.	86
Vivanti Bros.	62
Siber & Co.	60
Bavier & Co.	21
Kiito Kaisha	528
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	168
The Doshinsha	98
Total	1,124

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Glenogle*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago and West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Hongkong.	Total.
Hongkong	—	—	—	139	—	139
Amoy	—	643	4,966	701	—	6,310
Shanghai	—	509	3,188	—	—	3,697
Kobe	1,041	4,051	1,211	—	—	6,303
Yokohama	3,600	2,089	1,268	757	—	7,714
Total	4,641	7,292	10,633	1,597	—	24,163

SILK.

	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong	—	—	—
Shanghai	183	—	183
Yokohama	65	—	65
Total	248	—	248

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	Chicago and West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Ports.	Total.
Hongkong	1,233	—	29	507	—	1,769
Amoy	—	350	3,957	—	—	4,907
Foochow	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	1,025	1,691	1,150	267	—	4,033
Hankow	100	—	—	154	—	254
Kobe	1,542	—	—	—	—	1,542
Yokohama	3,109	876	753	450	—	5,002
Total	8,001	3,111	5,889	1,378	—	18,481

SILK.

	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong and Canton	291	—	291
Shanghai	617	—	817
Yokohama	1,075	81	1,156
Total	1,983	81	2,064

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Sailed from San Francisco on Aug. 5th at 3.13 p.m., via Honolulu on Aug. 12th at 9.30 p.m., and arrived at Yokohama on Aug. 24th at 9.23 a.m. Had fine weather throughout. Passage, 10 days 16 hours 3 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very little is doing in any line, and quotations may be regarded as nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	Per Yard. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloth—Presidents, 51 @ 52 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-4 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2/100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.50 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$19.00
Indian Broach	18.00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

The usual summer lethargy continues to characterise the market, and what little disposition there is to put through business is checked by the high prices which holders, in sympathy with the rise at home, demand.

	Per Picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails, assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to ⅛ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

Market steady at last week's quotations.

American	$1.42 to 2.46
Russian	2.50 to 2.40
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The usual steady trade is being done, prices being as last quoted.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$4.90 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Haitong	4.30 to 4.60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a large business at advancing prices, a lower exchange working in sellers' favour. At the close there is less doing.

QUOTATIONS

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1165
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1200
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1160 to 1170
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1090 to 1100
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1060 to 1070
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1100
Re-reels—No. 1½	1070
Re-reels—No. 2	1030 to 1040
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	1120
Kakedas—No. 1	1090
Kakedas—No. 1½	1050
Kakedas—No. 2	1020
Kakedas—No. 2½	1000

WASTE SILK.

A fair amount of stock is now in town, but holders will not place it on the market and are very reticent.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nom. 160 to 170
Noshi—Filatures, Good	Nom. 150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Best	Nom. 160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Good	Nom. 150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nom. 140 to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$85 to 90
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	80 to 82½
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	105 to 120
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

The market is still active and there has been a large volume of business in third crop leaf. The stock, however, is chiefly of poor quality, and trade is mostly in the lower grades.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	33 & upwards
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	29 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 24

Rates have declined 1/16 all round; silver is unaltered and discount slightly easier from London.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/0 9/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 13/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 15/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	258⅛
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	209⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4¼% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75⅝
— Private 10 days' sight	75⅞
On India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
Bar Silver (London)	27 9/16

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 24.

Breweries have sellers at *yen* 180. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 225, sellers ask *yen* 235. A few Grand Hotels are offering at *yen* 220. Oriental Hotels can be placed at *yen* 125. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 82.50. Bretts are wanted at *yen* 9.50. Langfeldts are weak, shares offered at *yen* 140 did not find buyers. Offers for shares are wanted. Laundries are steady at *yen* 65. Helms may be had at par.

Y. U. Clubs, Brewery, and Oriental Hotel Debentures are wanted at *yen* 108, Brett & Co.'s at par.

H. C. & M. Steamboats changed hands to-day at $32.25.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $50	235 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. *yen* 50	180 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $100	220 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $100	82.50 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Debs.), $114	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., $100	Nominal
Brett & Co., Ltd., $10	9.50 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., $100	140 W.
Helm Bros., $50	50 S.
Hogo Gas Co., Ltd., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	65 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 Sa. & B.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. $100	100 S

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,887.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B. Buyers, Sa. Sales, St. Steady, N. Nominal, W. Weak E. Enquiries.

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 24.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 215. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 65 Offers are wanted for Langfeldts. Japan Breweries can be had at *yen* 177 50.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...230 Sales.
Grand Hotel .....215 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co. .....Offers wanted.
Japan Brewery Co. .....177 50 Sellers.

Tokyo, August 24

Redemption Loan Bonds	1...	96.65
War Loan Bonds	1...	96.65
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		99.35
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		418.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		55.80
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	1...	272.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100		271.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	1...	64.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	1...	64 50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	1...	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	1...	28.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		74.60
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		62.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		26.30
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	120.50
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	80.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		61.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		47.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		68.40
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		53.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		102.50
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 3rd issue—paid up yen 28		81.50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		96.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		50.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		29.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		41.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		9.50
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13		28.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50		1 60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		236 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		185.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	1...	72.70
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25		23,00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10		8.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		32.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		20.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		54.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		10.20
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		272.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		287.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		115 0.
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25		75.50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		2 80
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50		58 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50		22.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50		76 50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22		41 20
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40		90.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50		37.00
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50		49.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40		75.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50		54 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50		54.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25		18.50
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50		13.00
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50		48.00

1 Ex dividend.

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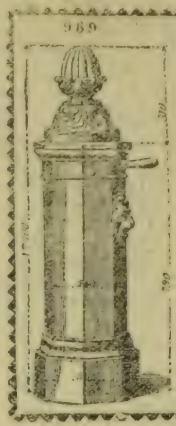
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business eq addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 2ND, 1899.

BIRTH.

On the 28th instant, at Hongkong, the wife of R. T. WRIGHT, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, of a Son.

DEATH.

At the General Hospital, Yokohama, on Aug. 26th, at 9 30 p.m., ELLA SARGENT BRENNER, wife of W. H. Brenner, of Messrs. Frazar & Co.

The funeral will take place from the Hospital this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT OKI is very seriously ill, and fears are entertained of his recovery.

A FAMINE is feared in the Bombay Presidency this year: the crop outlook is very bad.

IT is announced that the ordinary revenue of Japan now exceeds the ordinary expenditures:

THE British Fleet arrived at Yokohama on Thursday and now lies anchored in the open roadstead.

DURING the early part of the week a severe typhoon broke over central Japan and an enormous amount of damage was done.

THE Yokohama Municipality desires to raise a loan wherewith to improve and widen the streets devastated by the late fire.

THE steamer *Argyll* still remains high and dry on the beach at Kobe, the recent typhoon sending her further up on the sand.

THE Dreyfus trial still drags its weary length along in France, the anti-Dreyfusards continuing their hostility as virulently as ever.

THE death-roll for this week's typhoon is very lengthy, especially in Hyogo Prefecture. The village of Besshi was entirely wiped out.

MR. MCLEAVY BROWN has been re-engaged by the Korean Government to Superintend the Customs for a further period of five years.

THE distress in Johannesburg is increasing Every outward train is crowded with fugitives. The natives at the mines are becoming restless.

THE half-yearly meeting of Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., was held on Thursday. The past half-year's working was reported as being far from successful.

A SLIGHT disturbance took place at Amoy when the Japanese went to take possession of their new Settlement. The trouble has been allayed.

REPLYING to the last despatch from Mr. Chamberlain, the Transvaal has notified that it adheres to its latest offer and declines to make further concession.

IT is rumoured in Peking that Li Hung-chang may return to his old post at Tientsin. A plot to dethrone the Empress-Dowager is said to have been lately discovered.

FURTHER correspondence between Mr. Montague Kirkwood and Mr. A. O. Gay, Chairman of the Yokohama Public Hall Association, is published in this issue.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has commuted the sentence of death passed on Private McVeigh, Wyoming Volunteers, for assaulting a superior officer. He will be imprisoned for life.

PART of the Japanese Settlement at Amoy included an old Chinese graveyard and compensation at the rate of 5 *yen* per grave had to be paid by the Japanese ere the Chinese allowed them to take possession.

THE standing Committee of the S.P.C.K. have recommended the following grants: £50 towards the cost of a church at Tientsin; £50 towards the proposed girls school at Tientsin; and £25 towards the cost of erecting a wooden church at Hakodate for Japanese Christians.

H.E. MR. CONGER, the U.S. Minister to Peking, is to visit the Chinese ports in the U.S. cruiser *Princeton* to investigate the reasons for the decrease of American trade in China.

IT is understood in Capetown that a detachment of the Capetown garrison will proceed to Mafeking immediately, and also that a strong force from Maritzburg will advance to Laingsnek and await developments.

THE working of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Hongkong, in the first half of this year resulted in a loss, and the interim dividend of $2 is being paid out of the fund for the equalisation of dividends.

THE Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce has agreed to raise the subscription to Reuter's Agency from $300 to $400 per month. In Japan a few newspapers alone bear the heavy burden of Reuter's service.

THE rivalry for power between Prince Ching and Generalissimo Jung Lu, which since Prince Kung's death has so far been a veiled one, has now approached to such a head that both sides have begun to secretly prepare for actual conflict.

A SEMI-OFFICIAL note published in Rome declares it to be Italy's intention to keep the negotiations with China on peaceful commercial lines, but says that complications may arise if China meets the moderate demands of Italy with a persistent refusal.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says that the French Minister to Siam returns to Bangkok to continue long pending negotiations which will probably comprise a scheme for a railway connecting Saigon and Siam through Cambodia.

THE new Japanese battleships *Hatsuse* and *Shikishima* are expected to arrive in this country by the end of April next. Shortly after their arrival, a grand naval review will be held, in which some 160 Japanese war-vessels will participate.

IT transpires that the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have imported immense quantities of arms and munitions of war during the past three years. There is a growing feeling among the British element that no settlement will be lasting unless it contains a provision for a reduction of the two republics' armaments.

THE Emperor and Empress have given a sum of 9,000 *yen* for the relief of the sufferers by the gale of the 14th instant in Kagoshima. It is noticeable that Their Majesties no longer divide their charitable donations. Hitherto it has been, "the Emperor so much" and "the Empress so much," but now it is "Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress so much."

THE *Shanghai Mercury* of August 22nd says:—We have been kindly informed by the *Sin Wan Pao* that a Peking despatch to that paper reports that the Emperor has developed serious symptoms of a disturbed state of mind, muttering and laughing to himself. He also suffers from ailment of the bowels and kidneys. His Majesty's condition has been published for

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POLITICAL TOPICS.

The "Three-Cornered Alliance" continues to be the topic of the hour. People's fancy is doubtless tickled by the term. The triple alliance which deprived Japan of a large part of her *spolia opima* was called *sankoku domei*, and the alliance of Marquis Ito, Count Okuma and Count Itagaki is called *sankaku domei*. By changing one letter only the vital difference is achieved while preserving the piquant resemblance. We doubt whether half a dozen well-informed people really believe in the possibility of such an union, but the vernacular press finds the subject sufficiently important and sufficiently within the range of practical contingencies to constitute a general line of division. On one side the Progressist organs are ranged, hinting very plainly that the consummation is achievable; on the other the Liberal organs stand, declaring its utter impossibility. The politicians supposed to have been working for the union are Baron Ito, Mr. Oishi and Mr. Matsuda, whereas it would of course be vigorously opposed by Mr. Hoshi Toru. But the truth is that the whole affair is in the clouds. Marquis Ito has been interviewed by a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and has indulged in a hearty laugh at the rumour. He says that he is personally on the best terms with Count Okuma, but as to allying himself politically with the Progressists under the Count's banner, radical differences of policy would at once present themselves. The Marquis does not advocate military expansion irrespectively of the national resources. But within the legitimate limits of the empire's finance, he would have its armaments as powerful as possible. He does not advocate increased taxation for the mere sake of adding to the public revenue, but he holds that the State's outlays must grow larger under progressive conditions, and that the people must be prepared to face that fact. Contrast these doctrines with the schemes of armament reduction and diminished taxation which form the principal planks of the Progressist platform, and the complete untrustworthiness of the rumoured union will be apparent at once.

Marquis Ito concluded the interview with a reference to his favourite topic, the defects of all the existing political parties. He wants a party that will not meddle in administrative business; a party that will appreciate the necessity of discipline and of obeying its leaders; a party that will not allow its energies to be absorbed in a struggle for official posts; a party that will have some fixed principles and be prepared to work for them.

The Progressists have issued a remarkable manifesto in connexion with the approaching election of members of City and Prefectural Assemblies. They set out by admitting that party politics ought to be excluded from the sphere of provincial assemblies, and they then proceed to do extreme violence to the principle enunciated by themselves. For the greater part of the document is devoted to a sweeping denunciation of the Liberals. They are declared to be renegades, untrue to every opinion advocated by them in the past; they are charged with wholesale corruption; in fact, the attitude of the last session of the Diet is said to have been secured by bribery; they are held up to scorn as enemies of their country and their cause, who do not hesitate to increase the people's burdens for their own enrichment, and who obey no political motive that is not selfish. *Per contra*, the Progressists claim for themselves unswerving fidelity to principles, and stand forth in the character of public benefactors who hope at least to reduce the Land Tax and the Soy Tea to their fair dimensions. It is plain that this contest in the provinces is going to be very severe.

The subjects with which the newly created bureau—the Imperial Investigation Bureau—will have to deal are the marriages of the Prince Imperial and the Princes of the Blood; funerals in the Imperial Family; religious rites connected with the worship of ancestors; imperial finance; the taxation of the Princes; civil suits against members of the Imperial Family; the Law of the Nobility, and so forth. That is an extensive list, demanding great research and careful deliberation. Marquis Ito says that he is not going to be guided simply by foreign precedents: he will pay the fullest attention to immemorial customs which may be considered to reflect the genius of the nation.

A great deal of attention has been paid in Japan to the statement made by the Canadian Premier that the exclusion of Japanese and Chinese from British Columbia was declared to be injurious to the friendly relations which Her Majesty's Government desired to maintain with the Far-Eastern empires. A radical change of British policy is inferred. Hitherto England has left her colonies entirely free to deal with such questions according to their own convenience. But it would seem that she now expects all parts of her dominions to unite in promoting her policy of imperialism. Another point which greatly pleases the Japanese is that, under their wing, China also has obtained better treatment. They argue, not without reason, that had the Chinese alone been in question, British Columbia would not have received any suggestion from the mother country.

The Progressists are busily devising a practical basis for their scheme of reduced taxation. They understand that credit can not be gained at the polls by merely announcing a policy of reduction without showing how it is to be carried out. Hence, after examining the figures for next year's Budget, they have come to the conclusion that expenditure—civil and military—in Formosa can be appreciably cut down, and that the scheme of military expansion in Japan can be similarly treated. By these means a total saving of from 13 to 14 million *yen* could be effected, whereas the yields from the three increased taxes which the Progressists desire to abolish aggregate only 11,750,000 *yen*—namely, Land Tax 8,480,000 *yen*; Soy Tax 1,600,000 *yen*; Postal Rates 1,600,000 *yen*. We do not believe that this policy has any chance of immediate success, but the Progressists are expected to fight hard for it in the next session of the Diet.

An anonymous correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, sends to that journal, nominally from London, over the signature of "M. T.", a series of letters—or, perhaps, one long letter, which has been published by the *Mainichi* in serial form, the last instalment appearing in its columns yesterday (Monday, Aug. 28th). "M. T." undertakes to explain why the new Japanese four-per-cent. loan was badly received on the London market, but the main purpose of the letters is an attack upon the Finance Department under the control of Count Matsukata. "M.T." charges Count Matsukata with a very gross breach of faith. He says that the Count had distinctly pledged himself to negotiate the loan through Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Company, who were prepared to underwrite it at 95 or 97, and that, without the slightest warning of his change of intention, he had recourse to Parr's Bank, for corrupt reasons which "M. T." does not hesitate to set forth. There is a hiatus in the chain of reasoning. No demonstration is offered of the contention that a breach of faith towards Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Company injuriously affected the London market. "M. T." appears to us to belong to the large class of persons who are wise after the event; or to the smaller but still perrenial class of those who, not having had a finger in the pie, are persuaded that the cooking was bungled. These latter folks made their voices heard in a similar strain of detraction when Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company undertook the loan of four million's sterling in 1897. They rather over-shoot the mark on the present occasion, for with the Japanese five-per-cent. bonds selling at par in London and at a discount in Tokyo, it is difficult to imagine that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company would have agreed to underwrite the new four-per-cents. at 95 or 97.

STREET RAILWAY OF TOKYO.

It is difficult to follow the calculations published by the press with regard to the proposed Street Railway in Tokyo. In the first place, the Company has not pledged itself to any one system. Its application says that, according to the conditions existing in a street, the "single trolley" system may be adopted, or the "cross suspension," or the "bracket," or, if convenient, the pneumatic, or the "electric reservoir" "*or some other other source of motive power* (*sono ta no gendoryoku*). How can anything like an accurate estimate of cost be made on such a singularly vague basis? The thing is impossible. The length of the Tokyo Horse-Tram Company's lines is 17 miles, in round figures, and the capital invested is one million. The length of lines projected by the Tokyo Street Railway Company is 200 miles; or, say, twelve times that of the horse-trams. Now it is estimated by experts that the capital required for an electric railway is about four times that required for a horse-tram. Let us call it double. Then it is evident that the capital required for the proposed Street Railway should be put at 24 millions instead of 15, supposing electricity to be the power employed. Probably 30 millions would be under the mark. It is evident, at all events, that the 15 millions named by the projectors represent a mere instalment of what will be required. Further, it is stated by our vernacular contemporaries that if the gross earnings of the Street Railway Company amount to 100 *yen* per mile daily, and its expenses be 60 per cent. of the takings, it would pay a dividend of 16 per cent. and put aside 15 per cent. as a reserve fund.

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That is incorrect as a matter of mere arithmetic: the dividend would be between 14 and 15 per cent. on a capital of 15 millions; and if the capital were 24 millions, the dividend would be only 9 per cent.; if 30 millions, only 7. The Tokyo horse-trams earn a gross amount of 175 *yen* per mile daily, and they pay 35 per cent. dividend. They traverse incomparably the busiest and most populous parts of the city, and we deem it a most liberal estimate to assume that the traffic on the electric lines, which will be to a large extent suburban, can reach a higher figure, on the average, than 50 per cent. of that on the horse trams, even when the greater efficiency of the former is taken into account. On that hyphothesis the gross earnings would be 87 *yen* per mile, and the sum available for distribution, 27 *yen*, or a dividend of 13 per cent. on 15 millions, and 8 per cent. on 24 millions. Further, these figures do not take account of the sums which the Company proposes to contribute to the Municipal funds.

The calculation for the Serpollet system is not disfigured by any vagueness whatever. Six millions is the estimate, and the whole of the lines would be in operation within 18 months. Hence, if the traffic were one-half of what it is on the horse-trams, the Serpollet would pay 32½ per cent., assuming the working expenses to be the same as those for the electric system, whereas, in fact, they are about 20 per cent. less.

The Company proposes to make contributions, on a sliding scale, to the Municipal funds. Some of the Tokyo journals take shrewd exception to such an arrangement. They point out that it amounts to abandoning the city's right of taxation, since the payments take the form of voluntary contributions. There should be nothing of that kind, they say, and we agree with them.

But, strange to say, none of our vernacular contemporaries comment on the Company's application for a seventy-five years' charter. Yet that certainly calls for criticism. Seventy-five years is altogether too long a lease. In these times of rapid progress and change, no company should be granted a monopoly of traffic for such a time.

The police of Tokyo are said to have come to the conclusion that one of the chief causes of the evil condition of the streets is the immense loads carried on carts and waggons which have ordinary tyres. They have accordingly drafted a regulation requiring that all ox-carts and waggons shall have tyres at least 5 inches wide—Japanese measure, which means 6 inches English—, and that special permission must be obtained for the transport of great weights. Such a rule would bear very hardly on a large class of industrial folks, unless a lengthy period be allowed to precede its enforcement. It would mean nothing less than the reconstruction of all the wheels of weight-carrying ox-carts and horse-waggons in the capital. So far as concerns the conclusion attributed to the police, it is certainly just in a measure. There is probably no city in the world where heavier loads are transported than in Tokyo. A rich man, laying out a garden, thinks nothing of having a huge rock slung to a beam supported between two carts, to which four or five oxen and sixty or seventy men are yoked. Yet the surface of the street is seldom seriously damaged by such operations of transport, for the wheels of ox-carts have tolerably wide tyres and, as a mere labour-saving device, precautions are generally adopted against the deep biting of the wheels. The ordinary horse-cart is the real source of mischief. Its tyres are of the narrowest, and its over loading is palpable. If these regulations should take the form of limiting the weight put upon a cart drawn by one horse, a great gain would be achieved in the cause of humanity, for the shockingly brutal treatment of horses that takes place daily in the streets of Tokyo can not be too strongly condemned.

THE CRIMINAL CODE.

The Criminal Code of Japan has been undergoing revision for a considerable time. We do not mean the Code of Criminal Procedure. Connected with the latter are the important questions discussed by the Diet last session with reference to allowing counsel at preliminary examinations, abolishing the system of secret confinement, and so on. The judicial authorities are pledged to amend the Code of Criminal procedure, and it is possible to forecast pretty clearly the nature of the amendments. But we allude here to the Criminal Code. Rumour says that the changes recommended by the revising committee are in the direction of according much larger discretion to the Judges. That is certainly to be desired. The great fault of all administrators of the law in Japan at present, from the humblest constable to the chief justice of the Supreme Court, is slavish adherence to the letter of the provisions; a habit of mind which certainly ought not to have been educated by the methods of procedure in pre-*Meiji* days. Anything tending to correct that custom is to be welcomed. We notice, also, that the revised Code is expected to contain a provision which Japan may claim the credit of originating. It is that, in the case of a first offence, instead of putting the sentence into operation at once, a probationary period of two, three, four or five years should be fixed, and the infliction of the penalty should be made to depend on the conduct of the culprit during that interval. In the event of no fresh charge being preferred against him, the original sentence would not be carried out.

THE LEASE QUESTION IN YOKOHAMA.

The *Japan Gazette* denies the correctness of our conjecture that a matter of registration fee covers the question now under discussion about the transfer of a Yokohama Bluff lot. We have made inquiries in Tokyo, whither the business is said to have been referred, but nothing seems to be known about it there. No doubt is possible, we think, that the case presents some abnormal features. The transfer of lands held by foreigners under perpetual leases is distinctly guaranteed by treaty, and it is quite inconceivable that any difficulty would have been raised by the Authorities in Yokohama had not some special circumstances existed. What they are will of course be known by and by, and in the meanwhile there is no reason to be perturbed about the matter.

A FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Mr. Sakatani, of the Finance Department, has compiled and published in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a clear and valuable statement for the purpose of throwing light upon Japanese finance. The statement covers the period from the opening of the Diet until the end of the current fiscal year. We reproduce the statement below. It should be remarked that the figures up to 1897-8 represent settled accounts; those for 1898-9 and 1899-1900 being still in the budgetary stage. Mr. Sakatani justly observes that the account shows the country's finances to be in a thoroughly sound condition. Especially remarkable is the fact that the Ordinary Revenue now largely exceeds the Ordinary Expenditure.

A TABLE SHOWING THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS OF LAST TEN YEARS OF JAPANESE EMPIRE.

Financial year.	ORDINARY ACCOUNT.				EXTRAORDINARY ACCOUNT.				The above is covered by.		
	Ordinary revenue.	Ordinary expenditure.	Repayment of public debt.	Surplus of the year.	Extraordinary expenditure	Miscellaneous Extraordinary revenue.	Surplus of ordinary revenue.	Surplus of foregoing years.	War indemnity	Productive public debt.	Unproductive public debt.
1890 1	78,527,038	60,574,768	3,036,569	14,915,701	9,471,462	6,877,318	2,594,144				16,804,226
1891 2	76,264,857	59,395,399	3,540,979	13,328,562	20,619,558	2,627,407	13,338,562	4,663,589			
1892 3	80,728,016	60,301,967	3,516,040	16,910,009	12,916,686	1,071,097	11,845,589				
1893-4	85,883,078	58,662,755	5,882,826	21,337,593	20,036,248	3,164,827	6,871,421				
1894-5	89,748,451	54,558,815	5,302,323	29,329,113	17,707,241	2,674,826	15,032,415				
War expenditure.	—	—	—	—	200,475,508	4,713,418	—		78,957,164	2,416,251	3,217,638
1895-6	95,444,648	60,121,838	7,026,147	28,296,666	18,105,139	2,956,098	15,209,041	39,710,121	11,789,389		
1896-7	104,901,524	90,762,208	9,950,635	4,185,681	68,140,563	6,821,483	4,185,681	15,451,722	40,360,796	17,890,866	18,499,007
1897-8	124,222,879	98,047,487	9,647,640	16,527,752	115,983,717	7,253,574	16,527,752	2,295,298	46,187,071	8,084,401	25,323,870
1898 9	132,568,434	111,327,183	7,622,717	13,618,534	100,502,527	4,993,353	13,618,534		31,818,364	21,273,123	3,393,777
1899-1900	178,558,944	134,495,192	6,467,609	37,596,143	105,488,905	11,908,866	37,094,775				

NOTE.—The account of the year 1899-1900 is taken from the Budget, that of the year 1898-9 is almost definite, and all the rest are quite definite. Under the head of "productive public debt" is included the debt incurred for the purpose of railway extension and improvement, tobacco leaf monopoly, telephone extension, and the establishment of a State steel factory. Under the head of unproductive debt is included the debt incurred for the settlement Japanico-Chinese war and the extension of armaments.

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THE MILLER JUDGMENT.

The judgment pronounced by Judge Sato in the Miller case has evoked some criticism in Japanese circles. Its justice or injustice is not discussed, of course, as the care is still *sub judice*. The comments deal simply with form and tone. It is difficult for foreigners to appreciate them, for the English versions of the judgment that have been published convey no idea whatever of its style, and are, indeed, so clumsy as to disfigure the original seriously in some parts. To a Japanese, however, the literary form is objectionable because it savours of foreign idiom. There is a kind of Japanese, not infrequently found in newspaper columns, which is evidently modelled on the structure of an European language. It is the kind of Japanese that an Englishman or a Frenchman would write were he expressing in the language of this country ideas conceived in the language of England or France. Traces of that kind of work are said to be discernible in the judgment. Then it is unconscionably long. In that respect only two other judgments delivered during the *Meiji* era can compare with it. In the third place, the stand-point from which the prisoner is addressed is found to be different from that hitherto adopted. The Judges of old Japan delivered their judgments *de haut en bas*. The Judges of Europe or America pronounce their verdicts as to an equal. But the Yokohama Judge adopts a semi-apologetic tone: he treats the stranger in the gates with a certain degree of deference.

We quote these criticisms as they are not without interest, though they seem somewhat far-fetched. But we certainly do sympathise with the comment that a judge ought to avoid "fine language." The Yokohama verdict contains such sentences as:—"With the going down of the sun the prisoner was plunged into the depths of disappointment" (*hi no bossuru to tomo ni hikoku mo mata shitsubo no fuchi ni shizumitari*); "from the heights of hope he plunged into the depths of disappointment" (*kibo no itadaki yori shitsubo no fuchi ni shizumu*); "bones splintered, pieces of flesh flying about, brains scattered around, red blood welling forth, long hairs drifting on the stream" (*hone kudaki niku tobi nozui sanranshi senketsu izumi wo nashte, chohatsu wo tadayowasu no jo*); "an arm that for thirty years had wrestled with the angry waves" (*sanjunen kwan doto to kakuto shitaru shuwan*), and so on. These *disjuncta membra poetæ* seem strangely out of a place in a judicial sentence of death for a cold-blooded and most brutal murder.

The hypercritical comments made by an anonymous "legal luminary" on Judge Sato's judgment in the Miller case, are traversed by another critic who justly laughs at the contention that the Judge's sentences were constructed on a foreign model. What is to be said, the latter critic pertinently asks, about the Civil Code and the Commercial Code which read just like literal translations of foreign laws. Besides, a foreign style was eminently suited to the occasion, as the Judge was sentencing a foreigner and practically addressing a foreign audience. The defender deals with the other points advanced by the Judge's assailant, but he says nothing, we observe, about the fine writing. There Judge Sato certainly seems to have overstepped the mark. We have read judgments by great English and American jurists which, without containing a word of "fine writing," reached the very highest standard of impressive eloquence. But not every man may get to Corinth.

Judge Sato has himself undertaken the public defence of his judgment in the Miller case; not, of course, with reference to the case itself, but only as regards the literary quality of his composition. He frankly admits the charge of having adopted the Western style of construction; but he lays down the proposition that the difference between the Western style and the Chinese style is simply a difference of perspicacity and obscurity. Take out everything that is perplexing and confusing in a Chinese phrase and you have a European phrase. That seems to be Mr. Sato's contention. Is such a process of elimination to be condemned, he asks. He also endeavours to rebut the accusation of "fine writing," but in this he is not altogether successful, we venture to think. But, on the whole, most people will be inclined to say that his defence is unnecessary.

THE AMOY AFFAIR.

Tuesday, August 29th.

A telegram from Taipeh, published by the *Tokyo Asahi*, describes an outrage of which two Japanese were the victims. In connexion with the negotiations for a Japanese settlement at Amoy, Mr. Matsumoto, Secretary of the Japanese Consulate, a Chinese official, and some others, proceeded by boat to inspect Fu tau-shan, which had been designated as a suitable site. No sooner had the boat approached the shore than it was attacked by a mob. The Chinese commissioner beat a hasty retreat, saying that he was going to summon military aid. Mr. Matsumoto and a Japanese gendarme who accompanied him, received some injuries, but escaped by swimming off to the boat. What become of the mob we do not gather, but the telegram adds that the arrangements relating to the settlement were completed in 24 hours, and that Fu-tau-shan was handed over. We infer, therefore, that the mob can not have been very vindictive. Since writing the above we learn that, in the opinion of the Authorities, the facts have been greatly exaggerated by rumour. There may have been a hostile demonstration, but it did not culminate in an assault, and no one was hurt.

Wednesday, August 30th.

The Amoy incident is variably reported by vernacular newspapers, and some of their statements represent the affair in quite a serious light. We have ascertained, however, that the facts already related in these columns are correct; namely, that Mr. Matsumoto, when engaged in surveying the site for the new Settlement, was attacked by a party of roughs and sustained injury of a trifling character. It seems to have been a mere momentary ebullition, for things are now reported to be entirely tranquil, and all the arrangements about the Settlement have been completed.

Thursday, August 31st.

We take it that the Japanese Government has no intention whatever of employing the recent outrage at Amoy as a pretext for pressing inconvenient demands upon China. If Japan wants anything from her neighbour, there are legitimate means of obtaining it without taking advantage of the unruliness of mobs or the rudeness of a few roughs. Of course there are the usual flock of canards flying around in connexion with the incident. One is that the Chinese Authorities repeatedly warned the Japanese against the unwisdom of including a burying ground within the boundaries of building sites, but that the Japanese replied, recommending the Chinese not to trouble themselves about such questions and promising to take the whole responsibility on their own shoulders. A credible story truly, especially in the face of our knowledge that the task of arranging for the removal of the churchyard was undertaken by the Chinese, and that the only stumbling-block was of a pecuniary nature. The affair seems to us altogether trivial, and while we certainly do not advocate any perfunctory treatment of the responsibilities devolving on China to protect foreign life and property, we should be sorry to see Japan make molehills into mountains for her own arbitrary purposes.

The fact that a special Japanese Settlement has at length been obtained at Amoy is naturally welcomed by the Japanese as a first step towards establishing some sort of supervision of the emigration from that place to Formosa. Japan's difficulty in administering the affairs of her new dominion is greatly enhanced by the vicinity of Fuhkien, governed as it is now. By acquiring a settlement of her own in Amoy, she will at least be able to establish closer touch of the traffic between the two places. We read in Tokyo journals that she has seven hundred subjects in Amoy. Six hundred of them are natives of Formosa and the remainder are Japanese. The latter are said to be, for the most part, men of the worst type, who, unable to make a living in Japan, drifted to Formosa, and, unable to make a living in Formosa, drifted to Amoy.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The Minister of Finance, in compiling the Budget for 1899-1900, estimated the revenue from the Customs at 16¾ million *yen*. But when it was found that the sums actually levied upon imports did not reach a million *yen* in any of the first four months of the year, people began to think that the official estimate would prove very fallacious. A marked change commenced to manifest itself from May, however, and the figures as they now stand show that the Minister's forecast will probably be justified by events. The figures since the commencement of the fiscal year are these:—

	1897. Yen.	1898. Yen.	1899. Yen.
April	583,686	588,810	821,663
May	693,501	708,694	1,200,714
June	583,396	733,416	1,745,438
July	672,976	753,524	2,038,349
Total	2,533,469	2,784,444	5,906,164
Average	633,369	696,111	1,476,541

It is evident that if this average be maintained, the total receipts for the year will be 17¾ million *yen*; and of course it is more than likely to be maintained, for we may fairly assume that the effects of imports in anticipation of the new tariff continued to be felt through the whole of the first half of the year.

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THE WEATHER.

Saturday, Aug. 26.

Since the 22nd, there have been indications of atmospheric disturbance in the neighbourhood of Japan, despite the clear, fine, hot weather that has brooded over the main island. On the 22nd, a centre of depression, travelling in a north-westerly direction, struck the South of Formosa and crossing to the Chinese coast, entered the continent near Amoy on the 23rd. Simultaneously, another area of depression developed in the north of Hokkaido, and travelled rapidly northward, its progress marked by heavy deluges of rain. On the 24th, there were no indications of disturbance anywhere, but on the 25th, it was considered necessary to warn the seventh meteorological distinct (Hokkaido) that the conditions at sea were disquieting. Meanwhile, this fine spell of dry heat has dispelled the momentary apprehensions caused by the unseasonable climate of June and July. An abundant rice harvest is expected, and the farmers have begun to unload their old stocks as fast as possible, so that the price of the staple is steadily declining.

Wednesday, Aug. 30.

The typhoon of which we are experiencing the effects in Tokyo and Yokohama declared itself originally in the south of the Riukiu Islands at 6 a.m. on the 28th instant. The centre seemed to be then travelling in a north-easterly direction, and it was plain that Kinshu and Shikoku would lie in the path of the disturbance, but the meteorological authorities found considerable difficulty in locating the centre. At 2 p.m. on the 28th the cable to the Riukiu Islands became unserviceable, and the barometrical reading at Kagoshima was 744 m.m. The central Observatory had already warned several districts, and predicted that Yokohama and Tokyo would be reached by the storm on the 29th. The forecast seemed likely at one time to be accurately fulfilled, from between 5.05 and 6.47 a.m. on the 29th furious gusts of wind and rain swept over Tokyo, and the appearances would have indicated the rapid approach of a typhoon had there been any of the premonitory rain-fall which always goes in advance of these phenomena. After a couple of hours, these fitful visitations ceased, and, though a smart breeze continued to blow, considerable expanses of blue sky showed among the drifting clouds. In short, the conditions were altogether unusual. A typhoon at Shikoku on the evening of the 28th, travelling in a north-easterly direction, ought to have meant deluges of rain in Tokyo during the afternoon of that day and the night of the 28th and 29th, gradually developing into moist heat and gale by mid-day on the afternoon. But a low temperature, a cloudy sky, and a few dashes of rain and wind were the only indications of the vicinity of a typhoon. The Meteorological Authorities say that the centre of storm moved with exceptional rapidity—60 miles an hour—when it reached the vicinity of Tokyo. That probably accounts for the short duration of its effects. Wakayama, Gifu, Okayama, Akita and Yamagata probably suffered most, but as communications are interrupted no intelligence is obtainable.

Thursday, Aug. 31.

In the absence of any definite statement by the meteorological authorities, it is not easy to trace the exact course of the storm on the 28th and 29th instant, but the reports thus far received seem to indicate that, starting from the Riukiu Islands, or, perhaps, Oshima, on the afternoon of the 28th, and travelling in a north-easterly direction, it grazed the south-eastern coast of Kiushiu, struck the east of Shikoku, swept up the coast of Kii, and, crossing the waist of the main island, entered the Japan Sea from Echizen. Tokushima, Wakayama, Kobe, Fukui, Ogaki, Hamamatsu, and Kaga have all suffered severely, and Kai, Shinano, Kotsuke, and Shimotsuke have felt the effects in a minor degree. The reports are worst from Hiogo and from that unfortunate place Tokushima, which seems to find itself in the track of every natural calamity. Particulars of the losses suffered are not yet to hand, but the rice-crop does not appear to have been seriously damaged.

Since writing the above, we have received the following telegrams :—

Hyogo, Aug. 29, p.m.

This prefecture was visited by a storm last night. In the Yabu district 12 persons were killed or injured and 50 houses were overthrown. Casualties have occurred in several other districts. Investigations are now being made.

Hyogo, Aug. 30, 10 20 a m.

The inquiries made up to the present show that 137 persons have been killed or injured in this prefecture; 1,746 houses overthrown, and many houses damaged. It is expected that other casualties will be found to swell the list.

Tokushima, Aug. 29. 2.15 p.m.

A heavy gale blew from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. yesterday. The rivers Yoshino, Naka and Zennyuji rose 19 feet, 12 feet and 14 feet, respectively. One person was killed, 4 embankments broken, and it is expected that many houses were blown over and fields flooded.

Friday, Sept. 1.

The track of the storm's centre is now pretty clearly ascertained. It differs slightly from our estimate published yesterday. Coming from a point somewhere to the South of the Riukiu Islands, it grazed the east coast of Kiushiu, and, crossing Shikoku by the provinces of Tosa and Sanuki, invaded the main island *viâ* the provinces of Bizen and Bitchiu, and emerged into the Japan Sea through Izumo and Hoki. The previous typhoon—that of the 13th, 14th, and 15th—had its origin at almost the same point, but followed a more westerly route—, and not only swept right up the western provinces of Kiushiu, but also crossed the main island twice, the line of the first crossing being from Suwo to Tajima, approximately, and that of the second from Kaga to Iwaki. It will be seen, therefore, that as the centre of the gale of the 28th and 29th had only a short passage through Shikoku to the main island, its ravages on shore were comparatively insignificant in area. Its violence, however, was very great. At Tadotsu it seems to have attained its maximum intensity, the barometer falling to 724 m.m., the velocity of the wind being 52 metres a second, and the rate of centre's advance, 60 miles an hours. The prefectures of Kochi, Takamatsu, Ehime and Okayama have suffered most according to our present information. Here are some figures relating to these places :—

KOCHI PREFECTURE.

Houses overthrown or inundated	4,792
Persons killed	36
Persons wounded	83
Horses and Oxen killed	2
Boats wrecked	23

EHIME.

Lives lost, men and animals	2,025

No less than 1,500 of these casualties are said to have occurred at a village near the Besshi Copper Mine. The village is practically wiped out.

OKAYAMA.

Houses overthrown or inundated	2,165
Persons killed	6
Persons wounded	121

TAKAMATSU.

Houses overthrown or inundated	3,343
Persons killed	208
Persons wounded	114
Horses or oxen killed	18
Boats wrecked	77

THE BESSHI DISASTER.

A telegram from Niihama, Iyo Province, dated 30th August, says that terrible damage was done near the copper mine at Besshi-mura, Iyo. Up to the morning of the 30th, 120 corpses had been recovered, but it is feared that the killed amount to 600 altogether, and a further 100 are wounded. Eleven surgeons from the Medical School of the Osaka Garrison, and eleven doctors from the Medical School Hospital founded by Mr. Sumitomo, are in attendance.

THE MILITARY ARSENAL SCHOOL.

Some disturbance has been caused at the Military Arsenal School, Tokyo, by an incident which, as related by Tokyo journals, reflects very badly on the conduct of the non-commissioned officers attached to the School. Briefly stated the matter is this : The disappearance of some books having created a suspicion that there was dishonesty among the students, the latter were marshalled every night in the corridor, and kept waiting in absolute silence until one or two o'clock in the morning. What was expected to result from that device we do not know and need not pause to inquire. Such a *corvée*, supplementing the hard work of the day, was severely felt by the students; and when the novel discipline was re-commencing after three or four night's intermission one of the lads grumblingly conjectured that they were again to be detained until the small hours. A non-commissioned officer, overhearing the remark, fell upon the student, and beat him into a state of semi-insensibility, a fracture of the tympanum of an ear being among the injuries inflicted. The lad applied for medical aid, but the doctor declined to give him any attention, and he was compelled, the next day, to perform extension motions as though nothing had happened. Finally his comrades took up the matter, and announced that unless redress were given they would leave the school *en masse*. We find the details very apocryphal.

COUNT OKI.

Count Oki's illness, we regret to say, seems to be of a very serious nature. The first symptoms were gastric, but brain trouble subsequently developed, and the left side of the body is now completely paralysed. On the 29th instant, the Emperor sent a chamberlain to inquire for the Count, and also, according to Japanese custom, despatched some presents of food and wine. Count Oki managed to write his acknowledgment of the Imperial favour, but there is much uneasiness about his condition.

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YOKOHAMA ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

The report that owing to the threatening attitude of the *jinrikisha* coolies of Yokohama it had been decided to postpone the construction of the Yokohama electric railway for two years, appears to have been entirely baseless. The project came before the Town Assembly on the 25th instant, and was sanctioned under the following conditions :—

1—That the lines be limited to Yokohama.

2—That the guage be 3 feet 6 inch ; and the cars, 6 feet wide and 18 feet long (outside dimensions).

3—That the rails be laid flush with the surface of the street, and that a pavement of hard stone be put down at turns into cross-streets.

4—That the single-trolley system be adopted.

5—That a speed of six miles per hour be considered sufficient.

6—That rivers be crossed by suspension bridges without intermediate buttresses.

7—That it shall be competent for the authorities to order a change of route, even after the charter is granted, should such change seem desirable.

8—That should the Municipalty deem it necessary to convert the work into a public enterprise, it shall have power at any time to acquire the lines at a fair price.

9—That the scale of fares to be adopted at the outset be submitted for the approval of the Municipality, and that the same course shall be pursued in the event of any subsequent increase of fares.

10—That the lines be laid in the middle of the streets, and that the Municipality shall be competent to order a change of site.

11—That the period of charter be 15 years.

12—That in connexion with repairs, reconstructions or changes of pipes for water-works or gas, the lines may be temporarily taken up, or moved elsewhere.

12—That the work be carried on after due consultation with the Water-works, Drainage or Gas Authorities, so as to offer no impediment to the hydrants, gas pipes, &c.

14—That traffic be suspended during the laying or repair of iron pipes.

15—That the lines shall not cross pipes laid for purposes of fire-extinction or sewerage.

16—That if it is desired to lay lines in very narrow streets, the company may be ordered to widen the streets at its own charges.

17—That the space occupied by the lines, and the streets on either side, be kept in repair at the expense of the Company.

18—That the details of the work be reported beforehand to the Municipal Office.

MILITARY SPIRIT AND RELIGION.

Is religion essential to a soldier? The males of the Japanese nation are all liable to conscription. Thus the country may be said to be a military country. But religious instruction, religious exercises of every kind, are strictly interdicted in the Schools. Hence it must be concluded that the Government sees no utility in educating a religious spirit. The *Jiji Shimpo* devotes an article to this interesting question. In times of peace, it says, discipline is the soldier's religion. Fidelity to rules is alone required of him. But in battle where he offers his life to his cause, something more is needed. It is well known that when a Japanese man of war, returning from a voyage, reaches the vicinity of the Shrine of Kompira in Sanuki, the sailors contribute each a sum of money which is thrown into the sea by way of thanks-offering for the protection of Sutengu. In the war with China, when one of the enemy's shells came aboard a Japanese ship during the Yalu battle, the men were heard to cry, *namu amida butsu*. Soldiers in battle carried amulets, and there were instances of commanders of corps getting a Buddhist priest to deliver a sermon on the night before an engagement. After the war was over, the relatives and friends of the officers and men who returned safely contributed such large sums to the temples and shrines that these had quite a period of prosperity. From all these facts the *Jiji* concludes that religion is essential to a military nation, and condemns its banishment from popular education. Our contemporary might have greatly strengthened its case by reference to the ancient and mediæval annals of Japan.

GERMANY IN KOREA.

The *Nippon* is very angry with Germany. It thinks that she is bent upon aggressions in Korea, and it bases that idea on the recently circulated rumour that attempts are being made to obtain for a German subject the Söul-Gensan railway concession. The gentleman in question is Mr. Walter of Chemulpo. If he followed the lines of the American applicant for the Söul-Chemulpo concession, and the French applicant for the Söul-Wiju concession—that is to say, if he were guided by motives of personal profit only, the *Nippon* would not object. But he is said to have been prompted entirely by Prince Henry, who imagined that his own presence in Korea would create a favourable opportunity for pressing such a demand. Moreover, in the Prince's visits to Hamgyäng-do and Kang-wön-do the *Nippon* descries much more than mere traveller's curiosity. It concludes that Germany is looking out for another Kiao-chou in Korea, and it asserts that the persistence shown by the German Consul in pressing Mr. Walter's application for mining previleges in Tang-nyön, is in keeping with this new policy of aggression. Then follow some words of very vehement warning to Germany. She is reminded that there is a vast difference between Shantung and Korea ; that the latter is essentially within Japan's sphere of influence, a fact so fully recognised that even England, with her great interests in the peninsula, leaves the field in Japan's sole occupation ; that Japan's main purpose is to maintain the independence of Korea, and that nothing calculated to interfere with that purpose will be tamely endured.

EMIGRATION TO HAWAII.

Hawaii has sent an unprecedentedly large order for Japanese labourers. The sugar-planters want no less than 9,310, which means that, including women, there will be an emigration of some twelve thousand from Japan. The bulk of the emigrants (6,915) are to be furnished by the *Kumamoto Imin Kaisha*, the *Kaigai Toko Kaisha*, and the *Morioka Shokai*, the remainder being sent by the *Tokyo Imin Kaisha* and the *Nippon Imin Kaisha*. It is supposed that this large demand for labour has been stimulated by an access of American capital to Hawaii in the sequel of annexation.

NARA DAIBUTSU.

It is in contemplation to undertake extensive repairs of the building which covers the Nara Daibutsu. The engineer interested in the work is Mr. Tsumaki, and by a curious coincidence, an ancestor of his, Tsumaki Yoriyasu, was governor of Nara in the *Genroku* era (1688-1704) when this same edifice was reconstructed. Japanese annals say that the celebrated prelate Kokei had made earnest efforts in the cause of reconstruction, and that, dying before the work was commenced, his last words were that he entrusted the task with confidence to Yoriyasu. It is calculated that the restorations will involve an outlay of three hundred thousand *yen*, the labour required being a hundred and thirty thousand carpenters and two hundred and forty thousand assistants. Perhaps we should explain that this is the Japanese way of reckoning. One carpenter working for ten days is called ten carpenters. The old timbers will be largely utilized, but Mr. Tsumaki proposes to substitute bolts and clamps for the Japanese architect's system of wedges. He says that the original building was excellently proportioned with regard to stability, its ground plan being 290 feet by 170 feet, and its height 156 feet; whereas the *Genroku* reconstruction—the present building—has the same height with a ground plan of only 144 × 150 feet. Considering that the Japanese of the eighth century, when the Daibutsu was erected, had no scientific knowledge of the theory of strains and thrusts, Mr. Tsumaki thinks that the construction of *Todai-ji* was a remarkable achievement.

POPULAR CONCEPTIONS OF POLITICS.

The lesson in political morality taught by the recently circulated canard about a "three-cornered" alliance is cleverly indicated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Were there anything like a national crisis it would be conceivable that statesmen differing so radically in their views as do Marquis Ito and Count Okuma should sacrifice a part of their convictions and combine for the sake of the country. But to suppose that, in the complete absence of any such crisis, either Marquis Ito or Count Okuma would subserve his views to the trifling object of grasping the administrative power, is to betray a very low estimate of political morality. There is no denying the truth of that criticism, but, after all, can we reasonably hope, pending the arrival of the millennium, that rumour will develop a conscience and a code of morality ?

CHINESE PUBLICISTS.

A cartoon in the *Jiji Shimpo* represents the idea entertained in Japan about the political tendencies of their Excellencies Jung Lu and Kang Yi. The two statesmen are represented holding a large bowl marked *Nang-yang* (southern ocean ; *i.e.* South China). The bowl is crowded with tiny figures, the teeming millions of the populous provinces which were recently the scene of Kang Yi's tour of inspection, and Kang, with the aid of a colossal pair of chopsticks, is picking out from the crowd and casting away contemptuously various Lilliputian folk labelled "reform party."

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THE TRANSVAAL.

War with the Transvaal seems now inevitable. Indeed things have worn that aspect for a considerable time. The Boers have been merely playing with Great Britain. It is not in their nature to treat an alien race with even common justice. That has been the fatal element of weakness in their administration, ever since the massacre at Makapan's Cave and the notorious "Apprentice Law" of 1856. They are an incorrigible obstacle to progress, and much as we must all regret the necessity which they have forced upon England, there can be no second opinion, we think, that Her Majesty's Government has treated them with the utmost forbearance and patience, and that the responsibility for this conflict rests entirely on their heads.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

Here are two extracts :—

"N.-C. Daily News." 1st August.

We cannot agree with our Northern contemporary that there is very good reason why we should wish the report of the secret treaty to be true. Regard for international law and an intelligent appreciation of the economics of commerce have not even in Europe reached so high a standard as to prevent avoidable complications; *and the prospect of enormous and efficient armies of yellow men, unhampered by traditions of international morality, Geneva conventions, Hague conferences, and so forth, with a mission to conquer and plunder the whole of Asia and drive away the Western barbarians, is not comfortable. Successful opposition to aggression would rapidly develop ambition for conquest, and the Japanese would be irresistibly tempted along the easier path of persuading their ignorant ally to use the new weapon to expel the foreigner and hamper trade rather than to police the country and assist it to advance in the gentle arts of peace.*

"N.-C. Daily News." 23rd August.

The *Japan Mail*, with an extraordinary mental twist, considers what it calls our *canard* of an alliance between China and Japan to be a Russian fabrication intended to sow distrust between England and Japan. If the *Mail* would sometimes step outside the little ring in which it revolves on its own axis at Tokyo, and get a glimpse of the outside world, it would promptly have been disabused by the anxiety which it would have seen the news of the alliance evoked in the Russian authorities in the Far East. *An alliance between China and Japan would do us no harm, and there are many institutions in China, notably the telegraphs, which we would gladly see administered by the Japanese.*

The italics are ours. The paragraphs they mark indicate an interesting conflict of opinions. Our Shanghai contemporary's original view of a Sinico-Japanese alliance was that it would take the form of an union of the yellow race to drive out the Western barbarians, expel the foreigner, and hamper trade; its subsequent view is that such an alliance would "do us no harm." The explanation of this discrepancy is easily given. Our contemporary's first idea of the alliance was that it was made without consulting England, and that China was prompted to propose it because she feared English aggression and thought that British statesmen were setting up a barrier between herself and her friend Russia. Thus viewed, the alliance seemed a most undesirable consummation; nothing more nor less than an union of the yellow races to expel the Western barbarian. But maturer reflection, together with consideration of the views entertained by the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, and rumours about Russia's attitude towards the alliance, led to a change of opinion on the part of the Shanghai journal. It saw that such an alliance would probably be pro-British rather than anti-British, and it therefore came to the conclusion that the alliance would "do us no harm." We agree with our Shanghai contemporary's later estimate, but we decline to be held responsible because its amended ideas do not warrant our criticism of its original fancies. Concerning Tokyo and the limited field of vision it affords, we can not gainsay the *N.-C. Daily News*' strictures. Tokyo, compared with Shanghai, is a petty kind of place. Such insignificant features as being the capital of a nation of forty millions, the seat of an empire's government, the residence of the representatives of all the Western Powers, and a city of a million and a half of citizens, can not raise it to anything like the lofty elevation occupied by a magnificent mart like Shanghai, which has a population of some fifty thousand, is not troubled by the presence of any foreign diplomats, or hampered by governmental departments, imperial palaces, houses of parliament, and similar restraints upon political imagination, but enjoys the full advantage of the proximity of a Chinese walled city, and the possession of a proverbial bund whence it can obtain panoramic "glimpses" of the outer world and inhale the exhilarating ozone from the Yangtze, so essential to the continuous manufacture of the "Shanghai shave."

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The torpedo-destroyer *Kagero*, built by Messrs. Thornicraft and Co. to order of the Japanese Government, was launched on the 23rd instant. She is 311 feet long and her contract speed is 31 knots.

The much-talked-of and very costly Iron Foundry, at Yawata in Fukuoka Prefecture, is said to be progressing rapidly towards completion. It will be ready to commence work on a limited scale from next spring.

The low price now ruling for coal is causing some embarrassment to owners of mines in Kiushiu and elsewhere. Efforts are being made to obtain cheaper rates of freight over the road of the Kiushiu Railway Company.

There has been formed in Tokyo an association for investigating stock-exchange business. We do not know exactly what are the purposes of the association, but it held its first meeting in the Nihonbashi Club on the 24th ultimo.

The third gathering of tea is said to have proved an excellent crop. Prices are low this year, but the loss on that account will be compensated by the abundance of the yield. The second gathering was ten per cent. better than that of last year, and the third is reported to be fifteen per cent. better.

The Yokohama Municipality is said to have decided upon raising a loan of three hundred thousand *yen*, for the purpose of reconstructions connected with the recent fire. The rate of interest will be six per cent., and the bonds will be redeemed by lot in ten years, beginning from 1900.

The negotiations between Italy and China are not proceeding very satisfactorily, if the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent be rightly informed. The representatives of the two Powers have had four meetings, but without reaching any result. A fifth conference was to have taken place on 29th instant.

The Nanao (Noto) Railway Company's affairs seem to be in a state of considerable confusion. There is talk of raising a loan of seven hundred thousand *yen*, but Tokyo journals consider the project hopeless.

A Tokyo contemporary says that since the Revised Treaties went into force foreigners have begun to show considerable interest in the working of Japanese Courts. Three foreign ladies are said to have remained in the Tokyo Court of Appeal throughout its whole session of the 28th instant.

There is a rumour that the boilers of one of Japan's best battle-ships were seriously damaged recently owing to the gross carelessness of the engineers, who lit the fires without putting water into the boilers. It is impossible to say whether the tale has any truth in it, but if it is correct, the facts will of course become known when the engineers are punished.

Fujiyama has been the scene of a very unusual performance. An old woman of ninety-three is said to have ascended the mountain at the head of six women all more than 50 years of age. That is progress with a vengeance, considering that in pre-*Meiji* days no female, young or old, was permitted to desecrate the sacred mountain by treading on it.

A new pattern of sword has been adopted for use by non-commissioned officers in the Japanese army. The sword hitherto employed was double-edged, with a sharp point, being intended chiefly for thrusting purposes. The new sword is single-edged and has a blunt point. It is, in fact, a reversion to the old-style weapon of Japan. The method of slinging also is to be changed, but this point is obscure.

The latest discovery in the way of summer resorts is Sukegawa, a place about ninety miles from Tokyo on the line of the Nippon Railway. The scenery is said to be charming, the climate bracing. But there are no inns or restaurants: nothing but a poor hamlet. It is stated that a contract has been made with the Tokyo Building Company to purchase sites for a hotel and villas. The enterprise is in the hands of the railway people, and excursion tickets will be granted.

The rumours recently circulated to the effect that Japan was about to restore to China the ships taken from the latter in the war of 1894-4, have now been modified. Not ships but small arms and ammunition are to be the object of restoration. The *Asahi* states that 240,000 stand of Mauser rifles and twenty-four million rounds of ammunition are to be sold to Chinese Government at a cheap rate. That is a mere report, of course, but it commends itself as a most sensible course. The figures are rather startling, however.

Not much of the milk of human kindness has been displayed by the proprietors of the land where the recent fire took place in Yokohama. They have persisted in their intention of raising the ground-rents, 1.50 *yen* had to be paid

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yearly per *tsubo* have been put at 4 *yen*, and one-*yen* and fifty-*sen* sites have become three-*yen* and two-*yen*, respectively. Apparently the people are content to pay, so the land-owners can not be blamed, after all.

For some time American timber has competed successfully with Japanese timber for house-building purposes in Japan, and it now appears that even railway sleepers can be supplied from America more cheaply than from Japan for the construction of the new lines in the neighbouring empire. About 7¼ million sleepers are required for use in North China, and those imported from Japan have hitherto sold for from 8 to 9 cents a piece. But the American Trading Company has now been able to contract for sleepers at 6 *sen*.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram relating a somewhat incomprehensible incident. There is a dispute between the Russians and the English about a question of land at Hankow. Recently, the representatives of Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Company, who are directly concerned, were engaged in marking out the land according to their own ideas, when a party of Cossacks interfered and compelled them to desist. Thereafter, sailors were landed from H.M.S. *Woodlark*, and the *Esk* was ordered to proceed to Hankow. Cossacks are singularly ubiquitous folks.

The *Jiji Shimpo* recommends that, in order to take practical advantage of the strong feeling now entertained by the nation in favour of educational expansion—a feeling which came into prominent existence after the war with China—, the Government should institute a system of public distinctions for persons contributing funds for educational purposes, and the Imperial Court should set the example by making a donation. Our contemporary asserts that public charity is always incited when Their Majesties make gifts in aid of sufferers by conflagrations, floods, and so on, and predicts that the same result could be obtained in the educational field.

It was announced some time ago that Dr. Kitasato had discovered the bacillus of dysentery and that by means of inoculation he had cured a number of cases. The intelligence is now supplemented by a statement that experiments in inoculation for purposes of prevention have been successfully made by Dr. Kitasato's assistant, Dr. Shiga, and by Dr. Ando of the Police Department. At the request of the people of Oimura in the Yebara district, Dr. Shiga has proceeded thither with a provision of lymph, and it is expected that the spread of the disease will be checked. If these discoveries justify the accounts given of them, an immense number of lives will be saved, and wide-spread suffering averted.

There has been some talk lately of a ten-years' scheme of Hokkaido development, involving a yearly grant of 4 million *yen* from the Treasury. An explanation is now offered that the proposed grant includes the sum of 2½ million *yen* already paid by the Treasury, so that the new outlay contemplated is only 1½ millions. It should be noted that these figures are independent of railway construction. The purposes to which the money would be applied are road-making, drainage, harbour construction, and school building. It is estimated that the population of Hokkaido will have increased by 2½ millions at the end of ten years from the present time.

A curious kind of double-barrelled suit for libel has been instituted in Tokyo. The proprietor of the *Jimmin*, Mr. Hiuga Terutake, considering himself defamed by an article published in the *Kensei Shimpo*, instituted proceedings against the proprietor of the latter, Mr. Hishikawa Kōmu, claiming damages to the amount of 15,000 *yen*. But, simultaneously with the institution of the suit, he published in his own journal an article which hurt the defendant so badly that he became in turn a prosecutor, and brought an action against Mr. Hiuga for 50,000 *yen*. There is naturally a great deal of merriment over the incident, especially over the fact that, if both sides win, the proprietor of the *Kensei Shimpo* will net 35,000 *yen*.

Professors Ozawa and Ishikawa are busily engaged investigating the anatomy and specialties of the Japanese *Sanshouwo* (fish-lizard), or salamander, which frequents the seas near Okayama, Gifu and Hikone. Tokyo newspapers allege that the Professors were impelled to undertake this task lest foreigners should "get ahead" of them, but it is permitted to hope that the interests of science were not without influence. They obtained 50 specimens at Matsuye; not without difficulty, for the ingenuous fishermen of the district rose to the occasion and adapted the price of the salamander to this novel demand. (This feature of the story will interest the *ketojin* by showing him that in cognate cases the Japanese themselves are victimized just as he is). One of these specimens measured 4 feet in length and weighed 14 lbs.—a prodigious newt.

There ought to be a high female school in every prefecture. The high female school corresponds to the middle male school. In the ordinary routine of education, a boy passes from an elementary school to a middle school, and a girl from an elementary school to a high school. But the last report of the Minister of State for Education showed that in 1897 there were only 19 public high female schools in the whole empire. In 1896 there had been only 12 of these schools, so that the Report indicated a clear improvement. There is a plan now on foot to supply the deficiency completely in four years, but we gather from the *Jiji Shimpo* that small hopes are entertained of carrying it out. Our contemporary thinks that the Japanese are regrettably indifferent to the subject of female education. One never hears of money being given to build or endow a girl's school.

The rumours published by the *Nippon* to the effect that the new despatch-boat *Miyako* had proved a failure, have not been directly contradicted. But an official report of the Naval Department says that the ship has undergone her public trials successfully, and that she developed a speed of 18.1 knots. It will be remembered that the *Nippon's* story represented a very different state of affairs. It said that the ship's engines had broken down completely and that she had been towed back to Kure. Hence the Naval Departments official report and the *Nippon's* tale are diametrically opposed to each other. But the Tokyo journal is not daunted. It ignores this discrepancy, and has recourse to the argument that 18 knots is a totally inadequate speed for a despatch-boat in these days; that the ship was designed for a speed of 20 knots, and that if the Naval Department is content with such results, it is not performing its duty to the country.

Captain Koyama has been appointed military adviser to the Chinese Government, and has left Tokyo to take up his appointment. His name has not been placed on the Reserve, as is usual in such cases, but remains on the Active List. The Shanghai Military School is spoken of as the probable scene of his duties.

Dr. J. D. Jones, who arrived by the *Gaelic* on Tuesday, is said to have been engaged by the Japanese Government as an expert in tobacco-growing. He has brought with him various kinds of seeds, and it is hoped that great improvements may be effected in the quality of the Japanese product.

According to the *Nippon*, the fact that Prince Komatsu did not carry out his intention of visiting the interior of China was due to the prevalence of wild rumours started in connexion with the cruise of the *Takasago* and the *Naniwa*. The two vessels' arrival on the Chinese coast seems to have set the tongue of gossip wagging very vigorously, and finally it was bruited abroad that their coming was connected with Japan's intention of restoring the Peiyang Squadron to China. Prince Komatsu, the newsmongers said, was entrusted with the duty of conveying this welcome intelligence to the Chinese Government and of exchanging the views which such an act might be expected to suggest. The rumours were sufficiently loud to reach the ears of the German and Russian Representatives at their summer retreat among the hills. They hastened back to Peking to question the *Tsung-li Yamên*, and in consideration of the excitement Prince Komatsu deemed it wise to abandon his intention of visiting the Chinese capital. Admiral Tsunoda went in his stead. We can not say whether this version is true, but it is certainly to be regretted that Prince Komatsu was prevented from carrying out his purpose of visiting the Emperor of China.

There have been lately organized in Tokyo two students' clubs calling themselves the *Soyū-kai* (Militant Friends Club) and the *Bura bura-kai* (Loiterers). It appears that they have a total membership of about 500, and that they are composed, for the most part, of truculent and unruly lads whose chief object is to paint the town red somehow or other. A few months ago the public heard of disturbances caused by associations of lads wearing white-breeches by way of uniform. Both of these clubs seem to distinguish themselves in that manner. They are, in fact, the riff-raff of the student class, and to them are said to be traceable all the rudenesses of which foreigners have from time to time been victims, as well as not a few instance of insults to girls and women. These lads think that a stand-up fight is an excellent pastime, *faute de mieux*, and as the two clubs are keen rivals, each anxious to crush the other, they decided to have a big duel on the Hibiya parade-ground last Saturday. About 250 of them, armed with sticks, had assembled for that purpose, coming to the ground by twoes and threes, but happily before the fight

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commenced the police noticed this large gathering of the notorious "white breeches," and the youths were dispersed *re infectâ*.

Baron Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Russia, is to leave St. Petersburg for home on the 6th instant.

Prince Henry is now at Hakodate, and will probably remain there until the 10th instant. He is visiting the celebrated Jinsai Numa, and other places of interest in the northern island.

The section of the Söul-Chemulpo Railway from the Han River to Chemulpo will be opened for traffic on the 15th of September, according to present estimates. But the operation of throwing a bridge over the river is likely to occupy several months longer.

It appears that the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce made several efforts to induce Count Inouye to proceed to Philadelphia for the purpose of taking part in the commercial and manufacturing congress connected with the forthcoming exhibition. But Count Inouye was unable to accept the proposal owing to the briefness of the notice.

Mr. Shimoda Kikutaro, a graduate of the Engineering College in the Imperial University, who recently returned from America after a stay of 11 years there, is declared to be the inventor of a new style of building which possesses the advantages of being fire-proof, earthquake-proof, exceptionally impervious to heat and cold, and much cheaper than construction in brick. The general scheme, so far as we can see, is to have iron uprights and to cover the body of the building with plaster in which asbestos is freely mixed. Of course the use of abestos to obtain non-inflammable substances is very familiar, since the ancients wove it into cloth to wrap the bodies of their dead on the funeral pile, and since the days of Charlemagne's amianthine table-cloth, which he used to throw into the fire after dinner to amuse his guests. But it is possible that Mr. Shimoda may have really found a new method of employing the curious mineral.

There is an educational council in each prefecture. It is composed of the principals of high schools and several of the most prominent men of the locality. In connexion with the operation of the Revised Treaties, the educational council of a certain prefecture—the name does not appear—issued an instruction to the students of all the schools within its jurisdiction. The instruction, says the *Jiji Shimpō*, contained many excellent precepts, such as that all displays of rudeness or addresses of discourteous epithets to passing foreigners should be carefully avoided; that if a foreigner sought information or assistance, it should be readily given, and so on. But there was also one clause which ran thus:—"When you grow up, you must take care not to lose your spirit of individuality, or to sell lands or houses to foreigners, or to become the slaves of foreigners." The *Jiji* asserts that the sentiment embodied in this extravagant and absurd clause finds many advocates in educational circles. In fact it charges the educationists—by "educationists" in this context must be understood a certain clique of University professors and graduates—with wanting to shut the door in the face of foreigners, whereas all the rest of Japan wants to open it.

The articles intended for the Paris Exposition are said to be greatly inferior to the average outcome of Japanese artistic skill. As to pictures in purely Japanese style, 233 were sent in, but the examining committee rejected all but 21, and it is alleged that twenty of the leading artists did not contribute at all. The selected pictures are:—

Landscape in rain	by Kumagaye Naohiko.
Fuji and evening clouds	by Nomura Bunkyo.
A sudden shower on the shores of a lake	by do
Asakusa Kwannon	by Tanaka Gekko.
Peacocks	by Araki Kwampo.
Fujiyama	by Yamamoto Shunkyo.
Sparrow in Snow	by Takenouchi Seihō.
Flowers and Birds	by Toda Gyokushū.
Monkeys	by Mochizuki Kimpō.
Flowers and Birds	by Noguchi Shōhin.
Netting Fish by Moonlight	by Suzuki Kwason.
Water-scape	by do
Flower at Yoshino	by do
Nezkama no Shinyen	by do
Maples on Usui Pass	by do
Snow at Itsukushima	by do
Dragon and Tiger	by Hashimoto Gahō.
Dogs	by Kobayashi Gokyō.
Flowers and Birds in Spring	by Imao Keinin.
Hawk and young	by Mochizuki Gyokusen.
Heron and Fujō	by Taki Katei.

These artists are among the most celebrated now living. In fact it would be difficult to name half-a-dozen who could be regarded as their rivals. Instead, therefore, of endeavouring to procure additional pictures by methods not at all likely to be successful, the committee would be better advised, it seems to us, if they were content to send forward what they have.

Nineteen pictures by artists of the foreign school have been selected out of 75, which is a much better average than that for the Japanese pictures. Mr. Kuroda Kiyoteru, now the leader of the school, contributes no less than 5 out of the 19, and Mr. Kume Keiichiro 3, the remaining 11 being by as many different artists.

As for glyptic specimens, only 4 ivories have been selected out of 14, and 9 wood-carvings out of 23. The number of fine specimens of metal work is equally meagre, and the display seems to be altogether most disappointing.

BUSINESS NOTES

The dividend of the Nankai Railway for the first half of the current year is at the rate of 8 per cent.; that of the Hankaku Railway, 3½ per cent.; and that of the Osaka Railway, 12 per cent.

It has been computed that there are a thousand million cubic feet of timber in Hokkaido fit for immediate cutting and export, without touching the trees that are needed for purposes of shelter and in connexion with the rainfall.

The following returns are published of the foreign trade of Formosa for 1896 and 1898:—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
1896	11,402,226	8,631,001
1898	12,827,189	16,879,190

All the Chambers of Commerce in Japan are to hold a united meeting in the autumn under the auspices of the Tokyo Chamber. The Tokyo Chamber is arranging to give a grand send-off to Mr. Otani Kahei when he starts for America at the beginning of next month.

It is said to be the intention of the Imperial Household to send some very choice articles to the Paris Exposition.

The directors of the Hankaku Railway have decided to adopt smokeless coal for the Company's locomotives on the Kyoto-Fukuchiyama section. If the experiment proves successful, the coal will be brought into general use on the whole line.

The resolution of the Specie Bank to increase its capital from 12 million *yen* to 24 millions is welcomed in commercial circles as indicating an intention on the part of the directors to afford greater facilities for the conduct of trade between China and Japan.

The following insurances have been paid on account of the Yokohama and Toyama fires, up to the present:—

	Yokohama. yen.	Toyama. yen.
Zaisan Fire	720	—
Teikoku Fire	4,600	52,000
Meikyo Fire	12,570	3,850
Tokyo Fire	67,745	25,822

The chief object for which the Municipality of Yokohama wants money at present is to widen the streets at the scene of the late fire. It has been decided that eight of these streets, including Isezaki-cho and extending as far as the sixth ward of Nagashima-cho, shall have a width of 48 feet.

Time bargains have been suspended on the Dojima Rice Exchange. Prices had risen suddenly from 9.35 *yen* per *koku* to 9.95 *yen* for delivery in September, and from 9.75 *yen* to 10.60 *yen* for delivery in October, and in view of these speculative fluctuations the Director exercised the power vested in him by law, and suspended transactions for September and October.

In connexion with the recent robbery of registered letters, it is suggested that a system of insurance should be introduced, as is the case in Europe and America. So long as registration does not involve due responsibility for loss, its principal effect is to differentiate valuable letters from ordinary correspondence, and thus facilitate, instead of preventing, irregularities.

The rates of interest on private loans in different parts of the empire, according to investigation made by the Finance Department, were as follow at the end of the first half of the current year: Tokyo 8½; Kyoto 8⅙; Osaka 9⅔; Yokohama 8⅘; Kobe 8⅛; Nagasaki 8 1/10; Niigata 8 1/10; Nagoya 7 8/10; Toyama 9⅘; Sendai 11; Hiroshima 9½; Fukuoka 9; Kumamoto 10½.

Niigata is supposed to produce 205,000 *koku* of kerosene out of 209,000 *koku*, Japan's total output. There are 20 large and 75 small merchants who devote themselves entirely to the oil trade in Niigata, the largest being the Nippon Sekiyu Kabushiki Kaisha, which was founded in 1888, and has a capital of 600,000 *yen*. The wells are worked according to the American system. The deepest of them is 3,500 feet, and the richest yields 480 *koku* of oil in 24 hours (19,056 gallons.)

The Sanyo Railway folk, who are far ahead of any other railway company in Japan in point of enterprise and progressiveness, have devised an expedient which

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will be most welcome to travellers in hot weather. It is a mosquito net so fixed that it can be let down to protect the upper part of the body. Passengers can have the use of it by paying 10 *sen* a night.

The sale of Japanese matches in China is seriously threatened. Four large match-factories have been established in Hankow and are underselling the Japanese article. A Tokyo journal suggests that the Government should adopt some remedial measure. We shall not be surprised if the *Yomiuri Shimbun* discovers that Viscount Aoki is responsible for the erection of these troublesome factories.

The prediction that Toyama's fate was sealed by the recent conflagration and that it would never rise from its ashes, is happily contradicted by facts. The latest intelligence is that the chief sufferers by the fire were well-to-do folks, and that they have already commenced the work of re-building. The Town Assembly has passed a resolution that a spacious park shall be formed on the north-east of the city, and that canals shall be dug as a protection against conflagrations in future.

From time to time during the past few years there has been talk of reclaiming the Kanagawa foreshore. It appears that Mr. Abe Hikotaro of Osaka applied, in 1897, for permission to fill in a space of 128,700 *tsubo* (107 acres) along the coast eastward of the old fort, and that the Government gave the necessary permission on the 4th instant. Other speculators who had been endeavouring to obtain the concession are said to have now decided upon a further reclamation of 25,000 *tsubo*, immediately adjacent to the scene of Mr. Abe's project.

Ashikaga occupies an important position in Japan's trade. It produces every year 10½ million *yen* worth of commodities which are exported to foreign countries; namely, 7 million *yen* worth of silk stuffs and 3½ million *yen* worth of cotton stuffs; and it produces 6¼ million *yen* worth of silk and cotton stuffs for home consumption, its total production of manufactured goods being thus 16¾ millions. Ashikaga used formerly to be celebrated for its library of Chinese works and because it was the centre of Chinese erudition and Confucianism in Japan. Its inhabitants occupy themselves differently now-a-days.

On the 25th instant 500 bales of American cotton were imported, and on the 26th, 700 bales of Chinese cotton. The quotations are high, however, doubtless owing to reports of a bad crop in India. These reports are said to have caused much alarm in Japan. Some of the factories have supplies of raw material sufficient for September only, and even those best provided can not carry on longer than the end of the year. A serious shortage is anticipated if the reports prove correct.

The fires in Yokohama and Toyama have had one wholesome result—they have opened people's eyes to the danger of insuring with small companies. The Japanese are very particular about a few *sen*, and not having had much experience in matters of insurance, have hitherto been disposed to choose the small companies solely for the sake of the terms they offer. But it is said that people's mood has changed, and whereas the big companies are now having a great access of business, the small are in danger of dying from inanition.

It is pointed out with much truth that the squabbles and consequent circulation of evil charges which disgrace the present history of several Japanese commercial and industrial companies are producing upon the credit of those companies in particular, and of Japanese trade and industry in general, the same disastrous effect that the agitation of political parties recently produced on the national finance. The comment has been applied to the case of the Kiushiu Railway Company and the ill-judged commotion caused by a clique of discontented shareholders.

It is expected that the ravages of dysentery during the present year will be about double those of last year. The total number of patients last year was 90,976, and the deaths aggregated 22,393. The expenses incurred by the State on account of the malady totalled 6,168,909 *yen*, being at the rate of 67.80 *yen* per patient and 275 *yen* per death. If Dr. Kitasato's system of preventive inoculation proves effective, he will be the means of saving not only many lives but also much money.

The committee of experts—whose personnel has provoked so much adverse criticism—seems to have made quick work with the exhibits for Paris. Three or four days sufficed to complete the examination. The number of pictures selected is said to have been very small—only 50 or 60 Japanese drawings, some 20 oils and waters in foreign style, and 10 engravings. Deeming this insufficient, the Committee proposes, it is said, to supplement the collection with pictures painted during the past few years but not originally intended for Paris. If our opinion were asked, we should recommend the Committee not to do anything of the kind. At every international exhibition hitherto held there has been an excessive display of Japanese paintings, many of them so badly selected as to bring discredit on the country's art. We are inclined to think that the Japanese trust their own judgment too implicitly in these matters.

A large park is to be laid out at Nagasaki on a site where a hospital is now situated. Suwayama park will be re-arranged.

The examination of the Shinetsu and Hoku etsu railway in Naoetsu was finished on the 28th ult. and the opening ceremony will take place on 5th Sept.

A parcel delivery service between Tokyo and Osaka, has been opened by the Naikoku Tsuun Kaisha. At first consignments were sent every 4 or 5 days, but since July the amount of traffic has so increased that consignments are forwarded almost every other day.

Mr. Otani Kahei is a busy man. He is the representative of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, the Central Tea Traders' Chamber, the Business Men's Association, the Gonkai Association of Tea Men for the whole of Japan, delegate to the Philadelphia Congress, and representative of the Tea Bureau of Japanese Exhibitors at the Paris International Exhibition.

There are two ingenious self-acting telephone instruments in the possession of the Department of Communications. They were imported from America, and are intended to be placed at important points in the city. They are on the penny-in-the-slot principle. The people at the telephone exchange can tell by sound whether the money put in is real or false. The Department will make a number of these machines after the model of those imported.

The Hokkaido Telephone call office will be opened on or about Nov. 1st. The erection of the telephone wire between Sapporo and Otaru has been completed, but that between Otaru and Hakodate will not be finished till the middle of September, the building of the Hakodate call office being the last of the works. With regard to telephone communication in Hokurikudo, the Department of Communications has dispatched an official to the northern provinces, to investigate the works to be undertaken. Kanazawa, Kaga Province, will be provided with an exchange by 1900, while Fukui (Echizen), Toyama, and Takaoka (in Etchiu) will be furnished with telephonic communication by 1902.

The foreign leaf tobacco imports for 1899 were estimated by the Monopoly Office at 308,833 *kwan*, the net profit being put at 538,912 *yen*. American and Chinese tobacco, which form 90 per cent. of the whole import, will probaly be excluded from the market next year. As Chinese tobacco is charged with 100 per cent. duty it will not be imported unless there a great scarcity of tobacco at home, and as the makers of imitation foreign cigarettes purchased great quantities of leaf before the revised customs dues were enforced, it is not expected that this year and next they will attempt any further import of American leaf. Thus the "half a million *yen* net profit" will be probably reduced to a very small sum. The estimate of the production of home tobacco this year is 15,012,110 *kwan*, about double as much as last year's crop.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Aug. 26th :—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	... ...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	... ...	14,828,025
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	211,366,487
Government deposits	... ...	36,340,201
General deposits	... ...	3,761,638
Exchange liability	... ...	37,095
Total	... ...	296,333,410

	Cr.	
Discount notes	... ...	50,810,723
Foreign discount notes	... ...	6,730,446
Loan to Government	... ...	22,000,000
General loans	... ...	58,651,468
Exchange liability	... ...	1,291,825
Government bonds	... ...	49,601,393
Property	... ...	1,918,036
Bullion and Specie	... ...	105,329,516
Total	... ...	296,333,410

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	 215,498,233
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	 104,310,411
Silver	... ...
Total	 104,310,411
Securities :—	
Government bonds	 31,950,288
Government certificates	 22,000,000
Government bills	 7,422,588
Commercial notes	 46,794,946
Total	 108,167,822

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	253,152	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	5,382,655
Government deposits	—	3,530,738
General deposits	848,182	—

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DISCRETION IN COURTS OF JUSTICE.

THE MILLER case was tolerably plain sailing. It is true that the evidence was chiefly circumstantial. But there were no legal perplexities, nor did any reason exist why the Judge should not follow the strict letter of the law. It is where discretion has to be exercised that difficulties will arise, for the Criminal Code, as it stands at present, leaves little or no discretion to a judge. That is the *Jiji's* opinion. The *Jiji*, some time ago, made a gallant attempt to procure clemency for a woman, MAKITA NOBU, who was convicted of killing her husband under circumstances of extreme provocation. The man had ill-treated her beyond endurance, and everybody felt that when the unhappy woman was sentenced to life-long imprisonment, the scales of justice had not been held evenly. But the judges could not have done otherwise, and the only result of the *Jiji's* protest was that it had to pay a fine for attempting to subvert the course of the law. Suppose now, our contemporary says, that a foreigner's wife were cited before a Japanese tribunal to-morrow for killing a husband who had driven her to desperation by cruelty and brutality, the woman would be sentenced to a penalty not duly mitigated by a sense of her sufferings. All that the Court could do would be to diminish her punishment by one or two degrees.

No doubt that is true. A woman who slew her husband, whatever her mood at the moment, could not escape with less than rigorous imprisonment for life, or for some very long period, under the present penal code of Japan. There is no lack of disposition on the part of the judges to exercise discretion. Witness the MILLER case. The Court's judgment showed plainly that had the killing been confined to the two Japanese women, provocation would have been taken into account, and the prisoner would have been punished for manslaughter only. Whether that would have been right or wrong, we do not stop to consider. The fact of the discretionary disposition is all that concerns us. But the *Jiji's* contention is that a Judge should have power to acquit altogether if he considers that the provocative circumstances warrant such a course. Would a judge ever be prepared to accept such a responsibility? Would it be wholesome that he should have competence to assume it? The *Jiji* appears to us to be confounding the roles of a judge and of a jury. The jury is an emotional affair. It allows itself to be swayed by sentiment, and under the influence of sentiment juries in France and America have sanctioned crimes which, though they admitted large extenuation, certainly should not have been left altogether unpunished. A judge will never be found to take that course, and we are very far from thinking that society would be a gainer if he did. Once admit the principle that mood or motive justifies bloodshed, and the result will be a distinct stop toward degeneration.

The BARDENS case may be noted in this contest. Mr. BARDENS accidentally struck a little child with his whip as he was driving along the streets. There is not the least doubt that the thing was accidental. Still he was summoned by the parents of the child. The Court acquitted him, not because of the accidental nature of the affair, but because the child had not suffered any injury of which the law could take cognisance. The Judge probably found no other lawful plea for exercising discretion. But it was not a satisfactory ending. If there had been evidence that Mr. BARDENS was in the habit of flourishing his whip recklessly, or of using if in such a manner as to endanger persons in his neighbourhood, he might still have escaped on the ground taken by the Court. But a pure accident should have been treated as such, the act that caused it not having been in itself unlawful. The judge's discretion does not seem to have extended so far.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Japan in Transition, by J. STAFFORD RANSOME; London, Messrs. Harper and Brothers.

"ON the subject of all matters Japanese," says Mr. Ransome, "the local foreigners resident in Japan are so clearly divided into two camps that there is always an endeavour to class a writer on Japan in one of the two categories. He is stated to be either 'pro-Japanese' or 'anti-Japanese.' If an author allows a knowledge of that fact to affect his writings his book is bound to be colourless. If, on the other hand, he steers his own course, and in dealing with his subject frankly gives his impressions for what they are worth, he is bound to say something from time to time to which certain people will take exception; for if a particular point of view should meet with the approval of one section of the community, another section will certainly disapprove of it. I have adopted the latter alternative in writing this book: that is to say, I have given my own opinions without any attempt at hedging." That is an exact statement of what Mr. Ransome has actually done. It is not often that an author's description of his own programme tallies so accurately with his manner of carrying it out. Our recollection reverts at this point to the case of an eminent individual who visited Japan some twenty five years ago. He came on naval business, but the idea of writing a book occurred to him, as it occurs to most visitors, at a very early stage. His announced programme was exactly Mr. Ransome's:—"Just what I see and think: no generalizations." But the result was one of the most dogmatic, generalizing works ever produced on Japan. Generalizations are too often the resource of ignorance, especially when the average foreigner writes about a country like Japan which is virtually a *terra incognita* to him. It is a pleasure, therefore, to meet an author of Mr. Ransome's type, who simply tells us what he thinks and his reasons for thinking it. He will very soon learn, we suspect, the correctness of his own estimate that, if a man speaks frankly about Japan, he is certain to find hostile critics in one camp or the other. Indeed, Mr. Ransome throws down the gauntlet on the very threshold of his work, for his description of the position occupied by a foreign settlement towards Japan will be severely traversed by many foreigners:—

> In order to understand the position, let us try and imagine that there is established in England a treaty-port, say at Wapping Old Stairs, or other convenient locality for shipping; and that in pursuit of their business, a highly respectable class of Japanese tradesmen have established themselves there; that they have built their own houses, live their own lives, wear their own clothes, are under their own jurisdiction, and do not bother to learn our language (for the treaty-port foreigner in Japan, with very rare exceptions, never troubles to learn Japanese). Let us further assume that this imaginary Japanese community in England are in the habit of publishing daily newspapers violently denouncing everything that is British, simply because the methods of the English dock-labourers, cabmen, interpreters, and runners, who hang around their settlement for the purpose of getting what they can out of the residents, are not particularly scrupulous or high-minded. We should say at once that the criticism was unfair, and that the Japanese at Wapping were not in a position to form an accurate estimate of England and the English; that they were basing their opinions of the former on a place which, by reason of its being outside British jurisdiction, was really not England at all; and, of the latter, on people who could not be looked upon as representative specimens of English people generally. We should add that very few respectable Englishmen, if they could afford to do otherwise, would care to live in Wapping under treaty-port conditions, they would prefer residing among their compatriots in a part of England where extra-territoriality did not exist.

That is not pleasant hearing, yet, on the whole, it is more accurate than misleading. The state of affairs described by Mr. Ransome is, to a great extent, inevitable, nor can we fairly say that anyone is particularly to blame for it. The average foreigner is here for business purposes, and does not care to be troubled about anything outside his business. Japanese society has as little interest for him as Japanese politics. He does his own work, has his own circle of acquaintances and amusements, and regards the problems of the country with supreme indifference. There is a good deal to be said in favour of his mood and a good deal to be said against it, but we do not propose to discuss the pros and cons. Our concern is with Mr. Ransome, who simply sketches the picture without writing any legend under it. Through this medium of indifference largely tinged with dislike, the foreign visitor has to pass *en route* for the interior of the country. Sometimes he takes his colour from the medium; sometimes he escapes its influence, and delivers himself up a willing victim to the glamour of the novel and picturesque conditions that he finds beyond. In the former case he becomes one of those that can see nothing good in Japan, and his writings are applauded as fine, manly expositions of the truth, for it is a part of the peculiar theory of the settlement mouthpieces that not to condemn everything Japanese is to be unmanly and insincere, if not venal. In the latter case he becomes an "eater of the lotus," and draws a picture so exaggerated and unreal as to be almost nauseating. These two classes of writers probably react upon each other. Each

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is driven by the other's opposition to extremes which parody his real opinions. Mr. Ransome undertakes to stand between the two, and has carried his intention into excellent and interesting practice. He denies the allegation that Japan has put on only a veneer of Western civilization, but he admits that there are some artificial elements in her imposing edifice of progress. He justly protests against the often repeated fallacy that everything in Japan is "little," that the Japanese never take a serious view of life, but he appreciates the appearances which have created these delusions. He traverses the charge that the standard of morality in Japan is exceptionally low, but he does not deny that, if certain Western legal and theoretical codes be taken as tests, there is a good deal to justify the condemnation. In short, he holds the scales of justice and moderation very level in all that he writes, and he shows, at the same time, a remarkably intimate knowledge of his subject. Of course he is not always accurately informed. For example, speaking of the standing of the foreigner, he says:—"In times gone by, and not so very long ago, the foreign advisers were the active responsible directors. They had the organizing and practical working out of their various subjects, and carried on the management of their respective departments." That is a great misconception. Japan's foreign employés were never at any time invested with such powers. We believe that if they had been she would have found their services far more valuable. Again, in Mr. Ransome's chapter on "the prospects of Christianity" there are palpable evidences that, instead of employing his own faculty of shrewd observation, he has allowed his opinions to be strongly coloured by the very medium he condemns at the outset. It is a mere historical error that he should speak of the "Dutch" as having "preached Christianity in Japan centuries ago," but it is a different kind of error to say that the missionaries have been in the habit of counting as converts every Japanese pupil attending their schools; that the "Japanese professor, or other experienced adviser, says to the young man starting on his travels, 'You had better buy a Bible and go to church while you are away;'" that "the time which should be devoted by the missionaries to Christianizing Japan is largely taken up by degrading squabbles between the representatives of the various shades of Protestantism about their respective methods and the details of their faith;" that "many of the missionaries, though paid as missionaries, run a successful commerce in connection with their religious work;" that "Christianity, in the true sense of the word, as far as the Japanese are concerned, is in as bad a state as it possibly could be without being absolutely extinct;" and that "the most painful part of it all is that this has been mainly brought about by a large section of the men whose care it should have been to look after it." These and similarly exaggerated remarks about the lives of ease and comfort led by the average missionary, are simply echoes of the after-dinner talk heard among the most prejudiced and ignorant section of the foreign residents—men who, from the moment of their arrival in Japan, set about abusing the missionary without taking the trouble to learn anything accurate about his life and doings. Mr. Ransome has here been greatly misled, and he does still greater violence to his own sound judgment when he writes as follows:—

> And yet, and this is the irony of fate, there is a distinct possibility that Japan may, within a few years, suddenly become a "Christian" country. Such an eventuality would not, however, be the result of conviction, nor of sympathy with Christianity, nor would it be due to the preachings of the present day missionary, but in spite of them. Should it take place, it would mean that a law had been passed establishing Christianity as the national religion, and the Japanese people would accept the change without troubling themselves. This would have been enacted from a similar motive to that which has prompted Japan to purchase ironclads, to adopt a gold currency, and to educate her people on modern lines. It would be merely the logical following out of her policy of putting herself on a level footing in all respects with the rest of the civilised world.

Even if Japan had not a constitution which renders such an outlook wholly impossible, only a little knowledge of the nation's mood is required to understand the fallacy of the forecast. It is a pity that this chapter on the "Prospects of Christianity" was not omitted from Mr. Ransome's otherwise most valuable and instructive volume. We find it a real pleasure to peruse the reflections of a shrewd, level-headed observer, who has not allowed himself to be unduly swayed by any of the influences with which a foreigner comes into contact in the beaten path of Japanese investigation, and who renders his views into strong lucid English, entirely free from "fine writing" or curious mannerisms.

The Perils of Josephine, by Lord Ernest Hamilton; London, Mr. Fisher Unwin.

It is very refreshing in these latter days to come across a novel built up on the old-fashioned lines chosen by Lord Ernest Hamilton. There is nothing here of the wretched sex problem; no laying bare of hideous psychological monstrosities; no subtle analysis of the reason or non-reason for wrong-doing on the part of hero or heroine. Instead, we have a straightforward tale, written in clear English; a tale any one can take up, be honestly interested in, and then lay down with a sense of pleasure at the close. We will not outline the story—it is but a family skeleton that is carefully clothed with the garments of fiction, and throughout there is a sufficiency of characterization. We have all met the bright, breezy English heroine, her very acceptable lover, the scheming Roman Catholic priest, and such a country squire and his people in a dozen good novels, and yet so well are the puppets manipulated that the book once begun leads the reader on to the finish without any sense of boredom. Decidedly the work is better done than one, or perhaps it is better to say *the two* other books, which Lord Ernest has presented to the world.

In Mr. Murray's list of new and recent publications, in the current *Quarterly Review*, we find the following volume mentioned: Early Chapters in Science, being a popular account of the Elements of Natural History, Botany, Physics, Physiology, Chemistry, &c., &c., by Mrs. Awdry (wife of the Bishop of South Tokyo). The book is edited and annotated by W.F. Barrett, F.R.S., Professor of Experimental Physics at the College of Science, Dublin. It has numerous illustrations, is crown 8*vo*. and sells at 6*s*. The book is divided in two parts—*Classification*: Mammalia—Birds—Reptiles and Amphibians—Fishes—Invertebrate Animals—Physiology of Plants—Plant Life. *The Forces of Nature*: Forces at Work—Three States of Matter—Weight and Pressure—Heat—Light—Sound—Chemistry—Electricity. *Literature*, writing about Mrs. Awdry's book, says:—"It deserves a warm welcome from all teachers of the young. . . . The illustrations are models of clear, careful, and unconventional work."

CORRESPONDENCE

THE DECADENCE OF DEMOCRACY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of yesterday you referred to the decadence of democracy and its inability through want of knowledge to understand foreign affairs, a state of things which is only too true and should engage the most serious consideration of all Anglo-Saxons. Under existing conditions the British Foreign Office is in the hands of a Secretary of State who is dependent for his tenure of office upon the vagaries of an elected Chamber, the majority of whose members have little practical knowledge of foreign countries, and who in their turn are dependent on the votes of an electorate who usually have never left their own country. This sort of thing may be in accordance with radical republican theories, but it is time that the British Empire had something better and more in accordance with common sense, especially as we are getting more and more in contact with the great Powers. At present our Foreign Minister has to attend to Cabinet meetings, the House of Lords, Primrose meetings, parochial legislation, and foreign affairs, whereas the last alone are important enough to take up his whole attention. It would perhaps be advisable to place the Foreign Office in the hands of a Council of six or seven men all of whom should have had a practical experience abroad for about 25 years as Viceroys, Ambassadors, Governors, Diplomats. This body might hold the same position as our judges do, and form an advisory council free from local politics, and therefore better able to form a greater continuity of policy than is possible at present, whilst the Foreign Minister could be their intermediary with Parliament.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

ENGLISHMAN.

Mampei Hotel, Karuizawa,
Aug. 26th, 1899.

PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I beg to enclose for publication, together with this letter, the concluding correspondence that has taken place between the Chairman of the Public Hall Association and myself.

The delay in forwarding it is due to my only having just returned to Hakodate after a tour in the Hokkaido.

It will be seen that in the month of July last and for some time previously, the Public Hall Association was without a Board of Directors, the minimum number necessary to constitute a Board being, by the Articles, 5 shareholders. Consequently all the letters addressed to me in that month by Mr. Gay were, it would seem, written without authority, whilst the calling of the "special" general meeting was improper (no Board existing), and the resolutions passed thereat were without any validity.

It will also be seen by the correspondence, and the opinion (unsigned) on which Mr. Gay relies, that, even assuming a Board existed, the meeting held in July was not either an ordinary or extraordinary general meeting, the only two kinds of meeting sanctioned by the Articles, but a private informal meeting. Did any of the shareholders attending that meeting so regard it? And if it was intended to be a private informal meeting and not a formal general meeting, why was not this stated, and why were reporters admitted and a full report permitted to be published in the local papers? Why were formal resolutions submitted and why did Mr. Gay write to me on the 20th July "in accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting of shareholders of the Public Hall Association,' when he now maintains that nothing done was formally done, the meeting being only called *for the purpose of giving shareholders information and for consultation?* If shareholders were only called together to be "consulted," how could they pass a resolution on the authority of which Mr. Gay

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could write to me, and of what value was such an expression of views when the so-called resolution was passed (see your report) by 5 to 3. 4 of such 5 being the Directors of which the Board then consisted, whilst the shareholders "consulted" voted 3 to 1 against it.

I trust that these facts will further tend to convince shareholders who take any interest in the Hall, as well as the general public, h w necessary it is that the existing association should be no longer carried on as at present (even if feasible under Japanese law, which is certainly more than doubtful), but reconstructed and put on a sound footing by the adoption of some such scheme as that I suggested, and in which I was and am prepared to join.

I may, in conclusion, be again permitted to point out that the idea of the present Public Hall Association originated with me, that I framed its organization, that I obtained the subscription of a very large part of the original capital and of the debentures, and that no one can be better aware than I am that, constituted as it was to suit a condition of affairs that then permitted such an Association, the whole organization is now not only imperfect, but no longer adapted to present circumstances.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Hakodate, August 26th, 1899

To the Chairman, Public Hall Association Board of Directors.

Dear Sir,—I arrived here yesterday after 12 days' travel through North J pan and have to acknowledge your official letter of the 27th July (sic) and two unofficial letters dated July 23rd—one referring to the non-signature of "the letter I sent you yesterday" and the other also referring to "my letter of yesterday," saying it should read "the offer is now repeated."

This "letter of yesterday" must, I presume, be the one dated the 27th July. If so, I may say that letter was not signed, and that it reads "this offer is now rejected."

I trust that with these various corrections and amendments made, your letter now presents itself to me in its intended form.

Before concluding this correspondence, however, I would ask you to be so good as to inform me whether it is the fact, as I am credibly informed is the case, that when the meeting of the 18th July was called and held the Board of Directors consisted of 4 gentlemen, namely, yourself and Messrs. Thomas, Read, and J. Walter, whilst the minimum number of Directors must by the Articles of Association be not less than 5. I should also be glad to know whether such meeting was called as an Extraordinary General Meeting and, if not, under which article of the Articles it was summoned. That it was an Extraordinary General Meeting would seem to be clear, because you informed me that you wrote to me "in accordance with a resolution passed," whilst any meeting but an extraordinary general meeting would have no power to pass a resolution, and I have no doubt it is entered as a resolution in the minutes of the meeting.

My address, until the 25th inst., will be as above.

I am, dear sir, Yours faithfully,

(Signed.) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

Hakodate, August 3rd, 1898.

Montague Kirkwood, Esq., Hakodate.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 3rd instant, reached me to-day.

My official letter to which you refer as dated the 27th July should have been the 22nd. This and another mistake was made in typewriting from the original, and I therefore hand you herewith a corrected copy, which I beg you to substitute for the one you have, and I shall be obliged if you will return the previous copy to me.

In reply to your question as to the number of Directors on the Board when the meeting of July 18th was called, I have to say there were only the four gentlemen, whose names you give, on the Board at that time. The death of Mr. Keil and the late retirement of Mr. Bayne had reduced the number for a time, but the Board now contains the required number, or five in all.

With regard to the meeting of the 18th ult. it was called, as the notice, which I presume you received, and as was advertised in the local papers, as "A Special General Meeting."

Special General Meetings, it is true, are not mentioned in the Articles of Association, but this does not prevent the Board of Directors from calling meetings of shareholders for the purpose of giving information and for consultation. Enclosed is a legal opinion upon the subject.

I am, your obedient servant,

(Signed) A O GAY.

Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Yokohama, August 7th, 1899

OPINION.—YOKOHAMA PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

The Articles of Association provide for the holding of two kinds of meeting, and two only, namely, an Ordinary General Meeting, and an Extraordinary General Meeting. A special general meeting is one not contemplated by the Articles.

"A special resolution" is one that has been passed by the requisite majority at either an ordinary or an extraordinary general meeting, and subsequently confirmed, of which notice specifying the intention to propose such resolution has been duly given.

An opinion or vote given by shareholders at a special or other general meeting in a matter on which no resolution has been formulated in the notice calling the meeting, does not constitute "A Special Resolution" as defined in the Articles of Association.

The vote passed at the meeting held on the 18th July does not, therefore, require confirmation. It may be treated as a mere expression of opinion, at an informal meeting, or in meeting in regard to which the Directors desired to ascertain the wishes of the shareholders.

Yokohama, July 24th, 1899.

WATER FROLICS AT YOKOHAMA.

The annual water sports of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club are always enjoyable. Indeed, the fixture is perhaps the jolliest of the Club's yearly sporting meetings, for, except to the competitors, the spring and autumn regattas are generally deadly dull and the swimming and diving competitions are likewise attractive to the few. But the water-sports are on another plane of enjoyment altogether, as the crowded state of the verandah on Saturday afternoon testified. The weather was warm, as is only natural at this time of year, and the swimmers would have liked a little more breeze than was about, but the spectaters within the shelter of the boat-house found everything most delightful. A band was provided—but the less said about the music it discoursed the better; doubtless it did its very best, and we should ever be thankful for small mercies. The Committee in charge of affairs were:—Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President; Mr. F. J. Hall, Captain; Dr. E. Wheeler, Messrs. James Walter, W. Goddard, Rev E. C. Irwine, Messrs. H. Rose, H. E. Hayward; G. C. Allcock, Hon. Treasurer; E. Levedag, Hon Secretary. These gentlemen kept affairs going as briskly as it is possible to keep such things in Yokohama, and though they started punctually the shades of evening were falling ere the last event concluded. The programme opened with a Tournament, but owing to some of the competitors not turning up, the first round produced but one contest, that between J. A. Hayes and C. H. van Dorp. Hayes easily prodded Van Dorp from the punt into the briny, and then Messrs. A. Kingdom, D. Weed, J. E. Moss, W. M. Squire and W. M. Carst, each took a bye. The Greasy Pole came next. The programme showed 15 entries, but only 6 men came up to scratch. As usual the performances of the various competitors evoked roars of laughter. Carst was an easy winner. Afterwards the duck was set afloat and allowed to swim in to the boathouse steps, the bird's course being guided by various of the swimmers. The Blindfold Race which followed was equally amusing to onlookers. Six, out of nine entries, started, and for the first ten yards the men kept a straight course. Then they began to diverge. One swam off to the foreshore at the base of the flagstaff: a pair made for the Creek entrance and being sure (by the sound of each other's strokes) that they were right, stuck gamely to it; one went on suspiciously in the direction of the Grand Hotel foreshore: and as each struck the stones or shallow water, shouts of laughter went up from the spectators, in which the baffled swimmers, on uncovering, heartily joined. The race was then reduced by half and restarted and A. Kingdon, who proceeded on the principle of "slow but sure," won, with Barfoot second. The second round of the Tournament next engaged attention. Squire beat Kingdon, Carst beat Weed—both easy victories; J. E. Moss, after a tough struggle, downed Strome; and Manley beat Hayes. The fifth event was a team race. This was arranged as follows:—

LEFT.	CENTRE.	RIGHT.
D. Weed.	W. M. Squire.	E. J. Moss, Jr.
W. M. Carst.	A. Kingdon.	J. E. Moss.
E. H. Irwine.	H. A. Poole.	H. S. Goddard.
H. Goddard.	M. F. Stephens.	H. E. Hayward.

Weed gained a long lead in the first round which the other teams never managed to wipe out, and although Irwine at one time was overtaken by Poole, H. Goddard in the last round came in easily ahead. Next, two Japanese swimmers—Messrs. Mizoguchi and Ikebe Masahito—gave an exhibition of skill which proved graceful as well as clever. During the performance Mizoguchi, treading water, discharged a musket twice. The semi-final of the Tournament produced some spirited prodding. Squire first upset Carst; then Carst overthrew Squire; and finally Squire overturned Carst again. Moss won the first of the next round against Manley, Manley won the second, and Moss the third. The final bout of all came off later and then Moss had to succumb to Squire, the heavier man of the two. The Steeplechase brought out five starters. The men dived from the top of the bathing-barge, next scrambled through life-belts, then crawled over a spar suspended between two sampans, and finally dashed home. H. Goddard had an easy win, with D. Weed second, and W. M. Carst third. The Water Polo match was well contested. Neither side scored in the first half, though White made two capital shots at goal. On change of ends Red, playing well-together, worked the ball down the course and almost scored. Then White "bucked-up" and made a point which induced Red to do likewise just before time was called. The teams were:—

RED.		WHITE.
J. E. Moss.	For-wards.	H. Goddard, Capt.
H. Y. Irwine.		E. H. Irwine.
D. Weed.		H. S. Goddard.
C. H. Van Dorp.		E. M. Barnby.
H. E. Hayward, Capt.	½ Back.	A. Kingdon.
J. S. Tanner.	Back.	H. A. Poole.
E. Barfoot.		O. Strome.
H. K. A. Onderdonk.	Goal.	E. J. Moss, Jr.

The last event of the day, a Dinghy Race, was won by Carst and Van Dorp.

SWIMMING AND DIVING COMPETITIONS AT HAKONE.

Some very interesting aquatic sports took place in Hakone on Thursday, August 24th. Sir Nicholas Hannen kindly lent his pretty garden for the occasion and a large number of people assembled there at 4 o'clock in the afternoon to witness the fun. The prizes, some of which were exceedingly handsome, had been presented by the visitors or bought by the Committee. They were tastefully arranged on tables in the boat-house, where tea was also served; Sir Nicholas Hannen and Judge Wil-

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kinson acted as judges, and Dr. Little as starter. The first event on the programme was :—

I.—100 Yards Championship (Open).

1 M. Adler	5 K. von Fallot
2 P. Goddard	6 A. Chapman
3 C. F. Sweet	7 A. Lightbody
4 A. R. Pattison	8 J. Mason

The race, almost from the start, lay between Mr. Adler of Shanghai and Karl von Fallot—the latter forging ahead when nearly at the goal and winning by several yards. The 1st prize was a silver cup presented by Mr. E. Wilkinson.

II.—30 Yards Ladies' Championship.

1 Mrs. Pattison	5 Miss Takayanagi
2 Miss Dening	6 Miss Margot von Fallot
3 Miss von Fallot	7 Miss A. Ross
4 Miss F. von Fallot	

This well contested race was won by Miss F. von Fallot; Miss Margot von Fallot coming in a close second. 1st prize, large eggshell box.

III.—Diving (Open) (3 Tries.)

Ladies.	Gentlemen.
1 Miss H. Conder	1 C. F. Sweet
2 Mrs. A. Pattison	2 A. Lightbody
3 Miss F. von Fallot	3 A. Chapman
4 Miss H. von Fallot	4 K. von Fallot
5 Miss M. Takayanagi	5 P. L. Goddard
	6 M. Adler
	7 J. Brinkley
	8 A. R. Pattison
	9 G. Mason

Some very good diving was done by Mrs. Pattison, who took the first ladies' prize, and Miss Takayanagi, who gained the second. Both prizes were handsome red lacquer boxes, presented by Sir Nicholas Hannen.

Mrs. Hyde Pearson presented the gentlemen's diving prize, which was won by Mr. A. Lightbody, Mr. P. L. Goddard, of H. M. S. *Victorious*, running him very close.

IV.—Under Water Race with Dive (2 Tries.)

1 C. Sweet	5 M. Alder
2 A. R. Pattison	6 K. von Fallot
3 P. L. Goddard	7 J. Mason
4 A. Lightbody	

The prize for this race, a pair of handsome cuff links, was gained by Mr. Pattison, who swam 105 feet under water; Karl von Fallot doing a very quick 78 feet.

V.—10 Yards Novices.

1 A. Sweet	4 Berty Cahusac
2 Ida Pattison	5 F. Mosher
3 Maidie Cahusac	6 Herbert St. John

This was a children's race and was won by little Agnes Sweet.

VI.—Tub Race (First Heat) 30 Yards.

1 A. Sweet	3 P. Goddard
2 A. Ross	4 J. Mason

2nd heat.	3rd heat.
1 A. Lightdody	1 M. Adler
2 M. von Fallot	2 A. Pattison
3 K. von Fallot	3 Mrs. Pattison
4 H. von Fallot	4 R. St. John

Final.

1 Miss H. von Fallot.
2 Robert St. John.

This amusing feat was "paddled" in three heats, and after much up-setting and a great deal of laughter was won by Robert St. John.

VII.—Swimming on Back (25 yds.) (open).

1 A. R. Pattison	6 M. von Fallot
2 A. Lightbody	7 M. Adler
3 F. Sweet	8 P. L. Goddard
4 H. von Fallot	9 J. Brinkley
5 F. von Fallot	

Mr. P. L. Goddard won this race, which was closely contested by Mr. F. Sweet and Mr. A. Lightbody. His quiet and graceful style of swimming is to be particularly commended.

VIII.—25 Yards Novices.

1 A. Sweet	4 R. St. John
2 B. Cahusac	5 J. Pattison
3 M. Cahusac	

This second children's race was won by Robert St. John.

IX.—50 Yards Ladies' Handicap.

1 Mrs. Pattison	Scratch.
2 Miss von Fallot	3 secs.
3 Miss F. von Fallot	5 secs.
4 Miss M. von Fallot	7 secs.
5 Miss H. Conder	12 secs.

The silver cup presented by Mr. Alder for this race was won by Miss Margot von Fallot; the second prize, by Mrs. Pattison.

X.—Quarter Mile Handicap.

1 Karl von Fallot	Scratch.
2 F. Sweet	15 secs.
3 A. Pattison	35 secs.
4 Takahashi	35 secs.
5 P. Goddard	45 secs.
6 J. Brinkley	1m. 5s.
7 H. von Fallot	1m. 5s.
8 M. von Fallot	2 min.

This final contest was the race of the day, the first prize being a pair of silver vases presented by Mr. E. Wilkinson; the second prize a dainty egg-shell box the gift of Miss Bullock.

Mr. Pattison got well away to the front at first, and it was not till the end of the third lap that R. von Fallot overtook him and came in an easy first. Mr. Pattison came in second, and Jack Brinkley (12 years old) reaching the goal as third, deserves particular praise for his plucky efforts against the older and stronger men. The race was swum in 8.' 45." Miss Hannen, owing to the illness of Lady Hannen presented the prizes with a graceful compliment to each of the victors.

Sir Nicholas, in a few well-chosen words, expressed his pleasure at the success of these, the first aquatic sports ever held in Hakone; and thanking those, who, by their efforts, had provided such a very delightful afternoon's entertainment.

KOBE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

We take the following from the *Hiogo Evening News* of Aug. 25 :—The result of the poll for the election of the Advisory Committee was declared last night shortly after half-past seven as follows :—

E. H. Gill (American)	174
A. C. Sim (British)	173
Ch. Lange de la Camp (German)	166
T. W. Hellyer (British)	136
H. Pitteri (French)	87
A. G. M. Weale (British)	78
H. E. Reynell (British)	53
J. B. Gomes (Portuguese)	42
E. H. Hunter (British)	18

Mr. Hunter, it should be stated, issued an "Express" in the course of the afternoon announcing his withdrawal. Mr. A. H. Groom was the Returning Officer, and was assisted in counting the votes by Messrs. R. Young, P. S. Cabeldu, J. Marshall, F. H. Olmstead, W. Vehling, and P. Hagen. The poll is said to be the largest ever taken among foreign residents in Kobe, 222 persons having voted. There were only eight spoilt papers.

It will be noticed that the Committee consists of two Britishers, one American, one German, and one Frenchman. The five British candidates had, between them, a total of 448 votes. It is somewhat of a surprise to see that the number of votes recorded for Mr. Gomes is so small, as it was generally stated that he could depend on nearly 100 Portuguese electors to plump for him.

Shanghai mandarins are saying that the Empress Dowager's High Commissioner Kang Yi has secretly memorialised her upon the importance of reconstructing the Woosung forts, and that there are indications tending to show that the Empress Dowager will grant permission to restore the forts in question.

A TRAMP TO KUSATSU AND SHIRANE-SAN.

By R. B. Peery, Ph D.

Stimulated by the successful ascent of Asama, I had an irresistible desire to climb Shirane-san; and a few days later I started for the mountain. Shirane san is one of the most active and interesting volcanoes in Japan, and just at this time* it was especially interesting because of its unusual activity. Ten days before I made the ascent the greatest eruption known in this generation occurred, and milder eruptions had followed almost daily.

This volcano is situated in the province of Joshiu, about one hundred miles north-west of Tokyo. It can easily be reached by tourists. The ascent is made from a town called Kusatsu, about twenty-five miles from Karuizawa. I made this journey on horseback, and the ride was delightful. The road passes through the beautiful park-like woods around the base of Asama, and then over miles of vast virgin prairie, until it enters a cool dark ravine with a rollicking little mountain river. The last few miles of the road I found steep and tiresome.

When I was yet several miles from Kusatsu my attention was attracted by a peculiar blue-black deposit on the leaves and grass, which gradually became thicker as I approached the town. An old woman at a tea-house told me that it was sulphur and ashes which had fallen from the heavens like snow, ten days before. The recent eruption of Shirane had covered the whole neighbourhood within ten miles of the mountain with this deposit.

I arrived in Kusatsu some time before night, and took a room in the summer-house of a good native hotel. It was furnished with a small table, two chairs, and a coarse bedstead; luxuries not often found in the interior. Depositing my baggage, I went out to see the town before nightfall, my genial host kindly acting as guide. There is hardly anything that a Japanese innkeeper of the old type will not do for the accommodation of his guests.

KUSATSU.

This town is worthy of special description. It is a beautiful place, nestling in the lap of the mountains; an artistic picture, set in an everlasting frame. As it is a famous watering-place, visited by thousands of people annually, every house is a hotel; and some of the buildings are nice and large, with three or four storeys. In striking contrast to the ordinary Japanese town, the general appearance is neat, clean, and attractive.

Here are the most famous hot springs in all Japan. They are highly mineral, their chief constituents being sulphur, iron, alum, and arsenic. The temperature is unusual, even for this land of hot water. Where the water boils up in the enclosed space in the centre of the town, it ranges from 100° to 160° Farh. From the springs the water is drawn off to the baths in wooden pipes, and is slightly cooled in the passage. The temperature of the baths ranges from 113° to 128°. The sulphur is so strong that the wooden pipes are coated with it in certain places to the thickness of one inch, and the whole town is redolent of it.

The healing power of these baths is great, it being especially beneficial in cases of rheumatism, gout, leprosy, and all skin diseases. Their power to cure incipient leprosy has been established by actual experience. In its first stages the disease in entirely cured, while confirmed lepers are much benefited.

The water is so hot that even Japanese, inured to hot water from infancy, have not the courage to go alone. So there are bath masters, and the routine is gone through under semi-military drill. About six times per day a man walks through the principal streets blowing a bugle, and at this signal all the bathers gather at the public bath houses. I followed a crowd of men and women to the central bath-house, and this is what I saw :—

Three large pools of hot water, of different temperatures, and a bath master at each. A

* August, 1897.

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crowd of men and women, about fifty in number, in a perfectly nude condition, were standing around the edge of the baths, ready to begin. They first enter the coolest bath, then the middle one, and finally the hottest. When all were ready the bathers were directed to pour one hundred dippers of hot water on their heads, to prevent congestion. The whole party began together, and for ten minutes the pouring continued in military order. Then the people were told to lower their feet into the water as far as the knees. Gradually, with groans and cries of pain, they are lowered. A minute's rest was given, and a large clock marked the time. To encourage the tortured people the masters would call out, "quarter minute," "half minute," "minute"; and at each call the people responded with a peculiar chorus-chant. When this first period had expired the bathers were directed to descend until the water came to the waist, and they slowly and painfully complied. Then, after another minute of agony, they were ordered to sink further, until the water reached the neck. Slowly, with cries and groans, they sink down into this almost boiling water, while the masters encourage them by marking the time again. When the last minute in over, at a given signal, they all bound out of the water with a shout of relief, their bodies red as lobsters.

The strong minerals make the skin very tender, and bring out sores at all weak places; and after the first few days the baths become a real torture. Many people begin the course and afterwards fall away, but those who persevere in five of six baths per day for one month are pretty sure to be cured of their plague.

From the baths I went to visit the leper village. This is separated from the rest of the town, and has its own hotels, shops, and bath-houses. Although required to live in a village apart, and use their own separate baths, the lepers are permitted to visit the main town without hindrance; and any one who desires to go has free access to their village.

It is a loathsome place. All the people bear the hideous marks of leprosy, and their bodies are in various stages of decay. I saw some without noses, some without eyes, some without ears, others without arms or legs. As would be expected, in these extreme stages the course of baths can do no more than check the progress of the disease, and render the patient a little less uncomfortable. This afflicted town was busily engaged in all kinds of business, just like other people. There were leper shoemakers, leper merchants, leper barbers, and leper doctors. Strange to say, I even heard laughter and singing here. Are hope and joy indestructible?

By the time I had seen this village darkness had fallen on the town and hills, and I returned to my hotel. A good supper of rice, fish and vegetables awaited me, and after my long ride I enjoyed it thoroughly. As a special treat, my host set out some real foreign cookies for dessert, for which I was very grateful.

In the room adjoining mine was a young Japanese who wanted to talk English. These young men who are anxious to exploit their English are generally unpleasant, and I was tempted to snub this one; but the accuracy with which he used our beautiful speech impressed me favourably, and I asked him where he had studied the foreign tongue. Imagine my surprise when he replied calmly, "In Cornell and Yale Universities." After that I felt no more disposition to snub him, and found him an agreeable companion. When he learned that I was going up the mountain next day he asked permission to join me, which I gladly granted.

Shirane-san.

Early next morning I secured a guide and started for the mountain, accompanied by my Japanese acquaintance above mentioned. Since the eruption the ascent is considered dangerous, and we were warned not to attempt it; but I was anxious to see the mountain just at that time, and gave no heed to the warning. The crater is about six miles distant from the town, and is seven thousand feet high. The ascent is more gradual than that of most Japanese mountains, and we walked along easily and rapidly until we were two thirds of the way up. It was a bright summer morning, just suited to a long mountain tramp.

As we walked along engaged in light conversation my companion remarked that he expected a friend to visit him next week from New York, and was anticipating much pleasure from the visit, as this man and he were school mates and members of the same fraternity. I asked indifferently to what fraternity he belonged, and was much surprised to hear my own named. Here on this mountain, by a mere accident, I found the first "frater" I had met in the East. We were fast friends from that time onward.

We followed the Shibu road for several miles until we reached a high mountain pass, then turned off to the left and followed the range. Above us could be seen the great crater, bleak and bare, the side towards us covered with rough stones. A steady column of smoke was pouring up high into the sky. By-and-by we came to a dead forest that was blasted by a former eruption; each limb and twig of which remains perfect and intact, though lifeless.

The climb in the hot morning sun made us thirsty and we soon drank up the scant supply of water our guide brought, and wanted more. The guide told us we should come to a small stream further on; and after climbing a long time our ears were charmed by the music of rippling water in a little ravine just beyond us. On approaching it I noticed that the water looked suspiciously white and milky, but being so thirsty I stooped down and took a large draught—only to spew it out quickly. It was so strong of sulphur and alum that it drew up the mouth like green persimmons. My chagrin and disappointment was great, but fortunately we found a clear spring of good cool water a little further on.

By this time we had gotten high up on the mountain. Fresh earth was turned up here and there in patches, just as though some one had been digging, and I wondered what had done it. The farther we went the larger and more frequent these spots became, and their cause was soon manifest. In the recent eruption innumerable stones were vomited forth from the crater far into the sky, and they had torn the earth up in this fashion in falling. Fresh sulphurous stones were lying around thick, many of them having broken and scattered in all directions as they fell. Some of them were small; others almost as large as a house. Some had fallen with such force as to completely bury themselves in the earth; others were only partially buried. There was hardly any space that was not ploughed up by falling stones, and it would have been impossible to live there during the eruption. The whole mountain looked as I imagine a battlefield does, after the ground has been torn to pieces by artillery fire.

Farther on we came to the fresh ashes, and for a half mile we walked in ashes, and sulphur over our shoe tops. Near the top of the mountain we came upon the ruins of a village inhabited until recently by the labourers engaged in the large sulphur industry here. The burning lake yields vast quantities of crude sulphur, and taking and refining it was a lucrative business, furnishing employment to some forty men. The labourers went right down into the crater by a circuitous path, and gathered the crude sulphur around the edge of the burning lake. It was then taken to the village by little tramways, where there was a refinery run by a large engine. It would be interesting to know how they ever got the engine on the mountain. The whole plant was ruined by the eruption, and the railways were buried in ashes and lava. The village with its fifteen or twenty houses was the completest wreck I have ever seen. Three-fourths of the buildings were utterly demolished, and half buried. Those that were still standing were smashed into smithereens by falling stones, there being hardly a foot of the roofs and walls that had not been penetrated through and through. It was a most desolate ruin.

A pine grove just below the village was charred and blasted; the trees were still standing and the leaves yet adhered to them, but all was black and dead. The falling ashes and intense heat had taken away every vestige of life.

Strange as it may seem, not one person was injured in this eruption. Unusual voices in the mountain gave timely warning, and the people all fled to a place of safety, three miles away. One man was killed by a falling stone in a subsequent eruption, and another met a worse death by falling into the burning crater. He had ventured too close to the edge and the insecure bank gave way, letting him sink down into the fiery pit.

From the site of the village we made our way laboriously through the lava and ashes to the top of the crater. There is a slight opening in the rim on the south side, and through this we entered. I was both frightened and charmed. Just before us was a beautiful and awful sight. A level plateau of five or six acres, encircled by a mountain wall two or three hundred feet high; in the centre was a large deep hole, of perhaps two acres area, from which thick, dark clouds of steam and smoke were rolling up. From the depths below came a terrific roar that was deafening.

Our party, which had picked up some Japanese on the mountain and now numbered a half dozen, approached as near the inner crater as was deemed prudent, and looked down. The smoke, tinged red by the glowing flames, was shooting up thick and fast high into the sky above us. Far down in the abyss we could see the hot boiling mass, and hear the hissing and crackling of the internal fires. It was truly a sublime and terrible sight.

Formerly the burning lake was almost on a level with the plateau on which we stood, but in the eruption it sank far down into the earth and its whole outline was changed.

Compared with the crater of Asama, this one seems smaller and of less depth, but is far more active and violent. Asama is smouldering, but Shirane is burning vigorously. Shirane has two craters and we can safely enter the outer one; Asama has only one crater and no man can enter it.

There were in the outer crater, besides ourselves a watchman, stationed there to warn people of danger, and two scientists who were taking observations. While we were looking with awe at the exciting scene before us the noises gradually grew louder and more frightful, the hot breath of the mountain came up and burned our faces; and the flamy smoke became denser, and shot higher into the sky. Looking across at the other side I noticed the watchman running towards us at full speed. As soon as he came within calling distance he cried, "Run! run!" and when he was near enough he explained excitedly that such unusual noises were likely to be followed by an eruption, and we had better get out in a hurry. At the first word my companions took to their heels; but I found this new mood of the mountain interesting, and refused to go. The watchman remonstrated a little, and then ran away with the others, leaving me to my fate.

The roar was deafening, and the curling and twisting of the flames as they shot up into the sky were magnificent. Below was an angry sea of fire, writhing and curling in the bowels of the earth; while red and blue flames in hideous shapes and forms blazed far up into the heavens. While I gazed almost entranced I heard hurried feet running by me, and looking up saw those two dignified scientists making for the entrance as fast as they could. I joined them, and we all scrambled out in a hurry; and that was the last I saw of the fires of Shirane-san.

The alarm was false, as no eruption followed.

The descent was quickly accomplished, and we reached a tea-house on the Shibu road just at noon. Here we ate our lunch. A Japanese lunch, consisting for the most part of balls of cooked rice, is not very tempting, but we were hungry enough to eat anything. After a short rest my companions went back to Kusatsu, and I started alone across the country on foot for Shibu, seven miles distant.

The road leads over a high pass, and there

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is some fine scenery. For miles I walked through a deep mountain gorge, with high perpendicular cliffs on each side, and only room enough between them for the river and the road. The numerous water-falls in this gorge are so pretty that I sat down and took a long look at each of them. There was one most rare and curious sight—a geyser boiling up in the middle of the river. Being tired, and having plenty of time, I walked slowly and enjoyed nature thoroughly.

The evening gradually wore away and there was a lovely sun-set, such an one as can be seen only in Japan. To the west stretched mountain after mountain, and the horizon was covered with thin clouds—ready for the sun to make glorious. Gradually the King of Day drew near; and such tints of gold, red and blue as then lighted up the west are seldom seen. A few minutes of splendour, and the colours gradually faded away.

"The day was dying, and with feeble hands,
Caressed the mountain-tops,"

then vanished.

Just at twilight I entered the charming little village of

SHIBU.

Very clean and pretty it appeared in the evening shadows, as it lay between two dark hills. This is also a famous bathing resort. Unlike that at Kusatsu, the water here is mild and soothing; and for this reason many people who take the course of baths at the former place come here for a short after-cure, to soothe their festered skins. Almost every place in the town is a hotel, and the houses are much better than one would expect to find so far in the interior.

I secured a good room in one of the best inns, and prepared to be comfortable for the night. First I had a delicious bath in the mild mineral water, in a beautiful little private bath house. Then I called a blind shampooer and had my wearied limbs and muscles stretched and kneaded for one hour. This *massage* is very refreshing to a tired man, and it made me forget my weariness and whetted my appetite for supper. Out of the kindness of his heart, my host tried to make me a foreign meal; but the cooking was so bad I could not eat it and I had to order a plain Japanese supper. A well-cooked native meal is better than a badly cooked foreign one.

My bed was on the floor this time, but I would have slept well if the mosquitoes and fleas had let me alone. As it was, I slept little. When my readers have occasion to spend a night or two in a Japanese hotel let me advise them to have a plentiful supply of insect powder about them.

Five o'clock next morning found me up and ready to start on my journey again. I ate a hurried breakfast, paid fifty cents for my room, as much more for the food, and half as much for *chadai*; and then mounting the stage I set off for the railway station, twelve miles down the valley.

The stage was small and crowded, and I found it very uncomfortable. The horses were so poor and weak that I was tempted to walk out of pity for them, but there was not time enough in which to reach the train on foot.

After a lively jolting ride through nice farming districts for two hours we arrived at the station at half past eight, and I boarded the first train for Karuizawa, reaching there in time for a reputable noonday meal.

A London telegram states that the Judges who were presiding at the Assizes at Manchester closed the Court early in order to allow of the attendance of lawyers and officials at the test match between Australia and England. This reminds the *China Mail* of a Scotch Sheriff whose equilibrium was upset by the sight of an angler playing a large salmon in the river outside the Court. The officials, during the progress of the Court proceedings, kept His Lordship posted up by bulletins regarding the salmon and the angler.

POOR HANA.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

They call her "rashamen," creature vile,
This woman of sad, dark eye,
But listen, I pray, to the tale I tell,
I knew her in days gone by.

An orphan and poor, the ward of an Aunt,
She was married when but a child
As she thought, to a man from a foreign land,
Rich, handsome, of manners mild.

She loved this man with a warm, young love,
And grieved when he went away,
Treas'ring his promise of speedy return,
While she waited day after day.

At length the Aunt said, O Hana, you must
Stop thinking of him that's gone,
I will marry you now to a better than he—;
To-morrow it shall be done.

In desperate anguish, poor Hana, that night,
Decided to end her life,
Her husband, her Aunt, both had been false
She never had been a wife.

She entered the water; it reached her neck,
A wave rolled over her head,
'T'was so cold, so dark, so awful,—
She turned, her heart filled with dread.

She reached the shore but to faint away,
Recovering, she gained her room,
Where, ill for days, she dreaded the fate
That shadowed her with its gloom.

A pitying neighbour came to her aid,
Gained, hardly, her guardians consent,
And placed her in school where life was new
And happily time was spent.

New courage and hopes were born, but alas,
A messenger came one day,
The Aunt was dying, her niece must see,
No time for a moment's delay.

You have guessed the rest, 'twas a cruel ruse
Poor Hana learned when too late,
That her guardian, tempted by glut of gold,
Had ruthlessly sealed her fate.

Ne'er since have we seen her, what could be done?
For poor girls there's no door of hope,
When parents themselves with worst foes combine,
How is she, 'gainst such forces to cope?

Shall he then, who bought her, sit at our board,
Shall we give him the hand as friend,
While she, the "rashamen," forgotten, ignored,
Weeps, hopeless, to life's bitter end?

Nay, not till he right's this villainous wrong,
Nay, nay, lest the curse that must fall,
On him who oppresses the poor and the weak,
In falling, envelop us all.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

President McKinley has commuted the sentence of death passed on Private McVeigh, Wyoming Volunteers, for assaulting a superior officer. He will be imprisoned for life.

At 8.30 a.m. the same day, a fire was reported from No. 150, in an upper chamber. Some sparks from a *hibachi* had ignited the mats; and a few pails of water put an end to all danger.

The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce has agreed to raise the subscription to Reuter's Agency from $300 to $400 per month. In Japan a few newspapers alone bear the heavy burden of Reuter's service.

The working of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ld., Hongkong, in the first half of this year resulted in a loss, and the interim dividend of $2 is being paid out of the fund for the equalisation of dividends.

China Town, Yokohama, saw two fires on Sunday. The first broke out at 2.30 o'clock in the morning in the two-storied building known as No. 189. A few buckets of water extinguished the flames. Supt. Morgin gathers that in the opinion of the neighbours the fire was incendiary in origin.

The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says that the French Minister to Siam returns to Bangkok to continue long pending negotiations which will probably comprise a scheme for a railway connecting Saigon and Siam through Cambodia.

The standing Committee of the S.P.C.K. have recommended the following grants:—£50 towards the cost of a church at Tientsin; £50 towards the proposed girls school at Tientsin; and £25 towards the cost of erecting a wooden church at Hakodate for Japanese Christians.

The Emperor and Empress have given a sum of 9,000 *yen* for the relief of the sufferers by the gale of the 14th instant in Kagoshima. It is noticeable that Their Majesties no longer divide their charitable donations. Hitherto it has been, "the Emperor so much" and "the Empress so much," but now it is "Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress so much."

The *Shanghai Mercury* of August 22nd says:—We have been kindly informed by the *Sin Wan Pao* that a Peking despatch to that paper reports that the Emperor has developed serious symptoms of a disturbed state of mind, muttering and laughing to himself. He also suffers from ailment of the bowels and kidneys. His Majesty's condition has been published for public information.

Two races were sailed on Saturday afternoon in a good south-easterly breeze. The first was for the Mary Cup, and four started. *Haidee* won the race and obtained 2 record points; *Kingfisher* was second; and *Maid Marion* third. A Cup presented by the Swiss community was raced for by the 17-raters. It was won by the *Wettinge*, the second prize being taken by *Eclair*, with *Coogee* third, close up.

The *Kobe Herald* says that Mr. Matt. Smith, of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., on Friday applied to the City Office and Water Police Station for assistance in floating the stranded steamer *Argyll*. Mr. Kambara and another clerk from the City Office went down to the steamer on the following day and promised to render any possible help in procuring coolies if necessary. Messrs. Nickel & Co. are trying to float the steamer under a contract with the agents. They are making steady progress.

One of Gen. Lawton's men, belonging to the Signal Corps, Mr. David W. Kyle, who was unfortunate enough to catch small-pox in Japan and was taken off the U.S. transport *Grant* in Yokohama, has been released from Hospital. He is enthusiastic in his praise of the good nursing he obtained at Nagahama. Mr. Kyle is an old-time telegraph and newspaper man and was Gen. Lawton's private operator in the Philippines. At the battle of the Zapate River he received a severe wound over the heart, but like all the American soldiers he says, "T'was close, but you ought to see the other fellow."

Ono Otokichi is a carpenter. The other day while at work on a launch belonging to Mr. T. M. Laffin he was impelled by criminal curiosity to examine the pockets of a coat hanging up in the cabin. Therein he found a hundred *yen* in notes which he appropriated and forthwith went out "on a spree" in which gambling and debauchery were equally mixed. Mr. Laffin meanwhile reported his loss to the police and the other day the erring carpenter was arrested with but 8 out of the 100 *yen* in his possession.

The case of The Central Agency of Glasgow *versus* Koch & Co., came up for hearing again in the German Consular Court at Yokohama on Tuesday. Mr. Consul-General Coates first sat with Messrs. Retz and H. J. Holm as Assessors to hear the defendant's motion for change of venue. After hearing Mr. Schroeder on the motion and Mr. Rossetsu against it, the Court declined to accede to the motion on the

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ground that Mr. Schroeder's reasons were unfounded. Mr. Vice-Consul Hagen then took his place on the Bench and Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu opened the case. Eventually the Court adjourned till Monday next, before which time Messrs. Koch & Co. have to supply the plaintiffs with a full statement of accounts and stocks held by defendants for plaintiffs up till May 31st, 1899.

A correspondent writes to the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—Intelligence has been received in Canton of the disastrous and signal defeat of the Imperial troops by the bandits in the West River districts. A body of about 500 soldiers has, in effect, been cut to pieces; about half the number were killed outright and a moiety of the remainder wounded. The engagement took place at a town called Cotkow, on the West River, and the fight was fiercely maintained, the Imperialists being surprised and surrounded. The rebels only lost about fifty to sixty men. A fresh force consisting of some 2,000 men has been despatched from Canton to suppress the insurrection. They are likely to find all their work cut out for them.

NOTES FROM AMERICA.

Lloyds' Register of Shipping gives the entire fleet of the world as 28,180 steamers and sailing vessels, with a total tonnage of 27,673,528, of which 39 per cent is British. The Americans come next, with 3,010 vessels, with a total tonnage of 2,465,387. Norway has 2,528 vessels, with a tonnage of only 1,694,230. Germany has 1,676 vessels, with a tonnage of 2,453,334, in which are included her particularly large ships. Sweden has 1,408 vessels, with 65,991 tonnage. Russia has 1,218 vessels, with a tonnage of 643,527. Italy has 1,150 vessels and France 1,182. No other nationality can boast of a thousand ships. Japan has 841, Denmark 796 and Spain 701. Britons and Americans together control one-half of the entire merchant ship tonnage afloat.

On July 27 Paul Corcoran was found guilty of the murder of James Cheyne (who died from gun-shot wounds) and sentenced to seventeen years in the penitentiary. The crime was committed at Wardner on April 29 last when a mob of 1,000 miners captured a Northern Pacific train and rode to Wardner and blew up the Bunker Hill and Sullivan concentrator with dynamite. During the riot hundreds of shots were fired and two men, Smith and Cheyne, were killed. The trouble was of long standing and grew out of the refusal of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Company to recognize the miners' union. The miners' union demanded that all non-union men be discharged by the Bunker Hill Company and that only union men be employed. The company declined to accede to the demand and the result was that its concentrator at Wardner, valued at a quarter of a million dollars, was blown up with dynamite. About 300 miners are now under arrest, charged with riot, conspiracy, murder, stopping a mail train, and other crimes.

The old house opposite Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln died—which is owned by the Government—under the direction of Colonel Bingham, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, is now being restored and repaired. It is intended to maintain the building as nearly as possible in the same condition as when Lincoln died, but in some instances it has been found necessary to make alterations. Some of the rooms downstairs are being papered and painted, and sanitary plumbing is being put in, but the room in which Lincoln expired is being maintained exactly as it was. The house will be used for the exhibition of Lincoln relics, of which there is a large collection.

Says the *San Francisco Chronilce*—Less than $17,000 are in hand for the Dewey home at Washington, but $5,000 more have been promised. The amount would have been much larger if the Admiral had not given out that he was opposed to the subscription. Dewey has lived too many years in the cabin of a ship and in small lodgings to care to own a palace which he could neither sell nor rent with propriety nor maintain without inconvenience. On that account and because of his previous comments on the house scheme we should not be surprised if, on his arrival in Washington, he directed the treasurer of the fund to return it to the donors.

A dipper dredge recently completed for use on the Great Lakes is claimed to be the largest dredge of its type ever constructed. It has a dipper with a capacity of 8¼ cubic yards, or about twelve tons. While intended for service on the Great Lakes, the dimensions of the hull are such that the dredge can go through the Welland and St. Lawrence canals, and can easily be fitted with tanks for salt water service. The hull is built of white oak and Oregon fir, and is 136 feet long, 42 feet 3 inches beam and 13 feet 6 inches deep. There are four longitudinal steel trusses. Two of these are spaced 26 feet apart, or on the line of the cabin work, and are each 119 feet long and 25 feet high. The total height from the keel to the top of these trusses is 32 feet. The other two trusses are located at the sides, and are each 119 feet long and 13 feet deep, or just the depth of the hull. The sides of the hull are 8 inches thick, and her bow is 12 inches thick. The bottom and sides are connected by 136 wrought-iron knees. Altogether, including the material in the spuds, there entered into the construction of the hull 157,000 feet board measure of fir, 70,000 feet board measure of oak, and 23,000 feet board measure of pine, or a total of 250,000 feet board measure of timber. The dredge has a daily capacity of 6000 cubic yards for a depth of 25 feet.

A Mrs. George S. Norton has been interred in Pawling Cemetery, N.Y., in strict accordance with her strange dying wishes. The body, seated in her favourite rocking-chair and inclosed in a great square box of white chestnut, resembling a large family ice-chest, was borne from the house to the grave in one of Mr. Norton's wagons. This vehicle had anything but a funeral aspect, for the body was of a rich green hue and the wheels brilliant yellow, with a striping of the same bright colours all over the wagon. The chair was draped with a white silk coverlet with had been worked by Mrs. Norton's grandmother and which she desired to have buried with her. In her lap was a strawberry plant.

No regiment that has taken part in the Spanish and Philippine wars will receive a finer reception than the Tenth Pennsylvania on its arrival home. A fund of $50,000 is being raised with which to pay the fare of every enlisted man from San Francisco to Pittsburg. Mayor W. J. Diehl is at head of the committee, which also includes citizens from all the towns in which the Tenth Regiment is recruited. In two days $23,000 was raised. The Pittsburg Council voted $5,000, the Carnegie Steel Company gave $2,500, the Fricke Company $2,000 and so on.

Mr. Elihu Root took the oath of office as Secretary of War, at Washington, at 10 45 a.m. on Aug. 1st. The ceremony took place in the large office of the Secretary of War, in the presence of Secretaries Gage and Hitchcock, Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, a large number of army officers in uniform and other employes and officials. The oath was administered by Judge Cole of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. General Alger then picked up the commission signed by the President and attested by the Secretary of State, appointing Mr. Root Secretary of War. "Here is your commission," he said with a smile, handing it to Mr. Root, "in which you lose your identity and become 'Mr. Secretary.' I go back to become a sovereign citizen of the United States and become 'Mr. Alger.'"

All the officers on board the *Olympia*, upon their return to the United States, will be given from three to four months' leave, and as far as possible their preference for shore duty will be complied with. Admiral Dewey has already been informed that any assignment he desires awaits him.

Terrible details are given of an execution at Alikichi, in the Indian Territory. The man executed was William Going, alias Wella Tonka, a Choctaw Indian. He was led blindfolded into a public square. The Choctaw sheriff bared the prisoner's bosom and painted a black spot over the region of the heart; then stepped back four paces, raised his rifle, and fired. The bullet entered the breast, but missed the intended spot. Going fell back moaning, but an hour elapsed before he expired. A rope was tied round his neck and water was poured down his throat several times to hasten death by strangulation. The crime for which Going was sentenced to death was the shooting of his uncle three years ago. He was afterwards liberated on parole to play in a Choctaw baseball team. He returned voluntarily according to his promise, to suffer the penalty.

One of the "Rough Riders," John Rhoades, of Oklahoma, brought home four old cannon from Cuba after the war, and the town of Hennessey bought them for use in shooting tornadoes. The town council employ a man to attend them. When he sees a tornado coming he rides to one of the cannon, which are distributed round the environs of the town, and fires a charge of salt into the whirling black mass of cloud. On June 15th a tornado which threatened the town was burst in this way when 40 rods distant. The system has worked well so far.

NOTES FROM CHINA.

Lieut.-Colonel A. R. F. Dorward, D.S.O., has been appointed Colonel on the Staff of the Royal Engineers, to act as Civil and Military Commissioner at Wei-hai-wei.

A good deal of feeling is being evoked by the Chinese invasion of Tahiti, and it is proposed to put a very heavy poll tax on them, payable on arrival, and also a heavy annual contribution.

The Russian Government has decided to appropriate the sum of £871,000 for the reconstruction of the harbour of Port Arthur. The principal work will be the dredging of the harbour and the construction of moles.

The *Customs Gazette* of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs for the quarter, April-June, 1899, shows that the number of steamship entrances at Shanghai was 301 against 279, and the clearances 312 against 275 in the corresponding quarter of 1898. The revenue of the port was Hk. Tls. 2,329,734, against Tls. 1,623,980 in the same quarter of 1898, and Tls. 1,138,465 in 1897, and the bulk of this increase was in imports.

The property occupied by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha on Szechuen Road, Shanghai, belonging to the late Mr. R. F. Thorburn, his brother, Mr. J. D. Thorburn, and Mr. R. A. Jamieson, consisting of 5 *mow* 6 *fun* 3 *li* 8 *haou*, with the buildings thereon, has been bought by M. Komura, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, for Tls. 100,000. Another large property between the Soochow Creek, the Lloyd and Chekiang roads, purchased by a Japanese Company in 1895 as the site for a cotton mill, was sold a day or two ago, says the *China Gazette*, to Chinese for Tls 215,000.

A Nanking dispatch, printed in the *N.-C. Daily News*, states that, in deference to the wishes of the great Reactionist Kang Yi, Viceroy Liu of that city had given instructions for the closing of the Chinese Bureau of Commerce at Shanghai and that all its affairs had been wound up at the end of the last 6th moon (4th August). *Apropos* of Kang Yi's four deputies, they have been granted the decoration of the brevet third rank button (light blue) for their energy and zeal in seconding the efforts of their

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Chief in his task of "reorganising" Kiangsu province. These deputies came out in their new plumage on Tuesday to thank Kang Yi for his very favourable report of them to the Empress Dowager in consideration of which they had received their decoration.

The *Universal Gazette* of Shanghai is authority for the statement that the railway concessions demanded of China by Italy are three, namely, "A line to be constructed between Ningpo and Hangchow (Chêking province); one between Peking and the Western hills or Hsishan (Imperial Prefecture of Shuntienfu, Chihli); and one, indefinitely termed, 'some place between Kuangtung and Kuangsi provinces.'" Although the above paper concludes with the remark that "in view of the important questions these demands involved, the Tsungli Yamên has refused the Italians *in toto*," there are many signs to indicate, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that the Chinese Government is still hesitating and undecided what to do, and that nothing so definite as is made out by the *Universal Gazette* has as yet transpired or will transpire until the moment Italy shows her hand.

The *Bulletin des Soies* gives an analysis of an article published by Mr. Ludovico Gavazzi in the *Nuova Antologia*, dealing with the situation which the acquisition of San-Mun might create in respect to the Italian silk industry. The writer dispels any hope that the sources of supply might be diverted from the established centres—Shanghai and Canton—which for so long a time have been the providers, and which are so well equipped, so to say, for the requirements of the silk trade. Another reason which would prevent the deviation of the trade from Shanghai and Canton to San-Mun, is that the concession of San-Mun and the Italian sphere of influence in Chekiang would be limited to the eastern boundary of the province, and in the direction of the sea, a boundary which does not include the basin of the Yangtze-kiang. Mr. Gavazzi points out that Italy profits by all the advantages granted by the French and German lines of steamers as regards freight, and also by the advantages granted to all European merchants without running the risks which may spring up in a country where the foreigner, as a rule, is not liked; therefore, there is no need to try and change the *status quo*. Mr. Gavazzi concludes by drawing the attention of his countrymen to what the Swiss people do who, without a fleet of any sort, contrive to trade successfully everywhere, even in China; and he invites them to follow their example. He also asks them to meditate on the experiment of Abyssinia, and to renounce the idea of San Mun, adding that there are other parts of the globe where Italian emigration might be more fruitfully developed.

About the beginning of June, says the *Pioneer Mail*, Captain H. P. Deasy, who is at present travelling in Eastern Turkistan, had reached the oasis of Polu on the northern slopes of the Kuenlun and on the Kiria river, about fifty miles south-west of Kiria. Capt. Deasy had met with vexatious opposition from the Chinese, who caused him much unnecessary delay, trouble, and expense. The Ambans of Khotan and Kiria ignored the passport granted by the Tsungli Yamen, and paid no attention to the orders of the Taotai, who told them Captain Deasy was free to travel into the mountains by any route from Polu, and that the inhabitants were at liberty to assist him. The matter was reported to Mr. Macartney, Special Assistant for Chinese affairs in Kashmir, who took immediate action on Captain Deasy's behalf. When the last news left, however, the local officials at Polu were still refusing to obey the orders of the Taotai which had been agreed to by Mr. Macartney. Captain H. P. Deasy has since arrived at Leh, having been compelled to abandon his journey owing to the active opposition of the Chinese officials in Eastern Turkistan. The Amban of Keria prevented the people from assisting Captain Deasy, and he was compelled to travel *via* the Polu gorge to Aksai Chin and Tibet. Owing to no help of any kind being obtainable one man and one pony were killed, and some baggage lost in the very difficult Polu gorge. Exposure for several days consecutively to very severe weather brought on a prolonged attack of rheumatic fever in the Sub-Surveyor, incapacitating him from work, and finally Captain Deasy was compelled to abandon his journey. As the Chinese had ordered the Polu route to be destroyed in order to prevent his returning to Polu, he was forced to travel to Leh. There is some reason to suspect that the Amban of Keria acted under orders from the Taotai, although this official had assured Mr. Macartney that Captain Deasy was at liberty to travel by the Polu route to the mountains, and that he would not again experience trouble or opposition.

Theological feuds are said to be increasing so much in Shantung that the Governor Yü Hsien, has, it is freely reported, memorialised the Empress Dowager on the subject. He complains of the difficulty experienced in identifying the two sects who frequently claim to be either Christians or non-Christians according as it may seem useful to them on the spur of the moment. The Governor, therefore, earnestly recommends that a decree be issued, commanding all native Christians, without distinction of denomination or creed, to wear distinctive clothes, similar to Europeans, if possible, in order that, if any riot takes place, the officials will be able to distinguish the creeds of the contestants.

LANGFELDT AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The seventeenth semi-annual meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at No. 61, Main-street, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. J. F. Lowder occupied the chair, and there also present Messrs. A. Langfeldt, F. H. Bull, C. Weinberger, A. C. Read, G. Beifeld, J. Feicke, G. J. Melhuish, and N. Walter.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The report and accounts were submitted as follows:—

In presenting the accounts for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1898, it was stated, as was the fact, that the late Managing Director had gone very carefully over the list of Sundry Debtors, and had arrived at the conclusion that it would be wrong to strike off more than *yen* 881 12. Since then the list has been subjected to further severe scrutiny by the Directors, in consultation with the Company's Auditor, with the result that it has been deemed advisable to write off the large sum of *yen* 3,763 53. It is to be noted, however, that no portion of the debts of which that sum is the aggregate, was contracted during the half-year just ended. A number of these debts are of very long standing; and as to all of them it may be said that the late Managing Director took a more sanguine view than seems justifiable to the Board as at present constituted. The recovery of some of them may be open to less doubt than is the case with others; and though written off, they are not abandoned as hopeless. To complete this statement it should be added that on the recommendation of the Managing Director a sum of more than Yen 4,500 has been written off the stock of merchandize; not that there is any deficiency, but as a provision for deterioration.

The profits earned in past years have been less dependent upon local sources than on the business of ship-chandlery; and though the Company has lost none of its connections, and has formed some new ones, the business itself has not been a good one for the half-year under review owing to the falling off of the number of vessels visiting the port.

A branch office has been opened at Manila since the last meeting of Shareholders, as to which it is as yet too early to say anything more definite than that prospects appear to be promising. The sole Agency for the sale of Koin beer in that country has been undertaken by the Company.

The Directors regret to report that the Company is about to lose the services of Mr. Feicke, who is leaving Japan for an indefinite period of time. Ever since the formation of the Company, he has discharged the duties of manager faithfully and efficiently, and to the satisfaction of the Board. Mr. Tornoe, of the Grand Hotel, has been engaged to succeed him.

The Directors' fees for the year ending the 30th June, 1900, require to be settled at this meeting.

The Board is advised that before the next ordinary meeting of shareholders, it is necessary that the Company shall have been registered as a Japanese juridical person.

J. F. LOWDER,
C. WEINBERGER, } Directors

Yokohama, 21st August, 1899.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 30TH JUNE, 1899.

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.
Capital, 1,500 shares at $100	150,000.00
Sundry Creditors	3,267.00
	153,267.09

ASSETS.

Merchandise in Stock	97,545 02
Plant Fixtures and Furniture	3,000,00
Sundry Debtors	24,431.41
Fire Insurance Policies	271 92
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	22,323.21
Cash	2,130 92
Balance	3,564 61
	153,267.00

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT ON 30TH JUNE, 1899.

DR.

	Yen.
To Expenses Account	1,870.82
To Wages Account...	6,504.64
To Rent	1,554.11
To Fire Insurance	372 91
To Plant, &c., written off	112.23
To Directors' Fees	575.00
To Auditor's Fees	150.00
To Bad Debts written off	3,763.53
	14,903.24
July 1st.	
To Balance	3,564 61

CR.

	Yen.
January 1st.	
By Balance forward from 31st Dec., 1898	1,206.43
June 30th.	
By Gross Profit on Trade	9,742 55
By Share transfer fee	34.00
By Interest	355 65
By Balance	3,564 61
	14 903 24

Yokohama, 21st August, 1899.

J. F. LOWDER,
C. WEINBERGER, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

C. GUINNESS, Auditor.

Yokohama, 21st August, 1899.

THE CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said he regretted that there should have been any error in the report and accounts originally sent out, and especially that they should have been published in the newspapers before being corrected. Mistakes would happen, and the only thing that could be done was to correct them. He hoped that only the amended report and accounts would be preserved, and the others would be destroyed. The Chairman then proceeded:—

GENTLEMEN—I am afraid that the report and accounts now presented to you will not be considered as very encouraging. It is to be remembered, however, that every business has its seasons of adversity, and Langfeldt and Co., are no exception to the rule. The unsuccessful result of the recent working has been due to political reasons—the opening of Kiao-chou and Talienwan, and the taking of Manila by the United States having required the presence of the foreign squadrons in those waters for a greater portion of the year. One of two things would therefore seem to be necessary; either to follow the business that used to come to us, as we are endeavouring to do in the case of Manila, or to alter the character of our business and to cater more largely for local requirements. An examination of our books for the past year appears to show that, so great is the competition, our local business does little more than enable us to pay expenses. During the last half-year, for instance, but for the necessity of writing off bad debts, the accounts would have shown a small but appreciable profit. Whilst on this subject I may mention that during the current half-year we have been more fortunate, and so far as the Directors are able to form a judgment it looks as if at the present moment, after providing for the

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ordinary expenses of the half year, we have in hand sufficient to pay a dividend of 5 per cent, and Manila has yet to be heard from. Before resuming my seat let me suggest to you the desirability of having on your board men possessing practical knowledge of the business of the Company. The only director at present answering to that description is Mr. Weinberger, and if you are wise you will call a meeting of shareholders and remedy this defect. The present members of the Board will very willingly further this object in any way that may be thought best.

Remarks were invited, but as no one had any to offer the CHAIRMAN declared the report and accounts adopted.

DIRECTORS' FEES.

The CHAIRMAN said the only other business was to fix the amount of the directors' fees for the year ending 30th June, 1900. The amount for the past year had been 300 *yen* per annum each.

Mr. MELHUISH said they could hardly say the report was a very cheerful one, but every one would acknowledge that when things were not going well the directors had if anything more work then when all was going smoothly. He thought, therefore, they were entitled to the same remuneration as before, and he proposed that the fees be 300 *yen* per annum.

Mr. N. WALTER seconded, and the motion was carried without comment, the meeting terminating immediately afterwards.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, August 25.

The text of the Transvaal's reply has reached the Colonial Office. Nothing has transpired in London regarding its contents, but telegrams from the Cape confirm yesterday's intelligence, and add that Kruger demands the abandonment of Great Britain's Suzerainty.

The Munster and Manchester regiments have sailed for the Cape.

Shanghai, Aug. 26.

It transpires that the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have imported immense quantities of arms and munitions of war during the past three years. There is a growing feeling among the British element that no settlement will be lasting unless it contains a provision for a reduction of the two republics' armaments.

The distress in Johannesburg is increasing. Every outward train is crowded with fugitives. The natives at the mines are becoming restless.

Shanghai, August 28.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham, regretted that no progress had been made in the negotiations with the Transvaal and said that the crisis had not passed. Great Britain had exhibited patience unparalleled in the relations between a paramount and a subordinate State. Whether the issue was to be peace or war depended on President Kruger. If the delay continued, Her Majesty's Government would not hold itself limited by what it had already offered, but would secured conditions finally establishing the paramount power of Great Britain in South Africa.

Shanghai, August 29.

Replying to the last despatch from Mr. Chamberlain, the Transvaal has notified that it adheres to its latest offer and declines to make further concession.

Shanghai, August 30.

It is understood in Capetown that a detachment of the Capetown garrison will proceed to Mafeking immediately, and also that a strong force from Maritzburg will advance to Laingsnek and await developments.

AMERICAN TRADE IN CHINA.

Shanghai, Aug. 25.

Mr. Conger is to visit the Chinese ports in the war-ship *Princetown* to investigate the reasons of the decrease of American trade.

ITALY AND CHINA.

Shanghai, August 28.

A semi-official note published in Rome declares it to be Italy's intention to keep the negotiations with China on peaceful commercial lines, but says that complications may arise if China meets the moderate demands of Italy with a persistent refusal.

EXCITEMENT AT DELAGOA.

There is excitement at Delagoa Bay. The Authorities are holding the troops in readiness in expectation of a Boer raid. Several men have been arrested on suspicion of being Boer emissaries.

THE INDIAN HARVEST; FAILURE IN BOMBAY.

Shanghai, August 30.

The crop prospects in the Bombay Presidency are deplorable. Famine in impending

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(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

Saigon, Aug. 25.

Thirteen witnesses were heard to-day at Rennes. Dreyfus continues to protest his innocence. Several incidents took place between Mercier, Gonse, and the witnesses for the defence.

Saigon, Aug. 26.

In the military court at Rennes M. Bertillon has commenced his demonstration, tending to prove that Dreyfus was the author of the bordereau.

Saigon August 27.

Before the Military Court at Rennes, M. Bertillon, expert in caligraphy, has concluded his argument demonstrating by the evidence of the writing that Dreyfus in the author of the bordereau. Dreyfus protested vehemently. Captain Freystatter caused a lively incident and produced a great sensation by affirming that several secret documents were communicated to the Military Court in 1894. Commandant Maurel and General Mercier maintained their previous denials. The next session will take place on Monday.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, August 31.

It is affirmed that the Senate will meet *en Haute Cour* at the end of next week, to judge the persons arrested on a charge of conspiring against the safety of the State.

THE RENNES COURT.

At Rennes M. de Freycinet declared that he did not know any new fact permitting the supposition that foreign money had played any rôle whatever in the question of Revision.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE COMING STORM.

Peking. August 23.

The rivalry for power between Prince Ching and Generalissimo Jung Lu, which since Prince Kung's death has so far been a veiled one, has now approached to such a head that both sides have begun to secretly prepare for actual conflict. The rival factions are both numerous and strong and as far as regards apparent power and influence pretty equally balanced. Prince Ching commands the Peking Field Force, now raised to 30,000 men, and other Banner Corps, amounting to another 30,000 men, all Manchus. Jung Lu commands the Wuwei Army, organiseed and consolidated by him after the *coup d'état*. The Army is divided into five grand corps, the middle corps being under Jung Lu's special command, the other four being the troops of Generals Sung Ching, Tung Fu-hsiang, Nieh Sze-chêng, and Yuan Shih-kai, aggregating over 80,000 men, all Chinese. Hence if actual fighting commences it will finally merge into a race war between Chinese and Manchus. The Empress Dowager remains as inscrutable as ever, showing no marked preference for either of the rivals. But those who know seem to think that her policy inclines towards that of Prince Ching. The arming of her eunuch guard is the only indication that she expects bloodshed in the near future. It is understood that Yung Lu and Kang Yi are far from being on good terms.

LI HUNG CHANG TO THE FRONT AGAIN.

Peking, August 25.

Palace officials state that the Empress Dowager will accept the resignation of Viceroy Liu of Nanking sending Viceroy Yü Lu of Tientsin to take his place, although Viceroy Liu in his memorial strongly recommended either Viceroy Chang Chihtung (Hukuang provinces) or Viceroy Kuei Chun (Szechuan) to take over the Liangkiang Viceroyalty. The Empress Dowager also wishes to appoint ex-Viceroy Li Hung-chang to his old post at Tientsin *vice* Yu Lu, but this is bitterly opposed by her nephew Jung Lu who fears that Li may thus take away from him the command of the Pei-yang land and naval forces which Jung Lu must retain to maintain his position against Prince Ching.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

ANTI-JAPANESE RIOT AT AMOY.

Hongkong, Aug. 24.

Yesterday the Japanese Consul and his Secretary, sent to raise the Japanese flag at Tiger Hill, the new Japanese Settlement at Amoy, were repulsed by rioters.

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

Mr. Friedlander returns his grateful thanks to the many friends of the Chess board who kindly sent inquiries and proferred sympathy during his recent illness.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 434.

By WALTER PULITZER.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Q 6	1—K takes R
2—Kt to Q 7	2—K moves
3—B to Kt 7 mate	
	1—K takes Kt
2—R to K 4	2—K moves
3—R to K 6 mate	
	1—K to K 3
2—Kt (B 6) to K 8	2—K to Kt 2 or 4
3—R to K 4 mate	

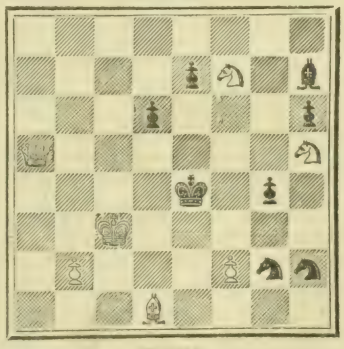
Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, and L.M.A.

O.B. (Dunedin, N.Z.) is to be credited with correct solution of Problem No. 422. We miss his solution of No. 421, which, however, was an exceptional difficult one (3 mover by St. Johnson).

PROBLEM No. 437.

By B. F. BLAKE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

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CRITICIZING A PROBLEM.

In criticizing a problem the following are the main features: 1. Only one solution; 2. Duals (alternative continuations for White) mar the problem; 3. There should be one good central idea; 4. The mating-position should be clean; 5. There should not be superfluous or inactive pieces; 6. Each piece should exert its full power; 7. The position should be natural; 8. All variations should be in the number of moves designated. It is a fact that comparatively few problems reach this standard.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT, 1899.

The following table shows the results of the tournament:—

THE FULL SCORE.

Players.	Lasker	Janowski	Maroczy	Pillsbury	Schlechter	Blackburne	Tschigorin	Showalter	Mason	Cohn	Steinitz	Lee	Bird	Tinsley	Teichmann	Lost	Won	Drawn
Lasker		1	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12½	2
Janowski	0		0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	7	8	4
Maroczy	½	1		½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	4	8	7
Pillsbury	½	1	½		½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	4	8	7
Schlechter	½	1	½	½		½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	5	7	7
Blackburne	0	0	½	½	½		0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	8	5	6
Tschigorin	0	0	½	½	½	1		0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	6	6
Showalter	0	0	½	½	½	0	1		0	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	6	6
Mason	0	1	½	½	½	1	0	1		0	1	0	1	1	1	6	6	7
Cohn	0	1	½	½	½	0	0	0	1		0	1	1	1	1	6	5	8
Steinitz	0	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	0	1		1	1	1	1	4	11	4
Lee	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	1	0	0		1	1	1	7	3	7
Bird	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	1	9	2	6
Tinsley	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	10	1	6
Teichmann	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		12	0	5

An examination of this table shows that Lasker lost one game to Blackburne; he drew one game with Janowski, Maroczy, Pillsbury, Schlechter, Mason, Cohn, and Steinitz, and won all other games.

Janowski lost seven games, to Lasker, Maroczy and Pillsbury, both games to Mason and to Schlechter and Bird. He drew with Lasker, Blackburne, Showalter, and Tinsley. Maroczy lost only four games, to Lasker, Janowski, Tschigorin, and Mason; but he drew ten games, with Lasker, both to Pillsbury and Schlechter, with Blackburne, Showalter, Steinitz, Lee, and Bird. Pillsbury lost five games, to Lasker, Janowski, both to Blackburne, Tschigorin; and he drew with Lasker, both with Maroczy, with Schlechter both with Showalter, with Bird and Teichmann. Schlechter lost six games, to Lasker, both to Janowski Pillsbury Tschigorin, Cohn, and Steinitz; he drew with Lasker both with Maroczy, with Pillsbury, Blackburne, Showalter, Mason, and Cohn. Blackburne lost eight games, to Lasker, Janowski, Maroczy, Schlechter, Tschigorin Showalter and Cohn. Showalter won only eight games, from Blackburne, Steinitz both from Lee and Bird, from Tinsley, and Teichmann. The poor showing of Steinitz is one of the strange things of this Tourney. This is the first time in his career that he has not been with the winners, and yet he won from Janowski and Blackburne

GAME No 541.

The following game, played between Lasker and Steinitz in the second round of the London tournament, gives a splendid illustration of the champion's skill. The notes accompanying are by Emil Kemeny of the *Philadelphia Ledger*:

VIENNA OPENING.

White—Steinitz.		Black—Lasker.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	5 BP×P	Q K×P
2 Kt QB3	Kt KB4	6 P Q4	R Kt3
3 P B4	P Q4	7 P×P (a)	Kt×P
4 P Q5	Kt B3	8 K×Kt	Q×Kt
9 Kt B3	B KKt5	21 Q Q3	B KB5
10 B K2	Castles	22 R R sq(h)	B×R
11 P B3	B Q3	23 Kt×B	Q B3ch
12 Castles	KR Ksq	24 B B3	B B4
13 P KR3	B Q2	25 Kt×P	Q KKt3
14 Kt Kt5(b)	K R5	26 Q Kt5	P B3
15 Kt B3(c)	Kt×P(d)	27 Q R5	R K2
16 K×Kt	B×Pch	28 R R5	B Kt5
17 K B2(e)	P KB3 (f)	29 R Kt5 (i)	Q B7ch
18 R KKtsq	P KKt4	30 K Kt3	B×B(k)
19 B×P (g)	P×B	31 Resigns	
20 R×P	Q K3		

NOTES.

(a) Preferable is P to K 5, followed by Kt to K B 3.

(b) With the intention to continue B to B 3 and Kt to K 4.

(c) B to B 3 should have been played, in which case Black could hardly have a better continuation than Kt takes B ch, which is answered by Kt takes B or Q takes B, leading to a fairly even game. White, it seems, tried to keep his two bishops and by doing so seriously endangers his game.

(d) Brilliant play, which decides the game in Black's favour. White must play K takes P, otherwise he loses the important KKtP, and if K takes Kt then Black has the brilliant B takes RP ch continuation on hand, which wins in every variation.

(e) He could not capture the Bishop, for Q to KB 4 ch would lead to a mate as follows: 17, K takes B, Q to B 4 ch; 18, K to Kt 2 Q to Kt 5 ch, 19, K to R sq, Q to R 6 ch; 20 K to Kt sq, Q to Kt 6 ch; 21, K to R sq, R to K 5, followed by Q to R 5 ch and Q to R 7 mate; or if 19, K to B 2, Q to Kt 3 mate. If, however, 18. K to R 4, is played by White, then R to K 4 ch decides the game.

(f) B takes R might have been played, in which case Black has the rook and two pawns against two pieces. Black then has the preferable game, since the Pawns on the king's side are very strong. Nevertheless the win would have been a very doubtful one. The text play is far superior and, in fact, deserves more credit. Then the brilliant sacrifice of Kt and B. Black displayed excellent position judgment. The White king cannot escape, for if K to K sq, then R to K 2 and doubling of rook would follow, nor has White any other means to relieve his position. The most promising one would have been Kt to K 5, followed eventually by B to B 3. This is now prevented. The text move also serves for attacking purposes, for P to K Kt 4, followed eventually by P to Kt 5 is threatening.

(g) He had no better play, Black threatened P to Kt 5, followed by P takes Kt, or Q to B 4 ch, leading to a speedy win.

(h) He could not play R to Kt 7 on account of B to KB 4. followed by Q to K 6 ch, and eventually B to Kt 6 ch. Nor could he play R to KR 5, for B to Kt 6 ch, followed by Q to Kt 5 ch, would have won for Black. The text play was perhaps the most promising one but the game was beyond repair.

(i) Had he played B takes B then Black answers Q takes B, threatening R to K 7 ch and Q to Kt 7 mate. White then must play Q to K B 4 ch, exchanging queens, and Black wins the Kt, coming out a rook ahead.

(k) Causes White to surrender. If he plays K takes B then R takes Kt or Q takes Kt leaves White a rook behind; besides that Black has the still stronger R to KB 2 ch continuation on hand, which leads to a forced win.

GAME No. 542.

THE RUSSIAN BEATS THE HUNGARIAN.

English Opening.

White—Maroczy.		Black—Tschigorin.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P QB4	Kt KB3	18 P B4	Kt Kt5
2 P Q4	P K3	19 B×Kt	B×B
3 Kt QB3	P Q4	20 R Q3	QR Qsq
4 Kt B3	P B3	21 Q B2	R×R
5 P K3	Q Kt Q2	22 Kt×R	R Q-q
6 B Q3	B Q3	23 Q Kt3	B K3
7 Castles	Castles	24 P K5	Q B4
8 P K4	P×BP	25 Kt B5	B×KP
9 B×P	P K4	26 Kt×B	P×Kt
10 B KKt5	Q K2	27 Q K3	B×Kt
11 K R-q	R Q q	28 P×B	P QKt3
12 Q B2	P KR3	29 P KR3	R Q6
13 B×Kt	Q×B	30 Q K2	R×BP
14 P×P	B×P	31 Q R6	Q Q4
15 QR Q q	R Ksq	32 K Kt-q	R B7
16 R K2	B B2	33 R B3	Q Q8ch
17 K Ksq	Kt K4	and eventually wins.	

GAME No. 543.

THE GREAT MORPHY.

Commenting on this game, the Chess-editor of *The Times-Democrat*, New Orleans, says:—

"The following superb specimen of blindfold simultaneous play took place at Paris in the winter of 1858 as one of eight contested by Paul Morphy against the strongest aggregation of players that the Café de la Régence could furnish. We have no hesitation in saying that, considering the strength of Morphy's antagonists and especially that of Mr. Baucher who was really almost of master strength, we consider it the most wonderful blindfold game ever produced.

Philidor's Defense.

White—Paul Morphy.		Black—T. Baucher.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	14 P B4	P R4
2 Kt KB3	P Q3	15 P B5	K R Bsq
3 P Q4	P×P	16 Kt K6	R K Kt-q
4 Q×P	Kt Q B3	17 P R4	Kt Kt5
5 B Q Kt5	B Q2	18 Q K2	Kt K4
6 B×Kt	B×B	19 B K-3	Q Bsq
7 B Kt5	P B3	20 B×Kt	Q P×B
8 B R4	Kt R3	21 R B3	B Q2
9 Kt B3	B K2	22 R R3	P R3
10 Castles (KR)	Castles	23 Q Q2	K R2
11 Q B4ch	K R-sq	24 Q×B	B Q3
12 Kt Q4	Q Q2	25 R×Pch	K×R
13 Q R Q-q	R B2	26 R Q3	K R4
		27 Q B7ch	

And White wins.

LASKER'S LATEST RECORD.

While Lasker's score in the recent London Tourney was as good as any ever made, yet there have been others that equaled it. We give the records made by several of the masters in former tournaments, as compiled by the *Literary Digest*, but the question still remains whether or not any ever played against thirteen men as strong, as masterful, as those from whom Lasker won first prize in London.

Date.	Place and Winner.	Won.	Lost.	Per ct.
1857...	New York, Morphy...	14	1	.933
1862...	London, Anderssen ...	12	1	.923
1872...	London, Steinitz	7	0	1 000
1873...	Vienna, Steinitz	22½	4½	.833
1881...	Berlin, Blackburne ...	14	2	.875
1883...	London, Zukertort ...	22	4	.846
1890...	Manchester, Tarrasch	15½	3½	.816
1899...	London, Lasker.....	22½	4½	.833

NOTES.

An international tournament for amateurs, under the patronage of the Queen of the Netherlands, who presented a silver medal to the winner, was held in Amsterdam from the 7th to the 16th of August. The contest was limited to sixteen players. Two games were to be played daily.

Janowski has issued a challenge to Lasker to play a match for the championship of the world and $2000, the only condition of the match being that the same must be played in any part of the world but London. The peculiar stipulations would seem to indicate that for some reason or other the French champion has soured on London on account of his ill-luck.

The next important international tournament will take place in Paris. There will probably also be an international meeting on a smaller scale somewhere in Germany.

Correspondence chess appears to be gaining in popularity, and matches upon a large scale are becoming frequent in England. A correspondence match, Leeds v. Hastings, 21 a side, was won by Leeds by 11 to 10. The Yorkshire Chess Association was also endeavouring to arrange a correspondence match of 60 to 86 a a side with the Scottish Chess Association.

Among the recent publications of the Master of the Rolls is a work by Alexander Neckham, the foster brother of King Richard I., who became Abbot of Cirencester in 1213, and died in 1217. He gives a graphic description of the eagerness with which chess was then played. The winner is elated, the loser downcast; but they cannot leave off, and as soon as one game is finished they set to again with renewed energy, as if success in life were to be measured by success in playing chess. Sudden quarrels are frequent, and the encounter of wits often degenerates into a brawl. The Abbot treats the game entirely as a military diversion, the actions of the several pieces being compared to the military deeds of heroes of old, or to strategical devices in war. Perhaps the presence of the chess Rook in the armorial bearings of 26 English fami-

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lies may be taken as proof that in Europe chess was played ordinarily, or chiefly, by soldiers; and, in fact in Neckham's time, ecclesiastics discouraged the game on the grounds of its being a vanity and a source of quarrels.

Orthodox Mohammedans are forbidden to make or use any "graven image," consequently their Chess men have no resemblance to human figures. A "broad" Moslem would have no objection to playing with "Staunton" Chess-men, but formerly the Turks and Arabians would not play with pieces to represent men. It appears to have been different with the Persians, who are not "orthodox."

A correspondent vouches for the truth of the following:—There is a restaurant in Birmingham with a coffee room adjoining the dining hall, in which games are provided. Two amateurs entered one day after luncheon, and proceeded to play chess with all the gravity befitting the game. Save for sips and puffs the game proceeded in silence for a time, when White looked up, exclaiming in surprise, "Why, where's my King?" Black also looked up in surprise, and said, rebukingly, "Your King, sir, is here. I took him three moves ago."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c..... ..	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
America	T. K. K	H'k ng Maru 1	Tu. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Indus 2	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru 3	Th. Sept. 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Sept. 11
America	P. M. Co.	China 4	W. Sept. 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Sept. 16
America	O. & O Co.	Doric	Th. Sept. 21
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Sept. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept. 27

1 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.
2 Left Shanghai on the 31st ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 29th ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. Sept. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 4
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	W. Sept. 6
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Sept. 6
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	W. Sept. 6
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Sept. 8
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Sept. 9
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Indus	W. Sept. 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Sept. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu Sept. 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Sept. 22
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 29

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Pisa, German steamer, 2,895, J. Fendt, 25th August,—New York via ports, and Shanghai 21st August, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, H. Batt, 26th August,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 24th Aug., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 26th August,—Shanghai via ports, 19th Aug., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Columbia, German steamer, 2,518, H. Schutte, 26th August,—Port Tampa, Florida, 14th March, Phosphate Rock.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 27th August,—Seattle, Washington, 8th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 27th August,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 26th August, Mails and General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 28th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 9th Aug., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Wallace, 28th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 27th August, General.—Cornes & Co.

Tellus, Norwegian steamer, 1,639, Pederson, 28th August,—Vladivostock, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 28th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 27th August, General.—P. & O. S.N.Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,000, H. Kirchner, 28th August,—Hongkong 23rd August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,748, W. Thompson, 30th August,—London via ports, Kobe, 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 30th August,—Kobe, 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 31st August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 30th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Powerful (14), British Cruiser, 14,000, Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, 31st August,—Wei-hai-wei via Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Alacrity (4), British Despatch Vessel, 1,700, Com. Arthur H Smith-Dorien, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Hermione (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain George A. Callaghan, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Whiting (6), British Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 280, Lieut.-Com. Edward Kelly, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Fame (6), British Torpedo Boat Destroyer, Lieut. Com. Reger J. B. Keys, 31st August,—Sendai Bayy, 30th August.

Daphne (8) British sloop, 1,140, Com. Chas. W. Wennington Ingram, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain Arthur C. Clarke, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Iphigenia (8), British cruiser, 3,736, Captain Horatio N. Dudding, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Victorious (16), British Battleship, 14,900, Capt. Anson Schomberg, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Barfleur (14), British Battleship, 10,500, Capt. Hon. Stanley, C. J. Colville, C.B., 31st Aug., Sendai Bay, 30th August.

Centurion (14), British Battleship, 10,500, Capt. John R. Jellico, 31st August,—Sendai Bay, 30th August.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T Smith, 25th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Kalgan, British steamer, 1,158, R. Bennett, 25th August,—Muroran, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Ragnar, Norwegian steamer, 1,220, Lindermann, 25th August,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Atesia, German steamer, 3,533, Knuth, 26th Aug., —Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Presidente Sarniento, Argentine schoolship, 3,000, Capt. Onofre Beffeder, 26th August,—Kobe.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886. J. B. MacMillan, 26th August,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiwan, British steamer, 1,109, H. Harvey, 26th August,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Pisa, German steamer, 2,895, J. Fendt, 26th August,—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 29th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Salasie, French steamer, 2,089, Allegre, 30th August,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 30th August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Mungo, British ship, 1,852, D. A. Ogilvie, 30th August,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 31st August,—Hongkong via ports' Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 31st August,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, I. Nitei, 31st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 25th August,—Atsugishi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 25th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 25th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 25th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 26th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 26th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 29th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 30th August,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 31st August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, C. Olsen, 31st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVAL.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. A. Seine, Mr. C. M. Cady, Mr. S. Takano, Mr. Udo de Rutikay, Mr. and Mrs. G. Gundy and family, Mr. Asakura, Miss N. B. Gaines, Mr. and Mrs. A. Peterson, Miss Sanins, Mr. C. R. Sheapp, Miss Leverett, Rev. J. S. Pees, Mr. Moseley, Miss C. H. Evans, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mr. A. Siegfried, Miss H. Siegfried, Mr. Schoeniniger, Mr. A. G. Kennedy, Mr. A. Segawa, Mrs. Y. Makino, Mrs. S. Okamura, Miss J. Soga, and Capt. Sakamoto, in cabin; Mr. E. J. Merrill, Mrs. R. Seki, Mrs. H. Kano, Mrs. K. Hattori, Mr. J. Kano, Miss S. Kano, Mr. H. Ishihara, Mr. J. Sukedai, Mr. K. Ninomiya, Mr. S. Kano, Mrs. K. Tajiri, Mr. T. Kobayashi, Mrs. M. Oshima, Mr. D. Tsuyetsu, Miss Y. Oshima, and Mr. M. Abe, in second class; 65 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mr. and Mrs. M. Kawase, in cabin; 7 Japanese, and 2 Chinese, in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mrs. F. L. Rodger and child in cabin; 4 Japanese, and 11 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Count Mioeyuski and Master Ah Sheng, in second class.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bagnall, Miss S. C. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Slocum, Mr. S. Okamatsu, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Fassett, Miss Field, Master N. Fassett, Mr. C. H. Crocker, Miss McIntyre, Mr. Ernest Carter, Master Wade Bagnall, Dr. J. D. Jones, Mr. Victor Marsh, Mr. F. S. Sandford, Misses Fassett (2), Master T. Fassett, Master J. S. Fassett, Jr., Mr. E. N. Whitely, Miss Lewers, and Miss H. Carter, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. W. R. Lambrett, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Moose and infant, Mr. J. P. Whiteside, Miss A. Carroll, and Mr. E. Doerflinger, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Bistron and infant, and Rev. C. M. Myers, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. H. Lovett, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. James, Mr. J. F. Trask, and Mr. J. W. Brown, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Dr. V. Veltheim, Dr. H. Kimura, Mr. R. Pivmey and servant, Mrs. Sachse, Miss Underwood, and Mr. T. S. Walsham, in cabin; Mr. W. Richter, Miss L. Fergen, Miss Onakasang, and Mrs. C. Huntington and child, in second class.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. Stockwell, Mr. E. A. Katsch, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. O. Mordhorst, Mr. G Landmann, Mr. C. S. Taylor, Mr. Lightbody, Mr. L. Edmonston, Mr. M. V. Kellett, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Woodworth, Mrs. Samson, Miss Campbell, Dr. F. A. Hardy, Mr. Charles Hardy, Mr. Thos. Davie, and Dr. E. A. Seale in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. C. R. Balfour, Miss F. Katsch, Mrs. Butler, Major Jones, U.S.A., Mr. J. S. Fearon, Mr. L. C. Hopkins, and Mrs. Th. de Berigny and child in cabin; and 19 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong via ports:—Rev. Frank Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fuchs and child, Miss E. Sadler, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hunt, Mrs. N. Levering, Mr. Chas. Christy, Mr. H. W. Heritage, Mr. C. S. Leavenworth, Mr. E. S. Mullens, Mrs. I. Ransom, Mr. C. M. Sandford, Mr. A. H. White, Mr. C. W. Hay, Mr. E. K. Ball, Mr. E. H. Dunning, Mr. H. R. Bowie, Mr. Pow Fong Chew, Mr. Pow Ket Son, Mr. R. C. Phillippos, and Madame C. Holliday in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakasa Maru*, for London via ports:—Miss Pallister, Mr. E. P. Pallister, Colonel G. Nagaoka, I.J.A., Captain Y. Iwato, Paymaster T. Kuma, Captain S. Yoshitake, Mr. A. J. Rankin, Capt. K. Kajikawa,

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Capt. S. Ono, Mr. Max Samuel, Chief Surgeon T. Hondo, Lt. Y. Arikawa, Lt. T. Yoshida, Mr. S. Tachibana, Capt. C. Iwamitsu, and Capt. S. Kumabe, in cabin; Mr. Hermann Hofer, Mr. I. Tajima, and Mr. Tsung Yee Hung, in second class.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. P. Donovan, Mr. J. S. Tanner, Rev. C. M. Myers, Rev. Lambreth, Rev. Mr. Whitesides, Mr. J. W. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Don C. W. Musser, Mr. C. W. Purrington, Miss Abbott, Miss Laura Farrell, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. E. Doerflinger, Captain Dobie, Mr. J. F. Trask, Mr. and Mrs. James, Mr. A. H. Lovett, Mr. C. M. Bestrin, Mrs. C. M. Bestrin and infant, Miss Irene Ross, Miss James, Miss Gaines, Miss Leverett, Mrs. Sargent and family, Mrs. J. Sanger, Mrs. J. L. Remusat and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Nolker, Miss Jansen, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Gorham, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Moose and infant, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Slocum, Mrs. Geo. Sutherland, child and amah, Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Bateson Wright, and Miss A. Carroll, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. E. E. Ferrari, Mr. P. Deronjier, Mr. Hardy Juniss, Mr C. W. Boley, Mr. C. Ichioka, Mr. E. Kondo, Mr. Buntaro Adachi, Mr. G. Warocque, Dr. J Black and boy, Mr. and Mrs. Craigie Ross and child, Mrs. A. Hashimoto, Mr. Sow Chong Chia and servant, Mr. Tan Tong Watt and servant, and Mr. Chang, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Frank Gray and infant, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Blain and infant, Mr. L. Benjamin, Rev. J. L. Rees, Mr. A. Shewan, Miss F. Stephens, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. C. M. Cady, and Miss A. O. Kirkland, in cabin; Mr. T. Ito, Miss S. Kawamoto, Miss T. Sugimoto, Mr. John Irwin, and Mr. A. Pequignot, in second class.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. Kerr, Dr. Kamejiro Ito, and Mr. J. Ellard, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Capt. Wm. Finch, reports:—Left San Francisco on August 9th, via Honolulu on August 16th, and arrived at Yokohama on August 28th. Fine weather and smooth seas throughout passage.

The German steamer *Hohenzollern*, Capt. H. Kirchner, reports:—Left Hongkong on August 23rd at 10 p.m., passed Syanki Pt. on August 24th at 11.45 p.m., Akusi Islands on August 26th at 2.15 p.m., Liwo Pt. on August 27th at 7 p.m., Rock Island on August 28th at 8 a.m., and arrived at Yokohama Roads the same day at 2 p.m. Got from Hongkong S.E. winds strong, high swell. Later on fine weather East to S.E. winds, moderate.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 496 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 194 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a revival in the market for yarns, and a large volume of business has been put through in gassed yarns at improving prices, though buyers are still unwilling to meet the values prevailing in Lancashire. Something, too, though not much, has been done in grey shirtings. The market for fancy cottons and woollens is very firm, but there is little new business.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 39½ yds 35 inches	$2 60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 30½ yds 45 inches	$3.10 to 3 60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards 24 inches	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.28

WOOLLENS	PER YARD.
Flannels	10 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Tape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 & 56 inches	0 60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 & 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 & 56 inches	0 70 to 1 10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0 75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 33 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Velveteen, 33 yards, 22 inches	0 70 to 1 10
Turkey Reds—3.0 to 3.08, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$37.00 to 38 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 20 to 43 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	46.00 to 48.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nos 2/80, Plain	86.00 to 88.00
Nos 2/100, Plain	110.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	82.00 to 86.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	96.00 to 102.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	126.00 to 133.00

RAW COTTON.	
American Middling	$20.50
Indian Broach	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 20.50

METALS.

There is still a holiday tone about the market, buyers being apparently unwilling to accept the higher prices prevailing. Only a few small sales of iron plate have been put through.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5 70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 18 inch)	6.50 to 6 75

KEROSENE.

The market remains firm at last quoted rates.

American	$2.42 to 2 46
Russian	2.50 to 2.10
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The is no special feature about the market prices being generally about as last quoted.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.75
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Haitung	4.20 to 4 50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.70
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 8 40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the past week buyers have practically ceased their operations owing to the high prices demanded. At the close there was a fall of *yen* 10 to 20 per picul as compared with the previous week.

QUOTATIONS

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1200
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1110 to 1120
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1160 to 1170
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1090 to 1100
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1060 to 1070
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1090 to 1100
Re-reels—No. 1½	1060 to 1070
Re-reels—No. 2	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	1070
Kakedas—No. 1	1040
Kakedas—No. 1½	1040
Kakedas—No. 2	1000
Kakedas—No 21	1000

WASTE SILK.

The market is active and prices show an advancing tendency. The present stock is very small.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nom. 160	to 170
Noshi—Filatures, Good	Nom. 150	to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Best	Nom 160	to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Good	Nom. 150	to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nom. 140	to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	160	to 110
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	160	to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	Nominal	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$85	to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	80	to 85
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125	to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	105	to 120
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—	

TEA.

A considerable business has been done during the past week in new leaf, but a large stock still remains on hand. The trade has been chiefly in leaf of low grade, which comprises the greater proportion of the stock. The total settlements up to the 29th ultimo were 188,109 piculs against 170,582 at corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 31.

Silver from London $\frac{5}{16}$ lower, followed by a further decline of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ in sterling quotations from China, and locally a general reduction of $\frac{1}{16}$ in rates, which are nowlooking steadier.

Sterling—Bank T.T	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{7}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 $\frac{3}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	257½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3⅝% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76
— Private 10 days' sight	76⅛
On India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
Bar Silver (London)	27⅛

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 31.

Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 230. Breweries have sellers at *yen* 180. Grand Hotels—a few shares are on offer at *yen* 220. Oriental Hotels can be placed at *yen* 125. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 82 50. Langfeldts have again changed hands at par. A few more shares could be placed at the same rate. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 9.50. Laundries are steady at *yen* 65. Helms, a considerable lot of shares changed hands to-day at par. More shares can be had at the same price.

Debentures—Brewery, Oriental Hotel and Y. U. Club are wanted at *yen* 108.

Punjoms changed hands to-day at $8.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	230 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	180 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	220 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	82.50 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	Nominal
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9 50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	100 Sa.
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, $50	65 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Kobe Club 8% Deb., $50	50 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 Sa. & B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 10,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 31.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 215. Langfeldts changed hands at *yen* 100. Japan Breweries can be had at *yen* 177 50. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 65. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 10.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...230 Sales.
Grand Hotel .....215 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co. .....100 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co. .....177 50 Sales.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, August 29.

BANKS.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation..... $358 % prem. S.
National Bank of China, Ltd. $26¾ Buyers

MARINE INSURANCES.

China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited..... $62 Sales
Straits Insurance Company, Limited..... $6½ Sales

FIRE INSURANCES.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited ..... $315 Buyers

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China Fire Insurance Company, Limited..... $89 Sales

SHIPPING.

Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Company, Ltd... $32 Sales
Douglas Steamship Company, Limit-d ..... $57 Sellers

MINING.

Punjom Mining Company, Limited ..... $9 Sellers
Raub A'lian Gold Mining Company, Limited ..... $62 Sales

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.

Hongkong & W'poa Dock Company, Limited ... ... $512 ½ prem. S.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company, Ld.... $96 Sales

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Ld.. $106 Buyers
H'pinrey's Estate & Finance Company, Limited ..... $10 Buyers

MISCELLANEOUS.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited ..... $151 Sales
Green Island Cement Co. Ld. $31 Sellers

A. C. HUTTON POTTS,
Stock and Share Broker,
75, Main Street.

Tokyo, August 31.

Redemption Loan Bonds	¥	96.35
War Loan Bonds	¥	96.35
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		99.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		407.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		59.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	¥	277.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100		275.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	¥	65.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	¥	65 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	¥	104.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	¥	28.50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		74.70
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		62.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		26.00
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	¥	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	¥	85.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		60.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		47.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		67.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40		52.80
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		102.80
Hokkaido Colliery R'w y, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28		82 50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		96.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		49 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		43.50
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		41.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25		20 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		8 50
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13		28.40
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50		1 60
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		238.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50		195.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	¥	72.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25		23.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10		8.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		32.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		21 50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		34.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		18.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		272.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		222.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		115 0.
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25		85.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		2 80

¹ Ex dividend.

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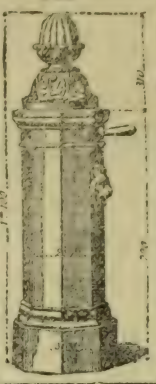


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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

☞MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—The *Japan Mail Summary* has been merged in the *Japan Weekly Mail*. Subscribers to the *Japan Mail Summary* whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the *Japan Weekly Mail* until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 *yen* per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH, 1899.

DEATHS.

At Gotemba, on September 3rd, of meningitis, JOHN ASHBURNER GORDON, youngest son of the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson, C.M.S., Nagoya, aged one year and nine months.

Suddenly, at Ashinoyu, C. CARSSIA, of Shanghai.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT OKI is said to be dying

THE foreign residents of Tokyo, male and female, now number 854.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia left Hakodate for Muroran on Monday morning.

THE Yokohama autumn regatta promises to provide some very good sport.

THE Dreyfus trial continues at Rennes, but the verdict is expected before the week closes.

THE Rev. G. M. MEACHAM and his wife returned to Japan on Monday. He takes up an appointment in Tokyo.

A PARTIAL famine is feared in India. In some parts of the great peninsula the plague is causing great havoc.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR and his principal officers have been received in audience by the Emperor this week.

THE Fleet were easily defeated at cricket on Wednesday, Yokohama having to meet but an indifferent team,

THE steamer *Argyll* still remains on the beach near Kobe despite the strenuous efforts made to tow her off the sand.

PROF. LADDS, the eminent educationist, has arrived in Japan to deliver a course of lectures. He is visiting Nikko this week.

RUSSIAN finances are causing a great deal of anxiety in Europe, owing to the spread of the famine in the great central districts.

THERE is little fighting in the Southern Philippine Islands. In the neighbourhood of Iloilo, the natives are resuming their peaceful occupations.

WHAT with the presence of the British squadron, two Italian warships, and U.S. transport steamers, Yokohama is overflowing with naval and military folk.

A YOUNG Austrian visitor from Shanghai, was found death in a sulphur bath at Yunohanazawa, near Hakone, on Tuesday. He was buried at Yokohama.

A SPECIAL session of the French Senate, constituted as a High Court, has been convened for the 18th inst. to try M. Déroulède and his fellow conspirators.

THE number of dysentery cases in Tokyo from the beginning up to the 30th ult. is given as 810 in the city, 1,158 in the rural districts, and 43 in the barracks.

A SERVANT GIRL has been arrested in Yokohama and charged, on her own confession, with arson. She set fire to two houses in China Town in a fit of jealousy.

THE Nippon Race Club began training on Monday for the Autumn Meeting. Some 30 horses have been imported from Australia for the members of the Club.

THE acquittal of Dreyfus is generally expected throughout the continent but possibly he may be condemned by a narrow majority, entailing enforced withdrawal from the army.

MR. H. W. DENISON, Foreign Adviser to the Foreign Department, is shortly returning to the States on leave of absence. He has received the 1st class of the Rising Sun from the Emperor.

ABOUT 80 students of the Butokukai had a long swim on the 27th ult. in Biwa Lake. They left Uchidenohama, Otsu, at 10.40 a.m., and arrived at Iseiyama at 3.20 p.m. The distance is over 5 miles.

A TELEGRAM printed by the *Hiogo Evening News* conveys intelligence of a serious accident at Chicago. The steel frame work of the Coliseum now being built, collapsed and killed twelve persons.

THE heat of summer passed away very suddenly this week. Monday we were broiling, by Wednesday warmer clothes were demanded by everybody. A steady drizzle of rain has been falling the past 56 hours.

THE U.S. transport *Morgan City* was wrecked on Saturday morning near Onomichi in the Inland Sea. The 1,000 men on board were all saved, splendid discipline prevailing from the time the vessel struck until she was beached.

THE news from the Transvaal continues to be very disquieting. One day it looks as if war was imminent, the next the situation is announced to be clearer; and twenty four hours later the clouds have gathered as thick as ever.

THE Empress-Dowager of China is sending her henchman Kang Yi to "squeeze" the wealthy residents and corporations of Canton. Meanwhile the state of affairs in Peking is reported to be charged with imminent possibilities of conflict.

A TELEGRAM from the President of the Orange Free State denies the report that the State thinks of taking arms against the British Government, and adds that such a measure will not be resorted to except in self-defence or to enforce treaty obligations.

THE *Cologne Gazette* has an inspired article which confirms the rumour that the Transvaal's last communication to London asked for the abrogation of British suzerainty as compensation for further concessions. The article goes on to say that in the event of war over such a demand the Transvaal will stand isolated: nobody will move a finger to prevent its ruin.

THE First National Bank has been the victim of a forgery. A man giving the name of Matsuda presented a Hongkong and Shanghai Bank cheque purporting to be signed by "Mr. Morse, No. 168." The cheque was for 750 *yen*, and the presenter also handed in 250 *yen*, with a request that the total, 1,000 *yen*, should be transferred telegraphically to a person at Kyoto. This was done. Next day the First National Bank presented the cheque at the Hongkong and Shanghai, were it was declared a forgery. An attempt was at once made to stop payment at Kyoto; but the order on the Kyoto branch had already been cashed. The matter is now in the hands of the police.

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PROPERTY IN THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS.

We have been asked to explain why the Japanese Authorities are asking foreign house-owners for scale-plans of the buildings in their possession, and the correspondent who puts the question adds:—"I think I am right in saying that the Treaty secures to all British subjects the right that lots bought and owned by them previously to the Revision of the Treaty, shall be free from all taxes except the yearly ground rent, as agreed on when the land was sold. Therefore house-taxes, as such, can not be imposed."

The scale-plans referred to are for the purpose of assessing the house-tax which constitutes an important item of the local revenue. It is not a national tax but a local tax.

Concerning the question whether such an impost is leviable in the face of the Treaty, the words of the latter are:—"Existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the Settlements shall be confirmed, and no condition whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property." The perpetual leases here referred to are land leases only: they have nothing to do with structures erected on the land. The land itself is secured against all taxes other than those already levied on it. For example:—land-owners in Japan are subject to two kinds of taxes, namely, the National Land Tax, which is at present one-thirtieth of the value of the land in rural districts, and one-twentieth of the value in urban districts; and the Land Rate, a local tax, which must not exceed one-eightieth of the value of the land. But land held by foreigners in the Settlements is exempted from the payment of any charge other than the sum fixed originally when the Settlements were established. Hence, although the Local Authorities can levy a tax on the houses occupied by foreigners, they can not levy the Land Rates which would be payable by a Japanese owner. We do not see that the Treaty confers any exemption from liability to pay House Tax.

Another question asked refers to registration. Hitherto transfers of land have been registered by the Consuls at a trifling expense. But henceforth the registration fee payable by Japanese subjects on such occasions will have to be paid by foreigners. It is a large fee—25 *yen* in every thousand *yen* of the value of the land. Thus the registration fee in connexion with the transfer of a lot of land valued at 20,000 *yen* would be 500 *yen*. The charge is very onerous, in our opinion, and, like all heavy imposts, it leads to great evasions, the registered prices of landed properties being generally much less than the prices for which they were actually acquired. That is another matter, however. The point is, have foreign landholders lost the privilege of transferring their lands on payment of a merely nominal registration fee, or do they retain that privilege in virtue of the Treaty stipulation that "no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in the existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property." It appears inevitable that the former part of the question must be answered in the affirmative. The only condition relating to transfers in the perpetual leases as formulated by Treaty is that "every transfer shall be made to no other person than a subject or citizen of a power having a Treaty with Japan, and shall be executed before the Consular authorities of the parties concerned." There is nothing here to guarantee landholders against any fee which the Consular Authorities of his nationality may levy, and by the Revised Treaty it is laid down that "the Consular Authorities mentioned in the leases are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese Authorities."

We have also been asked for an authoritative statement of the transfer fees, as "rumour puts them at 2 per cent." Reference to clause 4 of Art. II. of the Registration Fees Law, translated by Dr. Lönholm and procurable at the office of this journal, shows that the fee is $\frac{35}{1000}$, or $2\frac{1}{2}$, per cent.

Yet another question propounded to us relates to the natural reluctance of foreigners to append their signatures to documents written in Japanese. There are many cases in which the foreigner will find himself required to sign his name to a paper of which he can not read a single word, unless he happens to be a sinologue. He can not, in such cases, know what he is signing, and of course he does violence to all his instincts as a man of ordinary caution when he employs his name in such a rash manner. It is a curious point and it occurs for the first time in history, we imagine. A great deal might be said and written on the subject, but it appears to us that where there is question of transactions constantly recurring in the ordinary official routine, there would be nothing unreasonable in asking the Japanese Authorities to provide forms with translations interlining the Japanese originals. Then, however, we come to the question of the language to be used in the translation—English, French, or German? Many indeed are the problems connected with the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction.

A final question is, "what is the reason of the hitch in the transfer of Lots No. 20 and No. 136?." We confess our inability to answer that question with certainty. Our original impression, as explained in a previous issue, was that the difficulty had reference solely to payment of registration fee—not to the general principle of payment, but only to a point of time, the purchasers of the leases contending that since the transfer was made before August 4th, they should not be held liable for the Japanese registration fee. But there appears to be more than that involved, and we are inclined to think that it must be a question of the language in which the new lease is written. Leases are not essential in Japan. A man need not have one. All that he need keep by him is an officially attested copy of the register. There is no other recognised form of lease. But the register is kept in the Japanese language, and a copy of it would necessarily be in that language. Indeed, we do not imagine that the officials who keep the register are authorized to attest a translation. It is possible that some perplexity may have arisen on that score. But we speak from mere conjecture, and we can not but add that if no provision has been made for such matters, official foresight is not to be complimented.

JAPAN'S PROGRESS IN MILITARY WEAPONS.

We can not but endorse the *Jiji Shimpo's* remark that Japan has made remarkable progress in the matter of small arms during the *Meiji* era. At first her troops were supplied with the heterogeneous weapons that had been imported by the various feudal chiefs. Then she put Enfields into their hands. Then followed Sneiders. It was with the Sneider that the Government's forces encountered the Satsuma insurgents, and but for the Sneider the result might have been very different. That was in 1876, and for some years the Sneider enjoyed high esteem. But 1883 found Japan with a rifle of her own, the Murata. It was not a new invention, but it may certainly claim the credit of having been a clever adaptation of several systems. Three years later it was further improved, but still no idea of a magazine rifle was entertained. In 1890, this Murata weapon was converted into a repeater, but the process of manufacturing the new arm proceeded slowly, and, when the war with China broke out in 1894, the troops had to take the field without magazine rifles. There was a general impression at the time that the Japanese forces were as well armed as the Chinese. They were not. Most of the Chinese had repeating rifles, and the Japanese had the old one-round weapon. Not until the Guards and the Fourth Division were dispatched from Tokyo was it found possible to put into the field a corps fully armed with magazine weapons. Then, in 1897, the Arisaka rifle was adopted. Its special features are, of course, kept secret, but the Japanese claim for it that it is, on the whole, better than any rifle now used in Europe. This is the much-talked-of "thirtieth-year pattern" (*sanjiu-nen-shiki*), so called because it was sealed for the army in the 30th year of *Meiji* (1897). It is expected that from thirty thousand to forty thousand of the Arisaka weapons will be in the hands of the troops by the end of the current year.

AN INSURANCE COMPANY.

It has been explained that the Kwanto Fire Insurance Company, having a paid up capital of 25,000 *yen* and no reserve, incurred a loss of 63,000 *yen* by the recent fire in Yokohama. Of course the Company could not pay. But the law allows only a certain time for the settlement of such claims, and unless the directors of the company could devise some means of meeting the situation, they became liable to imprisonment with hard labour. It is said that the device adopted by them was to induce their creditors to exchange the policies for promissory notes payable in three months, thus removing the transaction from the purview of the insurance law, and placing it on the footing of an ordinary debt. There are 65 policy-holders, and 40 of them are said to have agreed to this arrangement, probably seeing in it their only chance of getting any compensation. But some of the others are bent on enforcing their legal rights, their very proper view being that, if such frauds are suffered to go unpunished, the public can have no security. It is to be hoped that the resolution of the minority will be found obdurate.

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THE HOUSE TAX

With regard to the series of questions formulated by Mr. Snodgrass in a letter which we publish elsewhere, it will be observed that the force of his remarks depends entirely upon the hypothesis embodied in the third of his queries. He there says that foreigners in the Settlements have hitherto been exempt from the obligation of paying house tax "by force of the language of the treaties with Foreign Powers." It would be very interesting and valuable if Mr. Snodgrass could adduce any Treaty provisions justifying his conclusion. We ourselves have searched the treaties in vain for anything capable of being construed in such a sense. Evidently Mr. Snodgrass refers to some constructive rendering, for in the second of his questions he says that "the treaties do not specify any exemption from house tax," and if, in the absence of any specific exemption, the language of the treaties has nevertheless sufficed hitherto to secure exemption, it must have been by some constructive interpretation not apparent on the face of the text. We trust that our correspondent will set forth the grounds of his assertion. Meanwhile, by way of reply to his questions, we have to observe that the Japanese authorities are understood to have refrained from levying a house tax, not because they believed that the treaties deprived them of the right to levy it, but because they lacked the power to do so. Having surrendered jurisdiction over foreigners, they could not employ any administrative machinery for the purpose of compelling the latter to observe the laws of the country. In short, though they had the right to impose a house tax, they were without any remedy against persons refusing to pay it, and under such circumstances their most prudent course was to abstain from any abortive attempt to exercise their right. Such, we have always understood, was the position assumed by Japan in this matter, and we can not discover in the treaties any provision that vitiates their contention. If Mr. Snodgrass can adduce a provision in support of his statement that exemption from house tax has hitherto been enjoyed "by force of the language of the treaties," he will throw an entirely new light on the question.

TOKYO CITY RAILWAY.

The experts of the Home Department are divided in opinion with regard to the advisability of allowing an electric railway to be built in Tokyo. One engineer contends that the iron pipes of the water works would be injured by the electricity; another denies the possibility of anything of the kind. The Department has therefore decided that a committee must be appointed to investigate the question. Once again, therefore, the progress of events is delayed for an indefinite period. Meanwhile a number of persons have sent in an application for a charter to build a road on the Serpollet system. Tokyo newspapers state that the capital of the Serpollet company is 5 million *yen*, and that the length of line proposed by them is 50 miles, but we imagine that these figures are incorrect. It is at any rate certain that operations have been again suspended, and that the capital of Japan is to enjoy the privilege of remaining conspicuously uncivilized for another spell.

MARQUIS ITO THROWS A BOMB.

Marquis Ito has expressed himself with remarkable frankness to a representative of the *Asahi Shimbun*. He stands out boldly as an advocate of imperial Cabinets. Even in England, he says, the disadvantages of party Cabinets are beginning to be fully recognised in connexion with the conduct of foreign affairs. Nothing is of more importance to a country at present than the vigorous and expeditious management of its foreign affairs, and a form of Government opposed to that consummation can not be commended. At the same time, the Marquis considers that political parties are an essential factor in a State. But not such political parties as Japan has at present. Their thorough reform is the first desideratum of the time. He is prepared to join any coalition having the reform of the parties for its prime and genuine object, whether a "three-cornered," a "four-cornered," or a "five-cornered" coalition. But he will have nothing to do with any coalition, whatever its complexion or dimensions, that does not set before itself, as an absolutely essential purpose, radical reform of political parties. That is well said on the part of Marquis Ito. It will cause considerable commotion in the political arena, but the Marquis does not speak without weighing the results.

A KOREAN CONSTITUTION.

Korea has indulged in the luxury of a written constitution. It is probably an unique document, for whereas the purpose of constitutions in other countries has always been to divide the governing power between the sovereign and the people, the purpose of the Korean constitution is to claim the whole of that power, absolutely the whole of it, for the Emperor. There are nine articles. The first declares the independence of the country. The second proclaims that the Korean polity has been an absolute monarchy for the past five hundred years, and that it shall remain so for all time. The third says that the powers of the Emperor are unlimited. The fourth announces that any subject attempting to impair the authority of the throne shall lose his status as a subject whether he makes the attempt or only contemplates it. The fifth lays down that the sovereign is Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, that he determines their organization, and that he calls them out or disbands them. The sixth sets forth his absolutism in matters of legislstion; that he enacts and repeals laws; that he promulgates and enforces them; that he models them in accordance with the best standards; that he grants amnesties and special indulgences and that he inflicts and remits punishments. The seventh presents him as the fixer of official salaries and the organizer or reformer of all offices. The eighth claims for him the sole right of appointing and removing officials and conferring honours, ranks, titles, and rewards. And the ninth indicates his untrammelled right to conclude treaties, send envoys, declare war and conclude peace. The framers of this constitution have set a solemnly learned seal to their work by announcing the exact term in international law which corresponds with each of the nine great prerogatives claimed for His Majesty. It is a magnificent farce.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

In connexion with the International Commercial Congress which is about to assemble in Philadelphia, one of the Japanese delegates, Mr. Ikeda Kenzo, Vice-president of the Nippon Boyeki Kyokai, has compiled statistics showing the course of trade between Japan and the United States for the past 25 years. The figures are worth quoting:—

Trade between the United States and Japan.

	Exports from Japan. yen.	Imports to Japan. yen.
1873	4,200,000	1,000,000
1874	7,400,000	1,000,000
1875	6,900,000	1,900,000
1876	5,800,000	1,100,000
1877	5,200,000	1,700,000
1878	5,800,000	2,700,000
1879	10,000,000	3,200,000
1880	12,000,000	2,600,000
1881	11,000,000	1,800,000
1882	14,000,000	3,000,000
1883	12,000,000	3,200,000
1884	13,000,000	2,500,000
1885	15,000,000	2,700,000
1886	20,000,000	3,300,000
1887	21,000,000	3,200,000
1888	22,000,000	5,600,000
1889	25,000,000	6,100,000
1890	19,000,000	6,800,000
1891	29,000,000	6,800,000
1892	38,000,000	5,900,000
1893	27,000,000	6,000,000
1894	43,000,000	10,000,000
1895	54,000,000	9,200,000
1896	31,000,000	16,000,000
1897	52,000,000	27,000,000
1898	47,000,000	40,000,000

Staples of Japanese export to the United States (those not amounting to 1 million *yen* annually excluded.)

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1898. Yen.
Raw Silk	14,000,000	32,000,000	25,000,000
Tea	5,200,000	6,500,000	6,500,000
Habutae	2,200,000	3,500,000	4,000,000
Silk Fabrics	1,900,000	1,500,000	1,600,000
Fancy Matting	2,600,000	2,700,000	3,700,000

Staples of American imports to Japan (omitting those of less than 1 million *yen* annually.)

	1896. Yen.	1897 Yen.	1898. Yen.
Machinery	1,100,000	4,200,000	3,000,000
Iron	670,000	2,700,000	4,100,000
Kerosene	5,300,000	5,900,000	5,900,000
Cotton	4,200,000	7,200,000	14,000,000
Flour	980,000	1,100,000	1,900,000
Tobacco	520,000	880,000	2,900,000

It is to be noted that the leap in the value of imported tobacco does not represent a corresponding increase in quantity, but is due to the greatly enhanced duty.

The document contains an earnest appeal to the United States to remit the tax recently placed upon Japanese tea imported into America.

PROFESSOR LADD.

Professor Ladd arrived in Yokohama by the *Hongkong Maru*. Arrangements have been made by the Educational Society for a series of lectures by the eminent scientist. There is to be a charge of 2 *yen* for admittance, and the audiences will be limited to 300 persons.

Professor and Mrs. Ladd have proceeded to Nikko. They were met at Yokohama and accompanied to Tokyo by Mr. Tsuji Shinji and Dr. Nakajima Rikize of the Education Society, and one of the residences for foreign teachers in the grounds of the Imperial University has been assigned to them. Professor Ladd is expected to deliver his first lecture in the hall of the Education Society at Kanda (Tokyo) on the 11th instant. The subject will be "Metaphysics applied to the science of Education."

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THE TYPHOON OF THE 29th AUGUST.

Saturday, Sept. 2.

The loss of life at the Besshi copper mine does not seem to have been as great as was reported at first. Telegrams received by the owners—the Sumitomo family—report the deaths in the mine to have been from 500 to 600. The destruction was wrought between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m. on the 28th when the gale was at its height and rain was descending in torrents. Several of the officers of the works are among the killed and wounded—Messrs. Koteda, Matsumura, Shinowara, Ishikawa and Kondo. It need scarcely be said that the Messrs. Sumitomo have organized measures of relief on a most munificent scale. Their losses in connexion with the affair are estimated at a hundred thousand *yen*. The mine is thus described in the Handbook for Japan :—

The Besshi Copper Mine, which had been worked in a small way for over a century before, came in the year 1691 into the hands of its present owners, the Sumitomo family, who rank among Japan's few millionaires. The mine itself is the second largest copper mine in the country, the largest being that at Ashio. The place is entirely under Japanese management, though this statement should be qualified by the remarks that one of the managers was educated in Germany, and that since about 1882 German machinery and German methods generally have been introduced to a considerable extent. The miners number some 3,000 men, women, and children, of whom 80 per cent have been born, as were their fathers and grandfathers before them, on the spot, so that the mine is, in every sense, a family concern. They are well cared for by the proprietor, fed, sent to school till the age of twelve, and tended in a hospital when sick. There is also at Besshi a technical school for the instruction of clerks and overseers. Only men are employed to dig out the ore. These work in three shifts of 8 hours each, while others, whose labour is of a lighter description, work in two shifts of 12 hours each. The women are employed only for light tasks above ground. Most of them are the wives of miners, each member of a family thus gaining his or her own livelihood independently. Work is carried on constantly, day and night, the sole holiday being on the 1st of each month. Before the opening of Japan, such portion of the copper as was not needed for home consumption is said to have been sold to the Dutch at Nagasaki, and by them exported to the Indies (Java?), where the natives employed it to manufacture cooking utensils. At the present day most of the output finds its way to London.

The total produce of the mine in 1897 was 6,000,000 catties, say 3,600 tons.

In Okayama the principal mischief done by the storm was at the Cotton Spinning Mill. A heavy roof collapsed, and 12 persons were injured more or less severely.

Monday, Sept. 4.

The telegraph having now been repaired and restored to working order throughout the country, we are in possession of intelligence which obliges us to modify our previous conception of the track of the last typhoon. Instead of entering the Sea of Japan in the vicinity of the Oki Islands, it followed a more easterly course, and a greater area of the main island was consequently involved. Coming from the neighbourhood of the Riukiu archipelego, it struck the southern part of Tosa, swept across Shikoku, traversed the Inland Sea from Sanuki to Bizen, passed thence through Harima, Settsu, Tamba, and Tajima, entered the Sea of Japan, and, touching Echizen, Kaga, Noto, and Etchiu, wrought its final havoc in Akita Prefecture, on the north-west coast. The general plan of the main island of Japan being crescent-shaped, it is a common occurrence for both the cusps to be struck by a storm which follows the direction of the chord of the arc.

The returns of casualties are far from complete, but we collect them here as reported up to the present, maintaining the order of the provinces struck by the storm :—

	Persons killed.	Persons Wounded.	Horses and oxen killed.	Houses overthrown or injured	Boats wrecked.
Tosa (Kochi)...	36	57	8	4,792	2
Iyo (including Besshi)	1,039	114	—	—	—
Sanuki (Takamatsu)	340	971	23	10.766	123
Bizen(Okayama)	105	466	31	9 009	701
Settsu.....	91	183	70	18,647	—
Tokushima ...	36	27	8	493	—

Tuesday, Sept. 5.

The chief disaster at the Besshi Mine was caused by a landslide. On the night of the storm an immense volume of water burst from a hill, and 40 houses immediately under the place were swept away in an instant. There is still great uncertainty as to the number of lives lost. Only 260 corpses have been recovered, but many are believed to be still buried in the debris, and some have doubtless been swept away by the Yoshino River. It seems probable, however, that the deaths at the Mine will not exceed 600, though the list for the whole prefecture (Ehime) must be over a thousand. It need hardly be said that the condition of the bodies was shocking. They were so mangled as to be quite unrecognisable, and it will doubtless be necessary to follow the course adopted at Bandaisan ; namely, to inter the remains without any distinction except that of sex and age. Nothing conveyed a more vivid idea of the horror of the Bandaisan disaster than the rude sepulchre at the end of the valley down which the deluge of mud and rocks had swept—a sepulchre marked by a wooden tablet with the inscription "so many men ; so many women ; so many children."

THE BOMBAY COTTON STEAMERS.

The *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* origiually had one steamer per month on the Bombay service. The main purpose of the line is to carry raw cotton from Bombay to Japan, and on their outward voyages the steamers obtain very little freight. When the line was started in 1893, the estimate was that 150,000 tons of raw cotton would be required yearly, and the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* agreed to carry it for 12 rupees per ton, although the market rate of freight at the time was 17 rupees. Of course this could not have been done without aid from the Treasury, and a subsidy of 195,000 *yen* annually was given. But since that time the demand for raw cotton has increased in Japan. The quantity taken this year is 400,000 tons, approximately, and the quantity required next year is expected to aggregate 600,000 tons. Some time ago, in view of this increasing demand and in deference to the representations of the Japanese mill owners, the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* raised the yearly number of voyages from 12 to 17. But the mill-owners find the service inadequate and want further carrying facilities. The Company, however, objects that each voyage involves a loss of 20,000 *yen*. Hence the mill-owners are agitating for an increase of the official subsidy.

THE RICE CROP.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has collected interesting information with regard to the prospects of the rice crop. Out of 51 principal producing districts, it has obtained estimates from 47. Analysing these estimates, we find that they group themselves thus :—

Full crop	12 districts.
Average crop	20 ,,
Below the average	15 ,,

In the majority of the districts which report "below the average," the diminution is put at 10 per cent., and in only one district is a shortage of 30 per cent. spoken of. On the whole, if these reports be trustworthy, and if nothing occurs to disturb the estimates, it appears that the yield will not be much below the average figure. It is understood that the area of land under cultivation has been increased, and thus the actual quantity of rice produced may not be less than last year's crop, although the general produce per acre will be unsatisfactory.

Reports from the Government's experimental stations go to confirm the above. Thus :—

Tokyo district...	30 per cent. below the average.
Kyoto district...	very good.
Oshiu	below the average.
Hokuriku.....	average crop.
Senyodo	good.
Shikoku	average crop.
Tokaido	average.
Riku-u	slightly below average.
Sanindo	slightly below average.

Of course there are many vicissitudes still to be reckoned with, but according to present appearances the forecast is that the yield will be 18·4 per cent. less than that of last year, and 3.2 per cent. less than the average. Roughly speaking, the crop is expected to aggregate 38 million *koku*.

GERMANY AND RAILWAY ENTERPRISE IN KOREA.

It is the opinion of the *TokyoAsahi* that the application made by a German subject for a railway concession in Korea is a purely speculative affair, belonging to the same category as the French application for the Söul-Wiju line. The German applicant, however, has taken a much more decided line than his French predecessor did, for in answer to the objection that the Korean Government has already granted the concession for the Söul-Wonsan road to a Korean company, he urges that a Korean Company can not possibly find the necessary capital. If he obtains the concession, in conjunction with the native company on such terms, he will be under a public pledge to construct the line, but the *Asahi* evidently thinks that the binding force of such a pledge would be very trifling. We are inclined to agree with the *Asahi*. It would be an exceedingly difficult thing to get capital in Europe for building a railway from Söul to Wonsan. The Söul-Pyongyang section of the road might offer some inducements to investors, but even that is very problematical. The apparent object of the concessionaire is to obtain control of a privilege which may have a market value one of these days, according to the trend of politics. In default of that contingency, he would doubtless abandon the concession at the expiration of the appointed term, just as was done in the case of the Söul-Wiju line.

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EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

The faculties of the six great Christian educational institutions in Japan—the Aoyama Gaku-in, the Azabu Eiwa Gakko, the Doshisha, the Rikkyo Chiugakko, the Meiji Gakuin, and the Nagoya Eiwa Gakko—are said to have joined hands in a firm agreement not to abate anything of the Christian teaching and Christian exercises hitherto carried on in the schools. They have decided, in short, that they will not violate their duty to their faith, or abate anything of their obligation to the Christian societies by which they are supported, for the sake of obtaining special educational privileges from the State. It is a strange situation, and for Japan a very momentous situation. There has been some confusion about the nature of the particular privileges which are to be denied to all schools not wholly secular in character. The most important of those privileges is exemption from conscription. Looking at the Regulations published by the Department of Education on the 28th of June last, with reference to the official recognition of private schools, one would be disposed to think that a private school, conducted under missionary auspices, could scarcely hope to obtain such recognition. Apart from technical schools and commercial schools, with regard to which special provisions exist, it is laid down that a private school, in order to be officially recognised and thus to acquire exemption for its students from conscription, must have its "courses of study, its rules of admission, its organization and its equipment in accord with the provisions relating to Middle Schools, and must have at least one-third of its teachers provided with Middle-School certificates." Evidently if a School must conform its curriculum, and its organization, with absolute strictness, to the provisions governing public schools, there is no possibility of conducting it on lines that would be approved by the conscience of the Christian missionary, or by the societies that support him. Everything depends in this matter on the Educational Department's manner of interpreting the word "accord" (*junji*). If the term is to be read in practice as signifying precise agreement in every detail, then a private school, conducted on religious principles, can not hope to obtain the privilege in question. We have sought information on this point from the Department of Education, and are assured that there is no intention of interpreting the words in a narrow sense. It will only be necessary that general conformity should exist between the degree and nature of the instruction given at a private school and the degree and nature of the instruction given at a public middle school. The fact that religious teaching is imparted in the former, or that religious exercises are conducted there, will not disqualify the school for official recognition in the sense of conferring exemption from conscription. This is a point of vital importance. If the Educational Department applies that liberal interpretation, one, at least, of the great difficulties is removed from the path of religious education.

The second privilege involved in this matter is of a different character. In the educational organization of Japan there are primary schools, middle schools, high schools, and universities. A student is entitled to pass from one to the other of these institutions without examination. In other words, if a lad graduates at a primary school he becomes *de facto* eligible for admission to a middle school; graduation at a middle school gives him the same right with regard to a high school, and so on. A youth who, not being provided with a certificate of graduation, desires to enter a middle school, a high school, or an university, must win the privilege of admission by undergoing a competitive examination. Now the accommodation available in the middle schools and high schools at present is small in proportion to the number of students seeking admission, and after the greater part of the vacancies have been filled up by duly certificated graduates, there remain only a very few places to be competed for by non-certificated applicants. The graduates of a private school whose status is officially recognised, enjoy the same right in this matter as the graduates of public schools. Hence the great value of official recognition for a private school. Nor is that the whole story. A graduate of an officially recognised middle school or high school possesses a certificate of scholarship which opens to him various appointments in almost every calling or profession, whereas a lad without such credentials is placed at a fatal disadvantage. Now no private school at which religious instruction is given or religious rites are performed can obtain official recognition as an educational institution. Its students may enjoy exemption from military conscription, as we have seen, but the school can not provide them with any certificate which commands public confidence.

We do not offer here any comment on this state of affairs. Our purpose is merely to make the facts plain, as there appears to be much uncertainty about them.

DEATH OF GENERAL LE GENDRE.

A telegram from Söul announces the death on the 2nd instant of General Le Gendre, adviser to the Korean Government. General Le Gendre has for many years been a conspicuous figure in the Far East. In the early seventies he served as United States Consul in Amoy and there acquired a considerable knowledge of Formosan affairs. Coming to Japan just when this country was involved in a dispute with China about the latter's responsibility for an outrage perpetrated by the Formosan aborigines against some shipwrecked natives of the Riukiu Islands, he placed his services at the disposal of the Japanese Government, and was appointed adviser to Mr. Okubo, who had chief direction of the expedition sent by Japan to inflict punishment on, and seek redress from, the Formosans. General Le Gendre resided in Tokyo for many years after that event. He had been munificently rewarded by the Japanese Government for his services in Formosa, and he devoted his time in Tokyo to literary pursuits. In 1886, he received the appointment of adviser to the Government of Korea, in succession to Mr. Mollendorff, and since that time the world has not heard very much about his doings. He must have reached a mature age, for he served in the War of the Secession in 1863, losing an eye and suffering other severe injuries. He was understood to have been engaged for many years on the compilation of an anthropological work demanding the widest research, but it is to be feared that death has prevented the achievement of that purpose.

MR. H. W. DENISON.

On Tuesday Mr. H. W. Denison, foreign adviser to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, was received in audience by the Emperor, and invested with the First-Class Order of the Rising Sun, His Majesty presenting him at the some time, with a pair of very handsome flower-vases. The Japanese press interprets this incident as the prelude to Mr. Denison's retirement from the Japanese service, but that is an incorrect inference. It is true that Mr. Denison will probably proceed to the United States and Europe in the fall of this year, but his absence will be temporary only. The honour conferred on him by the Emperor is in recognition of his distinguished services in connexion with Treaty Revision. It is a very great honour, for the First-Class Order of the Rising Sun had never previously been given to any foreigner not a member of the Corps diplomatique. That the distinction is well deserved, there can be no second opinion. Mr. Denison's services have been of the highest value of Japan, and it is right that they should be exceptionally recognised.

THE "BANKOKU MARU."

The master of the *Bankoku Maru* appealed to the Authorities against the decision of Dr. Eldridge that the ship could not be allowed to continue her voyage to Honolulu until some better arrangements are made for the accommodation of her 699 emigrants. The *Bankoku Maru*, being a steamer of 1,476 tons net, should be able to accommodate 699 steerage passengers. In fact she is said to be licensed by the Marine Bureau of the Communications Department to carry 701. But it appears that there are no arrangements of even a rudimentary character for ventilation, and that, whatever be the capacity of the ship for carrying cargo, the superficies available for each of the emigrants for sleeping purposes is a space measuring only 6 ft. by 2 ft. In fact, three adults have to sleep on one mat. The atmosphere between decks is declared to be something quite shocking.

After a survey by Lloyds' Agent and an examination by Tokyo experts the *Bankoku* was allowed to proceed.

YOKOHAMA SUBSCRIPTIONS IN AID OF THE SUFFERERS BY THE FIRE.

The total sums subscribed by the public for the relief of the sufferers by the recent fire in Yokohama was 64,056 *yen*, and a further sum of 3,500 *yen* was given by the Emperor. We read in Tokyo newspapers that the method of distributing this money will be,

> 10 85 *yen* to each of 3,446 houses, making a total of 38,474 10 *yen*, or 60 per cent. of the subscriptions;
>
> and 2.55 *yen* to each of 10,017 persons, making a total of 38,998 *yen*, or 40 per cent. of the subscriptions.

It will be observed that these figures are glaringly inaccurate. The only statement they justify is that the money is to be divided according to the system of so much per house and so much per head. That is the unfortunate method invariably and inevitably chosen where the distribution is entrusted to officialdom. Discrimination is never exercised lest it should be construed as favouritism, and the result is that those who really want aid are not aided, and those who do not want it

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become the recipients of a paltry sum which probably provokes their derision. Private charity alone may discriminate.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The directors of the new Iron Foundry have decided to build steamers for carrying ore from China to Japan. But as that project can not be consummated before the year 1902—a somewhat unaccountable delay—the business will be entrusted in the interim to the principal steamship companies of Japan, namely, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the Mitsu Bishi, the Mitsui Bussan, the Osaka Shosen and the Toyo Kisen. The carriage of the ore down the Yangtsze as far as Shanghai will be undertaken by the mine-owners, but the carriage from Shanghai to this country must be managed by the Japanese.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Yejio Maru* ran aground on the evening of the 29th ultimo, in a bay about three leagues distant from Tadotsu. She was on a voyage from Hokkaido to Kobe, and had left Onomichi at 6 p.m. on the same day. The ship must have experienced the full force of the hurricane blowing at that time. It seems strange that she should have put out of Onomichi in the very teeth of the storm, but doubtless there was good reason for doing so. No lives were lost, and the accounts do not indicate serious damage to the ship. The *Fushiki Maru* has gone to her assistance. The *Yejio Maru* is a steamer of 2,480 tons gross, and was built at Newcastle in 1880.

Later accounts say that she floated off at high tide on the 31st ultimo at 7.40 p.m. and is now in Tomo-no-tsu repairing damages, which are very slight. The cargo has not suffered at all.

There is talk of an agitation to induce the Government to purchase the Tanko Railway, but the rumour comes from an Opposition journal, which employs it as a stick to beat the Liberals, Messrs. Hoshi Toru and Inouye Kakugoro being named as the chief promoters of the scheme.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that Great Britain has shown admirable patience in her dealings with the Transvaal. It asks its countrymen how long their endurance would have lasted had Korea behaved towards Japan as the Transvaal has behaved towards England for the past three years. Yet Great Britain is the acknowledged Suzerain of the Boer republic. Our Tokyo contemporary also deduces a lesson from the conduct of the Opposition leaders in the House of Commons, who, when affairs began to wear an ominous aspect, declared their intention of addressing no further questions to the Government, but leaving it free to adopt whatever course might seem most conducive to the national interests.

Messrs. Liu and Ching, the two Chinese commercial envoys whose coming to Japan created so much commotion, left Tokyo *en route* for China on the 31st ultimo. Several people assembled at Shimbashi to see them off, and they are understood to have expressed entire satisfaction with the results of their visit.

News from Peking shows that the rumour of an alliance between China and Japan caused much excitement in diplomatic circles in that city. The Italian Representative is said to have been specially solicitous lest the event should interfere with the negotiations he was instructed to conduct. Fuel was added to the fire by the arrival of the *Naniwa* and the *Takasago* off Taku, and the visit of Admiral Tsunoda to Peking. Not until the 31st of July did the Foreign Ministers become convinced that the rumour had no foundation in fact, and on the 3rd of September the Italian Minister submitted his proposals to the *Tsung-li Yamên*.

The Osaka Arsenal is busily engaged manufacturing the new Arisaka quick-firing field-piece. Most of the materials have to be obtained from abroad. Several hundred stands of the year-thirty pattern rifle have been finished, and are now in the hands of the fugle-man corps at the Toyama military college.

The examining committee, considerably perpleased by the paucity of the exhibits for Paris, have taken a step which we consider very regrettable. Instead of adhering to their judgment and sending forward only such specimens as seemed really worthy of that distinction, they have decided to admit a portion of the rejected specimens, and by that means have increased the number of Japanese pictures from 21 to 34; that of foreign-school pictures from 19 to 30, and that of glyptic specimens from 13 to 18. It seems to us a great pity that, simply for the sake of making a numerical display, works originally rejected should be sent forward, above all to such a city as Paris, where they will be subject to the most highly trained connoisseurship. As the same time we can not but express astonishment at finding that such artists as Kawabata Gyokusho, Suzuki Shōnen and Watanabe Seitei would not have been represented at all had not this second selection taken place. It looks as if the first choice must have been somewhat defective.

Tokyo newspapers state that Mr. Hashimoto Gaho's picture of a dragon and a tiger for the French Exhibition is valued at 1,500 *yen*, and that he has received an advance from the commissioners on that basis. Japanese water-colourists are certainly to be congratulated if they can produce pictures worth £150, especially when they choose such subjects as dragons and tigers.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that the British marines who landed at Hangkow for the purpose of affording protection to the local representatives of Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Company have been withdrawn, the enclosing of the disputed area having been completed as claimed by the British firm. The telegram adds that the incident is not likely to lead to any troublesome consequence.

The German Consul in Söul is said to be pressing for a favourable response to the application made by one of his nationals in connexion with a railway charter. The projected line is to run from Söul to Pyông-yang and thence to Won-san (Gensan). It is understood that the Korean Government rejected this application some time ago, on the ground that the concession had already been made to a native firm; but the German Consul, in renewing the application, contends that the Korean projectors can not possibly obtain capital for the work without foreign co-operation.

The present representative of the I family is a Count. When we speak of the I family, we refer to the house for which a perpetual place of honour in Japanese history was won by the celebrated I Kamon no Kami, the far-seeing and fearless Prime-Minister of the Bakufu Government in its closing days, who fell under the hands of assassins near the Sakurada Gate in Tokyo. The *Ronin* of Mito who slaughtered this great statesmen were sincere patriots according to their lights, and their spirits are worshipped to this day at the Yasukuni Shrine. It is hard for Western folk to understand the moral mood which impels the Japanese people to offer incense and prayer at the tombs of such persons as Nishino Buntaro, who stabbed Viscount Mori to death, or Kurushima Tsunekichi, who threw a tomb into Count Okuma's carriage. But, after all, these men undoubtedly supposed that they were sacrificing their lives for the cause of their country, and in Japanese opinion motive is everything. It was in obedience to that principle that Viscount Tani asked the Diet, a few sessions ago, to grant a sum for revering the memory of the men who took part in the Sengoku-ji affair in pre-*Meiji* days. We mention these things incidentally, for, of course, the illustrious Minister I belonged to a totally different category. He was a firm believer in the necessity and advantages of foreign intercourse, and he fell a victim to the high courage with which he obeyed his conviction. The idea is now mooted that a Marquisate should be conferred on the family, and it seems to us an excellent idea. In connexion with the subject, one of our Tokyo contemporaries suggests that a peerage should be granted to the family of Hojo Tokimune who repelled the Mongol invasion in the thirteenth century. That seems rather a far cry.

The cable between Foochow and Tamsui, which Japan purchased from China for a hundred thousand *yen*, seems to a perpetual source of trouble. The Great Northern Company manages it, in consideration of a monthly allowance of 300 *yen*, but as a means of communication the cable is more often useless than useful. What with getting entangled in fishermen's nets and fouled by anchors it is in perpetual trouble. Extensive repairs are now about to be undertaken, at an estimated cost of 70,000 *yen*.

New York mechanics have invented a type-writer for use in Japan. It does not, of course, produce Chinese ideographs, but it writes the *Kana* syllabary very successfully. Specimens have been sent to Japan, and facsimiles of the work done by them are published by the *Jiji Shimpo*. We fear that the inventor will have his pains for his trouble. There is scarcely any use for such an instrument in this country. No one writes with the *Kana* syllabary alone. It would be much easier and less confusing to use *Romaji* alone.

There is a proposal on foot to popularize the police service by proclaiming that persons volunteering to join the force shall be exempted from conscription. Something has to be done, for in Tokyo alone the police establishment is 270 short of its complement, and things are just as bad elsewhere. We entirely agree, however, with the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the only reasonable and effective plan is to raise the pay and allowances of the force, which are at present ludicrously inadequate. When a navvy's daily wage is 60 *sen*, it is extravagant to suppose that able-bodi-

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ed men will undertake the arduous and often dangerous functions of a constable for a pittance of 30 or 35 *sen*.

Mr. Sakuma Dentaro, who inflicted a severe wound with a sword cane on Okamoto, the recent assailant of Mr. Hoshi Toru, has been committed for trial on a charge of assault and battery. It appears that he jumped from a *jinrikisha* when he saw Okamoto flourishing a stick, and at once thrust at the man with his sword Under the circumstances, the preliminary judges in Aomori did not consider that his plea of self-defence was valid. Okamoto is now convalescent. He was laid up for 20 days.

A gendarmerie school has been established in Tokyo. The subjects of instruction are to be military and civil law, stenography, and foreign languages. We observe that Mr. Eastlake, presumably Dr. Eastlake, has been appointed a teacher in the school.

The Japanese residing on Thursday Island have formed an association for the purposes of protesting against the action of the Queensland Government in interdicting the immigration of Oriental labourers. The Association has forwarded a strongly worded representation to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, insisting that the step taken by Queensland is an insult to Japan, and that negotiations should be immediately opened with the British Government on the subject.

A great meeting of the northern supporters of the Liberal Party was held in Yamagata on the 1st instant. The resolutions adopted were on the lines previously indicated in these columns; namely, state purchase of private railways, transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, reform of the Law of Election for the House of Representatives, adoption of measures to promote trade and industry, construction of harbours in the north, establishment of an university in the north, and speedy completion of the northern railways.

There is still a great deal of talk in the columns of our Tokyo contemporaries about the Amoy outrage, though it must be confessed that, with the exception of the *Nippon*, all Japanese journals take an eminently quiet view of the situation. Full details are now published, but they add virtually nothing to previous accounts. The site of the new Japanese settlement was to be on Quemoy Island, and arrangements had been made that a cemetery on Tiger Hill should be removed, compensation being paid at the rate of 5 *yen* per grave. When, however, Mr. Consul Uyeno, together with Mr. Matsumoto, one of his staff, and a Japanese police-sergeant and others, proceeded to the Island, they were attacked by a mob, and the Chinese commissioners, instead of endeavouring to quell the disturbance, retreated precipitately at the first sign of trouble, declaring that they were going to procure military assistance, a promise which remains to be fulfilled.

Mr. Matsumoto had to swim for his life, but the Consul and the rest of the party escaped in a boat, the police-sergeant alone having sustained slight injury. Thereafter the town of Amoy was paraded by roughs making anti-Japanese demonstrations which the Authorities, apparently, did not attempt to check until very strong remonstrances had been addressed to the Taotai by Mr. Uyeno and the other Foreign Consuls. Mr. Uyeno seems to have behaved with much determination. The trouble took place on the 23rd of August, and on the 24th the leasing of the desired site was effected. Some persons allege that the Taotai had fomented the trouble. It is at all events pretty evident that his method of dealing with it was most perfunctory.

Kobe has it that fifteen thousand people were killed at the Besshi Mine by the recent storm. What will the number have become, we wonder, by the time it reaches the United States.

A telegram from Takaoka in Toyama Prefecture says that, on the 4th instant, Viscount Miura was the object of an assault which seems to have taken the form of throwing ashes on him. His assailant was apprehended, and the incident appears to have influenced the populace in favour of the Viscount and his political friends with whom he is touring the provinces.

A telegram from the Governor of Shiga Prefecture, dated 8.55 p.m., Sept. 4th, says that the steamer *Kohan Maru* has sunk in Obanakawa-oki, and that 12 persons are known to have been drowned and 2 injured, the fate of some others also being unknown.

Count Hijikata has been nominated Vice-President of the Imperial Organization Bureau, lately formed under the Presidency of Marquis Ito, and Professors Hozumi and Tomii of the Imperial University, Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, Baron Takasaki, Baron Ito, Baron Sannomiya, Count Karahashi, and Mr. Tada Kōmon are the officers of the Bureau. The offices are to be situated in the building on Reinanzaka, formerly used by the Railway Bureau, and it is said that Marquis Ito has decided to reside for the present in the same building.

On Tuesday morning Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, K.C.B., Commander-in-chief on the China station, attended by several members of his staff, and accompanied by H. E. Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M G., proceeded to the Palace and was received in audience by the Emperor. Mr. J. M. C. Cheetham, Second Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation, was presented to his Majesty at the same time.

A farmer in Akita possessed a tract of land covered with chesnut trees and valued at about a thousand *yen*. Immediately after the Revised Treaties went into operation, he was visited by an enterprising person, who told him that there was a keen demand on the part of Russia and China for timber to make railway sleepers, and that it would be easy to sell the chesnut grove for a hundred and fifty thousand *yen*. The delighted farmer begged for assistance to become thus unexpectedly rich, and the visitor furnished all the necessary instructions. Finally, the two proceeded to Yokohama, and had two or three very pleasant dinners at one of the principal hotels there, in the company of an affable foreigner, who made minute inquiries about the chesnuts and finally agreed to buy. Then he and his Japanese friend suddenly disappeared from the scene, and the farmer found himself poorer by about four thousand *yen*, which he had disbursed, at the instance of his instant, the total number of cases through-

exploiters, to defray preliminary expenses. That is the form which the first partnerships between foreigners and Japanese have taken. There are also some gentlemen travelling round in search of forests to make tea-boxes. They are prepared to offer magnificent prices. No one was quite wise enough to foresee this result of Treaty Revision. But who is the adroit foreigner?

It may be true that the German who has applied for a concession to build a line from Söul to Wonsan is merely seeking to acquire a privilege which he hopes to sell profitably by-and-by, but it seems to be also true that the company to which the Korean Government professes to have already given the concession is a bogus affair, conceived solely for the purpose of supplying a pretext for Korea's refusal.

The Progressists held a meeting in Morioka, Iwate Prefecture, on the 4th instant, but during the course of the proceedings some thirty persons belonging to their political opponents began to create a disturbance, ultimately mounting the platform, oversetting the table and brandishing their fists at Mr. Takata Sanaye who happened to be speaking at the time. The police appear to have been unable to restore order, so they ordered the meeting to disperse, a measure which is strongly condemned by the Progressists on the ground that it was the duty of the police to arrest the disturbers of the peace and not to put an end to the meeting.

From Kamada in Echigo comes a report that a kerosene spring of great power and volume has been tapped by a boring made at the works of the *Zowo Sekiyu Kaisha*. Using a newly imported machine, the boring had been carried to a depth of 309 feet on the 29th ultimo, when suddenly a jet of oil spouted to a height of 35 feet. On the 31st, the boring having been continued to 318 feet, there was another and still more violent outburst, and since that time the well has spouted regularly once an hour to a height of 60 feet.

The *Nohan Maru*, which sunk in Lake Biwa on the 3rd instant, has been floated. Twenty-five passengers are known to have been drowned and others are missing. There are no particulars as to why she sunk or how she was raised.

Count Oki's condition has not improved. It is announced that the Emperor has decided to confer on him the Grand Cordon of the *Tōkwa* (Order of the Paulowina). These distinctions, granted under such circumstances, have only one interpretation.

It is stated that the Japanese Government will present to the Diet next session a bill authorizing the contribution of a certain sum to the project of a United States Pacific Cable from New York via Japan and Hongkong to the Philippines. This is the enterprise on account of which Mr. Scrimser paid a visit to Japan in the early part of the year. It is stated that telegraphic rates to Europe and America will be reduced by one-half when the line is completed.

The ravages of dysentery continue unabated. The malady has, indeed, become more acute of late, doubtless owing to the sudden and sharp change of temperature within the past few days. Up to the 4th

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out the country had been fifty thousand, and deaths 9,849. Thus, out of every five persons attacked, one succumbed. Niigata has suffered more severely than any other place. It has had 7,000 cases. Fukuoka comes next with 5,000, and Nagano follows with 3 000.

Experiments were made on the 4th instant with Mr. Shimoda's fire-proof plaster (*danriyoku shikkui*). The scene of the trial was the Hibiya parade ground in Tokyo. Two buildings were erected; one plastered in ordinary Japanese style, the other covered with Mr. Shimoda's invention—namely, plaster having fibres of asbestos mixed with it, and laid on iron-wire netting, instead of having stray tags to support it. Fire was applied to the two structures. In 15 minutes the former was destroyed, and at the end of an hour Mr. Shimoda's building remained virtually intact.

The Emperor and Empress have contributed a sum of 4,000 *yen* for the relief of the sufferers from the typhoon in Formosa at the beginning of August.

The Japanese Government, having now received full reports about the Amoy outrage, has determined the measure of redress to be demanded from China, and negotiations will be opened immediately.

From the official report of the Takaoka affair, we learn that the missile employed by Viscount Miura's assailant was a bag of lime. He succeeded in striking the Viscount and powdering his head and shoulders, but was seized by the police before consummating the further violence which he evidently contemplated.

Apropos of this outrage, the *Mainichi* has an article strongly denouncing the belligerent tendency that is developing itself among political partizans. The chief point made by our contemporary is that although violent and unruly individuals will always be inmates of every camp, their conduct must depend in a large measure on the attitude of those in command of the camp. Now the newspaper organs of the Liberals and Progressists, instead of denouncing the lawless acts recently perpetrated, speak of them in a strain calculated to encourage, rather than to deter, their perpetrators. When Viscount Miura was attacked some time ago in Kashiwa-zaki, the feature of the affair which seemed most worthy of comment in the columns of Liberal journals was that the Viscount ran away When Mr. Hoshi was assaulted at Awomori, the Progressist organs, in turn, spoke of the valiant Hoshi cowering under a ram of rocks. And, referring to this last Miura affair, the Liberal reporters describe how the Viscount's party took to their heels and preferred the seclusion of their inn to the perils of the lecture hall. That is not the way to discourage the spirit of outrage. Very different, says the *Mainichi*, is the language used by English journals when politics are disgraced by the intrusion of physical force.

The return of Baron Hayashi from St. Petersburg is, of course, giving rise to many rumours. One of the leading Tokyo newspapers alleges that he has had a serious difference of opinion with the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, and is coming home to abandon official life and edit a newspaper. The same journal represents Marquis Ito as saying that the Baron is an eminently useful official; that his return is significant; that his adoption of the profession of journalism is scarcely credible, and that the editor of the *Jiji Shimpo* could probably explain the reason of his movements. So the tongue of rumour wags.

The prosperity of the cotton-spinning enterprise in Japan, as compared with the adversity from which it suffered last year, continues to attract much attention. Various causes are assigned for the fortunate change, but paramount among them is the demand of the North-China market. China used to take from Japan only counts from 10 to 13, but she has now begun to ask for sixteens, which Bombay can not supply, and Manchester is too busy to supply, being fully occupied with America's wants. All the yarns that can be produced in Japan up to the end of November are bespoken, and contracts are offered even beyond that period.

More than one of the Tokyo journals open their columns to complaints about the operation of the revised law for the control of dealers in arms and explosives. The trouble relates to dealers in gunpowder and other explosives. According to the revised law, such dealers are divided into two classes, class *A* and class *B*, or, speaking broadly, wholesale dealers and retail dealers. The law lays down that there shall not be more than 18 of class *A* in Kanagawa Prefecture, 25 in Hyogo, and 5 in Nagasaki. Of class *B* there may be 23 each in Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Kanagawa, Hyogo, and Nagasaki; 45 in Hokkaido, 18 each in other prefectures. This law was promulgated on the 4th of August, and the point now raised is that, on July 17th—*i.e.* the day when the Revised Treaties become operative—licenses were granted to so many foreigners of class *A* that virtually no vacancies remained for Japanese, and yet the Authorities, though fully cognizant of the fact, promulgated the law of August 4th, thereby giving to foreigners a monopoly of the trade.

Japanese railways, with few exceptions, pay dividends ranging from ten per cent. to 30 per cent., whereas in England, America, and Europe railway shareholders deem themselves fortunate if they obtain 4 or 5 per cent. on their investment. The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that the difference is solely attributable to the utterly unprogressive methods of Japanese railway managers. They will not spend a *sen* to secure the comfort of passengers, to promote facilities of communication, or to improve the quality of their rolling stock. The *Jiji* draws up a long list of grievances against the railway folks, but any one travelling by Japanese lines can do that without much difficulty.

The suspicion that the rebels in the Philippines were deriving assistance from Japanese sources grew so strong that General Otis recently ordered his troops to arrest any Japanese discovered under circumstances of a questionable character. This led to the apprehension of 3 Japanese on the 31st of August, but after examination they were released on the following day. We take these facts from Tokyo journals.

The ratification of the treaty with Greece was forwarded from Japan on the 30th of August, and it is expected that the ratifications will be exchanged in Athens at the beginning of October.

An enterprising Japanese, Mr. Ogura, obtained permission from the Russian Government last spring to establish a whaling station in Anila Bay, Saghalien. His take last year was 13 whales, and from May to July of the present year he captured 20. It is expected that the number next year will be 40 or 50. Mr. Ogura is now in Japan, having returned for the purpose of recruiting his staff.

We read in Tokyo newspapers that the recruits from the Riukiu Islands, to which the system of conscription was extended last year, are found to make excellent military material, though in point of endurance they are inferior to the Japanese.

Miller's case will be heard by the Tokyo Court of Appeal at 9 a.m. on the 19th instant. The Court now sits in the large building opposite to the Foreign Office, on the Hibiya Parade Ground.

Mr. Oka Ikuzo, editor of the *Chuo Shimbun*, is to proceed to Philadelphia as the representative of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce at the Commercial Congress. It is said that there is some excitement among the junior officials of the Department, who resent the idea of an outsider being sent on such a mission.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Sept. 2nd :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,777,149
Amount of convertible notes issued...	214,491 690
Government deposits	38,027 635
General deposits	4 437,775
Exchange liability	133,990
Total	296,848,240

Cr.	
Discount notes	51,185.920
Foreign discount notes	8 034 223
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	57.866,947
Exchange liability	1,154 775
Government bonds	49,601,393
Property...	1,928.189
Bullion and Specie	105,076.790
Total	296.848,240

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	212,928,345
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,762,517
Silver	—
Total	103.762.517
Securities :—	
Government bonds	32,232,121
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	8,924.126
Commercial notes	46 009 581
Total	109.165.828

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	547,894
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	784.521
Government deposits	—	1,312,565
General deposits	676,137	—

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FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE EMPLOY.

THE *Nippon's* appreciation of the foreigners hitherto employed by the Japanese for educational purposes is very interesting. It writes in connexion with the coming of Professor LADD, whose lectures are looked forward to with some excitement. The *Nippon* has but a poor idea of the attainments of the foreign teachers originally employed in Japan. They were either missionaries or military officers, and whatever scholarship they ultimately possessed was acquired in the course of the instruction given by them to their Japanese pupils. They learned, in short, as they taught, and the Japanese, on their side, went on thoughtlessly, imagining that everything was as it should be. The first event that roused public opinion to some sense of the true state of affairs was Mr. INOUYE RIYOICHI'S controversy with Professor GRIGSBY, which was soon afterwards followed by a controversy between the late Professor YATABE and a missionary. People began then to form an estimate of the quality of the foreign teacher. Men of the calibre of Dr. DIVERS and Professor MORSE now appeared upon the scene. Professor MORSE was not, perhaps, a great scholar, but nevertheless it was he that first directed Japanese attention to the theory of evolution and afterwards to the study of archæology. To him, in short, belongs the credit of having inspired a genuine taste for learning in Japan. Professor FENOLLOSA followed with his enthusiasm for the Spencerian philosophy. He found an ardent disciple in Professor TOYAMA, who threw all his zeal and ability into the cause of the new learning. Mr. FUKUZAWA promoted the movement not a little by his publication of a treatise on the survival of the fittest, and subsequently by his advocacy of HATTON'S theory of heredity. Then, when Professor FENOLLOSA found that a new stimulus was required, he turned to Japanese pictorial art, and succeeded in arousing an interest in it which had never been conceived previously, and which led to the establishment of art schools, and to the revival headed by Professor OKAKURA, Viscount KUKI, and others. Professor FENOLLOSA may have found his account in these proceedings. The *Nippon* expresses no disapproval of that. It gives him high credit, and sincerely regrets that a cloud should have fallen upon his life. Professor CHAMBERLAIN also is mentioned among Japan's benefactors, inasmuch as he turned her attention to her own literature, and M. BOISSONNADE is applauded, who inculcated a true conception of legislative science and awoke the nation's political spirit by his opposition to the unequal Treaty of 1886. Japan's present teachers, the *Nippon* thinks, are greatly superior in attainments to those of former times, but their influence is not so strongly felt: the material they find here is not so impressionable as it used to be. The *Nippon* concludes by hoping that Professor LADD will not find audiences quite strange to the subjects he has to discuss. His coming will probably give a new impetus to learning, but to profit by his lectures Japanese students should have preliminary knowledge, which they can obtain without any serious difficulty.

OFFICIAL CONTROL IN RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS.

ONE of the recent sensations of Tokyo has been in the field of religion. The celebrated shrine, Kotohira-jinja, better known to the general public as Kompira-samma, has been the scene of a very shady transaction. Several years ago, the priests of the Shrine conceived the idea of organizing a lottery on lines that would evade the law. In former days, there used to be a kind of mutual aid society in Japan. Suppose, for example, that a thousand *yen* was wanted for any particular purpose. Ten men would each put up a hundred *yen*, and the total sum would pass into the possession of one of them by lot. The recipient of the money would then be bound to pay back instalments of 100 *yen* each at fixed intervals, and the other nine associates would draw lots for each instalment until all had recovered their money. Thus one member of the association might recover his 100 *yen* almost immediately, whereas another might have to wait several months, or even years, but every one was supposed to get back his own in the end. The only real gainer was the lucky drawer of the first winning lot, and his gain was represented by the interest on the money pending the payment of the last instalment. On a basis resembling the above the Kotohira lottery—*mujin* or *tanomoshi*—was organized. The subscription was one *yen* per month, payable for a maximum period of 80 months. Every month lots were drawn, and the winner received 100 *yen*. There were a few minor prizes, but they need scarcely be taken into account, their amounts being quite insignificant. Each one of these lotteries was limited to 500 persons, but the number of lotteries was not limited, and, as a matter of fact, it is said that several thousands of persons put in a *yen* each regularly every month. Of course, had the original principle of the *muin* been observed, each prize winner should have continued to pay monthly instalments until the end of the fixed period. But that troublesome arrangement was dispensed with. When a man drew a hundred-*yen* ticket, he received a hundred *yen* in cash—minus about 20 *yen* which was deducted on various pretexts—, and thereafter his connexion with that particular lottery ceased. It will be seen that the chance of drawing a big prize increased every month. In the first month it was $\frac{1}{499}$; in the second $\frac{1}{488}$, and so on. But in the end only 80 out of the subscribers could hope to obtain 100 *yen*; 420 must look forward to an absolute loss of 80 *yen* each, minus the amount of the petty subordinate prizes. It is not easy to understand how such an arrangement could be considered as anything but a lottery, pure and simple. However, partly by means of the name and partly under pretext of charitable purposes, the thing was left undisturbed for several years. Then the police interfered. An order was issued that the affairs of the lotteries must be wound up, and no further subscriptions received. The discovery ensued that the priests were not in a position to carry out the order. They had spent the large surpluses accruing every month, and had no means of making a settlement. There has been a good deal of excitement in the neighbourhood of Kompira-sama since that time, and the ranks of the faithful are said to be greatly thinned. Such abuses merit the close attention of the authorities much more than does the question of separating religion and education. The *Jiji Shimpō* makes that pertinent comment. It thinks that, on the whole, the influence of every religious sect is good. Even the peculiar forms of Buddhism known as the *Remmon-kyo* and the *Tenri-kyo* are in some sense beneficial, though the beverage they distribute to believers under the name of "holy water" requires looking after. A few mouthfuls of the stuff, taken from a dirty drain, brought cholera into a family in the Kitatama suburb of Tokyo and killed 8 people.

A REMARKABLE DEPARTURE.

THE officials and ministers of the Daijingu shrine of Ise have hitherto formed an association called the *Jingu Kyokai*. It is, perhaps, necessary to explain that the distinction between "officials" and "ministers" is very plainly marked in the *Shinto* cult, though it has no existence in other religions. The duties of the *Shinto* official (*shinkwan*) are purely ritual: they are limited to the performance of the rites and ceremonies prescribed by the cult. Upon the "minister" (*kyodo-shoku*) solely devolves the function of delivering homilies and conveying instruction in morals. According to his own theory the *Shinto* official does not pray: he merely submits petitions to heaven. He is a means of communication between the gods and men. For some time—more than a year, if we remember rightly—the heads of the *Jingu Kyokai* have advanced a theory that they are not a religious body and that *Shinto* is not a religion. It is merely a mechanism for keeping generation in touch with generation, and preserving the continuity of the nation's veneration for its ancestors.

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Such a contention sounds strange at first, but a subtle import underlies it. The Constitution declares liberty of conscience. No Japanese subject is under compulsion to embrace any form of religious creed. He may be a believer in anything he pleases, or a believer in nothing at all, provided only that his conduct is not regulated by tenets opposed to the preservation of law and order. Thus it follows that, if *Shinto* is a religion, no one in Japan need respect it or embrace it. But if *Shinto* is merely a cult embodying the principle of veneration for ancestors, and having for its chief function the performance of rites in memory of the divine ancestors of the empire's sovereigns, then every loyal Japanese subject is bound to support it. Arguing in that manner, and setting forth, not obscurely, the tendency of their contention, the leaders of the *Jingu Kyokai* have applied to the Authorities for permission to reconstruct themselves into the *Jingu Hosaikai*, abandoning, at the same time, all title to be called a religious body, and becoming a purely secular organization—a *zaidan hōjin*, or economical body constituting a juridical person—exempt from the special form of official supervision to which all religious associations in Japan are subjected. The *Dai-Jingu* at Ise is the shrine of shrines. It is delicated to Tenshoko Daijin, ancestress of the Emperors, and few Japanese tradesmen believe that they can hope for prosperity unless they preserve their connexion with the Shrine by direct or vicarious worship. That the officials and ministers of the Shrine should voluntarily abandon their claim to be called religionists, and should ask to be reduced to the rank of mere ritualists, is a remarkable incident. Moreover, the application has been granted by the Authorities. On the 2nd instant the *Jingu Kyokai* ceased to exist, and was replaced by the *Jinku Hosaikai* (reverential representation society of Jinku). There are never wanting persons who discover a mean motive in human actions. This change of basis is said to have been prompted by apprehension. The leaders of the *Jingu Kyokai* are supposed to have foreseen that their creed could not withstand the onset of Christianity reinforced by the privileges conferred on it when the Revised Treaties went into operation. So they have prudently withdrawn from the arena. We credit that explanation in so far as it attributes to the *Shinto* people a desire to place their cult beyond the impact of clashing creeds. *Shinto* can never hope to stand as a religion. But it may stand as the embodiment of a national sentiment. In choosing the latter foundation, the *Dai Jingu* leaders have shown great astuteness.

A telegram to hand states that the Hokuetsu and the Shinetsu railways were to be connected on the 5th inst.

CORRESPONDENCE

HOUSE TAXES IN THE FOREIGN CONCESSIONS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Anent the matter of House Taxes in the Foreign Concessions, which you discussed in to-day's *Mail*, I have one question which I have not seen touched upon. To make the issue perfectly clear, I shall put it in the form of a series of questions and answers.

(1) Has a house tax heretofore been levied on Japanese? Yes.

(2) Did the treaties exempt foreigners in the Concessions from the house tax before July 17th? The treaties do not specify any exemption from house tax. I think I am correct in this answer.

(3) By the force of what agreement, then, have foreigners in the Concessions been exempt from house taxes? By force of the language of the treaties with the foreign powers.

(4) Then by what authority can the house tax be imposed now? None.

In brief, if the treaties excused this tax before July 17th, they therefore excuse it since July 17th. And if the treaties did not forbid this tax in specific words, yet both the Japanese and foreign Governments have acted upon the assumption that it was forbidden; for no such tax has been collected.

As an interested party, and one very ignorant on legal matters, I should like to have more light on this matter.

Very truly, E. SNODGRASS.

Tokyo, Sept. 2nd, 1899.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I thank you very much for the information in your paper of Saturday, in reply to my queries *in re* transfer of land, etc.

Since I last wrote the accounts for Bluff ground rents due on September 1st have been sent round and the form of receipt is a great improvement, having a full translation of its contents printed in English on the back. I trust this will be done on all taxation forms.

Yours gratefully, A BRITISHER.

Yokohama, September 2nd, 1898.

A DESIDERATUM.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir:—It seems to be high time for some competent person to write an adequate manual for beginners in the colloquial Japanese language. Those who have once read Professor Chamberlain's Hand-book will probably never know how much they owe to that illuminating exposition of the peculiarities of the language. Dr. Imbrie's Etymology, too, in its own way is an invaluable aid. But with these the list is about exhausted of books that are not obsolete or out of print.

Considering the extraordinary difficulties of the Japanese script and the fact that *Romaji* is entirely adequate so long as technical Chinese compounds are not too much in evidence, that is, so long as we have to deal with every-day conversation, it seems advisable for the foreign student to learn the colloquial first with the aid of the Roman letters, and later to attack the script. Mr. Clay MacCauley's recent "Introduction" advocates the native *kana*. But the colloquial written with *kana* in horizontal lines cannot be read fluently even by Japanese. A book intended for beginners is not the place for an attempt "to hustle the East." We must learn the script first as it is, or let it be.

As to method, experiments with new theories are for the most part impracticable, for the reason that first class methods require first-class teachers, and the average foreign student of Japanese has to be his own pedagogue. A long time ago we had Brown's adaptation of Prendergast and later Noye's adaptation of Gouin. Both theories are excellent from a pedagogical standpoint, but, so long as competent teachers are scarce as they are, the good old method is the best. What we need is a clear, systematic exposition of the principles of the language, accompanied at every point with abundant exercises for translation from Japanese into English and from English into Japanese. This method is very reprehensible from a pedogogical standpoint. It is true that the perception of the impossibility of translating marks the beginning of the mastery of any language. But we have to deal, with "a condition, not a theory." When one has in hand a book after the good old method any Japanese who knows his own language, and has the courage to correct his employer, will do for a "teacher."

The Germans have such a book,—Professor Rudolf Lange's "Lehrbuch der japanischen Umgangssprache." Its weakness is that it is arranged according to the topics of the German grammar, and so fails to get the right perspective. Moreover Professor Lange's vocabulary needs revision to adjust it to the requirements of a beginner, while his stock of idioms is far from complete. But the great merit of the book is that it is systematic, and each point is impressed on the memory by means of appropriate exercises. In this respect it surpasses anything we have in English. Some have suggested that it be translated; but many of the elucidations have no point except for those who think in German. What is needed is an entirely new book prepared by an English scholar thoroughly versed in the Japanese language and at the same time capable of understanding the wants of beginners, who in these latter days study with Brinkley's Dictionary at their elbow and ought not to be under the necessity of groping and fumbling about after the elements of the language, as the students of thirty years ago had to do.

After a fair beginning has been made in the colloquial, Lay's Chinese Characters and Chamberlain's "Introduction to the study of Japanese Writing" open the way to a mastery of the script. The former is an indispensable book of reference for the beginner. It needs to be fitted out with a marginal index of the chief radicals, and, in the case of the larger groups, the number of strokes should also be noted on the margin. Then with a little practise one can almost instantly look up a strange character. A revised edition of Gubbins' Dictionary is also a desideratum. The new dictionary edited by Ochiai, called "Kotoba no Izumi," with its index of all Chinese compounds arranged by strokes and radicals, is, for the foreign student who can read a little of the character, more complete and satisfactory than anything hitherto available. C. N.

Sendai, Sept. 2nd, 1899.

THE DOSHISHA & THE "KUNREI."

(Communicated.)

It is understood that officials of the Mombusho first asked that the Article of the Doshisha Constitution making Christianity the foundation of the moral instruction be stricken out. This was refused. They then suggested that the following clause be added to the Article of the Constitution which makes it apply to all departments, namely, "So far as this does not conflict with the laws and regulations of the Government." This was also refused. Finally, Aug. 30th, after two days of discussion in Directors' meeting, it was decided by a majority vote to send a letter to the Mombusho to the effect that "while we must follow the Constitution of the Doshisha, yet the Middle School will be conducted so as not to conflict with the recent 'Kunrei' of the Minister of Education." The three foreign members of the Board voted against this, and three Japanese members, who were not present, sent letters disapproving the action. The Board unanimously passed a resolution that if the Department of Education object to the action now taken the Middle School be given up. The whole discussion was conducted in a most kind and Christian spirit, and each side recognized the earnest conviction of the other, and that while they differed in judgment they did so as Christian brethren. J. D. D.

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NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

The examination of the Shinetsu and Hokuetsu railway in Naoetsu was finished on the 28th ult. and the opening ceremony will take place on 5th Sept.

A parcels delivery service between Tokyo and Osaka, has been opened by the Naikoku Tsuun Kaisha. At first consignments were sent every 4 or 5 days, but since July the amount of traffic has so increased that consignments are forwarded almost every other day.

Mr. Otani Kahei is a busy man. He is the representative of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, the Central Tea Traders' Chamber, the Business Men's Association, the Gonikai Association of Tea Men for the whole of Japan, delegate to the Philadelphia Congress, and representative of the Tea Bureau of Japanese Exhibitors at the Paris International Exhibition.

There are two ingenious self-acting telephone instruments in the possession of the Department of Communications. They were imported from America, and are intended to be placed at important points in the city. They are on the penny-in-the-slot principle. The people at the telephone exchange can tell by sound whether the money put in is real or false. The Department will make a number of these machines after the model of those imported.

The Hokkaido Telephone call office will be opened on or about Nov. 1st. The erection of the telephone wire between Sapporo and Otaru has been completed, but that between Otaru and Hakodate will not be finished till the middle of September, the building of the Hakodate call office being the last of the works. With regard to telephone communication in Hokurikudo, the Department of Communications has dispatched an official to the northern provinces, to investigate the works to be undertaken. Kanazawa, Kaga Province, will be provided with an exchange by 1900, while Fukui (Echizen), Toyama, and Takaoka (in Etchiu) will be furnished with telephonic communication by 1902.

The Nippon Ginko's loans in Fukui this year have amounted to 1,000,000 *yen*. The *habutaye* producers of that region used to purchase raw silk in Yokohama, and sell their products there, but this year they began to purchase in Nagano, Fukushima, and Gumma, which are raw silk producing districts, and have therefore been obliged to pay in cash. The bank makes advances and takes the *habutaye* as security.

The foreign leaf tobacco imports for 1899 were estimated by the Monopoly Office at 2,573,608 lbs., the net profit being put at 538,912 *yen*. American and Chinese tobacco, which form 90 per cent. of the whole import, will probaly be excluded from the market next year. As Chinese tobacco is charged with 100 per cent. duty it will not be imported unless there a great scarcity of tobacco at home, and as the makers of imitation foreign cigarettes purchased great quantities of leaf before the revised customs dues were enforced, it is not expected that this year and next they will attempt any further import of American leaf. Thus the "half a million *yen* net profit" will be probably reduced to a very small sum. The estimate of the production of home tobacco this year is 15,012,110 *kwan*, about double as much as last year's crop.

An area of 1,144 *cho* of the Hokkaido Imperial lands will be rented in 1900 and 302 families will be settled on it.

The following gentlemen have received special invitations to attend the Philadelphia Commercial and Manufacturing Congress: Mr. Takahashi Mitsutake (Hakata Chamber of Commerce), Mr. Gill (Gill & Co., Kobe), Mr. Ishikawa (Murai Brothers & Co.), Mr. Hamaoka (Kyoto Chamber of Commerce), Mr. Ishikawa (Japanese Paper Export Co.), Mr. E. W. Frazar (Frazar & Co.)

The greater part of the silkworms' eggs sent to Formosa proved sterile. Only those sent by Mr. Futatsugi (Shinano) survived, and the whole were hatched last month. The results were excellent.

A contract has been successfully concluded between Mr. Wada Yozo and Konyo, a Chinese resident in Yokohama, for the working of a coal mine (12,000 *cho*) in South China. The mine will be in the hands of Japanese and Chinese, and the mineral will be exported to Japan. The coal is said to be not inferior to Cardigan coal.

The Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture has ordered that every new building in Yokohama shall henceforth be roofed with incombustible material.

The dividend of the Yokohama Specie Bank will be 15 per cent. for the first half of 1899.

A coal mine, 8 or 9 *ri* in extent, was accidentally discovered at Yubari, Hokkaido, through the late flood, which uncovered the seams. The coal proved excellent, as it emits no black smoke, and leaves little ashy deposit. The mine is situated at two miles' distance from the railway, and is conveniently situated with regard to Otaru or Muroran.

The Nikko excursion trains finished running at the close of August, but in view of their success it has been decided to continue them on Saturdays and Sundays during this month.

It is reported that the Morioka Company, and two other emigration companies at Hiroshima and Kumamoto respectively are arranging for the supply of 10,000 labourers for Hawaii.

The ground at Isezakicho, Yokohama, was expected to be purchased at the rate of from 200 *yen* to 300 *yen* per *tsubo* by the city authorities in order to widen the street in accordance with the resolution passed by the city assembly. As parts of the street, however, would only fetch 30 or 40 *yen* per *tsubo* the average price will not be more than 150 *yen* per *tsubo* throughout.

Telegraphic communication has been interrupted throughout almost the whole of Kyushu and Shikoku owing to the disastrous storm. A restoration, however, will be effected in the course of two or three days.

The Kobu Railway Company is now engaged in the purchase of land for prolonging the line between Idamachi and Yorozuyobashi, which work the Government has provisionally sanctioned. It is expected the line will be opened very soon.

The Kashu Spinning Factory has been sold to the Mitsui company for 319,000 *yen*, including land, buildings, implements, and all other properties.

The new fine arts gallery at Uyeno has been completed but the opening celebration will be deferred till the new pictures contributed to the Japan Fine Arts Association have been sold.

The Formosa Bank was to have been opened on the 16th inst., but the event has been postponed to the 1st October, owing to various arrangements having still to be made. The director of the bank is Mr. Soyeda. The chief bank at Dgikoku, Formosa, will have one bureau and six departments, viz. Secretary's Bureau, Government Finance Dept., Business Dept., and Payment Dept., Accounts Dept., Bank Notes Dept., and Miscellaneous Dept. The Kobe branch will be opened on the same day as the chief bank.

A large park is to be laid out at Nagasaki on a site where a hospital is now situated. Suwayama park will be re-arranged.

Indigo is rising in price in consequence of the short crop in Japan, and the outlook for Indian is very promising. Native buyers allege, however, that the Indian indigo is inferior to Japanese in dyeing quality.

Mr. Uchida Kokichi, an official in the Communications Department, has been ordered to Hongkong, China, Korea, and Vladivostock to inspect the Japanese mercantile marine visiting those ports. He will be about away 3 or 4 months.

Baron Sonoda, Governor of Hokkaido, is said to be urging greater celerity in building the Government railways in the northern territory.

Owing to the general depression last year, the deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank showed a big decrease. The Post Office has been endeavouring to attract depositors of late, but without much success. Private Savings Banks are flourishing, as the following table shows:—

	Banks.	Funds.
December 1896	153.....	11,015,000 Yen
December 1897	220.....	19,700,000 Yen
December 1898	273.....	27,410,300 Yen
January 1899	279.....	27,710,300 Yen
February 1899	280.....	28,270,300 Yen
March 1899	287.....	29,330,000 Yen
April 1899	294.....	30,100,300 Yen
May 1899	299.....	30,740,300 Yen
June 1899	306.....	31,856,300 Yen

According to investigations made by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the wheat crop for 1899 is expected to reach 19,110,000 *koku*, or 1,340,000 *koku* less than that of the previous year, but 850,000 *koku* more than in ordinary years.

There are nine spinning factories in Shanghai with 307,812 spindles. The produce is about 400 bales of thread per day. The total export of thread last year from Shanghai was 70,626 bales, zvi., 211,880 *tan*.

Telegraphic communication west of Osaka was restored by the 31st ult. but as permanent repairs have not yet been effected, and there has been a great rush of messages, the line will not be in perfect working order before the 4th instant.

The first consignment of Chinese cocoons, 2,000 lbs., was received on the 31st ult. by Anzai & Co., of Yokohama.

The Tokyo-fu Noko Ginko (Agricultural and Industrial Bank) announces that it will receive cheques in payment of district taxes (*chihozei*). This will be a great convenience to tax-payers.

The Yokohama City Office publishes the corrected figures regarding the damage by the late fire at Yokohama. Seventeen streets were destroyed, and 3,596 houses, occupied by 13,817 persons.

The Kagawa Prefecture deep sea fishery has prospered since the Authorities adopted various encouragement methods. The Deep Sea Fishermen's Corporation was organized in 1894, and 1,800 *yen* yearly has now been granted to the corporation from the Prefectural Treasury. Out of 58 fishery villages 27 are engaged in deep sea fishery. The returns are large.

The three electric light companies of Tokyo utilise between them some 3,755 horse-power. About 5,600 houses are illuminated with about 5,900 lights.

Some of the Nagano *habutaye* producers have applied to the new Governor, Mr. Oshikawa, for encouragement money. The governor, however, does not regard the application favourably, but is enquiring as to the desirability of establishing a model weaving factory for the improvement of the industry.

The Industrial Bank has decided to raise one million *yen* from October 1st by the issue of bonds. It is reported that the first applicant will be awarded 100 *yen* in order to stimulate subscription.

The silk producers of Fukui have petitioned the Bank of Japan to establish a branch in the

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district. The business men of Kanazawa have made a similar appeal on behalf of their district, and have interviewed some officials of the Finance Department, and the Agriculture and Commerce Department on the subject. The Bank, however, will probably decline.

The Japan Trade Association (Nihon Boyeki Kyokai) is endeavouring to bring about improved trade relations with the United States. A letter is to be addressed to the director of the Commercial and Manufacturers' Museum, Philadelphia, with the view of its being published in the American press, and circulated among Chambers of Commerce in every State. The letter argues that the excessive duties charged in the U S. are detrimental to the trade which is steadily growing between Japan and America. Japan does not charge more than 10 or 15 per cent. on goods imported from the United States, except on tobacco leaf, but the States' policy inclines more and more to restrictive tariffs. American traders ought to take some definite measure against this pernicious policy, if they are desirous to bring about prosperity in both countries.

The foreign trade of Osaka has shown an excess of imports for the last few years, but this rule was reversed in August. In that month the exports were just double those of July, causing an excess of exports over imports, this being partly due to the abolition of export duties. On the other hand the imports for August were only one third those of July. The chief cause of this decrease is said to be the operation of Art. 39 of the Revised Customs Regulation, which requires that exported goods shall be examined not only at the port where they are first landed, but also at the port of final destination if they are transported by water. This double examination causes much trouble to traders, and the consignees of goods prefer to get through the examination at Kobe and take their goods overland to Osaka.

The Japanese Consul at Vladivostock states that owing to excessive rain since June 6th, and to the cool weather, the coast districts will suffer from a defective crop of cereals.

The results of the wireless telegraphy experiment at Tsukudajima being excellent, the system will be put in operation between the lighthouse at Irozaki and the lighthouse at Mikomotojima (in Izu)—a distance of nine miles. The telegraphic cables between these two light houses have been frequently damaged by high winds, and the new system, if successful, will mean the saving of much expense and trouble. The Communications Department intends to finish the work before the coming winter, and the service will be opened at the beginning of 1900.

Mr. Amenomiya has been asked to arbitrate between the chief officials of the Kyushu Railway Company and the "reformers." He intends to propose the State purchase of the Railway.

The smaller insurance companies are in extraordinary straits through the losses by the great fires at Yokohama and Toyama. Most of them will be unable to declare dividends either this year or next, though a great impetus has been given to insurance business by the catastrophes.

A council of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce was opened on the 4th inst., the subject of discussion being the presentation of a protest to the U.S. Government against the enforcement of the Coast Trade Prohibition Law in Hawaii and the Philippines. Mr. Shiraishi (Hogakushi), who is staying in San Francisco, will be asked to proceed to the Commercial Congress, Philadelphia, as the representative of the Tokyo Chamber.

To the 24,351,667 lbs. of raw silk produced throughout the world during 1898 the Far East contributed 15,366,667 lbs., Western Europe 6,691,667 lbs., and Eastern Europe and Central Asia 2,293,333 lbs.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has lowered the rates of passage between Yokohama and Yokkaichi, Tsu and Miya (in Ise), and Handa (Owari) since September 1st. The reduced fares are as follows:—1st class 4.50 *yen*, return 8 *yen*; 2nd class 3 *yen*, return 5.50 *yen*; 3rd class 1.50 *yen*.

Mr. Yamamoto Heyei, who has been investigating the conditions of the tea trade in the United States on behalf of the Tea Traders' Central Chamber, returned on the 5th inst. by the *Hongkong Maru*.

The Tokyo Bankers' Association has forwarded a representation to the Minister of Finance asking that private bank cheques may be accepted for cash in general tax payments.

At the provisional general council of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce on the 5th inst., it was decided that the United States Government should be asked not to extend the Coast Trade Prohibition Law to Hawaii and the Philippines. An amendment by Mr. Suenoku that the American Government be asked not to follow a protective policy *vis à-vis* the Far East, was lost. It was decided that Mr. Shiraishi should be dispatched from San Francisco to Philadelphia as the representative of the Chamber, and a committee was appointed to consider the question of the continuance of State aid to the Yusen Kaisha.

Japanese emigrants in Peru are in difficulties, in spite of the favourable climate and the liberal attitude of the Peruvian Government. The Morioka Emigration Company sent 800 Japanese labourers out during March, but there is no prospect of despatching more in view of the strong antipathy felt towards Orientals by the common people in Peru.

Three prizes of *yen* 600, *yen* 300, and *yen* 150 will be awarded for the best essays on the subject of a system of exchange. The Economical Investigation Association is to arrange the competition.

During July *yen* 8,938,750 of Government bonds were purchased by the Government. The State gained *yen* 362,319 by this means.

The state of the foreign trade of Yokohama and Kobe during August, and also during the period from January to August, is shown in the following table:—

	August. yen.
Exports	20,604,355
Imports	19,082,327
Total	39,686,682
Excess of Exports	1,522,028
	yen.
Gold and Silver Exported	104,611
Gold and Silver Imported	1,105,838
Excess of Imports	941,227
	From Jan. to Aug. yen.
Exports	127,374,476
Imports	130,614,071
Totals	257,988,545
Excess of Imports	3,239,595
	yen.
Gold and Silver Exports	1,853,670
Gold and Silver Imports	18,747,593
Excess of Imports	16,893,923

Compared with last year the exports from January to August of this year showed an increase of 29,384,967, while imports decreased by 67,173,951, giving a net decrease of 37,788,884 *yen*.

The average daily income of the Nippon Railway Company during July was 20,050 *yen*, but in August this was increased to 21,000 *yen*, and it may be expected to average 23,000 *yen* this month. The increase is ascribed to the increased purchasing power of the North Eastern districts, owing to better prospects in silk cocoons and raw silks.

A miniature model garden, on which Mr. Hori Seikwo has been engaged a long time, will be exhibited at the Paris Exposition. It is contained in a box 4 feet 6 inches long and 3 feet 6 inches wide, and consists of an autumn scene with hills and water. A gate, a tea arbour, a bridge, boats, stone lanterns, water fowls, floating weeds, and a Benten shrine are included in the design.

The number of examinations in the Yokohama Raw Silk Examiner's Office during August was 1,485, and the total number from January to August 4,929.

The one *yen* paper currency now amounts to 44,500,000 *yen*, in spite of all efforts of the Bank of Japan to effect a decrease.

The price of Hokkaido coal in April and May was *yen* 6.70 a ton; now it exceeds *yen* 7.50 a ton. Consequently the mines at Yubari and Sorachi are in full operation. They now produce 900 tons a day, and next month more than 1,000 tons will probably be turned out. The alleged discovery of "white coal" was, it appears, a hoax. One Coal Mining Company has purchased the newest mining plant, which was to have been fixed during August, but, as the men are so busy, it will now not be completed till October. Mr. Mewade, the American expert employed by this Company, is suffering from nerve disease and wishes to go home. He will be relieved when the new plant is laid down.

The much-attacked Dr. Sengoku, Director of the Kyushu Railway, has circulated a written statement of his views on the prospects of the company. He believes all his programme of improvements and extensions could be carried out within a year, and that the expense involved would not prevent the dividends being increased, after his designs have been carried out so as to put the line and rolling stock into first-rate condition.

A return of the tea trade in Yokohama during the last half of August, made by Mr. Otani, shows that tea sent in from the country amounted to 1,279,000 lbs., tea sold to foreign merchants reached 1,320,500 lbs., and 756,200 lbs. were left in stock. The trade in Yokohama from January to August of the years 1898 and 1899 may be seen from the following comparative table:—

	1899. lbs.	1898. lbs.
Tea sent in	19,891,700	18,682,900
Tea sold	19,135,500	17,453,800
Tea left in stock	756,200	1,229,100

The following table shows the condition of the raw silk trade in Yokohama during the past 12 years:—

	Left over from previous year.	Sent in from country.	Rejected.	Exported.	Left in stock at end of year.
1887	24,941	64,073	4,026	55,174	29,814
1888	29,814	79,285	3,842	83,158	22,099
1889	22,099	72,878	4,936	73,364	16,677
1890	16,677	57,338	6,003	37,517	30,495
1891	30,495	97,627	3,871	94,669	29,582
1892	29,582	88,429	9,409	96,122	12,470
1893	12,470	91,968	11,552	65,998	26,888
1894	26,888	108,221	9,348	97,498	28,263
1895	28,263	114,581	9,955	103,289	29,600
1896	29,600	91,393	19,534	69,671	31,780
1897	31,788	119,367	15,537	123,019	12,599
1898	12,599	102,214	10,932	85,966	17,885
1899	17,885	—	—	—	—

In view of the price of foreign rice business is now dull, and some Chinese dealers are thinking of re exporting their stocks to Hongkong as the bad crop in India will probably induce a brisk demand there.

Ten soldiers belonging to the 22nd U. S. Infantry (one of the coloured regiments) were drowned in the San Mateo river near Manila on the 21st August, through the capsizing of a raft. The men were so weighted down by their accoutrements and 200 rounds of ammunition that they quickly sank in the strong current of the muddy river. A white soldier, who saw the accident, gallantly jumped in to render assistance, and was also drowned. Another soldier was drowned in the Pasig.

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THE RICE CROP.

In a recent issue we published an estimate of the rice crop this season, based on information collected by the *Shogyo Shimpo*. The conclusion arrived at was that the yield would be 18 per cent. less than that of last year, and 3 per cent. below the average. Another estimate has now been published by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is compiled from returns from all the prefectures throughout the empire except Shiga, Hiroshima, and Kumamoto, which, not having furnished reports, are put at the average figure. The Department's forecast is that the crop will be 11.7 per cent. less than last year's, and 6.5 per cent. above the average, which is 39,302,901 *koku*. It must be noted, however, that the official figures were collected prior to the last storm, which necessitates more or less modification, and that they take no account of the exceedingly unseasonable weather that has prevailed throughout the current month. The yields for each year since 1887 are as follow :—

	KOKU.
1887	39,999,199
1888	38 645,583
1889	33,007 566
1890	43,037 809
1891	38,123,548
1892	41,378 474
1893	37 199 663
1894	41,815,7[illegible]4
1895	39,920,882
1896	36,199 771
1897	33,039,293
1898	47,387,666
1896	41,481,993

A REMARKABLE WEDDING.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The Rev. J. M. T. Winther, of Tokyo and Miss A. Hansen, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, were united in holy wedlock on September 1st, at the home of Dr. Whitney in Kamakura. Immediately after the ceremony a sumptuous wedding feast was partaken of at the Kamakura Inn. This was in some respects a remarkable wedding. The bridegroom is a Dane, the bride a German, the bridesmaid a Swede, and the best man an American—while the ceremony was performed in the home of an English lady. The officiating minister was the Rev. N. Hansen, pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Cedar Falls, Iowa, and President of the Iowa District United Lutheran Church in America, who had come all the way from Iowa with the bride to officiate on this occasion. This wedding was celebrated on three continents, and in four countries: while the ceremony was being performed here a meeting in honour of it was held in the church to which the parties belong in Iowa; there was also a family gathering at the bridegroom's home in Denmark, and another at the bride's home in Germany. The Rev. and Mrs. Winther have taken up their abode in Saga, Kyushu, where they will work in connection with the Evangelical Lutheran Mission. Rev. N. Hansen, who accompanied the bride to Japan, will go to China on a tour of inspection of the Danish Missions there; after which he will spend some time in Japan, prior to his return to America.

FORMOSA TEA TAX.

The Hongkong papers publish some correspondence which has been sent by the Amoy Chamber of Commerce to H.B.M.'s Minister at Tokyo, and also a communication to the Hongkong Chamber, with reference to "a discriminating duty of *yen* 1.60 per picul on Formosa tea which the Japanese Government imposed from the 4th August on shipments to Foreign Countries whilst allowing tea to be shipped from Formosa to Japan free of duty and thence exported abroad likewise free of duty."

The Amoy Chamber writing to Sir Ernest Satow with reference to the duty said—

The object of this proposed duty is to favour the line of steamers running between Formosa and Japan and to divert the tea trade as much as possible from the present channel via Amoy and Hongkong by placing a discriminating duty of yen 1.60 per picul on it.

"This would not seem to be in accordance with the new Treaties, which, as we read them require that Japan and her possessions should have the same tariff.

The consumption of Formosa tea in Japan and China is absolutely nil, such teas, whether landed in Japan, a China port, or Hongkong, are in transit for the United States, Great Britain, the Continent of Europe, Australia, or the Dutch Colonies. The route from Formosa *vâ* Japan might favour the teas shipped by the Pacific, but as regards the great bulk of the shipments, that is, those *vâ* Suez to the United States, Great Britain, and the Continent of Europe, and those to Australia and the Dutch Colonies, it is out of the question to send such to Japan. The proposed duty would therefore discriminate in favour of one route to one country, and against all other routes and countries.

It is argued that the Japanese Government only asserts its right to fix the tariff between Formosa and Amoy (the latter being a Chinese port) in accordance with agreements between Japan and China. This argument disregards the fact as shown above, that the teas do not come to Amoy for consumption, but in transit to foreign countries.

Our merchants claim that they are at liberty to clear their teas at the Formosa Customs for the United States, Europe, &c., *via* Amoy or any other route, paying duty according to the Japan tariff applicable to such countries of final destination, and it is in the hope that you will support this view that this Chamber asks your assistance in combatting in good time any disability which may be impending to the liberty of a merchant to ship by whichever route he may please.

This letter is dated July 24. Under date of August 5, the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce wrote to the British Minister as follows :—

Sir,—The attention of this Chamber has been drawn by the Amoy Chamber of Commerce to a notification issued by the Government of Formosa announcing the imposition of a duty of yen 1.60 per picul on tea exported from Formosa to foreign countries, whilst the leaf if exported to Japan is exempted from duty and can be shipped thence to foreign ports free of imposts. This of course amounts to the imposition of a discriminating duty, specially designed to divert the tea trade of Formosa from its accustomed channels and to compel shippers to send it in the Japanese subsidised steamers to Japan instead of, as at present, *vâ* Amoy and Hongkong. As the vast bulk of these teas go by way of the Suez Canal to the United States, Great Britain, and the Continent of Europe, it would obviously be most inconvenient to ship them *vâ* Japan.

The imposition of a discriminatory duty on an article of export in a Japanese possession in order to divert traffic is not, this Chamber ventures to think, in accordance with the spirit of the new Treaties, which may be taken to authorise the clearance of teas through the Formosan Customs for foreign ports by any route, provided they pay duty according to the Japan tariff, without being compelled to ship them in the first instance to Japan.

This Chamber, strongly supports the protest addressed to you by the Amoy Chamber of Commerce on the subject, and sincerely trusts that your Excellency will succeed in convincing the Japanese Government of the inequitable and illiberal character of the step they propose to take, and which if persisted in cannot fail to inflict unexpected loss and annoyance on those foreign firms who have for so many years embarked capital and employed their energies in the development of a trade which they never doubted would remain free from discriminating duties when the Japanese Government took over the administration of the island,—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. M. GRAY,
Chairman.

The foreign residents of Tokyo, male and female, now number 854.

THE "ARGYLL."

Says the *Hiogo Evening News* of Wednesday :—An attempt was made at high tide last night—between six and seven o'clock—to tow off the steamer *Argyll*, which has been ashore since the 15th ult.; but the attempt, unfortunately, proved unsuccessful. One of the old Osaka dredgers had been employed during the day taking away the sand, and the N.Y.K. *Kokura Maru* (Captain Going) was engaged to tow the vessel off at high tide. For this purpose a couple of 4½in. wire ropes were used, while a hawser was also fastened to the dredger. The hawser snapped soon after the dredger commenced to tug. The *Argyll* had steam up, and the engines were working, first full speed astern, and then full speed ahead, while the *Kokura* pulled. After the *Kokura* had been pulling about ten minutes or so, the port line broke. The *Argyll* did not appear to have budged an inch.

The adjourned hearing of the *Argyll* case, which has been before the Judges at the Saibansho, was fixed for to-day, but our reporter was informed that the matter in dispute has been referred to arbitration.

THE WRECK OF THE "MORGAN CITY."

(FROM THE "KOBE HERALD.")

PARTICULARS OF THE CATASTROPHE.

The United States transport *Morgan City* has been wrecked on the shores of the Inland Sea at a spot some ten miles distant from the town of Onomichi, which is equi-distant between the well-known Japanese ports of Yokohama and Nagasaki. A disaster which might have been a dramatic tragedy of the war, the loss of the ship, owing to favourable circumstances, has been unattended with any serious loss of life or scene of panic such as oftentimes accompanies the sinking of a great ocean vessel crowded, as was the *Morgan City*, literally to the coamings of the hatches with human beings. The manner in which the disaster has been saved from leaving the slightest stigma on the name of American soldiers looking death in the face is quite level with the reputation they have achieved and retained throughout their nation's present war troubles.

The *Morgan City* left San Francisco on 10th Aug. carrying 900 officers and men of the United States regular army with 62 of a crew. The regiments represented in this large augmentation of the Army in the Phillipines are the 3rd, 4th, 14th, 18th, 21st, 23rd, 25th; 4th Cavalry and one Company of the Signal Corps. Major Wittich is in command of the troops. First-Lieutenant Casler is the managing commander of the ship and Capt. Doris is in full command. Arriving at Kobe on Friday evening, direct from San Francisco, the *Morgan City* lay an hour there before proceeding on her voyage. Her course was through the Inland Sea to reach Nagasaki, where she was due to ship coal and water. A pilot was taken from Kobe and it is stated in explanation of what befel the vessel that the pilot had been on duty without sleep for 36 hours on end previous to taking charge of the *Morgan City*.

The night' twixt Friday and Saturday proved dull, foggy, and rainy as midnight passed. The difficulties in the navigation of the Inland Sea were, however, safely passed for some hundred or so miles of the way. The ship's striking occurred at about 3.40 on Saturday morning when, as stated, the transport was within 8 or 10 miles of being abreast of Onomichi. The signal of her danger was conveyed to the guard on duty by the sounding of the "Slow" and "Full Speed Astern" gongs. As it afterwards appeared, the ship was discovered to be working for the point of an island, on striking which, according to the calculation of the pilot, so it is stated, she would have ripped open her side and sunk at once in deep water, with what result to the vast ship's company can easily be imagined. It was seen that it was impossible

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to clear the point, so the helm was put up hard-a-port and as speedily as it might. The effect of porting the helm, it was seen, would be the ripping open of the vessel's side as described. The course decided on to save this catastrophe was that of keeping the ship's head straight on to the land with the order previously given of course for full speed astern. The transport took the land with a heavy jar which awoke everybody on board and indicated that her speed must have been but about half reduced from the time the order for full speed astern was given. The grounding brought the troops on deck at once, but from all accounts there was neither confusion nor panic nor even great alarm from the time the ship first struck to the time when the shipwrecked men bivouacked under shreds of her canvas on the beach. The officers were around directing their men simply to obey orders, there being no immediate danger or call for excitement. These orders were taken in the spirit in which they were given and were generally observed. The land was easily seen from the ship's deck, the vessel being in fact to all appearance right on top of the rocks lining the shore of the island.

An examination forward with the view of determining the state of the vessel was the first step. It was found that she was not making water and it was decided to attempt to get her back to deep water again. The engines were set full speed astern and to aid this movement the troops were shifted from port to starboard and starboard to port alternately several times, so that the swing thus induced in the hull of the ship might assist in working her off her position on the rocks. This was finally accomplished in about an hour's time and the big transport with her great human freight came smoothly into deep water again. The case proved the worse for the shift, however. It was speedily discovered that she now made water forward at a great rate, the shifting of the hull from its previous elevation having apparently left open a rip in her plates. So quickly was she now filling, in fact, that in only a short time nine feet of water was reported forward. It was evident to the officers that the vessel must go down at very short notice, and the decision was taken to head her straight for the sandy beach on the starboard side—several miles across the intervening channel. All the way to this beach the ship was drawing down lower into the water. She lowered so quickly indeed that she was soon flooded forward, and in a short time her stoke hold and engine room were flooded, the fires being therefore drowned out. At the same time the water got among the bunker coals on one side, the result being that the vessel was just on her last inches above water as she reached the sand. Still during this time there was no undue commotion or confusion, the previous good order and discipline prevailing to the end. The vessel got upon the sand and left sufficient freeboard to ensure present safety for those on board. Meantime while way was being made toward the shore, the boats had been got out, signals of distress shown, and a crowd of Japanese boats brought along. By the time the transport was on the land a second time it was daylight and the landing of the men, which was at once commenced, was got into operation under the most favourable conditions. The crowds of native boats which had come along to offer assistance were utilised along with the ship's own boats. The whole ship's company numbering close on a thousand in all were on shore in a few hours. In the next few hours the ship went heavily to one side. This, however, did not prevent the removal of a large quantity of stores, detachments of the men being detailed off to bring these ashore. It was in connection with this salvage work that the only casualty which has occurred in the loss of the ship took place. Toward three in the afternoon when a number of the men were in the between decks and elsewhere throughout the vessel she suddenly began to slip into deep water. The men had barely time to save themselves before the hull was completely submerged. As she then lay the transport showed above water only a small part of her bow, the upper section of the masts and of her funnel. This ended the matter so far as the ship was concerned. The men on shore were receiving the best of treatment from the Japanese, and as they were able to utilise the ship's canvas for shelter and the ships stores, so far as saved, for food they made out on the whole very well. It remains to mention that the *Yoshino Kan*, flagship of the Japanese Squadron, offered any assistance desired in the way of medical aid, while the petty officers of the ship made up a present of tobacco for each of the petty officers and soldiers of the troops on board the *Morgan City*. Regarding the supposed casualty the facts are that on the roll being called when matters were in some sort arranged on shore it was found that one man was missing. It is supposed that he had gone down with the ship when she finally sank.

In addition to the other manifestations of interest and sympathy it ought to be mentioned that the Japanese Red Cross Society sent along a supply of eggs sufficient to put three round to every man. Further supplies of tobacco were forthcoming and the police made such arrangements as prevented any interference or undue crowding by the people who came to the scene in great crowds.

Capt. Doris yesterday proceeded to Nagasaki and made arrangements for the despatch of another transport to the scene of the wreck, and it is expected that the men will be on their voyage again in a day or two.

Onomichi, midnight, 4th Sept.

From another letter sent to the *Kobe Herald* by the above correspondent we gather the following particulars :—

The point where the *Morgan City* first struck is an irregular headland jutting out from an island into the course through the Inland Sea —its name according to the chart being Ategi Shima. It is said that the pilot was expecting to make a light which is some four or five miles further on. The place where the ship was beached and is now sunk is a small semi-circular bay on the western face of the island of Inoshima—distant probably some four miles straight across the Inland Sea fairway from the headland on which the vessel ran. When the vessel was got clear of the rocks it was at first supposed that she had only slight injury, but it was soon made clear from the rapidity with which the water rose forward that she must be seriously holed. It is stated that the rent in the plates extends to as much as 42 feet, but be this as it may nothing was given out among the men as to her dangerous state. A head was made straight for a good beaching point, the water all the while gaining swiftly. It is an open question whether there was much more than a minute or two between the safety in which every man on board now finds himself and the certainty of drowning for a great proportion of the troops and crew. As already described, the ship's keel did not find bottom before her stoke-hold, engine-room, and half the bunkers were flooded. She got down perceptibly—for dawn had grown ere the Inoshima beach was reached—every yard of water she went through, and most of the men saw it. Safety was got by a hair's-breadth, as has been said, but even as the ship settled to her bed among the sand numbers of the men jumped clear in the supposition that she was settling to go clean below. Among these were many who could not swim, but they were kept afloat by others and nobody went down for good. Every one will do credit to the fine discipline and calm assurance which kept back possible panic. There was naturally some commotion, some excitement, and some rushing for life belts but nothing so considerable as to discredit the fine name of the American soldier. The landing of the troops and crew was carried out in daylight, which had of course arrived by the time the ship was beached. The *sampans* and heavier boats of the Japanese were used with the ship's own boats so that a comparatively short time sufficed to put the whole thousand on the land. Moreover the position of the ship permitted the removal of a considerable quantity of miscellaneous stores, cooking utensils, bedding, odd pieces of furniture and other convenient material. The transport lay very nearly bows under but well afloat in the after part. She was stuck firm in the sand at the bow while the rest of her hull swung on the surface as on a pivot. Detachments of the troops were told off to assist in saving what was possible out of the vessel and this work went on right to the moment when she finally got down to lie all her length on sea bottom in five or six fathoms of water. She had heeled over some time before but short warning was given of the final sinking. It is not quite clear indeed whether one man did not have too brief warning to save himself. One man on the roll is missing but he is reported to have been seen ashore and probably will be found. The ship went down astern about half-past three on Saturday afternoon. She now lies about a stone's throw from the beach. The ship lies on a steep shelving bank. The beach meantime, is, as may be understood a sight to see. A better spot for the shelter and tendance of ship-wrecked men could hardly be found on a long seeking. The semi circular bay is almost narrow enough for men to understand each other shouting across from the two points which are its limits. There is half a square mile of green crop-land in the hollow which runs from the beach rising quickly up to the sides of tall percipitous Japanese mountains. The prospect is shut out everywhere except to seaward. Between the green rice fields and the green bay there is the white strip of pebbly beach. Right from horn to horn of the semi-circle this white strip is planted with khaki-clad figures topped by the American broad brimmed hat. They are living well meantime, the supplies from Kobe and from the neighbouring villages and people raising the quality and quantity of the rations above what they have been accustomed to even on the most comfortable days on the voyage.

The *Morgan City* was a vessel of 3,800 tons and was owned in New York.

NOTES FROM CHINA.

A Peking dispatch to the *Hupao*, which the *North-China Daily News* translates, states that a Censor recently had the courage to present to the Empress-Dowager a severe denunciation against Kang Yi for his closing of the Western schools at Nanking and elsewhere, and that the Empress Dowager has consented to instruct Viceroy Liu of Nanking to report on the matter.

The *Echo de Chine* states that another Roman Catholic missionary in Southern Kiangsi, Père Festa, has been captured and most brutally ill-treated by the Chinese, but fortunately succeeded in escaping to Kiukiang.

Three salt merchants of Yang-chow were recently "examined" before the Shanghai Taotai and three of Kang Yi's deputies, but were forgiven their "sins" on the payment of Tls. 40,000 to Kang Yi, the bondsmen being two well-known Chinese bankers of Shanghai who, however, had to draw a cheque for the amount before the three prisoners could be released.

A Peking telegram printed in a Shanghai contemporary states that in anticipation of active conflict between their troops and partisans, both Prince Ching and Ju are arming their men with repeating rifles of the newest pattern and that neither of them goes about nowadays unless surrounded by a well-armed body-guard of several hundred men. All old-time firearms are being rapidly discarded by Chinese and Manchu regiments, the only exception being the Kansu troops under General Tung Fu hsiang, who has 2,500 of his men still armed with sword and buckler and the two-man *fingal* or *Taich-tang*, the only improve-

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ment on these being that they are now breech-loaders firing five-ounce bullets.

The native correspondent of the *North China Daily News* wired that journal the following despatch from Peking on August 28th :—On the 25th instant the Empress Dowager was suddenly attacked by a fit of vomiting, and there were fears that poison had been put in her food. Great consternation prevailed for a time, but it was eventually diagnosed by the Imperial physicians that the nausea arose from natural causes due to the frequent changes of the weather. The Empress Dowager, though recovered, still appears to be weak and listless, paying little apparent attention to affairs of State brought to her for decision. There are, however, others who shrewdly suspect that much of this is assumed, in order to keep the rival factions of Prince Ching and Jung Lu in a state of suspense, and prevent them from coming to blows, until her plans are matured; for undoubtedly she has another *coup d'état* which she is silently and secretly preparing to launch upon those who are audacious enough to aim at controlling her by means of the very power she herself gave them, and she will once more show herself to the world as the sole mistress of the Empire. The design it is said she has formed is to get Marquis Ito to come to Peking, and that he, with his and her friend Li Hung-chang, shall act as her deputies in the Government of China.

The following express has been issued in Shanghai :—The Directors of the Straits Insurance Company, Limited, have telegraphed to the Shanghai Branch that the scheme for the reconstruction of the Company has failed. The Directors recommend voluntary liquidation, the financial position having slightly improved this year. A provisional agreement has been made with the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of Zealand to buy for cash the Head Office freehold and business, the Eastern department business to be carried on for their account. The South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand will guarantee the risks accepted on and after the first day of September next. This telegram is published for the general information of shareholders. Fuller particulars will be forwarded from Singapore by the first mail.—J. T. Hamilton, Manager.

With reference to the landing of blue-jackets at Hankow, a contemporary states that Lieut. Barton of the *Woodlark* landed eight of his men, who pitched their tents on the disputed property and guarded the same. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. then re-erected the fencing that had been torn down in so high-handed a manner by the Cossacks. Great excitement prevailed in the Settlements at the time, but things quickly reverted to their normal condition.

The death occurred at Söul, at 7 a.m. on August 29, of Mr. P. A. Dmitrevsky, Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Korea. M. Dmitrevsky was a very able official and an exceedingly genial and kind-hearted man, and made many friends while in Shanghai. He went home last year on sick leave, and his health was not entirely re-established when he returned this year.

A proclamation has been issued by the Viceroy of the Liangkiang provinces to the effect that there have lately been, along the Yangtze, bands of smugglers engaged in this illegal business who have even been daring enough to resist them. It is therefore ordered that such smugglers be shot down summarily, and by-standers are cautioned not to be in the way of the soldiers so as to impede free action, as the soldiers could not be responsible for lives lost through the people's own negligence.

The U. S. transport *Hooker*, which was standed on Corregidor Island, at the entrance to Manila Bay, has been abandoned as a wreck, having broken her back. The American authorities are dismantling the wreck.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

At the beginning of August, *The Literary Digest*, reviewing the business prospects of the United States as reflected in the trade journals of the country, was able to announce :—The business outlook in nearly every field of industry, the country over, seems to be one of almost unexampled prosperity. The iron trade is undoubtedly in the lead, with an advance of 100 per cent. in prices, and apparently still more to follow. One company alone, the Pressed Steel Car Company, has contracted with the Carnegie interests for an average of 1,000 tons of steel every day for the next ten years—enough, it is said, to absorb a quarter of the entire pig-iron product of the country during that long period. The railroads have all the business they can handle, shipping on the Great Lakes is overwhelmed with traffic, and rates have been advanced to the highest point reached in ten years. The grain crop of the West and Northwest is enormous, and it is reported that the demand from Europe will be as great as last year, assuring the farmers a good price. The clothing trade is experiencing great activity, and the canned-beef companies, in spite of all that has been said on both sides of the water, are steadily increasing their export trade. Perhaps the best index of prosperity, however, is the low tide of failures.

The Press Censorship at Manila is causing a good deal of comment in the States. Only two military journals are in favour of the present rigid system and declare Gen. Otis to be right in the attitude he has assumed. *The National Tribune* (Washington), the organ of the Grand Army of the Republic, takes the opposite view. It says :—"The censorship of the news from Manila is simply intolerable. The people are entitled to have every bit of information that can be given them. They can be trusted to do the right thing at all times if fully informed as to the situation. It seems strange, after our experience in the war of the Rebellion, that it should be necessary to impress this on any one's mind. Then there was the freest possible communication between the army and the people, and not an ugly detail was allowed to be hidden. People who could not be shaken in their determination by the awful slaughter of their sons at Gettysburg and the Wilderness can be safely trusted with full details of the skirmishing around Manila."

A contributor to a New York paper—Miss Ruth Hall—recently attempted to show that new writers have very little chance of getting into the magazines. Her plea, as summarized in *The Society of American Authors* (July), is as follows :—"1. *Harper's Magazine* for February contains twenty-three articles. Of these, one short story, one essay, and three poems are by unknown writers. 2. *The Century* for February contains twenty-seven contributions, of which seven are by unknown writers."

In a recent issue of an English financial newspaper, the attention of the British investing public is directed to the securities of Cuban railroads presenting strong grounds for the expectations of a very large appreciation in price, and, ultimately, a safe assurance of a permanent and large income yield. It points out that the United Railways of the Province of Havana and the Western Railroad of Havana, the only Cuban railroads which make public statements of their traffic and revenues, both display marvellous increase and give promise of still better results in the near future. These lines are under English management, and a similar control of other Cuban railroads is being mooted. The same authority adds that the prosperity of Cuba under an enlightened rule is no longer a matter of doubt, and, now that the Spanish yoke has been removed, the railroad investments of the island should prove a most attractive field for idle capital.

When Mr. Carroll D. Wright was chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labour Statistics he compiled some figures bearing on the losses caused by strikes and lockouts. For instance, he discovered that between January 1, 1881, and June 30, 1894, the labourers of the country lost through strikes some $163 807.866, and that in the same period $10,000,000 was disbursed by labour organizations to keep the strikes alive among the discontented workers. Of course the employers had to show up on the losing side as well as the employees, but it is significant that their loss amounted to something like $82,000,000. Whether the labourers made up for the losses after they had returned to work is not on record, but it is doubtful if anybody save the walking delegates profited by the disputes.

The first bale of cotton of the crop of 1899-1900 to reach New York city was sold at public auction on July 30 from the steps of the New York Cotton Exchange. The price of $2,000, at which the bale was knocked down to Superintendent William V. King of the exchange, is the highest price ever paid for a bale of cotton in New York. The money will go to the sufferers of the Brazos valley flood.

During July the Secretary of Sate of New Jersey granted certificates of incorporation to 150 concerns. The capitalization of 24 of the leading ones amounted to $254,000,000 Pennsylvania incorporated 2 concerns with a capital of $6,000 000; Delaware 6 with a capital of $12 7000,000; and California 1 with $8,500,-000 as capital.

The first national bank outside the continental boundaries of the United States has been established in Honolulu. A charter for the bank was procured from the United States Government, but it cannot be used until Congress places the Hawaiian Islands under territorial laws. In the meantime the new financial institution will be known as the First American Bank, a charter for which has just been granted by the Hawaiian Government. The corporation is capitalized at $1,000.000, and one-half of that amount was to be in the vaults, as required by the banking laws of the island, when the bank opened its doors on September 1.

A retired English army officer has for some time been conducting experiments in camphor culture in south Florida, and the results, according to the Jacksonville *Times-Union*, are quite gratifying. Several acres have been planted in camphor trees of different sizes, and he is adding to the number each year. The trees are hardy and not injuriously affected by heat or cold, excessive moisture or extreme drought. They thrive without artificial fertilization, and form heads that are a joy to look at. The trunks are short, or almost entirely absent, branches putting out close to the ground. The tops are in the form of a founded cone, symmetrical and shapely. Others in the vicinity are planting to some extent, and it is probable that camphor trees will receive a good deal of attention during the next few years. The large trees bear an abundance of seed, which germinate readily.

In the death of Daniel G. Brinton, of Philadelphia,—who died at Atlantic City, July 31, aged 62—the world has lost one of its most distinguished anthropologists. Attractive in person and in manner, a finished speaker, a profound student, an enthusiast in his chosen lines of work, he was at once the ideal professor and the cultured and magnetic man. He was an indefatigable writer, more than eighty works, either written or edited by him, being represented in the catalogues of the Boston public library. His theories as to the birthplace of man and the original home of the race have much to support them, and are quite generally accepted by anthropologists. We no longer look to Asia as the home of primitive man. "The oldest remains of man's arts," Dr. Brinton tells us, "the first rude flints which he shaped into utensils and weapons, have not been discovered in Asia, and do not occur at all in the northern latitudes of either continent. They have been exhumed from the tertiary or early quaternary deposits of southern

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England, of France, of the Iberian peninsula, and of the valleys of the Atlas in northern Africa." Dr. Brinton believed that the white race is geographically and historically an African race.

The *Saturday Review* says that the completion of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States is a certainty, and expresses the belief that it will deal British commerce perhaps the greatest blow it has ever sustained. The paper supposes the canal to be inevitable, but contends that Great Britain, in allowing it, should stand out for remuneration, on account of waiving her Clayton-Bulwer Treaty rights.

As the tide of American travel turns homeward, the question of steamship capacity again becomes acute. "The great trouble," said an official of a Trans-Continental line, "is that Americans come to Europe like people going to the theatre. As soon as the Autumn opens, the European curtain falls, and the entire audience wants to get home. Thus the crush is concentrated in the first few weeks of Autumn, and it is impossible now to get a berth in mid-September or mid-October. What is going to occur during the Paris Exposition, I am unable to say. It is already estimated that 175,000 Americans will come to Europe, and the best accommodations are now sold for our June sailings in 1900."

Last year, remarks *Bradstreets*, the Commissioner of Pensions was obliged to record the fact that the pension roll was still on the increase; this year he is enabled to announce that the number of pensioners on the rolls was actually less by 2,195 at the close of the fiscal year than at the end of the fiscal year 1898. Moreover, the payment of pensions for the year left a balance out of the $140,000,000 appropriated, the balance amounting to $1,857,181.16. It appears that during the year 37,077 new pensions were granted, but this number was more than made up by the number stricken from the rolls because of death, re-marriage, the attainment by minors of their majority, failure to claim pensions, and other causes. It is of some interest to note that the war with Spain brought out a total of 16,986 claims, but of these only 295 have been allowed thus far. The total number of pensions now on the rolls is not far short of a million—991,519 in exact figures. There seems to have been some needed reformatory work done in connection with pension claims, for we learn that sixty-three attorneys were disbarred in the course of the year.

Expert engineers all agree that the usefulness of the Erie canal as a highway of commerce is practically ended, says the Detroit *News-Tribune*. Traffic is falling off so rapidly that soon it will be of insignificant proportions. The State has recently thrown away $9,000,000 in work which does not afford a penny in return. The proposed expenditure of $15,000,000 more to complete a 9-foot channel is regarded as a useless waste of money, because no waterway which requires a breaking of bulk and transfer of freight from lake shipping at Buffalo can hope to compete with the railroads. The Erie canal, once the main avenue of travel and commerce between the east and the west, has passed its day of usefulness like the old stage coach. It has become a source of great inconvenience in the cities of Rochester, Syracuse and other large towns. The lake route would enable the State to abandon the unused portions of the big ditch, and wherever it is in the way it could be filled up and the ground occupied for other purposes.

In the experimental stations throughout the semi-arid region of the United States much attention is being given to the investigation of excessive alkali in the soil, by agents of the Department of Agriculture. In many sections, notably in California and Utah, there are large regions of irrigated land which are practically non-productive on account of the presence of alkali. Investigation makes it plain that this is due to irrigation, and in many instances to excessive irrigation. The water applied to the soil brings the salts to the surface when it rises. In some instances it has been found that the lower portion of a stream had been rendered alkaline by the return of these salts in the water from the irrigated fields. The work of the experiment stations in connection with this problem is to find a remedy for the evil, and this they are seeking to do by demonstrating that in most instances crops do not require nearly so much water as is applied to them. They are working along practical lines, and the more progressive farmers are coöperating with them. Eventually they hope to be able to show just what quantity of water is required for a given crop in a given locality, and count when able to do this, not only upon saving from destruction much land already under ditch, but also upon extending the irrigable area by demonstrating that more land can be supplied with water from the available supply than now is.

The fire loss of the United States of Canada for the month of July, as compiled from the daily records of the New York *Journal of Commerce*, aggregates $11,426,400. The following table shows the losses for the first 7 months of the years 1897, 1898 and 1899:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.
January ...	$12,049,700	$ 9,472,500	$10,718 000
February ..	8 676,750	12,629 300	18,469 000
March	10,502,950	7,645.200	11 493.000
April	10 833 000	8,211,000	9 213,000
May.....	10 193,000	11,072 200	9 091,000
June.....	5 684.450	9 206 900	6,714.850
July	0 6:6.300	8.959,750	11,426 400
Total...	$64,560,750	$67,166,850	$77,126,150

It is reported from Portland, Ore., that packers of salmon on the coast are declining to accept further orders, and a majority of them will not be able to fill contracts already taken; some, it is declared, will fall short from 25 to 35 per cent. The pack of salmon on the Columbia river so far this season is about 195.000 cases, the smallest pack on the river in twenty years. Last year at the same date the number of cases packed was slightly in excess of 264,000. On the Frazer river the total pack to date is not, according to conservative estimates, more than 75,000 cases, against 245 000 cases last year. On the Puget Sound the packers may be successful in reaching the output of last year. Last year's pack aggregated 450 000 cases. It is estimated that the pack at Rivers' Inlet will be from 25 to 30 per cent. less than last season. The Skeena river pack will, however, be above the average. The estimated pack for 1899 on all points on the coast, including Alaska, is, in round numbers, 2,000.000 cases.

The executors of the estate of the late George M. Pullman, after a bitter legal fight, have paid $151,282 03, as inheritance tax, to the state of Illinois. This is the largest tax of its kind paid in Illinois since the passage of the law several years ago. The next largest was that on the estate of A. A. Munger, amounting to about $63,000.

To ascertain whether the Pacific Coast is sinking into or rising out of the ocean is the mission of Professor G. K. Gilbert of the United States Geological Survey, who has just gone to Seattle. Professor Gilbert will study the coast line as far south as San Diego, Cal. The data to be obtained is for the protection of coast property and will be of value to large engineering enterprises.

The *San Francisco Chronicle*, voicing the opinion of the Pacific coast, says:—Mr. Secretary Root cannot make the campaign in the Philippines too aggressive to suit the American people. The more fighting there is the better they will like it, for it will mean the speedy end of a war which has been marked by far more deaths and disabilities from disease than from wounds.

It was semi-officially announced in Wall Street on August 10 that the Rockefellers and their associates of the Standard Oil Company had succeeded in forming a copper trust that will practically control the output of the world. The plan contemplates the control of a number of large companies that have heretofore held out against absorption at the hands of the Amalgamated Copper Company. Now, however, it is stated that by quietly working a controlling interest in the most prominent of these properties, they have been acquired. Completing its work in this field the new combination will reach out abroad for the leading copper concerns in other parts of the world.

We may shortly expect a visit in Japan from Mr. Theodore Wores, the artist, who was last in Japan in 1893. It is said that he is coming to Honolulu, Japan, China and Manila, making a brief stay at each point. It is his intention to paint a series of sketches and pictures of the new American possessions and later to exhibit these studies in New York and London. He has also been commissioned by Eastern magazines to write several articles on the Philippine Islands and Guam, where he will stop. These articles he will illustrate himself, after his own fashion.

A *New York* telegram dated August 11 says—The largest export bridge construction contract ever placed in the United States is now in the hands of E. P. Roberts & Co., proprietors of the Pencoyd Iron Works. The Imperial Government Railroad Company of Japan has ordered from this concern between 7 000 and 8,000 tons of steel bridges, which are to be delivered in a year. The American firm will receive for this $750 000. The order consists of forty-five one-hundredfoot spans and a number of two-hundredfoot spans.

KOREAN NOTES.

The following notes are from the *Independent* of August 24:—

The *Kanjo Shimpo* reports that a port will be opened in Quelpart.

The War Department have purchased 10,000 rifles from France, of the latest pattern.

Mr. Clarence Greathouse, who has been very ill for some time, is on the road to recovery.

A great many lives have been lost and much damage done to the crops by a tidal wave in the Southern Chulla province at Ham Pyeng, Moo Chang, and Ryeng Kwang.

Mr. Staden, who has been employed for several months surveying and laying out the general Foreign settlements at the newly opened Ports around the coast of Korea, returned to Soul on Friday the 18th inst.

The people of Kim Sung, the site of the German mining concession, have laid a complaint at the Foreign Office, against the Germans, who are carrying things with what the people consider to be a high hand.

The Soul Wonsan Railway Co. sent out a detachment of surveyers in charge of a Japanese to survey the proposed route. But the Inspector General of Railways recalled the whole party because he was not consulted in the matter.

Pak Yung Won, the Chief Magistrate of Quelpart, endeavoured to prevent a Japanese subject from exporting beans from the island, which he had purchased, so a complaint has been laid against him and an indemnity of $528 demanded.

An insurrection occurred at Youngin because of the evil doings of the Magistrate and his runners. At the time of the disturbance some twenty soldiers who had been sent to Ye Chun in the Kyeng Ki province were passing through Youngin, when the Secretary of the yamen came out and offered them $2,000 to disperse the people. This being too good an opportunity of lining their pockets to let pass, the soldiers fired upon the people, killing ten of them. This enraged the people to such an extent that they cleared the yamen out. The Magistrate, his secretary, and their minions had not been heard of again, from latest reports.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

There is little fighting in the Southern Philippine Islands. In the neighbourhood of Iloilo, the natives are resuming their peaceful occupations.

A telegram printed by the *Hiogo Evening News* conveys intelligence of a serious accident at Chicago. The steel-framework of the Coliseum now being built collapsed and killed twelve persons.

We have received from the Rev. James Hind a cheque for *yen* 32.50, the offertory at Shinyu last Sunday, which the congregation desires to contribute to the funds raised for the relief of the sufferers by the big fires at Yokohama and Toyama.

The Rev. G. H. Davies, Chaplain of All Saints' Church, Kobe, who was unfortunate enough to injure a *jinrikisha* man who assaulted him last week, was examined by Public Procurator Nihe on Monday morning and exonerated from blame.

A telegram from Trieste dated July 20th says :—All of Admiral Dewey's mail, consisting of 500 unopened letters, was by mistake thrown overboard by a Chinese steward to-day. Admiral Dewey, instead of being annoyed, said that he was charmed.

The Trieste correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs that Admiral Dewey, in the course of a conversation with the correspondents, declared that he had small claim to be regarded as a hero, as nervousness and bad coffee made him dreadfully seasick before the battle of Manila began.

Admiral Dewey's salary amounts to $37 50 (gold) a day; President McKinley's is equal to $131 a day; Cabinet officers, the Vice-President, and the Speaker of the House get $22.22 a day; Senators and Congressmen, $13 90, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, $20 a day.

Presuming on the leniency of General Otis, Crisanto Lichanes, who was treasurer of the Filipino Junta in Hongkong, went to Manila the other week with the object of establishing a branch of the Junta there. His purpose has, however, been frustrated, as he has been thrown into prison by General Otis, who, the *Daily Press* understands, intends to keep him there until the end of the war.

The P. & O. steamer *Ancona*, 3,083 tons gross, which used to run formerly on the China-Japan line, is, we learn from an Indian contemporary, to be sold shortly, negotiations being in progress for the purchase by a shipowner of Bombay who has before this purchased some other old P. & O. steamers, such as the *Pekin*, *Thibet*, and *Deccan*. The *Ancona* is an old steamer, having been built and launched in 1879 at Greenock.

At the request of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., the Kobe City Office has undertaken to assist in floating the steamer *Argyll*. The storm undid all the work that had been done previously, so that the work has to be commenced *de novo*. The City Office provides the coolies and also protection for them. It seems, says the *Hiogo News*, that the coolies hitherto employed on the work have been molested from time to time by coolies employed by the pier contractor. The Mayor has ample power to stop this, and members of the Water Police are now on duty at the spot.

The 14th annual prize contest of the Tokyo Carvers Association will be held from to-day to the 25th inst., at the Exhibition Building of the Nippon Fine Art Association, Sakuragaoka, Uyeno Part, Tokyo, the object being the promotion of skill and workmanship among carvers. The articles to be exhibited are work in precious stones, metals, wood, bamboo, ivory, horn, shell, tortoise shell, *shibayama* (ornamental inlaid work on wood), *yasegi*, castings, wax models, hammer work on metal, wrought iron, inlaid work, engraving on earthen and lacquer ware, wood, copper and slate types, cloisonné ware, boxes and drawings, and models. Rewards will be given as follows :—1st prize, gold medal; 2nd prize, silver medal; 3rd prize, copper medal; 4th prize, certificate; 5th prize, certificate; 6th prize, certificate.

The first-class torpedo boat No. 36 has been commissioned at Hongkong as tender to H.M.S. *Tweed* (Lieutenant-Commander Hillman) to assist the *Sandpiper* in the suppression of piracy on the West River. The torpedo boat will be in command of Mr. McGill, boatswain of the *Humber*.

Harold Frederic's posthumous novel "The Market Place" is having a tremendous success in London. "It is an instance of the irony of fate," says Mr. W. L. Alden in the New York *Times* :—"For twenty years or so poor Frederic labored to become a successful novelist, and when, after half dozen failures—that is to say, financial failures—he finally made a brilliant success he suddenly died. And now after his death comes the still greater success of 'The Market Place.'"

The case in the German Consular Court—the Central Agency, Ltd., of Glasgow, *versus* Koch & Co.—was advanced a stage on Monday. The plaintiffs announced that defendants had duly furnished the statement of account demanded, and they then asked for judgment for *yen* 41,621.42. A further amount bearing on the costs of the action was in dispute but this they asked leave to argue upon subsequently. The Court gave judgment for plaintiffs and fixed September 6th for the further hearing, though it was expected that the parties would come to some arrangement in the meantime.

The *London Letter* has the following note on an old-time Tokyo resident :—Mrs. F. T. Piggott, who has been chiefly instrumental in founding the Colonial Nursing Association, has seen much of the world. Her husband, who is now Attorney-General for Mauritius, was formerly for three years legal adviser to the Prime Minister of Japan, at the time when that country was revising its Constitution. He was also one of the British counsel in the Behring Sea case, and is a well-known rifle-shot, who represented Great Britain in the matches against the United States both here and in America.

A series of encounters between two or three British bluejackets and American volunteers took place on Monday night in Blood Town. The police succeeded in separating the combatants, but afterwards a ring was again formed, and two bluejackets had a round or two together, one of them, John Hayes, of the *Undaunted*, being knocked down and stunned. He was taken to the Police Station for his safety, and liberated next morning with a caution. The police state that the general conduct both of soldiers and sailors is excellent; Inspector Suzuki, who has been 14 years in Yokohama, says he does not remember so quiet a set of bluejackets.

About half-past twelve on Sunday night a fire broke out at No. 189, near the Chinese Consulate; in a house occupied by a Japanese named Omiya Isaburo, aged 27. The outbreak originated in the kitchen. The alarm was given at the Kaga-cho Police Station, and several men were quickly on the spot, and extinguished the flames without much difficulty. Appearances suggested that the fire was due to incendiarism and the investigations of the police led to the arrest of a girl named Ogawa Asa, aged 15, who has since confessed her guilt. The case is now in the hands of the Chiho Saibansho. The motive of the act is supposed to be jealousy.

A correspondence has recently been going on in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News* in which the Bishops of the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches have taken part, each trying to place the other in the wrong in regard to disputes and disturbances that have arisen between the converts of the respective faiths in certain districts. The *Daily Press* notes that Cardinal Moran has been writing to the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* animadverting severely on the conduct of Wesleyan missionaries in Fiji, and supporting his strictures by quotations from numerous authorities. In concluding his letter he refers to what he terms the desecration of the Blessed Eucharist, not only among the Protestant sects in Fiji, but indeed throughout all the island groups of the Pacific. "Perhaps, however, we should not be surprised," he writes "at these sacrilegious innovations on the part of the Wesleyans and Independents, for a few years ago the head of the Anglican Church at Hongkong advocated the use of tea in the Eucharist, instead of wine, and the Anglican Bishop of Nelson, Dr. Hophouse, relates how he himself on one occasion in 1862 substituted plain water, instead of wine. Any mission that desecrates the Blessed Eucharist, which is the sacrament of everlasting life, cannot fail to bring with it a malediction instead of an abiding blessing."

CRICKET.

FLEET *v.* Y. C. AND A. C.

A match was played between these teams on Wednesday afternoon. Originally arranged for Saturday, it had to be postponed on account of the weather. The evil fortune of the Club did not altogether desert it in the second attempt to bring off the fixture, for yesterday was extraordinarily cold and dull, and altogether much more fit for football than cricket. The naval men won the toss and commenced batting, with anything but brilliant results. Welbore was the only man to get into double figures, and the whole side were disposed of by Kilby and Libeaud for the small total of 49. Kilby took six wickets for 22 runs, and Libeaud 4 for 11. Yokohama shaped much better, Kingdon and P. B. Clarke making a fair score before they were parted. Killick's catch, which disposed of Kingdon, was very brilliant. When Crawford and White became associated heavy scoring followed, and on the latter's dismissal by Wood the stand was continued by Duff and Crawford, who held their bats till stumps were drawn on account of the darkness. The bowling was completely collared, and the batsmen just hit as they liked. Crawford's 81 included 11 fours, two threes, and seven twos. Score :—

FLEET.

Mr. Welbore, b. E. W. Kilby	11
Mr. Chapman, b. E. W. Kilby	4
Mr. Phipps, b. Libeaud	0
Lieut. Wood, b. Kilby	7
Lieut. Stahlknecht, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Lieut. Tomkinson, b. Libeaud	0
Dr. Brown, not out	5
Lieut. Willcox, b. Kilby	2
Mr. Killick, b. Libeaud	1
Dr. Trythall, b. Kilby	0
Capt. Tuke, c. Braess, b. Libeaud	3
Extras	16
Total	49

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. E. W. Kilby	75	22	4	6
Mr. C. Libeaud	74	11	5	4

Mr. Kilby, bowled 2 wides.

V.C. AND A.C.

Mr. A. Kingdon, c. and b. Killick	18
Mr. P. B Clarke, c. and b. Welbore	21
Mr. E. W. Kilby, l.b.w., b. Welbore	4
Mr. E. V. D. Parr, c. Tuke, b. Killick	6
Mr. K. F. Crawford, not out	81
Mr. E. B. S Edwards, c. Killick, b. Wood	4
Mr. F. E White, c. and b. Wood	29
Mr. C. M. Duff, not out	30
Mr. G D Brady, Mr. C. Libeaud, Mr. Braess, } did not bat.	
Extras	13
Total (for 6 wickets)	206

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WD.
Mr. Killick	90	43	6	2	—
Mr. Welbore	85	42	7	2	—
Mr. Stahlknecht	60	27	4	—	—
Mr. Phipps	64	49	1	—	—
Mr. Wood	40	14	2	2	1
Mr. Willcox	20	18	—	—	—

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DISORDER IN KWANGTUNG.

A Canton correspondent writes to the *Daily Press*:—

The steamer *Taesing*, while on a voyage from Canton to Kutsun on the 15th August, was attacked by pirates. She was off Titkong in the Taukun district, when several snake boats came alongside and at the same time some forty pirates who had gone on board as passengers rose and pointed their revolvers at the other passengers to frighten them. They then ransacked the luggage and took all the money and valuables. A Chinese passenger who loved his money more than his life hesitated to surrender it, whereupon one of the pirates brained him with the butt of his revolver. There was a European engineer on board, and he was wounded. A foreign lady passenger, married to a Chinaman, was amongst those who lost all their valuables. Having secured their booty the pirates cleared away.

On the 19th, between 2 and 3 a.m., a cocoon shop in Fatshan was robbed, about $8,000 in money and goods being taken away. About forty or fifty armed robbers broke open the door, terrorised the inmates of the establishment, and quietly collected their booty and departed.

Saichiu brigands have dispersed and are now raising disturbances in other districts. Only a few of them have been killed by the Imperial troops, and four or five men, said to be chiefs, though their leadership is doubtful, have been captured. The Imperial troops worked great destruction in the villages, killing a number of innocent people and practising great cruelty. Children under five years of age were put to the sword.

[The slaughter in the villages was probably in connection with the suppression of the clan fight between the Lo and Kwan clans, which affair was separate altogether from the brigand rebellion. The Lo clan fired on the troops sent to put an end to the fight, by mistake as they afterwards alleged, but General Lin Yung-fu did not accept the excuse and threatened to wipe out the Lo clan and utterly destroy their village, and this threat he appears to have carried into execution.—ED.]

DENTAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

We have been asked to publish the following:—There are at the present time 55 Dental Colleges in the United States. The Faculties of the Dental Colleges existing 15 years ago organized an Association, whose object is "to promote the interests of dental education." The membership of that organization at the present time is 50, practically including every reputable dental college in the U.S. It has been the practice of students coming from foreign countries to apply for admission to these colleges, for the purpose of securing the American degree. Many of them presented forged documents, or diplomas and certificates from incompetent institutions or individuals, and thus frequently secured an American dental diploma in from six months to one year. To remedy this evil, the Association two years ago organized a Committee on Foreign Relations, and this Committee appointed an Advisory Board, practically representing every country in the world. The appointments made last year included Great Britain, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Greece, Switzerland, and Turkey. At a meeting of the Association held last month, at Niagara Falls, N.Y., representatives were appointed and confirmed for Austro Hungary, Germany, Russia, Spain, Portugal, etc., etc. For Australia and New Zealand, Dr. Alfred Burne of Sydney was appointed. For Japan, China and India, the following appointment was made:

"Foreign Relations Committee of the National Association of Dental Faculties of the United States."

W. C. Barrett, M.D., D.D.S., Chairman, Buffalo, N.Y.

S. H. Guilford, A.M., D.D.S., Ph. D. Philadelphia, Pa.

J. D. Patterson, D.D.S, Kansas City, Mo.

T. W. Brophy, M.D., D.D.S., LL.D., Chicago, Ill.

H. W. Morgan, M.D., D.D.S, Nashville, Tenn.

Buffalo, N.Y., August 7th, 1899.

This certifies that Louis Ottofy, D.D.S., has been appointed the official representative of the American National Association of Dental Colleges, for Japan, China, and India, to verify certificates of qualification and to conduct examinations for entrance into the Dental Colleges which are members of this Association, and to supervise all American educational dental matters in the interest of the National Association of Dental Faculties of America. Two associates will in due time be appointed, but in the meantime Dr. Louis Ottofy is authorized to represent American Dental Colleges for the countries named.

(Signed.) W. C. BARRETT,
Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Association of American Dental Colleges."

With the instructions accompanying this appointment Dr. Ottofy is requested to suggest two associates, one from China and one from India. The Doctor has nominated for China Dr. J. Ward Hall, of Shanghai, (who is well known to older residents of Yokohama), and by them jointly will be selected a representative for India.

This action of the Association is more far-reaching than would appear on the surface, for any one from these countries, ignorant of the fact that his credentials must be viséd and approved at present by Dr. Ottofy, and later by any one of the three members of the Board, might leave for the United States, only to find that he can not be admitted to any reputable school. Hence the action of the Association should receive extensive publicity.

AUSTRALIA V. WOZZLE.

BY A WOZZLEITE.

It is a proud day for Wozzle. Our hearts beat high, as we literary men say, though I really prefer mine to beat in the same old place. All is excitement, for we are on the threshold of world-wide renown. Wozzle's great chance has come. We are all on the ferment, and no one can settle down. Our tradesmen have taken to their heels, and left their shops to their hands. Our nobs are driving in from miles round. Our district visiting is entirely suspended, and our dear good curate has left off writing Notes on Indignatius, which we understand all curates have to do before they can be made bishops. Even our water-cart, though much needed, is drinking at a public-house. I must confess to sharing this demoralisation, for I have turned away two happy fathers this morning, who wanted to register a second and a seventh; and told them they must positively be born to-morrow instead.

The station is all alive. Our station-master is on the down platform keeping order, the very essence of Wellington at Waterloo, with Joe, the porter, for the British Army. He is supported by the pick of Wozzle. Outside there is a strip of pink glazed calico, stretched across the road, from the top of our lamppost to the Wozzle Arms; being the very same triumphal arch we had when H.R.H. visited our Agricultural Show, and said there was no welcome like Wozzle's. Our town band is all ready, full of wind, at the station gates. They have still got no further towards their uniform than the epaulettes, and the euphonium is a little off colour, through being used as a missile at our last Sunday concert, but they make a brave show. Our fire brigade is also there, with drawn axes, practising "shouts of welcome" round a beer bucket. Whence all this excitement? you will ask. Ha, I have peeked your curiosity, have I! That's what we clever writers always do first, and then we tell you why. If we began the other way, you probably wouldn't care a hang to know. Well, then, the cause is that the world-renowned Australian Eleven are coming down to-day to play a match with us!! Take a little stimulant after that, to counteract your stupefaction and envy, and then we will proceed.

The match came about in the most singler and happy fashion. Maggins, our captain, was up at the last match at the Oval, and in the refreshment tent after the game he made the acquaintance of a most affable swell, in full flannels, who condescended to imbibe with him. Maggins let fall, with pardonable pride, that he was captain of the great Wozzle Eleven, whereupon his new friend, after some coyness, unfolded himself as the secretary of the Australians? One thing led to another, and the upshot was that he and the secretary arranged a match. The Australians required nothing but to have their fares paid in advance, but that was only £3, and Maggins was delighted to plank down the money, and so clinch the bargain.

So we have got everything ready for this great day. Our cricket ground is in Sir Thomas's park, and there is a most reshershay lunch now waiting in the pavilion there. We have done them well. We understand that the standard drink of Australia is whisky, but that stalwarts of that country, genuine sons of Nature, do not find whisky as strengthening as they require, and prefer pain-killer. Three dozen of pain-killer are there ready on the ice. We made every effort to provide their favorite kangaroo steak, and wired to Leadenhall Market for it. They said unhappily they had no kangaroos in stock, but there was a parcel of Russian bears just to hand, which was equally singular, and that with a strong sauce no one would know the difference. So we had a couple, and no doubt they will delight our Australian brothers. Our rural librarian, who reads travels, told us that Australians never ate bread, but only "damper," and our bakers have been busy making "damper" under his instructions. That pavilion looks lovely. It is decorated with the native weapons, boomerangs, poisoned arrows, creeses, and eye-gougers, lent by Major Knobkerry from his armoury, to remind our visitors of their own dear home. Flags also fly around, and two large mottoes worked by our young ladies, "Advance Australia," and "We kiss you for your mothers," are over the entrance. Eleven of our sweetest girls will welcome them there. (N.B.—There are really thirty-seven, as the selection committee refused to act, and ran away.) I think they will be pleased with the pavilion, anyhow.

Of course, our Eleven are all on wires this morning. They have a terrible fame, even surpassing our football club's, the Wrenchers, who have carried their blood-red jerseys, with the black skull and crossbones, to many a victorious goal. We gave them an informal supper at the Rising Sun last night, a most memorable scene. Mr. Hobbs, our auctioneer, took the chair, with Green, our butcher, for Vice; and we appointed Binks, our grocer, as Cutter Off. That, I may explain, is a social officer whom we find very useful at certain of our gatherings, for some of our dear boys are liable to forget to-morrow's business in to-night's pleasure; and the cutter-off goes round quietly and takes away the third steak or seventh kidney, as it might be, and any undue liquor they may pour out at an excited moment. It is far more gentlemanly than telling a man to his face that he is exceeding; and I can recommend the plan to a wider sphere. Well, Hobbs made a grand speech. He said to-morrow was the proudest day of Wozzle's life. We should be honoured to meet the noble Australians, splinters from the British bat, as he might call them (hear, hear); but we did not fear them (cries of "Not a bit of it," and the cutter-off took away Smith's rabbit pie.) They had their Darling and Worrall, of course; but had we not Weets and Maggins! (Hurray.) We had heard of Gregory's wonderful variety of strokes; but what about our Brown's, whose bat was a bat, a billiard cue, a broadsword, a sledge-hammer, and a tennis racket all in one! (Great shouts. The cutter-off withdrew four stouts and one gin). The Australians had their Howell, Trumble, and Jones; but our Hunkey, Biggins, and Sopper could ma ch them. Their Noble, too, was sung in prose and verse, because he could make the ball dance a polka in the air before the batsman's eyes. But had we not young Flynn, who could make it go two ways at once! (cheers for "Flynn," during which three men's whiskies vanished). Finally, there was Johns, the great wicket-keeper. He did not know what size Johns's hands were, but, allow them to equal an ordinary shoulder of mutton, he thought our own wicket-keeper, Deacon, still had the advantage of him (laughter and cheers). He, therefore, proposed the Wozzle Cricket Club; and might they gain the victory which—who—what—(painful pause, during which the cutter-off confiscated Hobbs's own brandy). He thanked them for their attention (great enthusiasm). Our captain, Muggins, responded, of course, and had a pat on the back for each of his tenam. I can see his brawny chest now, as he swelled it into a football, thumped it, and declared that Wozzle should do or die. Then we began to toast each other, and enjoyed ourselves much, though it was most uncalled for of Binks to cut off my Schnapps. I had but two glasses, and never show under four. However, owing to his guardianship, our cricket club was preserved intact, and rose this morning fresh as larks.

I have only just slipped home to write this, and to put my white waistcoat on, which is expected of me. And now I am off again. I will wire the brilliant result late on. Please let all the Colonies know.

. . . . . .

Hi! Stop! Burn what I have sent at once! Most monstrous! The Australians not arriving, we wired to town, and they replied they regretted they had never even heard of Wozzle! We have been most shamefully hoaxed by that pretended secretary! Please put the police on him: 15s. 9½d. reward is already subscribed. Never was there such a catastrophe! If you could see the row here, and hear the language, the——[The

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rest of this telegram is omitted, as incoherent and illegible.—Postmaster, Wozzle] —*The Globe.*

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, August 31.

The statement that a detachment from the Cape Garrison had been sent to Mafeking was premature.

The *Cologne Gazette* has an inspired article which confirms the rumour that the Transvaal's last communication to London asked for the abrogation of British suzerainty as compensation for further concessions. The article goes on to say that in the event of war over such a demand the Transvaal will stand isolated: nobody will move a finger to prevent its ruin.

A telegram from the President of the Orange Free State denies the report that the State thinks of taking arms against the British Government, and adds that such a measure will not be resorted to except in self-defence or to enforce treaty obligations.

The British Colonial Office has taken stringent measures to prevent any information transpiring.

Shanghai, Sept. 1.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Pretoria that Mr. Chamberlain has replied to the alternative proposals of the Transvaal Government, declaring that he regards them as no reply. He declines to discuss the suzerainty question, or to abandon the right of interference under the Convention if it should ever be necessary. He suggests a second conference at Capetown to arrange an Arbitration Court to settle outstanding and future difficulties.

The Transvaal Government declines to regard this as a reply.

Shanghai, Sept. 2.

The Portuguese Government has instructed the Authorities at Lorenzo Marquez to release the ammunition for the Transvaal.

Further particulars of Mr. Chamberlain's reply to the Transvaal are to the effect that he intimated Great Britain's readiness to agree that Mr. Greene and others appointed by Sir A. Milner should undertake an independent investigation with regard to the efficiency of the new franchise proposals, and that he trusted the Transvaal would afford every facility and omit the complicated conditions proposed under the new Franchise Law.

[The latter part of this telegram was somewhat perplexing as originally transmitted, the word "complicated" having been partly duplicated, so that the message read "omit comfreen complicated conditions." On repetition the meaning is rendered plain.—Ed. *J. M.*]

Shanghai, Sept. 4, 2.35 p.m.

The British despatches published with reference to the Transvaal situation confirm what has already been cabled. Mr. Chamberlain in his despatches of the 28th August reminds the Transvaal Government that there are other matters in dispute which cannot be settled by the grant of the franchise to the Uitlanders, and are not proper subjects for arbitration. These should be settled concurrently with the question now under discussion, and should form, with arbitration, subjects for consideration at the proposed conference at Capetown.

Reuter's agent at Pretoria states that the Transvaal Government has replied to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch of the 28th August. It is understood that President Kruger agrees to a conference at Capetown, and promises to explain the working of the franchise, and to accept suggestions.

Consequent on the arrest of Pakeman, editor of a Johannesburg paper, on a charge of high treason, panic prevails at Johannesburg. The detectives have made an ineffectual search of the Simmer Mine for arms.

The trains for Natal are crammed with fugitives.

Shanghai, Sept. 5.

The Transvaal's reply to Great Britain withdraws the offer of a franchise with a five-years residential qualification.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Mr. Moneypenny, the editor of the *Johannesburg Star* and correspondent of the *Times*.

Shanghai, Sept. 6.

Mr. Pakemann, Editor of *The Leader*, has been liberated at Johannesburg on bail. The statement is contradicted that a warrant was issued for the arrest of Mr. Moneypeny.

It is stated that a Cabinet Council is imminent. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has returned unexpectedly to London and has held conferences with the heads of the Colonial Office.

Shanghai, Sept. 7.

The Transvaal's last despatch has been published. It admits Great Britain's right to protect her subjects under the convention, but denies her suzerainty.

The *Capetown News*, hitherto pro-Boer, says that the public has no sympathy with the demand for the abandonment of the suzerainty.

DREYFUS' PROSPECTS.

Shanghai, Sept. 5.

The acquittal of Dreyfus is generally expected, but possibly he may be condemned by a narrow majority, entailing enforced withdrawal from the army.

ITALY AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 6.

China has offered to Italy mining concessions at Ninghai, in Chekiang. The Italians consider this offer unsatisfactory.

FRENCH POLITICS.

The French Senate has been convoked for the 18th September to try the Déroulède conspirators.

THE ST. LEGER STAKES.

Shanghai, Sept. 7.

The result of the St. Leger is—Flying Fox, first; Caiman, second; Scintillant, third.

CABINET COUNCIL.

The British Cabinet will meet on Friday.

WRECK OF A TRANSPOR'T.

"MORGAN CITY" ASHORE AT ONOMICHI.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Kobe, Sept. 4.

The U.S. transport *Morgan City*, with 800 troops from San Francisco to Manila, has been wrecked near Onomichi, in the Inland Sea. She had taken on a pilot at Kobe. On news reaching this port, supplies and provisions were at once sent to the scene by Mr. Samuel Lyon, the U.S. Consul here. The Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* has gone to the scene from Kure to render assistance. It is feared the steamer is a total wreck.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

Saigon, Sept. 1.

At Rennes witnesses are being examined with reference to the admissions made by Dreyfus. Captain Lebrun Renault repeats the famous phrase of Dreyfus:—"The Minister knows that I am innocent. If I gave documents, it was to obtain others." Dreyfus says that these words had reference to tentative proceedings of which he was made the object by Lieut.-Colonel du Paty de Clam. Several officers affirm, as Lebrun Renault does, the admissions of Dreyfus.

At Rennes several officers of artillery affirm the innocence of Dreyfus in so far as regards the *bordereau*.

Saigon, Sept. 3.

The military court at Rennes has come to the question of the letters exchanged between General Gonse and Lt.-Colonel Picquart on the subject of Esterhazy, and with reference to the *petit bleu*. The session will be continued on Monday.

Saigon, Sept. 4.

The verdict of the military court at Rennes is expected to be given on Friday.

Saigon, Sept. 5.

The President of the French Republic will this evening sign the decree convoking the High Court for Sept. 4th.

At Rennes, M. Cernuschi, formerly an Austrian officer, has declared that a foreign diplomat told him that Dreyfus was an agent of the Triple Alliance. Labori protested and desired his protest to be noted. The remaining documents will be submitted to-morrow *in camerâ*. The Court has risen.

At Rennes, M. Labori announced that he wished to call Col. Schwartzkoppen and another foreign military attaché, and then presented arguments in favour of the Government writing to the Foreign Powers to obtain permission to communicate the contents of the *bordereau*. The Court rejected the arguments.

Generals de Boisdeffre and Mercier were afterwards examined.

THE RUE CHATROL AFFAIR.

Saigon, Sept. 2.

Nothing new has occurred with reference to the Rue-Chatrol Affair. Perquisitions in connexion with the conspiracy continue to be made in Paris.

THE RECENT CONSPIRACY.

Saigon, Sept. 6.

The High Court will sit on the 18th inst. to try M.M. Déroulède, Habert, Guerin, Buffet and other persons accused of conspiracy against the Government.

Prequisitions continue to be made in various towns in the provinces.

(From the "Hiogo Evening News.")

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND IN CHINA.

London, Aug. 30.

It has been agreed that the dispute at Hankow (where Cossacks prevented coolies from erecting a fence round land claimed by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and marines landed to protect British property) shall be submitted to arbitration.

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS.

Mr. Frederic Harrison, the well-known leader of the Positivist party in England, has issued a powerful appeal addressed to Lord Salisbury, as Premier, urging that Great Britain should exhaust every available means of maintaining peace before engaging in a war with the Transvaal.

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(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

UNREST AND UNCERTAINTY.

Peking, August 31.

There is an ominous rumour that the members of the Hanchun Banner organisations are dissatisfied at Prince Ching's open partiality for the Manchu and Mongol Banner organisations, the latter being given the highest posts, while the former are generally snubbed. The Empress Dowager's three armour-plated rooms in the palace are on the point of completion. It is conjectured that they are meant either to imprison some important personage, as a refuge for herself in case of an attack on the Palace, or for the purpose of securing her bullion and treasures. Four hundred magazine rifles, with accoutrements, were received at the Palace late the other night—stated to have been requisitioned from the Peking Field Force. The rifles came in large trunks ordinarily used by theatrical troupes to hold dresses and paraphernalia, while the cartridges were packed in bags. Much secrecy was observed in the matter.

[Note:—It is necessary here to explain that the Hanchun are descendants of the Chinese officers and troops who joined the Manchus in taking Peking. They are divided into eight Banners like the Manchus, who, however, look down upon them even to the present day. Apparently the leaders of the Hanchun have thought the present a good opportunity to ask for their rights.—Ed. *N. C. D.N.*]

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 435.

By E. E. Westbury.

First Prize *Birmingham News* Fifth Tourney.

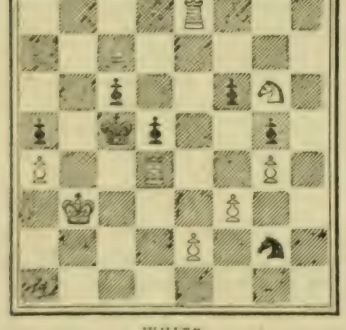
Key-move Q to Q R 4

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, L.M.A., and Marco.

PROBLEM No. 438.

By Nielsen, Copenhagen.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAMES FROM THE LONDON TOURNEY

Game No. 544.

A Fine Specimen of Lasker's Play.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Tschigorin. Black—Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	23 Kt K3	B K-q
2 Q K2	K Kt QB3	24 KR Q-q	B B2
3 Kt QB3	P K4(a)	25 P B4(e)	P B3
4 P KK 3	K Kt B3	26 R B2(f)	B Q5
5 B Kt2	B B4	27 R(Q-q) Q B-q	Q B2
6 P Q3	P Q3	28 Kt Q-q	Q R4
7 B K 5	P KR3	29 Kt B3	P QKt4
8 B x Kt	Q x B	30 P Kt3	R Q2
9 Kt Q5	Q Q q	31 P x P(g)	R P x P
10 P QB3	Kt K2	32 Kt Q5(h)	K Kt2
11 K x Kt	Q x Kt	33 P KKt4	R(Q2) Q-q
12 Castles	B Q2	34 Kt K7(i)	B x P
13 P KB4	Castles (QR)	35 Kt x R(k)	R x Kt
14 K Kt B3	B Kt3(n)	36 Q Q2(l)	Q R6
15 KB B-q	P KB3	37 R B-q	R Q R-q
16 K K-q	KR K-q	38 R B2	B x P +(m)
17 P B5(o)	B R5	39 R x B	Q K 6ch
18 R B-q	K K-q	40 K B-q(n)	R x R
19 Kt Q2	P QR3(d)	41 Q x R	B K6ch
20 B B3	B K2	42 Q Q2(o)	Q x P
21 P KR4	R QB-q	43 Resigns.	
22 Kt B4	KR Q-q		

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

(a) The play leads to an open game, rather favourable to Black, since the White Queen is hardly well placed. Tschigorin's second move, Q to K 2, is inferior to the usual play, P to Q 4.

(b) Necessary, since White threatened P to Q 4, and it is important for Black to maintain the K P.

(c) Hardly good for it relieves the Black centre and prevents White from getting his Bishop into play.

(d) White threatened Kt to B 4 and Kt takes B, which would have equalized the position.

(e) This move materially weakens the White position. Better, it seems, was P to Q 4, followed eventually by P to Q 5.

(f) Kt to B 2, followed eventually by P to Q 4, was, perhaps, better. The text move enables Black to play B to Q 5, and both Bishops will be placed to the best advantage.

(g) He should have played Kt to Q sq and Kt to Kt 2.

(h) A neat but ineffective move.

(i) The play would be very forcible were it not for the brilliant and decisive answer Black had on hand.

(k) There was no better play.

(l) He could not maintain the exchange. Had he played R to Q 2, then B to B 2, followed eventually by Q to Kt 5.

(m) Brilliant and sound.

(n) Had he played R to Kt 2, which was, perhaps, better, Black would have answered B takes R, followed by Q takes P ch and Q takes B.

(o) R to Q 2 would have been answered by Q takes Q, followed by Q takes R ch.

Game No. 545.

An Easy One for Pillsbury.

FALKBEER COUNTER GAMBIT.

White—Bird. Black—Pillsbury.

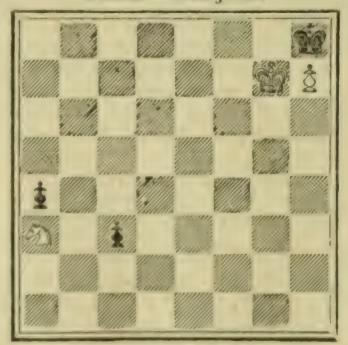
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 P x Kt	Q R2
2 P KB4	P Q4	16 Q K2	R Q-q
3 KP x P	P K5	17 B Q2	B K Kt5
4 B Kt5ch	P B3	18 Q B2	R x B
5 P x P	P x P	19 Q x R	B x KP
6 B B4	Kt B3	20 Q K-2	Q Q5
7 Q K2	B QB4	21 B K2	B Q7ch
8 Kt QB3	Castles	22 K B-q	Kt Q4
9 Q B-q	Q K2	23 B x B	Kt K6ch
10 Kt Q-q	P QR4	24 K B2	Kt x P dis ch
11 Kt K3	Kt R3	25 K B-q	Kt K6ch
12 P QR3	Kt B2	26 K B2	Kt x B ch
13 P K Kt3	Q Kt Q4	27 K K2	Q Q6ch
14 P KR4	Kt x Kt	Resigns.	

Bird played a favourite variation of his own, with which he might have been successful against inferior opponents, but Pillsbury demolished it mercilessly in a few moves. It shows the lucid grasp of the situation and thorough judgment of position of the American master.

END GAME.

The following remarkable and instructive ending occurred once in actual play at the Manhattan Chess Club between A. B. Hodges and Max Judd:—

BLACK.—Max Judd.



WHITE.—A. B. Hodges.

White forces mate in seven moves. Solution:—

1—Kt to B 4	1—P to B 7
2—Kt to K 5	2—P Queens

if 2—K to Kt sq, mate equally follows on the 7th move;

3—Kt to B 7 ch	3—K to Kt sq
4—P to R 7 ch	4—K to B sq
5—P Queens ch	5—K to K 2
6—Q to Q 8 ch	6—K to K 3
7—Q to Q 6 mate	

if 1—K to Kt sq

2—P to R 7 ch	2—K to B sq
3—P Queens ch	3—K to K 2
4—Q to Q B 8	4—Any
5—Q to B 7 ch, etc.	

Game No. 546.

Marshall of the Brooklyn Chess Club, who won the minor tournament at London recently, disposed of Dr. Smith, one of the leading London amateurs, in short order. The score of the game is appended:—

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

White—Dr. Smith. Black—Marshall.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	9 Q K-sq	B Q2
2 P K3	P K3	10 Q Kt3	K R-q
3 Kt KB3	P KB4	11 P K4	Q P x P
4 B Q3	Kt KB3	12 B x P	B Kt4
5 Kt K5	B Q3	13 R Q-sq	B K7
6 P KB4	Castles	14 R Q2	P x B
7 Castles	B x Kt	15 P B3	R B8 mate
8 B P x Kt	Kt Kt5		

NOTES.

Speaking of the London International Tournament, a corespondent writes:—I noticed, in the evening especially, a considerable sprinkling of ladies. They took a deep interest in the games. There are many ladies' chess clubs in England now, and their Presidents and Secretaries seemed to attend these games between famous players in order to pick up notions. I saw one old lady, very tall and sharp in features, who watched through her spectacless with intensest eagerness. At a good bit of play her lips moved as though she were speaking, but quite inaudibly. But it was when a player seemed in a predicament that she became most excited. Her fingers twitched, and she looked as if she would have given a great deal to be able to tell him what to do. But Mr. Russel says that none of the lady players, though they often become very proficient, are any match for good male players. On Friday evening Tchigorin being finished with his game, and one of the tables unoccupied, gallantly challenged the Secretary of one of the ladies' clubs, who is supposed to be a fairly good player. She started full of hopefulness to make a fairly good defence, but within a dozen moves all the hopefulness was gone, and she was playing an apologetic game, to which the master, who was courteous all the time, soon gave the finishing touch.

The New York Times, in an editorial, says that the games of recent tournaments remind one of the "strife of the two paupers for a shilling."

"The modern game, Mr. Steinitz observes, consists in 'the accumulation of small advantages.' Exactly. That is to say, each player strives to get a Pawn the better of the other, to keep the Pawn to the ending, and then to win with it. . . .

"And yet those curious creatures, the performers, think the public ought to take an interest in this performance. . . . The fact is that the more of these games are played, the less interest can any rational being take in the game, unless he be condemned, like the contestants, to play it for his living. It is no longer a game at all. It is a 'cut-throat competition.' There is really no interest in it except to competitors, and their interest is not sportsmanlike, but commercial. . . . There is often, in a whole tournament, not one of the brilliant finishes which the student can find in almost every recorded game of the old players who played Chess for amusement and not for a living, as Philidor and Labourdonnais, and MacDonnell and Morphy and Anderssen. The usual thing is the 'accumulation of small advantages' and the final winning by the accumulation on account of the inability of the other man to stop the progress of the odd Pawn. It is 'two paupers fighting for a shilling.'

"In other words, that has happened to Chess which happens to every sport when it becomes professional. It is no longer a game, but a business. 'I never was, I am not, I never will be, a professional player,' wrote Paul Morphy. And that is partly why, as a recent commentator has said, there are more brilliant endings in Morphy's games than in all the rest of Chess put together."

The Washington *Post* declares that the American champion "deserves, and will receive, no sympathy whatever" for losing first prize in the London Tournament. "It was his own fault," etc. His countrymen expected him to take first," etc. To this the Norfolk *Landmark* felicitously replies:—

"That is right. If an American enters any sort of contest with a foreigner, he must win or be disgraced. It is true that Lasker, who won the first prize at London, played a phenomenal game, losing only once outright; but that might not to have disturbed Pillsbury. Pillsbury ought to have risen to the occasion and won every game he played. The American people have no patience with the man who loses, and they make haste to depose him from their graces. . . . Know all men by these

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presents: No such thing as a second prize is worthy of consideration in the United States of America. We feel that we are in a position to take everything now, and have just started out to acquire the earth, beginning with the Philippines. It is a pity that our so-called Champion Chess-player can not get the best of a measly Hungarian or Russian. The thing is a shame and is not to be tolerated. Pillsbury should be branded with a red-hot iron, hung by the thumbs for a week, and then shot. . . . *Conspues* Pillsbury! Out with him!! *A bas le traitre !!!*"

The Manhattan Chess-Club, New York City, is trying to make arrangements to induce Lasker to visit America. His terms are rather high; but it is hoped that this will not stand in the way, as his coming to the United States would be of great advantage to Chess. If arrangements are made, it is understood that he will give exhibition games, meeting all comers, and will lecture on Chess.

Lasker, by the-way, makes the startling statement to an interviewer that he can easily carry ten prospective moves in his head, and can even conjure up a mental picture of the board twenty moves ahead. In spite of this extraordinary faculty, however, he admits that blindfold play is too much for him, and, acting under medical advice, he has given up all attempts at it.

Are chess players tall men? Generally speaking, we should say not, says the *Sunday States*. If the average height of masters were to be ascertained it would be below five feet seven inches. Considering the stature of the past and present masters, we think the average would be about five feet six inches. Paul Morphy was a small man and we are told that as he sat before Meek in their game of the American tournament they were referred to as David and Goliath. Meek remarked that if Morphy didn't give him a chance he would put the little fellow in his pocket. Haarwitz was a little man; Paulsen was not large; Zukertort was small; Steinitz is very short; Pillsbury, Lasker, Weiss, Tarrasch, Walbrodt, Charousek are all little men; Gunsberg, Mason, Schlechter are far from large. Of the tall players Blackburne, Tschigorin, Showalter, Mackenzie, Pollock, Burn, Marco, Schiffers, Maroczy are of the minority.

Kind Old Party—Why do you weep so, child? Child—I can't get father ter come home. Kind Old Party—Why, my child, does he drink? Child—No, sir. He plays chess.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Sept. 11
America	P. M. Co.	China 1	W. Sept. 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa Sept. 16
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	——	Tu. Sept. 19
America	O. & O Co.	Doric 2	Th. Sept. 21
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Sept. 25
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	M. Sept. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept 27
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. Oct. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japon	Th. Oct. 7

1 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Sept. 8
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa, Sept. 9
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Indus	W. Sept. 13
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Sept. 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Sept. 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Sept. 20
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu Sept. 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Sept. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Sept. 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Sept. 27
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Oct. 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Zealadia, U.S. Army Transport, 1,719, Dodwell, 4th Sept.,—Manila via Nagasaki, 1st Sept.—U.S. Government.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 1st September,—Kobe, 30th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 1st Sept.,—Hongkong via ports and Kobe, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Valencia, U.S. Army Transport, 1,198, J. M. Lane, 3rd September,—Manila via Nagasaki and Kobe.—U S. Government.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 3rd Sept.,—Otaru via ports 29th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 4th Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C. 23rd Aug., Mails & General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 4th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu 17th Aug., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Etna, Italian cruiser, 4,000, Capt. Giovello, 4th September,—Hakodate, 2nd September.

Elba, Italian cruiser, 3,100, Captain Cecconi, 4th September,—Hakodate, 2nd September.

Indus, French steamer, 2,331, Chevalier, 4th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 3rd September, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, J. Thorn, 4th September,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 3rd September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Guernsey, Norwegian steamer, 2,380, Hansen, 5th September,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 3rd September, Cotton.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 5th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 3rd September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 5th September,—Otaru via ports, 31st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Anderson, 5th September,—Kobe 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,379, Sawyers, 5th September,—Singapore, 22nd August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 6th September,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 31st August, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Oisen, 6th September,—Kobe 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pingsuey, British steamer, 4 149, C. de la Perrelle, 6th September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 5th Sept., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 6th September,—Yokkaichi, 5th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 6th September,—Atsugishi, 2nd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 7th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 6th September, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

City of Sydney, U.S. Army Transport, 1,966, Pillsbury, 7th September,—San Francisso, 18th Aug.—U.S. Government.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cupe, 7th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 6th September, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 7th September,—London via ports, and Hongkong, 1st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, K. Kirchner 1st Sept.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 1st September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 2nd Sept., —Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell Co., Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 2nd Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, P. H. Going, 2nd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 2nd September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Powerful (14), British Cruiser, 14,000, Captain Hon. Hedworth Lambton, 2nd September,—Hongkong.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, H. Batt, 3rd September,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 3rd Sept.,—Tsuruga, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 4th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 5th September,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 5th September,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Wallace, 5th September,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Valencia, U.S. Army Transport, 1,198, J. M. Lane, 5th September,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 5th September,—Bonin Islands, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 6th September,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 6th September,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 6th September,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Zealandia, U.S. Army Transport, 1,719, Dowdell, 6th September,—San Francisco.—U.S. Government.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 6th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 6th September,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tellus, Norwegian steamer, 1,639, Pederson, 6th September,—Nanaimo, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,378, Sawyers, 7th September,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,899, M. J. Curnow, 7th September,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Guernsey, Norwegian steamer, 2,380, Hansen, 7th September,—Columbia River via Muroran, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVAL.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr , Misses and Master J. Seymour, Mr. S. H. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Komuro and 2 children, Mr. T. Horiye, and Mrs. Clayton, in cabin; Miss Newcombe, in second class; 109 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss B Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Browne, Miss S. M. Bosworth, Mr. H. Bigelow, Dr. J. W. Bradley, Mr. H. M. Bruen, Rev. W. G Brown, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Briggs and two children, Mr. F. Brush, Miss F. Brush, Miss Colwell, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Caldwell, Dr. and Mrs. S. Cochran, Rev. J. P. and Mrs. Cochran, Mr. C. F. Childs, Miss E. M. Crombie, Rev. C. N. Cadwell, Mrs. Cadwell and three children, Mrs. J. A. Dadman, Miss D. M. Drew, Miss E. C. Drew, Mr. L. B. Drew, Mr. H. B. Darnell, Miss Einsberger, Mrs. Evans, Master Evans, Mr. J. W. Farley, Miss M. F. Fisher, Mr. P. J. Gill, Miss Green, Mrs. M. L. Gifford, Mr. and Mrs. V. Guedike, Mrs. L. Griffith, Mr. S. Hayakawa, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Darsey Hutton, Miss Hutton, Miss Flora Hutton, Miss E. B. Hook, Mr. S. Isham, Miss F. Isham, Miss J. Isham, Mr. Arthur Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkman, Mr. Kishewitch, Miss S. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Little, Mr. and Mrs. Layton, Capt. D. Felix S. Mesa, Mr. K. Murai, Mr. Masuboti, Miss Murdock, Miss Maud Mackay, Miss N. Mooman, Mrs. L. Montford, Dr. May Mackay, Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Meacham, Mr. M. Moulton, Miss J. Moulton Mr. H. Midzumachi, Mr. and Mrs. E W. Moir, Mr. M. MacKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin, Mrs. Mordhurst, child and maid, Mrs. O. S. Newell, Miss E. Newell, Miss M. Newell, Dr. Edna Park, Mr. J. F. Perkins, Miss A. M. Patten, Rev. P. F. Price, Mrs. Price and two children, Rev. D. E and Mrs. Park, Miss R. A. Parkinson, Mr. O. Roditi, Lieut. Rundall, Miss N. Russell, Rev. A. D. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Reid, Mr. H. Stubbins, Mr. R. G. Shaw, Jr., Mr. H. H. Shaw, Miss M. E. Sheffield, Mr. Sato, Mr. Chas. Sale, Mr. J. T. Swift, Mr. H. R. Stockman, Miss F. Suzuki, Miss Tomtellotte, Misses Thompson (2), Mr. G. H. Tewksbury, Mrs. Tewksbury and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Tison, Mr. W. E. Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Vanvleet, Mr. Uyeno, Miss R. E. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wilson, Miss L. A. Wilkinson, Rev. J. E. and Mrs. Williams, Rev. A. Waite, Rev. Jas. and Mrs. Waite, Mr. H.

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Ernest Wood, Mr. W. J. Wright, and Mrs. C. Wilberg, in cabin; 4 in second class; 115 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Futami Maru*, from Melbourne and Sydney via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Steel, Mr. A. S. Macleod Miss A. Macleod, Mrs. Y. Yakeno, Mrs. K. Yakeno, Miss H. Yakeno, Mr. S. Yoshisuye, Mr. S. Ito and Mr. S. Fujita in cabin; Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Y. Morita, Mrs. Y. Kobayashi and Mr. Y. Watanabe in second class; 34 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Prof. and Mrs. Geo. T. Ladd, Mr. and Mrs. J. Strauss, Mr. L. E. Bennett and son, Mr. H. F. Bowles, Mr. F. H. Brooke, Miss J. Kebara, Mr. Hamao Mizuno, Mr. C. M. Jenkins, Miss E. J. Bates, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. J. Yamamoto, Mr. Max Lehman, Mr. P. A. Haffmann, Miss M. H Krout, and Mr. T. Matsuoka in cabin; 1 in European steerage; 297 in Asiatic steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. & Mrs. Mur and Capt. H. H. Cuningham in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Bert Clifford, Dr. E. B. Merchant and Capt. the Hon. Lawrence W. Palk in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. G. H. Hilbert, Mrs. E. B. Gose, Lieut. J. H. Rowan, Mrs. W. S. Biddle, infant and maid Mrs. H. G. Bishop in cabin; 1 in European steerage; 42 in Asiatic steerage.

Per French steamer *Indus*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Mabien, and servant, Mr. R. Jamin, Mr. J. Armstrong, Mr. H. Abrams, Mr. d'Eloy and boy, Mr. Veaux, Captain Hallaham, Mr. Payne, Mr. Gronner, Mr. F. T. Voigt, Mr. Geo. W. Koël, Mr. G. W. Hall, Melle. Domballe, Mr. Ch. Brenner and boy, Mr. A. Rizzetti, Mr. Makien and Mr. Delbourgo in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. P. R. Desar, Mr. R. Cobbold, Lt. Rotherham, Mr. J. M. Watson, Mrs. MacHaffie and child, Miss Glassford, Lieut. Branchitsch, Capt. Pattison, Miss Bell, Mr. Sterlow, Mr. J. H. Longford, Mr. S. Nishiguchi, Mr. H. Kamada, Mr. J. W. Butterworth, Mrs. St. John and child, Mr. H. B. Byles, Mr. H. Lawless, Mr. G. London, Mr. W. Holland, Mr. and Mrs. Hernshiem, Mr. T. Kimura, Miss Woods, Capt. Rickman, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Capt. and Mrs. Trevelyan, Major S. S. Lang, Dr. and Mrs. O'Brien, Lt. Kuhlenthal, Mr. E. P. Wickham, Mr. and Mrs. Serebrinick, Mr. A. B. Talati, Mr. R. Eblers, Mr. T. Yamamoto, Mr. G. Winkler, Mr. J. S. Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Holmes, Mr. C. Kalkhof, Dr. and Mrs. Von Schab, Mr. J. H. Bathgate, and Mr. T. H. Glover, in cabin; 24 intermediate; 285 in steerage. For Vancouver:—Mrs. Dalton, Mr. H. Short, Mr. A. C. Harper, Mr. T. E. De Veeder, Miss Cooper, Mr. Brown, Mr. K. Yamamoto, and Mr. K. Yokoo, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. Kerr, Mr. Charles Haas, Mr. K. Kawashima, in cabin; Dr. K. Ito, and Mr. J. Ellard, in second class; 2 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. I. M. P. Hermanns, Mr. W. Richter, Mr. M. Mabien, Mr. E. Tank, Mr. M. Meto, Mr. M. Iwamura, and Mr. Sian, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. H. Balfour, Mr. F. Berlis, Mr. H. E. Bostwick, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Th. de Bergny and infant Mrs. S. L. Bee, Mr. E. N. Bee, Miss M. Coughlin, Mr. W. G. Dodd, Lieut. J. Donaldson, U.S.A., Mrs. B. R. Edwards and child, Mr. J. S. Fenton, Mr. L. C. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Johns, Major Jones, U.S.A., Miss Katsch, Mr. R. Levy, Mr. S. Misaki, Miss B. Nevin, Miss A. M. Otto, Mr. C. Ruckstrahen, Mr. E. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Richardson, Mr. Otto Rotmann, Mr. Ad. Rotmann, Mr. R. M. Suthff, Mr. E. Seeburger, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Miss A. Siegfried, Miss Helen Siegfried, Mr. Wm. T. Treglown, Miss M. E. Winn, Corporal R. Woodworth, Mrs. Chang Yin and infant, Mrs. Ho Lin Tai, Mrs. Tong Chung, Miss Ho Lin Yark, Miss Ching Hang Lin, Mr. Lee Chung, Mrs. Chan Yung, Master Lee Tso Yin, Miss Lee Ho, Miss Lee Kam, Miss Lee Ha, Mr. Lee Fung, Mrs. Ying Qui and infant, Miss Lee Hoi, Mrs. Lee Wong Sue, Miss Yai, and Master Lee Shin Yin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Governor Jaeschke, Mr. D. J. Wereschagin, Mr. P. Westendorff, Mr. J. Komor, Miss Melvin, Mrs. E. Jansen and 2 daughters, Miss Law, Rev. and Mrs. A. Elwin, Rev. W. H. Elwin, Mrs. and Miss Page, Mr. A. C. Macmillan, Mr. E. Hay, Mr. J. West, Major and Mrs. Rae and 2 daughters, Mr. Penzig, Col. and Mrs. McCaskey, Mr. R. F. A. Hastings, Mr. E. Morgan Phillips, Mr. F. M. Gawey, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. V. M. Sale, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. R. M. Smith and native servant, Rev. and Mrs. Cameron Johnson, Miss Sander, Master Alan Smith and Miss Nellie Smith, Mrs. R. M. Smith and native servant, Mr. Jas. H. Bathgate, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Captain R. Morris, R.A., Mr. E. E. Porter, Lieut. R. W. Castle, Mr. Paine, Mr. H. Hutchins, Mr. E. Schintzler, Mr. F. A. Sanford, Mr. D. F. Robinson, and Miss Crombie in cabin; Rev. Wm. A. Wills and Mr. S. C. Rudra in second class, and Mr. T. Ozaki in Asiatic steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain L. W. Palk, Mr. E. A. Katsch, Miss Bertha Glawsen, Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Pruett and servant, Mr. Geo. M. Jenkins, Mr. B. Clifford, Mr. John Buse, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. M. Darfinille, Dr. E. B. Merchant, Captain H. H. Cunningham, Mr. H. E. Ramsey, Mr. F. H. Hilbert, Captain S. Tomioka, Mr. H. G. Bishop, Miss Melton, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mrs. E. B. Gose, Miss J. B. Lee, Miss M. Young, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Mur, Mr. E. Runge, Miss Runge, Mrs. W. S. Biddle, child and maid, and Lieut. John L. Rowen, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. Jackson, Mrs. F. Kingsell, Mr. and Mrs. Buller, infant and amah, Mr. H. W. Lanchi, Mr. H. F. Horsey, Mr. Serno, and Mr. Kee Cheong and child, in cabin; 15 Chinese, and child, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Canton*, for London via ports:—Mr. H. R. Stockman, Mr. Arthur Jackson, and Mrs. Getley, two children, infant and amah, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Meyers, Mr. F. Truscott, Mr. H. B. Price, Mr. H. Geshen, Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Brown, Rev. and Mrs. R. B. Peery, Rev. and Mrs. A. Otmans and 5 children, Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Wimer, Mr. H. Bass, Mr. S. H. Ward, Mr. Seymour, Misses Seymour (2), Mr. A. J. Reek, Rev. and Mrs. G. F. Mosher, Miss A. Gilbert, Mr. Frank Maitland, and Consul and Mrs. S. Motoh, in cabin; Mr. K. Hattori, Mr. M. Chiwaki, Mr. S. Hatano, Mr. C. Owa, Mr. K. Akiyama, Mr. B. Machida, Mr. T. Kuroda, Mr. S. Fujise, Mr. M. Furuya, Mr. K. Yoshida, Mr. T. Hirosawa, Mr. K. Katoh, Mr. M. Kawabuchi, Mrs. Araki and infant, Mr. C. W. Tripp, and Mr. T. Hashimoto, in second class.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improvement noted last week continues, and prices are slightly higher. Large transactions have taken place in yarns, and some sales are reported in shirtings, fancy cottons, and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.10 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.26 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Grape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 21, Singles	$37.00 to 48 50
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	40 20 to 43 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	46.00 to 48.50
Nos. 9 60, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	86.00 to 88.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	110 00 to 113.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	82.00 to 86.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	96.00 to 102.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	126 00 to 133 00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$10 50
Indian Broach	18 50
Chinese	20.00 to 20.50

METALS.

There have been a few transactions, though the high prices holders demand in sympathy with the rates prevailing at home still check business.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	$ 5.50 to 5 70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6 80
Galvanized iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to ¾ inch)	6.50 to 6 75

KEROSENE.

Market firm at unaltered quotations.

American	$2.42 to 2 46
Russian	2.50 to 2.60
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

There is the usual steady trade, at about last quoted prices.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.75
Brown Manila	5 10 to 6.70
Brown Daitoung	4.20 to 4 50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.70
White Java and Penang	6 70 to 8 40
White Refined	7.70 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market quieter, and business done at a decline; with small demand may probably further recede.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1180 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1145
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1020 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1.65
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No. 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No. 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

Market active. Demand good. Supplies are increasing and are freely taken by shippers.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	160 to 170
Noshi—Filatures, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Best	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$95 to 100
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

The market continues active, the demand being chiefly for the lower grades. Prices remain as last quoted.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 32
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 7.

Silver from London ⅛ lower and discount ⅛ higher, with sterling quotations from China ⅛ to ¼ lower, have not caused any change so far in rates, which close as under for the mail per steamer *Empress of India*.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 7/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2 0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2 1
On Paris—Bank sight	257½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3⅛% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75⅞
— Private 10 days' sight	76½
On India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
Bar Silver (London)	27⅞

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MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 7.

Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 230. Breweries have sellers at *yen* 180. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 225. Club Hotels are wanted at *yen* 82.50. Oriental Hotels can be placed at *yen* 125. Langfeldts are steady at par. Bretts are offering at *yen* 9.50. Laundries may be had at *yen* 65. Helms are obtainable at par. North & Raes have buyers at *yen* 215.

Debentures—Breweries are offering at *yen* 110. Oriental Hotels at *yen* 108. Y. U. Clubs are wanted at *yen* 108, offers of Allotment letters per 1st January or 1st July 1900 are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	230 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50 ... ... 4...	180 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100... ...	225 S.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100 ... 1...	82.50 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100... ... 2...	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld (Debs.), $125 ...	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10...	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100... ...	100 Sa.
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100... 3...	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50 ...	65 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100...	120 S.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100...	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100... ...	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100 ...	100 N.

Reserve Fund —1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,208.41; 4, *yen* 77,884.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady. N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 7.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 220. Japan Breweries are steady at *yen* 180. Steam Laundries have sellers at *yen* 65. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 10.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...230 Sales.
Grand Hotel .....220 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldts & Co. .....100 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co. .....180 Steady.

Tokyo, September 7.

Redemption Loan Bonds...	96.25
War Loan Bonds	96.25
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.35
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	404.50
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50...	62.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100 ...	271.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100	271.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 50... ...	66.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50 ...	65.80
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100 ...	104.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25 ...	28.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	72.30
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41 ...	62.50
Japan Railway 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50 ...	25.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25 ...	83.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	60.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	46.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	66.50

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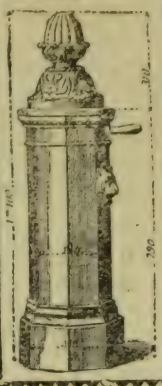
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 16TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT OKI still lingers on, but his case is now considered hopeless.

THE entire Indian force for the Transvaal will embark by the 25th instant.

MR. CORNELIUS VANDERBILT, the head of the family, has died in New York.

SIR GEORGE WHITE has been appointed to command the troops in Natal. General Sir Redvers Buller goes only if an Army Corps is sent.

THE boom in the silk trade continues and large shipments are being made to Europe.

IT is rumoured that the Crown Prince of Japan may make a grand tour of the world next year.

RAIN has fallen several times in the Western part of India, and famine is thereby averted.

THE last despatch from Great Britain to the Transvaal is said to be of the nature of an ultimatum.

DREYFUS has been found guilty by the military court at Rennes and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

H.M.S. *Wyvern* has left Hongkong to patrol the Canton river to suppress the piracy that is so rife in those waters.

THE French expedition to Lake Chad met a savage tribe at an Oasis, by whom they were overpowered and killed.

THE news from Europe is that President Kruger can count on no support in Europe in his opposition to Great Britain.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha have arranged that their Australian steamers shall call at Manila on both the outward and homeward trips.

TAKAMATSU harbour has been improved at a cost of 200,000 *yen*. It is now, next to Ujina, among the best of the inland harbours of Japan.

SEVERAL Japanese are reported to have been arrested in Manila on suspicion of being connected with the surreptitious importation of firearms.

THE judgment in the Dreyfus case was received very calmly in France; in England and on the Continent generally it has met with adverse criticism.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Great Britain and America to boycott the forthcoming Paris Exhibition in consequence of the decision in the Dreyfus case.

THIEVES have been busy on the Bluff lately, several houses being entered. On Thursday the police arrested two men, while a third was traced to Shizuoka.

THE British squadron has left Yokohama for Kobe. The British Minister travels south on H.M.S. *Centurion* as the guest of the Admiral. He lands at Kobe.

THE market is still rising for all classes of winter goods, but as the purchasing powers of the poorer classes are better than ever the prospects for a good autumn trade are bright.

IT is rumoured in Peking that the Empress Dowager has chosen a nine-year old Manchu Prince to succeed the present Emperor, who is to be deposed this month unless Russia interferes.

IT is believed that deposits of coal exist not only on the coast line of Imari gulf, but under the sea to an almost inexhaustible extent. The Government has given permission for submarine trial borings.

EMIGRATION from Fukuoka Prefecture is assuming great dimensions. In 1897 there were more than 600 emigrants, in 1898, more than 2,000, while in the present year more than 1,600 left during the three months May, June and July.

OUT of 12,000 persons engaged in the Besshi Copper Mine, 678 fell victims to the recent disaster. The loss sustained by the Sumitomo family will be about 1,500,000 *yen*. Mr. Sumitomo gave 20,000 *yen* to the sufferers when he visited the mine on the 4th inst.

MR. AMENOMIYA has discovered four iron mines at Kakunotate, Akita Prefecture, each of which shows a seam 24 *ken* wide and 200 *ken* long. Fuel and water carriage are remarkably near at hand.

TRIAL workings at the Government Iron Foundry in Fukuoka Prefecture will commence in January, 1900, as soon as Mr. Wada, the Director, returns from Europe. All the Ministers of State and members of the Imperial Diet will be invited to the Iron Foundry on the occasion.

THE export of lumber from Hokkaido appears to promise well. Last year only 50,000 *koku* were sent out of the country but this year about 700,000 *koku* have been exported already, the value being 700,000 *yen*. The timber is chiefly used in Siberia and on the Chinese Railway Works.

THE double telephone system has for a long time been adopted between Tokyo and Yokohama. The same system will be shortly tried between Tokyo and Osaka, and it is expected that from 50 to 70 communications per day can be dealt with from each telephone. A double telephone installation costs only *yen* 500.

THE Keihin Bank has agreed to advance about 150,000 *yen* to the emigrant companies who are supplying the next batch of 10,000 emigrants to Hawaii. These emigrants are expected to deposit 50,000 *yen* in the bank per month after their arrival in Hawaii. So the bank will be well repaid.

COKE-MAKING is developing into a considerable industry in Japan, though the home-made article is inferior to the imported. Mr. Furukawa's factory in Tokyo, started in 1888, now produces about 2,000 tons a year, fully 1,500 tons of which are used in his own works. When the factory started the output was only 300 tons a year.

THE paddle boat *White Cloud*, proceeding to Manila on an American charter, has foundered ninety miles from Hongkong. She simply collapsed. The disaster is said to have been occasioned by the ravages of white ants. The Captain and half the crew were saved by a passing junk, but the mate's boat is missing. The loss is estimated at 20,000 dollars.

THE Naval Reserve Coal Mine at Mitoku, Kurate Gun, Fukuoka Prefecture, is one of the largest mines in Kyushu. Mr. Chihaya, Director of the Togawa Coal Mine, lately succeeded in getting a contract from the Naval Authorities and has been allowed to work the mine for 17 years during which period he is bound to supply the navy with coal whenever called upon. It is expected that he will make some 700,000 *yen* profit out of the mine over and above the coal supplied to the Navy.

ACCORDING to the reports sent by Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Consul at Tacoma, 1,837 Japanese emigrants arrived in America from January to June this year:—1,305 arrived at Tacoma and Seattle, of whom 1,280 were allowed to land and 25 rejected; 582 at Portland, Oregon, of whom 566 were allowed to land and 16 were rejected. The 41 rejected emigrants did not return to Japan, however; they all secretly landed at Victoria and then, watching their opportunities, crossed the border and entered the States.

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THE TEN-MILLION LOAN.

Mr. Hayakawa, a Secretary of the Finance Department, who was sent to London in connexion with the negotiations for the recent loan, has just given an interesting and minute account of the proceedings to the *Keizai Konwa-kai*, an informal association of persons interested in economical topics. The first idea was to form a syndicate of Parr's Bank, the Joint Stock Bank, and the Union Bank. But it was found impossible to reconcile their ideas, and the syndicate finally consisted of Parr's, the Hongkong and Shanghai, the Chartered, and the Specie. At the outset there was much talk of security. In raising the loan of 1870 Japan had pledged the customs revenue, and in raising that of 1872, she had given the Government's rice as security. The London bankers wanted her to follow those precedents, and insisted that she could not otherwise obtain good terms. But Count Matsukata was absolutely inflexible upon that point. He declined to give any security except the nation's credit. Then came the question of how the debt should be paid off. The Japanese negotiators insisted that the Japanese Government should be at liberty to liquidate it in whatever proportions might be convenient after the non-redemption period, whereas the other side wanted a fixed programme. That point had to be left for subsequent discussion, but it was finally decided as Japan desired. The interest and price of issue were then considered. Some of the London people thought that the terms should be the same as those given on the occasion of the Samuel Samuel loan. Others held that the condition of the Japanese domestic market should be taken as a guide. But Japan's wish being a four per cent. loan, the capitalists accepted that basis and offered from 87 to 88 for the bonds. The great London merchants, Mr. Hayakawa explained, do not haggle. They value their credit too much to do anything of that kind. When they name a price it may be regarded as practically their last word. So it was decided that the issue price should be 90 for the general public, and that the Syndicate's commissions, &c., should come out of that. Here a new condition was proposed, namely, that Japan should pledge herself not to raise another foreign loan for a certain term of years. That, of course, could not be agreed to. Then the problem of taxation came on the tapis. Would the Japanese Government engage not to tax the bonds? In reply it was pointed out that such an engagement would be a violation of the Constitution by which the power of taxation is vested in the Diet. At the same time the Japanese negotiators explained that, as the laws of Japan now stand, income tax can not be levied on the interest accruing from public securities when it is paid outside the Japanese Empire. The London capitalists at once bowed to the argument about the Constitution. So things were finally settled. The time, however, was decidedly unfavourable. Rothschild's Argentine loan had just failed, and Russia had entered the London market as a borrower, having, so rumour said, exhausted the lending capacity of French capitalists. Japan was urged to hasten her procedure in order to forestall Russia, and there is no doubt that these conditions, supplemented by an uneasy feeling about the Transvaal, deterred investors. The Syndicate wanted to make some supplementary agreement, in the sense of the money's being deposited with the four banks pending its gradual transfer to Japan, so as to avert the financial disturbance that might be caused by the sudden withdrawal of such a sum from the London market. But Japan adhered to the plan pursued in the case of the Indemnity. Mr. Hayakawa alluded, in conclusion, to the rumour recently circulated in Japan that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company had offered much better terms than those obtained from the London Syndicate, and that the Finance Department had broken faith with them. He was confident that such a story had never emanated from Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company, for they had been associated in the 1897 loan with the Hongkong and Shanghai and the Chartered Banks, which belonged to the new London Syndicate. Besides, the terms they were said to have offered were quite incredible.

MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

Hitherto each division (*shidan*) of the Japanese Army has included six troops of cavalry and nine batteries of field artillery. But there has been no such thing as a brigade (*ryodan*) of cavalry or a brigade of artillery. A change of organization has now been effected. The Imperial Guards Division and the First Division will each henceforth include a cavalry brigade and a field-artillery brigade. This does not mean that a large augmentation of either cavalry or artillery is to be made. The arrangement is to take two troops of cavalry and three batteries of artillery from each division and to combine them into two brigades. The present regiment (*rentai*) of cavalry contains six troops and the regiment of artillery nine batteries. But the regiment is hereafter to consist of four troops in the case of cavalry and six batteries in the case of artillery. Two troops of cavalry taken from each of the twelve Divisions make twenty-four troops, or six regiments, and, as the new cavalry brigade is to consist of three regiments, two brigades are thus obtained. Their stations will be :—

First Brigade of Cavalry (attached to the Imperial Guards).

Head Quarters	Narashino.
Cavalry of the Guards, one Regiment	Tokyo.
Thirteenth Regiment	Narashino
Fourteenth Regiment	Narashino.

Second Brigade of Cavalry (attached to the First Division)

Head Quarters	Narashino.
First Regiment	Tokyo.
Fifteenth Regiment	Narashino.
Sixteenth Regiment	Narashino.

Thus four regiments of cavalry, or sixteen troops, will be stationed at Narashino (in Shimosa) and two regiments, or eight troops, in Tokyo.

We give this statement as it appears in the Tokyo press, but we do not exactly see how the details work out. Apparently the cavalry originally attached to the Guards is not included in the account. If it were included, 30 troops, not 24, would be available for the formation of the new brigades, since there are twelve Divisions, besides the Guards. Possibly the Seventh Division, which is not fully organized, is excluded from the scheme.

With regard to Field Artillery, 3 batteries being taken from each of the 12 Divisions, give 36 batteries, or six regiments of 6 batteries each, and if to these we add the two regiments already included in the Guards and the First Division, we have 8 regiments, or 2 brigades of 4 regiments each—the artillery brigade is to have 4 regiments, though the cavalry brigade has only 3. The artillery brigades will be stationed as follows :—

First Brigade of Field Artillery (attached to the Imperial Guard.)

Head Quarters	Tokyo
Artillery of the Guards, one regiment	do
Thirteenth Regiment of Field Artillery	do
Fourteenth do do	do
Fifteenth do do	do

Second Brigade of Field Artillery (attached to the First Division.)

Head Quarters	Konodai
First Regiment of Artillery	do
Sixteenth do	do
Seventeenth do	do
Eighteenth do	Shimoshizu

Details are also published about the distribution of garrison artillery (*yōsai hōhei*) for the various forts.

Tokyo Bay Fortifications.

1 regiment	Yokosuka.

Yura (Tango) Fortifications.

Head Quarters	Yura.
2 battalions	Yura.
1 do	Fukuyama.
1 do	Fukura.

Kure Fortifications.

1 regiment	Hiroshima.

Geiyo Fortifications.

1 battalion	Tadanomi.

Saseho Fortifications.

Head Quarters	Saseho.
1 battalion	Saseho.
1 do	Nagasaki.

Tsushima Fortifications.

1 battalion	Keichi.

Hakodate Fortifications.

1 battalion	Hakodate.

Maizuru Fortifications.

1 battalion	Maizuru.

Shimonoseki Fortifications.

1 battalion	Shimonoseki.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The die may be said to have been cast in South Africa. There is nothing left but war. We are not surprised for the situation has long looked hopeless. Unfortunately the Boers have now succeeded in making independence their plea for fighting. They pose as men striking for freedom. But they can not hide the fact that the trouble confronting them was brought about solely by their own gross abuse of the measure of independence they already enjoyed. England would never fire a shot to retain them among her vassals if they had established any moral title to independence. It is, however, quite extravagant to expect that she will grant them their freedom when they have clearly demonstrated their resolve to employ it for the violation of her people's rights. Had the Boers consented to extend ordinary justice and fair-play to the Englishmen residing in their midst, whom they are pledged by Convention to treat fairly and justly, England's suzerainty would have sat as lightly as a feather on their shoulders. But they seem to be incapable of administering their affairs in accordance with the rules of modern civilization, and when President Kruger announces his trust that, in time of stress, God will be on the side of men who, in days of peace, show themselves flagrantly indifferent to international ethics or treaty engagements, we begin to suspect him of being a *farceur*.

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DREYFUS.

Dreyfus has been condemned by the Military Court at Rennes to 10 years' imprisonment. It is difficult to overestimate the gravity of the situation now created. The highest civil tribunal in the land, with precisely the same evidence before it as that submitted to the two military courts, found that there was not sufficient proof of Dreyfus' guilt. There is thus a direct conflict between the military and the civil judiciaries. Had Dreyfus been acquitted at Rennes, the whole incident would probably have soon ceased to trouble France. People would have said that a mistake had occurred in the first instance, and mistakes are always possible. But now the general public will assuredly conclude that the Army has sacrificed justice on the altar of its own pride. Dreyfus may be guilty. We do not venture to express any firm conviction one way or the other. Only a portion of the case against him is known to the world, and it would be extravagant to base a judgment on such partial evidence. But it is a thousand pities for France's sake that he could not have been acquitted. The fate, just or unjust, of one man, sinks into insignificance compared with the issues that this event seems to bring into sight.

YOKOHAMA "JINRIKISHA"-MEN.

The police have interfered with the arrangements of the Yokohama *jinrikisha* drawers. It appears that, some years ago, several of these men formed themselves into a guild called the *Isami-kumiai* (association of resolutes), which had for its prime purpose the procuring of money by means independent of fares. In 1897, the dimensions of the guild were reduced: it thenceforth comprised only the *jinrikisha*-drawers belonging to the stands opposite the Grand Hotel and the Club Hotel, and its name was changed to *Kyoriuchi Kumiai* (Settlement Guild). The old-fashioned principle of commissions was at the bottom of these organizations. It had long been the habit of the men to exact a douceur from any Japanese store visited by a foreigner employing them, and the store-keeper met the situation by making a corresponding addition to his prices. The Guild presently placed its system on a better arranged footing. It appointed delegates who, in January, May, and September of each year, visited the various stores, and, in their representative character, collected contributions ranging from 50 *sen* to 4 or 5 *yen* from each shop. Nominally the money was destined for the relief of *jinrikisha*-drawers who fell sick or were injured in the pursuit of their trade, but in reality it was divided equally among all the members of the Guild, and it constituted a very solid addition to their earnings. Unfortunately for the Guild a police officer happened to be in a restaurant when the delegates recently called there to seek the usual "recognition." He promptly arrested the men, and their examination revealed the fact of the organization's existence as well as the nature of the methods resorted to by it. The Guild no longer exists.

THE JAPANESE ON THURSDAY ISLAND.

A strongly worded appeal has been addressed by the Japanese residents of Thursday Island to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister President of State. The petitioners have a grievance that certainly warrants the vehemence of their protest. Owing to hostile legislation on the part of the Queensland Parliament they see themselves threatened with expulsion from Thursday Island where they have made their homes and are carrying on a prosperous business as pearl-fishers. The laws of which they complain are not directed openly against Japanese subjects in particular: they apply to all foreigners. But inasmuch as the only foreigners on Thursday Island engaged in pearl-fishing are Japanese, the result is the same as though they alone were legislated against. What they complain of is, broadly speaking, that they are not allowed to transfer their business or the plant employed in carrying it on either by sale or bequest, and that permits are no longer granted even to Japanese who have complied with all the conditions prescribed by the regulations. If it were possible for them to become naturalized, these difficulties could be surmounted, but the law does not extend to Orientals the privilege of naturalization. Their position is consequently becoming intolerable, and they justly ask whether the treatment they are receiving is consistent with the Treaty. Queensland has subscribed to the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty, and has consequently guaranteed national treatment to Japanese subjects within the limits of law and order. The privilege of naturalization does not enter into the rights included in national treatment, but the privilege of being able to dispose of one's business and stock certainly does belong to the category. It is easy to realize the nature of the Thursday Islanders grievance if we reverse the case, and try to conceive what our own feelings would be did the Japanese Diet pass laws affecting our business in such a manner.

CHEMULPO AND THE HAN RIVER.

Mr. F. H. Mörsel, formerly Acting Harbour Master in the Korean Customs, and since 1891 commander of a steamer on the Han River and pilot for vessels entering Chemulpo, has just published, from the *Shanghai Mercury* Office, a small volume called "Korea." It contains general information about the approaches to Chemulpo harbour and the navigation of the Han-kang. There is a great want of any trustworthy charts for the aid of ship-masters in those waters. The Japanese naval authorities made some surveys of the coast northward of Chemulpo in 1890, but their charts, being in the Japanese language, are of no use to foreigners. We may here refer to a curious statement which finds a place in Mr. Mörsel's pages. "To the North from Chemulpo," he writes, "no surveys have been made since the opening of Korea to foreign intercourse by any other except the Imperial Japanese Navy, 1890, and it was then done by them for their own particular use, for at that time it was well-known to them that they intended to go to war with China, which broke out in 1894." A strange assertion surely! On the very next page Mr. Mörsel tells us that the east coast has been well surveyed by the Imperial Russian Navy, but he does not infer any bellicose intention on Russia's part. That by the way, however. We note that according to Mr. Mörsel the dangers of navigating Korean waters have been exaggerated, the absence of charts, not the presence of perils, being chiefly responsible. The Han River, however, gets a bad character from him. It changes its conditions perpetually, and a chart made of its course to-day might be quite useless six months hence. The best boats for navigating it, Mr. Mörsel thinks, would be flat-bottomed craft, drawing from two to three feet when loaded, and having stern-wheels. We are not in a position, of course, to express any opinion about the accuracy of the information contained in the book, but the author's painstaking minuteness is quite apparent, and we should imagine that the volume will prove of great value to every ship-master visiting Chemulpo or navigating the Han-kang.

THE LONDON "SPECTATOR" AND THE SINO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

The London *Spectator* has a bogie before which it trembles perpetually: paganism. Japan, whatever she does, whatever she says, remains always in the *Spectator's* eyes "a pagan nation which, with some fine qualities retains the dreadful callousness that pagan faiths have usually bred; a nation that if it thought it politically profitable would without scruple conquer by extirpation." There is no question in this matter for our London contemporary save the question of religious prejudice. Japan has no history of international struggles or foreign conquests from which we can deduce practical proof of the "dreadful callousness" and readines to conquer by extirpation which alarm the refined editor of the *Spectator*. The spectre he conjures has its habitat solely in his own conviction that whatever is not Christian must be detestable. He closes his eyes to all the shocking horrors that have been perpetrated in the name of Christianity—the tortures, the burnings, the massacres, the persecutions—, and he talks with bated breath of the "dreadful callousness that pagan faiths have usually bred." This smug self-satisfaction must be a most agreeable frame of mind.

RIGHTS OF THE SUBJECT.

Japanese law does not provide any redress against false imprisonment unless the injustice can be traced to a deliberate act (*koi*) or to a grave fault (*judai no kwashitsu*) on the part of an official. Actions against the State, such as are possible in certain Western countries, have not been contemplated by this country's legislators. Such is the *Fiji Shimpo's* view, at any rate, and it asks, by way of corollary, what is the use of possessing various rights defined in the Constitution if one has no remedy against their violation. Lengthy terms in prison ending in acquittal and the discovery of facts that establish innocence a considerable time after conviction, are not uncommon incidents in Japan. Yet the sufferer has no means of obtaining substantial redress. This is a defect well deserving the attention which the *Fiji* invites to it.

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LOCAL TAXES.

A correspondent "Britisher," sends us some receipts for taxes which he has just been called on to pay, and which, he says, have been variously translated. It is probable that his experience is identical with the experience of all the foreign residents, *mutatis mutandis*. The receipts which he sends are :—

Municipal Tax (*Shizei*)—Business Rate (*Yeigyo-wari*), for the month of September	0.3660
Municipal Tax—Business Rate, for the month of September	0.2750
Municipal Tax (*Shi zei*)—Miscellaneous Taxes, (*Zasshiu-zei*), namely, Dray tax (*Niguruma-zei*); for the 32nd fiscal year	0.1830
Municipal Tax—Miscellaneous Taxes; namely, *Jinrikisha* Tax (*Jinrikisha zei*); for the 32nd fiscal year	0.2440
Total	1.0680

We do not see why there should have been any diversity in the translations of these receipts; they are perfectly plain. Be that as it may, however, we may explain that the four taxes are all for municipal purposes. They all belong to the category of local taxes. There are different methods of assessing the Business Rate in different prefectures, but, as a general rule, the measurement of the tax-payer's house is the basis of assessment. Although called a "business rate" the tax is not directly connected with the volume or nature of a man's business transactions: it depends upon the dimensions and locality of his place of business. From the fact that our correspondent has been required to pay two sums on account of Business Rate, we infer that he has two business establishments, though certainly that point ought to be made clear in the receipts, we think. The Business Rate is payable monthly. "Britisher" may therefore conclude that his total payment on account of Business Rate will be 7.692 *yen* annually.

With regard to the taxes on drays—*niguruma* or goods carts—and *jinrikisha*, they are payable half-yearly in advance, the dates of payment being April, for the half-year ending September 30th, and October for the half-year ending March 31st. The foreign residents became liable for these taxes on August 4th, but it was decided that the levy should not commence until September. September, however, is the last month of the first half of the fiscal year—April 1st to September 30th—, and it has thus become necessary to depart, on this one occasion, from the rule of half-yearly collections. The sums levied from "Britisher" represent, in short, the tax for the one month of September in order to square the accounts for the first half of the fiscal year. In October we shall all be required to pay the same tax again, but the October payment will clear us until next April. "Britisher" may therefore reckon that his annual payment under these last two headings will be 5.124 *yen*, and his total liability on account of the three taxes—Business Rate, Dray Tax, and *Jinrikisha* Tax—will be 12.816 *yen*.

The receipts are all duly signed and bear the stamp of the Yokohama Municipality, which has probably escaped our correspondent's attention. But it would greatly facilitate matters and help to remove any cause of complaint if, as "Britisher" suggests, an English translation were given on the back of the document.

THE SPECIE BANK.

The shareholders of the Specie Bank had their regular half-yearly meeting at 2 p.m. on the 9th instant, when the following statement of accounts was presented and adopted :—

	yen.	*yen.*
Gross Profit for the half-year		5,188,982
Carried over from previous half-year		362,303
Total		5,551,285
Expenses and Losses		4,033,427
Nett Profit		1,517,858
To Ordinary Reserve	150,000	
To Reserve for Equalization of Dividends	50,000	
To Rewards to Officers	69,333	
To Dividend	787,500	
(*i.e.* 7.50 *yen* per share of old shares and 8.62 *yen* „ „ „ new „)		
Building Fund	50,000	
Carried forward to next account	411,025	
		1,517,858

(It will be seen that the dividend was at the rate of 15 per cent.) At an extraordinary meeting subsequently held, the shareholders agreed to raise the capital of the Bank from 12 million *yen* to 24 millions. The public will not be asked to subscribe any part of this additional capital: it will be distributed among the actual holders of shares at the close of the year. One half—six million *yen*—will be paid up at once, and the remainder will be left as a reserve, liable to call if required. The President explained that this increase of capital was necessitated by the extension of the Bank's business abroad, which rendered it advisable as a matter of credit that the Bank's capital should be larger, and also in consideration of the fact that the Bank had hitherto been receiving special accommodation from the Bank of Japan for the purpose of undertaking business which it really was not in a position to discharge satisfactorily without larger capital.

Mr. Soma, the President, in presenting the report, said that economical affairs had improved during the half-year, but were not yet in a flourishing condition. In the field of foreign trade, imports had diminished and exports increased. Nevertheless the balance was still against Japan, and if the returns showed that the influx of specie had exceeded the outflow by 14 millions, the fact must be attributed to transfers of the Indemnity from London to Tokyo and to sales of Japanese silver coins abroad. Owing, however, to this incoming of specie the money market had become easier and the rate of interest had fallen, but, as a matter of fact, there was no marked demand for money for industrial purposes, and the depreciation of rice had diminished the purchasing power of the agricultural class. On the whole, Mr. Soma's opinion of the state of business enterprise in Japan was not favourable. He alluded at some length to the conditions existing in foreign countries, and to the greatly improved circumstances of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan. He also reported that the Bank had opened agencies in Tokyo, Nagasaki, and Tientsin, and that arrangements were in progress to open one in Newchwang.

The next Exhibition at Osaka will be located in the vicinity of Chausuyama, the marine products gallery alone being built near the waterside.

THE LAST STORM.

The course of the last storm was different from any of those previously experienced this year. The depression declared itself originally at a point to the south-east of the Riukiu Islands at 6 a.m. on the 7th instant. Thence it began to move slowly in a north-easterly direction, and at 6 a.m. on the 8th was abreast of the island of Oshima, but at a considerable distance to the east, so far, indeed, that neither Oshima nor Kiushiu felt its effects with any severity. Continuing its north-easterly course, the centre held a marine path on the east of Shikoku, and, striking the main island in the vicinity of the Kii promontory, at 2 p.m. on the 8th, travelled inland along the west coast of Owari Bay, finally taking its departure seaward near Mito at 10 p.m. on the 8th. The wind was felt with considerable force in the eastern regions of Shikoku, and throughout the district comprising the provinces of Harima, Tajima, Tamba, Settsu, Echizen, Kaga, and Etchu, but the heaviest rain-fall was in the direct course of the storm's centre, namely, Kii, Yamato, Ise, Owari, Omi, Mino, &c., and along the north-eastern coast—Rikuzen and Iwaki—above the point where the storm-centre entered the Pacific Ocean. On the whole the damage done does not appear to be very great. The Sanyo, Kakuhan, Hokuriku, Kansen, and Nankin railways had their traffic temporarily suspended. Seven navvies were killed—apparently by a land-slip—on the Kakuhan line, but there does not seem to have been any other loss of life. The unfortunate town of Toyama in Etchiu, which never seems to escape any calamity from storm or flood, reports 3,200 houses inundated by the bursting of embankments along the Jinzu River. As usual the telegraph between Yokohama and Kobe was thrown out of order. By and by the Japanese will probably awake to the fact that very large sums would be saved by substituting a cable for these overland lines which are perpetually damaged by the violent atmospheric disturbances to which this country is liable.

The Sanyo Tetsudo seems to have suffered severely by the storm. Owing to the breaking of an embankment on the Takahashi River, a district ten miles long, in the direct track of the line, is inundated between Tamashima and Kurashiki, and travellers have to be carried over in boats. Gifu Prefecture, also, has a bad record. Thirty houses are reported to have been inundated up to the eaves; 2,000 were invaded by water as high as the floor, and relief has had to be given to 2,500 people. The section of the Tokaido Railway between Tarui and Ogaki was reopened to traffic on the 10th instant, but the line between Gifu and Ogaki is still under water.

The following official reports have been received :—

Tokushima Prefecture.

The four districts of Katsuura, Myoto, Awa and Hano suffered most. Ten persons have been killed and 9 wounded; 91 houses were swept away and 92 partially destroyed. Embankments have been broken in 98 places, and 19 bridges were washed away. A thousand persons are receiving relief.

Ishikawa Prefecture.

Five thousand houses have been inundated, banks broken in 20 places, and 8 bridges swept away.

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FUKUI PREFECTURE.

Houses flooded over the floor, 6,850; houses flooded below the level of the floor, 1,500.

TOYAMA PREFECTURE.

1,233 houses flooded; 3,400 yards of embankment broken; 4 lives lost. The state of affairs along the Sho River is terrible, but communications are interrupted and details can not be obtained. The embankment of the Jinzu River is broken through a length of 240 yards.

TOCHIGI PREFECTURE.

The Naka River has risen 14 feet; the Omoi, 16 feet; the Kinu, 9 feet, and the Watarase, 9 feet.

The list of casualties now reported from Fukui prefecture is long:—Killed 2, injured 6, houses overthrown 71, houses partially destroyed 69, houses swept away 39, houses inundated above the level of the floor 9,935. houses inundated below the level of the floor 3,564, embankments broken 143, roads torn up 126, bridges broken 150, land-slips 20, telegraph poles overthrown 17.

YOKOHAMA WATER WORKS.

The second instalment (400,000 *yen*) of the Yokohama Water Works Loan is now to be placed on the market, and applications will be received up to October 14th at the Specie Bank, the Second Bank, and various other banks in Yokohama. The total amount of the loan is 2,055,000 *yen*, and it is to be floated in five instalments of 400,000 *yen* each, approximately, within the course of 3 years. The issue price is 98, and applicants are required to accompany their application with 10 per cent. of the amount they wish to subscribe for. Further, if registered bonds are desired, the fact should be stated. These terms contrast rather strongly with those of the Osaka City Loan recently floated. In the Osaka case the interest was the same—6 per cent.—but the issue price of the bonds was only 90, and at that price they found a foreigner to purchase them. We do not imagine that many foreigners will care for the Yokohama six-per-cent. bonds at 98.

THE SCENE OF THE RECENT FIRE.

Land-owners have put up rent so much in the district devastated by the recent Yohohama fire that many tenants have abandoned their intention of building. In the best quarters the rents have been raised from 1.50 *yen* per *tsubo*, annually, to 4 *yen*, and places which were formerly let at 90 *sen* per *tsubo* are now held at 2.50 *yen*. Four hundred and eighty pounds sterling per acre by way of land-rent seems a large sum, and it is natural that some difficulty should be experienced in finding tenants at that rate. The *Nichi Nichi* writes very strongly on the subject. It is well known that Japanese landlords and tenants scarcely ever have any disputes in agricultural districts, but urban building lands are a constant source of trouble, the landlord being generally in too great a hurry to increase his rent-roll. Undoubtedly, as our contemporary says, building sites in Tokyo and Yokohama will appreciate immensely by-and-by. They have not nearly reached their top figure. But the way to make them appreciate is to encourage trade and to offer facilities to tradespeople, instead of deterring them by prematurely high rents.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

We have been asked to translate some documents bearing on the establishment of private schools, difficulties having been experienced in interpreting their provisions:—

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH A PRIVATE SCHOOL.

The undersigned (having already established a private school, and now) being desirous of establishing a private school, in conformity with the Private School Ordinance, encloses documents showing the undermentioned details, as well as drawings of the site, the school building, and the boarding house, and has the honour to apply for the necessary permission.

(Signed.)
Domicile, quality, (*mibun*) place of residence (of signatory).
Name of Founder.
Year and month of founder's birth.

(Dated) *Meiji*.....year.....month.....day.

To H.E. ASADA TOKUSOKU,
Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture.

1. Object of the School (*i.e.* purpose for which the school is established).
2. Name of the School.
3. Position (*i.e.* exact locality of the site, stating local District Division and number in former Foreign Settlement, if located there).
4. Rules of the School.

(These Rules must deal with the following):—

a. Period of study (*i.e.* length of time from matriculation to graduation), age of admittance, length of school terms and holidays.
b. Subjects of study and hours of study.
c. Matters relating to examination.
d. Matters relating to entering and leaving school.
e. Matters relating to school fees and entrance fees.
f. Matters relating to rewards and punishments.
g. Matters relating to boarders (when there are any).
h. Matters relating to duties of officers.

5. Expenditures and Method of Maintenance.

(Income and outlays are to be shown according to the following form, and facts relating to the method of maintenance are to be recorded as accurately as possible.)

FORM OF SCHOOL BUDGET.

Budget of.....School, for.....year of *Meiji*.

INCOME.

Item	Amount	Application (a brief statement of main points).
School Fees.....	do	Manner of arriving at the total shown.
So and so.....	do	do
Total.....	—	—

EXPENDITURES

Item	Amount	Application (as above).
Salaries	do	do
Sundry Salaries...	do	do
School Expenses...	do	do
Building Expense	do	do
So and so.....	do	do
Total.....	—	—

N.B.—When there are no boarders the items relating to them are to be omitted from the application.

The method of procedure in applying for permission for establishing Middle Schools, High Schools, Technical Schools, or other schools, with respect to which permission has to be specially obtained from the Minister of State for Edcation or the Chief of the Local Government, may be learned by applying at the offices of the Kanagawa Prefecture.

There is no objection to including in the school rules the object of the school, its name and its position.

On the map of the site must be shown the points of the compass, the shape of the ground, and the nature of the surrounding lands together with the names of the persons owning them.

On the map of the school building must be shown the aspect, the shape, the arrangement of the rooms, the area (in *tsubo*), the position of the windows and their dimensions, the stairs, the entrances, the corridors, the necessaries, and the teachers' rooms.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION FOR THE PRINCIPAL OF A PRIVATE SCHOOL. (The principal is the representative of the school and the manager of its affairs.)

Name, quality, and residence of proposed principal.
Domicile of proposed principal.
Date of birth of proposed principal.

Having determined the above-named to be the principal of such and such school, in accordance with the first clause of Article 3 of the Private School Ordinance, I have the honour to enclose a statement of his record and to request the necessary permission.

(Signed) Founder of the School.

(Dated).....year of *Meiji*,...month...day.

To H.E. ASADA TOKUSOKU,
Governor of Kanagawa.

RECORD OF THE PROPOSED PRINCIPAL.

Name, domicile, quality, residence, and date of birth.

SCHOLASTIC QUALIFICATIONS.

Date of entering such and such school; date of graduating from the same (documents certifiying these facts to be appended); under whom studied and up to what date.

Certificates of scholarship and their dates (copies of the certificates to be appended.)

BUSINESS QUALIFICATIONS.

What office held, or employment engaged in, at what date; the date of voluntarily resigning such position or of abandoning such occupation; what office is now held or what employment engaged in.

REWARDS OR PUNISHMENTS.

What rewards received or punishments undergone, where and when.

I declare the above to be correct.
(Signature of proposed principal.)

N.B.—In the case of a person who actually held the position of principal of a private school at the time when the Private School Ordinance went into operation, and who desires to continue in that capacity, it isnecessary that, if he does not possess a suitable school-teacher's certificate, he should make a statement of his wish to the Governor of Kanagawa within three months from the date of operation of the said Ordinance. In such a case, the heading of the above application is to be changed from "Application for permission for the Principal, &c.," into "Statement relating to the Principal, &c.," and the text of the document must be changed into the following:—

The above-mentioned being now actually principal of such and such a private school, it is desired to continue him in that position. I have the honour to state the fact, and to enclose his record, in accordance with the Private School Ordinance.

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION FOR A TEACHER IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL.

Being desirous of becoming a teacher in such and such a private school, I declare, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 5 of the Private School Ordinance, that I have the under mentioned scholastic qualifications and am acquainted with the undermentioned language, and I have the honour to request the necessary permission.

Name of applicant.
Domicile do
Quality do
Residence do
Date of birth do

To H.E. ASADA TOKUSOKU,
Governor of Kanagawa.

CERTIFICATE OF SCHOLASTIC QUALIFICATIONS.

(The applicant must here make declaration of the subjects studied by him at school, of the exact periods of study, and the persons under whom he studied and the exact periods of study in each case. A certificate from the principal of a school or from a teacher may be substituted for this declaration).

CERTIFICATE OF LINGUISTIC QUALIFICATION.

(The applicant must here state what Japanese teacher or what school and for how long he

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studied the Japanese language; whether he can teach any subject in the Japanese language without difficulty; whether he can carry on an ordinary Japanese conversation, and whether he can lecture in the Japanese language without difficulty).

Record.
Domicile.
Quality.
Residence.
Name.
Date of Birth.

SCHOLASTIC QUALIFICATIONS (to be set forth as prescribed in the case of an Application for the Principal of a School).

N.B.—The above is an example of the procedure to be adopted in seeking permission for a teacher of an elementary school, a deaf, dumb, and blind school, or any school of the elementary class. In the case of a teacher of another kind of school, the permission of the Minister of State for Education has to be obtained.

A declaration of knowledge of the Japanese language is not required in the case of a person who is to be engaged chiefly in teaching a foreign language, or some special subject, or who is to be a teacher in a school founded chiefly for the admission of foreigners.

In the case of a person who actually held the position of teacher in a private school at the same time when the Private School Ordinance went into operation, and who desires to continue in that capacity, it is necessary that, if he does not possess a suitable school-teacher's certificate, he should make a statement of his wish to the Governor of Kanagawa within three months from the date of operation of the said ordinance. In such a case, the heading of the above application is to be changed from "Application for permission for a Teacher," into "Statement relating to a Teacher," and the text of the document must be changed into the following:—

Having hitherto been engaged as teacher in such and such a private school, and being desirous of continuing to occupy that position, I have the honour to state the fact, and to enclose a certificate, according to the provisions of Arts. 5 and 20 of the Private School Ordinance.

THE LAW OF NATURALIZATION.

It is officially announced that any foreigner desiring to obtain naturalization in Japan by the process of adoption (*yoshi*) or marriage (*niufu*) must apply for the permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs through the chief local official of the district where he is domiciled or resides; and any person seeking naturalization by the ordinary process, or desiring to recover his original nationality, must apply to the Minister of Home Affairs through the chief local official of his place of residence.

MR. LIU'S STOLEN PRESENTS.

It appears that the story of Mr. Liu's presents is altogether a myth, so far as the presents are concerned. He received no present of any kind from the Emperor of Japan. A decoration was bestowed on him, but no gift whatever. Hence the seventeen thousand taels worth of imperial presents of which he is reported to have been robbed in Shanghai were plainly created by the same imaginative faculty which led him to impart grand dimensions to his mission to Japan. He has endeavoured to sustain the farce: that is all. China is not very fortunate in her choice of emissaries.

ABUSERS OF CHARITY.

There are always plenty of clever folks who find in every incident an opportunity to enrich themselves at other people's expense. The assistance recently given by English-speaking Japanese students to United States Volunteers visiting Tokyo suggested an idea to some of these shrewd people. Since that time they have been stationing themselves at the Shimbashi terminus and offering their services in a free, benevolent kind of manner to any foreigners with a sight-seeing demeanour who arrived in the capital by train. It often happened that a foreigner, imagining these seemingly philanthropic youths to be of the same class as those who had showed so much attention to the American Volunteers, was glad to avail himself of their aid, and it always happened that when he did so he had to pay heavily for his confidence. There are, indeed, a great many adroit exploiters of the public in Japan. For a long time the collection of subscriptions for repairing temples or erecting monuments was a favourite device. Simultaneously with, but surviving, that plan was the broken-down-student manœuvre. A lad who has spent all his resources in trying to acquire knowledge, and who sinks exhausted on the threshold of success owing to illness induced by insufficient nourishment or owing to inability to pay his final school fees, is an object of pity to everybody. Such youths used to go about with appeals composed in English maimed and halting like their own prospects, and if they found, as they generally did, one or two householders more charitable than discerning who put their names to the appeal, it was possible to count on getting a good many others to follow the example. The latest type of the superior beggar is a person who wears spectacles and simulates mystery. He carries about an envelop containing some very imposing but quite unintelligible documents, exquisitely written and suggesting an ideographist of the first water. The envelope contains also his visiting card in the same refined caligraphy, and a photograph of some philopher whose connexion with the mendicant is obscure. He is not at all an importunate beggar, and those who have the moral courage to reject his appeal become objects of his proud pity rather than of his resentment. The equipment of this class of suppliant could not be prepared without highly educated collusion. It is probable, therefore, that the device will not be widely tried.

TOKYO CITY IMPROVEMENT

Some time ago it was announced that the Tokyo Municipality had devised a scheme for hastening the programme of reform by devoting to it a sum of 20 million *yen*, spread over a term of ten years. Fuller consideration of ways and means does not seem favourable to this project, for the Municipality can not see its way to raising more than eight hundred thousand *yen* annually from the citizens. It is now debated whether to proceed with the improvements as far as the money will go, or to ask the Treasury to make up the deficit. But surely if a permanent income of eight hundred thousand *yen* is in sight, there should be no difficulty in obtaining by means of a loan whatever additional funds are needed?

THE DISAGREEABLE SIDE OF JAPAN.

Mr. Tokutomi,—for we take it that he is the writer—tells in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun* how, on his recent journey to the West, he met a great many people who declared themselves quite tired of Japan—not tired of the country, for they admitted that its scenic charms are perennially delightful, but tired of its people, who seem to think that the foreigner is, before all things, a person to be cheated and fleeced. When passing through Italy, the *Kokumin's* contributor himself learned the significance of that feeling, for the sights of the historic country were deprived of much of their charm by the extortionate methods of the inhabitants. Nevertheless it is calculated that tourists spend 130 million *yen* annually in Italy, and the foreigner is certainly better treated there than he is in Japan. Switzerland is pre-eminent among Western countries for its appreciation of what is due to the stranger within the gates, and Switzerland reaps an immense benefit in consequence. It is fair enough that hotel-keepers in Japan should charge more to foreign than to Japanese guests, for the former give a great deal more trouble than the latter and take up more room. But it is killing the golden-egged goose to bleed the foreigner at every pore until he becomes too indignant and disgusted to remain another day in the country, and goes away resolved to warn all his friends against coming. We did not know that things were quite as bad as that, but it would seem that they are, from what the *Kokumin* says. In one respect, however, we can fully endorse our Tokyo contemporary, for it is a matter which we have ofter discussed in these columns—the singular short-sightedness of the bric-a-brac dealers, who not only carry on an extensive business in spurious antiquities, but also have a special price for the tourist. The result of such folly is that the tourist carefully avoids Japanese shops, for he knows that he can get better things of the same kind at lower prices in London, Paris, or New York.

GINSENG.

There is trouble in Korea about the old question of ginseng. The Government claims that all the ginseng grown throughout the empire is its property, and has long asserted this right by buying up the valuable root at a fixed price, far below the market value. Ginseng does not become productive until the fifth year of its cultivation. During that interval the Government does not concern itself in any way about the matter, but when the gathering begins, officialdom steps in and enforces the Crown's prerogative. It is easily conceivable that under such circumstances the cultivators are only too glad to sell their ginseng to foreigners if they can get a chance to do so. The Japanese have been the principal buyers. Last year their purchases are said to have amounted to 300,000 *yen*, and the value of the ginseng thus obtained was over 600,000 *yen* in the Shanghai and Nagasaki markets. Some time ago the Korean Government adopted a very high-handed method of putting an end to this trade with outsiders. It issued a proclamation declaring that, whereas large and repeated thefts of

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ginseng had taken place, soldiers and armed policemen would henceforth be employed to protect the ginseng grown in the Kaisong districts, which are specially adapted for the cultivation of the root, and it disavowed all responsibility for injuries suffered at the hands of these constables and soldiers either by Koreans or foreigners who should attempt to perpetrate such thefts. To this announcement the Japanese Representative, Mr. Hayashi, naturally took exception. He pointed out that, whatever course the Government might adopt towards its own subjects, it could not be permitted to instruct its agents to use personal violence to foreigners engaged in ordinary operations of buying and selling, or, at any rate, if it issued such instructions, it must bear the responsibility of any consequences that might ensue. Of course Mr. Hayashi declined to admit that anything like an effective State monopoly of ginseng existed, seeing that the Koreans are left quite free to grow as much or as little of it as they please, and that the Government merely takes the root where it can find it. The discussion has not yet been terminated, and in the meanwhile news arrives that four Japanese subjects have been murdered by Koreans in Kyong-Kwi-do. It is considered probable that this is a canard, but if four men have met their death, the explanation is doubtless that they were killed by Korean soldiers or policemen under the circumstances mentioned above.

JAPANESE LABOURERS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The anti-Oriental section of employers in British Columbia are said to be by no means disposed to accept tamely the decision of H.M Privy Council that legislation for excluding Chinese and Japanese labourers would be unconstitutional. If they can not compass their end by means of a direct legal veto, they see other ways of achieving it. The Union Mine Directors have issued a regulation that employment must not be given to any one who is unable to read the regulations of the Mine, which are printed in English, and to explain their exact meaning. That is a subtle device. It will obviously exclude Chinese and Japanese labourers, who, as a matter of course, would not satisfy such a test, and, at the same time, it has the appearance of being prompted by solicitude for the safety of the Mine and of those employed there.

DYSENTERY.

A return just published gives a startling impression of the rapidity with which dysentery has increased in Tokyo during the past decade. Taking the number of patients alone, and not considering the question of mortality, the figures for the 15 districts of Tokyo, urban and suburban, are these :—

	Patients.
1888	44
1889	21
1890	50
1891	79
1892	103
1893	97
1894	67
1895	117
1896	330
1897	1,819
1898	1,157

IMPERIAL FOREST LANDS.

It is stated that the most extensive tracts of forest land belonging to the Imperial Household are in the provinces of Shinano and Izu. They measure about 2½ million acres in each place. The various forests and moors owned by the Household in other parts of the country aggregate about 5½ million acres, so that the total area is 10½ million acres. Many of these tracts are quite unproductive; in some cases they are nothing more than bare hills. Investigations into their extent and value have been conducted for some time past, and it has been resolved, according to rumour, to dispose of all the small and comparatively worthless areas. They will not be sold by public tender, but privately disposed of to special applicants. It is said that the prospect has summoned a great many aspirants into the field, and that the Household has been inundated with applications to the number of over eight thousand.

RAILWAYS AND BONDED WAREHOUSES.

By law the Government has competence to determine the railways which shall be employed for transporting goods that have not yet paid import duties to and from bonded warehouses. An Nrdinance just issued fixes the following lines for that purposes :—

Yokohama to Osaka	...The State Line.
Yokkaichi to Osaka	... do.
Osaka to Tsuruga	..... do.
Osaka to Kobe	..... do.
Otaru to Muroran	.....The Tanko Line.
Moji to Hakata	.....The Kiushiu Line.
Hakata to Nagasaki	...The Kiushiu Line.
Yokohama to Niigata	..The State Line, the Nippon Railway Co.'s line and the Hokuyetsu Railway.

"KNOWLEDGE."

The illustrated magazine *Knowledge*, now in the twenty-second year of its publication, ranks as one of the very best scientific periodicals in the English language. The illustrations are beautifully executed and the letter-press is a collection of highly interesting articles by well-known scientists. We reproduce elsewhere an article from a recent number of the magazine which has special interest for folks in Japan, as suggesting how the European zodiacal signs came to Japan, where their presence in decorations dating from an era prior to the advent of the "black ships" has often puzzled archaeologists.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.

About 10.30 on Wednesday night Sekiguchi Shozo, a servant in the employ of Mr. H. C Pigott, of No. 26 Bluff, shot a watchman named Iwata Tsunekichi, aged 52, in the shoulder and the side, so seriously injuring him that his recovery is problematical. Iwata was going round the house with a lamp in company with a girl named Ito, Mr. Pigott not being at home. When she saw the would-be murderer the girl fled, throwing down the lamp. Two shots were then fired, and Iwata fell. His assailant made his escape, leaving behind the revolver and one of his garments, by which he was identified. Jealousy appears to be at the bottom of the affair. Sekiguchi had paid his attentions to the girl Ito, and as she complained of his importunities he was dismissed by Mr. Pigott.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is suggested that the *kana* typewriter invented in America should be employed in the telegraph offices of Japan. Operators in Europe and the United States are now able to read off a message by the sound of the telegraphic instrument, and to transfer it simultaneously to paper by the aid of a type-writer. If that could be done in Japan the advantages would be obvious. But the question is, can a type-writer, manipulating 47 syllables instead of 26 letters, obtain sufficient facility for such a purpose. That remains to be tested. We fear that the ingenious American—Mr. Elliot seems to be the name—who devoted time and trouble to the elaboration of the new instrument, will be but poorly rewarded.

The Japanese Government has resolved, it is said, to prefer only three demands in connexion with the Amoy outrage: first, that the ringleaders shall be apprehended and punished; secondly, that the chief local official shall be deprived of his office as a disciplimary measure; and thirdly, that proper compensation be paid to the sufferers. The last condition will be acceded to at once, for the injuries suffered having been small the compensation will be a bagatelle. But will Japan succeed in getting the Taotai removed from office? That is a very difficult matter in China.

It is known that the Head-Quarter Staff in Tokyo has been engaged ever since 1895 compiling on account of the war between China and Japan. Four years is a long time to devote to such a work, and the public naturally begins to express surprise at the delay. But a member of the Staff has offered some explanations. The gist of them is that the work has to be carried on under exceedingly difficult conditions. In the first place, there are no accurate maps of the scene of the campaign. The only available maps are on a scale of $\frac{1}{250,000}$, that is to say, one-tenth of the size of the maps used in the Franco-German war, and they are mere sketches, the points determined with a prismatic compass and the distances by pacing. Such maps are almost useless for the purposes of an accurate history. In the second place, the maps are little more than skeletons: many of the details are not filled in. Thus, whereas the general orders issued in the field show that such and such a corps assembled at such and such a village, no village of that name can be found on the map. Identification then becomes a matter of great difficulty. Photographs have to be shown to the officers that were engaged to enable them to indicate the various places, and as the officers are scattered throughout the empire, it often takes a long time to collect their evidence. Thus the delay is easily accounted for. All that may be quite true, but if it excuses the apparent tardiness of the histriographers, it reflects rather badly upon the staff of the Divisions engaged: their topographical work must have been defective.

The Industrial Bank will place its next issue of shares on the market in October. The amount to be issued is a million *yen*. This time there will be no Government guarantee to take up any amount not subscribed by the public, and the Bank Directors consequently deem it advisable to offer more tempting terms. They intend

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to raise the first prize in the drawing to 1,000 *yen*, instead of 300 *yen*, the figure hitherto given. The minor prizes will be of 100 *yen* each. Such a prospect should tempt buyers.

Another murderer, flying from justice, is advertised in Japan. The last was a German, and a reward of a thousand marks—if our memory is correct—was offered for his apprehension. The second is an American citizen named J. G. Hopkins. He is described as a doctor, aged about 45 and minus the middle finger of his right hand. A reward of $1,500 (gold) is offered.

The second-class cruiser *Chitose*, which was built in America and received her armament at Yokosuka, has gone through her gun and torpedo trials with entire success. Also the third-class torpedo-boats, Nos. 35 and 36, which were sent out in sections from Germany and put together at the Kawasaki Yard in Kobe, had their trial trip a few days ago at Kure. They developed a speed of 24 knots, and gave thorough satisfaction. The much-abused *Miyako*, too, built at the Kure Docks, has done well so far as her gun and torpedo trials are concerned, and it appears to be certain that the reports recently circulated about the vessel's machinery were at least exaggerated.

The Kiushiu-Railway disputes involves so many leading business men that whichever way the issue turns it is felt that unpleasant consequences must result. Mr. Amenomiya has therefore come forward as mediator, and has enlisted in the same cause the services of Messrs. Shibusawa, Masuda, Narikawa, and certain members of the Government.

It will very soon be possible to travel eleven hundred miles by railway in Japan without break and by means of one ticket, as the following table shows:—

	Miles.	Fare. Yen.
Awomori to Akabane (Nippon Tetsudo)	450	5.61
Akabane to Shinagawa (Nippon Tetsudo)	12	0.19
Shinagawa to Kobe (Kansetsu Tetsudo)	373	3 97
Kobe to Mitajiri(Sanyo Tetsudo)	274	2 20
Total	1,109	11.97

These connexions are already established; they come into operation from to-day (Monday, 11th). On the 15th instant, the Kansei Tetsudo's line from Nagoya to Amishima (107 miles, fare 1.21 *yen*) will connect with the state road at Nagoya, so that there will then be direct communication over 1216 miles.

The Imperial Museum will send 15 articles to the French Exhibition. They are all productions of modern artists, namely:—

Porcelains, 4 .....by Seifu Yohei (of Kyoto)
Wood Carving, 1.....by Takamura Kō un
Ivory Carving, 1 .....by Ishikawa Matsuaki
Book stand (lacquer), 1 by Ikeda Taishin
Picture, 1 .....by Hashimoto Gaho
do 4 .....by Kawabata Gyokusho
do 1 .....by Mochizuki Gyokuson
do 1 .....by Imao Keinen
Tapestry, 1 .....by Kawashima Jin

Telegrams received by the Specie Bank in Yokohama from its London agency, and published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, speak of business circles in England being considerably disturbed by the prospect of war in the Transvaal. Officers ordered for service in the Cape can not obtain life insurance at a lower rate than 30 per cent. At the same time there is a feeling that recourse to arms may still be unnecessary. The Liberals, at all events, are opposed to it The same telegram says that, owing to the very disturbed state of affairs in Paris, it is thought possible that the Exhibition may have to be postponed. That is a matter which will be settled within the next month, we imagine.

Capital continues to be made out of the return of Baron Hayashi from Russia. Baron Hayashi, Mr. Kato, and Mr. Inagaki have all vacated their posts, and there is talk of Mr. Kurino's following suit. Out of these facts the enemies of Viscount Aoki construct a weapon to attack him. Count Okuma's enemies did just the same when he was in power. This has now become a recognised political device.

The Korean Government is said to have definitely refused the application made by Herr Walter for permission to build a railway from Söul to Wonsan. There is no change of reason. The Government still insists that the concession has already been granted to a native company.

Prince Henry reached Muroran on the 4th instant, and, landing the following day, proceeded to Shiraoi to inspect an Ainu village. It was expected that his next visit would be to Yubari.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has of late published a number of translations of articles appearing in Russian journals. Their tone is uniformly hostile to Japan, which they choose to regard as a pagan State whose development and strength are sources of grave anxiety to the Occident. The *Nichi Nichi* says that their writings are all inspired by an evident conviction that upon Russia alone devolves the mission of civilizing Asia, and that Japan is an obstacle to the achievement of that mission. Our contemporary meets these accusations with remarkable moderation. It claims that Japan is just as deeply pledged to the work of civilization as Russia, and that there is no reason why the two nations should not pursue the task hand in hand.

Yamamoto Hatsuo, an ex-Judge of the Tokyo Appeal Court, managed to evade justice for several years, but has just been apprehended. Accused of fraud and convicted by the Tokyo Local Court, he carried the case to the Appeal Court and thence to the Supreme Court, which ordered him to be tried again by the Nagoya Appeal Court. The Nagoya tribunal found Yamamoto guilty, and sentenced him to 10 months' imprisonment and a fine of 8 *yen*. That was in July, 1896. Once more Yamamoto exercised his right of appeal to the Supreme Court, meanwhile obtaining bail for 300 *yen*. Then he disappeared from the scene. His securities were estreated, and the money was applied to searching for him, but without success. Some time ago, however, Viscount Sakai was arrested on a charge of forging a cheque, and in the course of the examination it became necessary to obtain the testimony of one Hamaoka Yoshio, who was registered as an inmate of Mrs. Yamamoto's house. Hamaoka was repeatedly cited to appear, but could not be induced to come forward. Finally the police went in search of him. He gave his evidence, and was allowed to return home, doubtless thinking that he had escaped the danger. But a sharp detective had identified him as Yamamoto, and he was arrested in Shizuoka, whither he had fled by way of precaution. This has been quite a celebrated case in Japan.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* writes impatiently about the delay in settling the question of the Tokyo Street Railway. It thinks that to be discussing the problem of motive power at this late period shows that the Authorities have discharged their responsibilities very indifferently. Most people will agree with the *Shogyo* in condemning the delay, but to us it seems that the only valid excuse is precisely the difficulty of solving this motive-power problem. It would be a source of permanent regret were Tokyo condemned to the electric system with its terrible top-hamper and its defect of costliness. The pneumatic system, again, has very few genuine advocates. But until the Serpollet came upon the scene the only two projects mooted were the electric and the pneumatic. The Municipality may well pause.

Professor Michel Revon of the Imperial University was received in farewell audience on Tuesday by the Emperor. Mr. Revon, we believe, is returning to Paris to take the newly created Chair of Oriental History in one of the French Universities. He is a *literateur* of the very first force, and as he is understood to have collected ample materials for a history of Japan, we may look for a work of great value.

The Commander-in-chief of the Italian squadron in these waters, accompanied by Captains Giovello and Cecconi of the cruisers *Etna* and *Elba*, was received in audience by the Emperor on Tuesday forenoon. His Excellency Count Orfini presented the officers to His Majesty.

A telegram from New York published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the cotton crop in the United States is bad this year, and that the yield will be only 68½ per cent. of the average. Prices are rising rapidly.

It is stated that the chances are greatly in favour of the charter for the Tokyo Street Railways being granted to the *Sampa Godo*, that is to say, the syndicate of three companies, headed by Mr. Amenomiya. The Mayor of Tokyo, Mr. Matsuda, explains that rumour has been mistaken in supposing him to be an advocate of entrusting the work to private enterprise as a point of principle. His idea, on the contrary, would be that the Municipality itself should undertake it. But if the Department of Home Affairs thinks differently, there is no reason why the Municipality should raise difficulties. The view taken by the Department is that the Municipality has already more than it can do. It has the harbour construction, the programme of city improvement, and the drainage scheme. To carry these out, large loans will have to be made, and if the municipality undertakes, in addition, the street-railway business, there is little hope that the city can have proper means of communication for a long time. That view of the situation commends itself to the heads of the Municipality also, and they have therefore fallen into line with it. Then comes the question of making a selection among the applicants. They number over sixty, but three only seem to be worthy of serious consideration: the *Sampa Godo*, who propose the single-

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trolly electric system and have a capital of 15 million *yen*; the Nakamura syndicate, who propose the Serpollet system, and have a capital of 5 million *yen*; and the Sasa Tomofusa syndicate, who also advocate the use of electricity, but ask for permission to lay a section of the lines only, and have a capital of four hundred thousand *yen*. The experts of the Home Department are evidently disposed to favour electricity, and they are moreover represented as saying that the largest and most substantial syndicate deserves to be considered first. If that be really their attitude, the charter will doubtless go to the *Sampa Godo*, and Tokyo will have the credit of adopting a system which may now be regarded as virtually obsolete. We shall not be surprised. That is Tokyo's way. Apparently it intends to maintain its record of being the most unprogressive city in Japan, and one of the most unprogressive in the world.

The Autumn Exhibition of Works of Art will be opened in the Uyeno Galleries on the 10th of October and will remain open until the 19th of November.

A considerable portion of the local taxes which the foreign residents have to pay are levied for educational purposes. In the ordinary routine the proceeds of those taxes would be applied to defraying the expenses of an elementary school to which the foreign residents might send their children. But such a school would obviously be of no practical use. The money ought therefore to go to the Japanese elementary schools in the Yamate and Yamashita districts, that is to say, the districts which include the former foreign settlement. But these schools would be placed in an exceptionally and unfairly favourable financial position by the monopoly of a fund so large—for the Business Rate, being assessed with regard to the quality and size of the building were business is carried on, will yield a comparatively large return in the former foreign settlement. Taking these points into consideration, it has been decided, we read in Tokyo papers, to divide the money among all elementary schools in the urban districts of Kanagawa

The bonds of the new Japanese loan are being manufactured in London. They will have a chrysanthemum at the top, and a view of Fujiyama in the middle. It may be presumed that the Japanese Government finds it cheaper to have this work done in London than in Tokyo.

Count Oki's illness has assumed a dangerous character. The Prince Imperial sent a special messenger to inquire for him on the 11th instant.

Mr. Kobayashi Beika has been appointed to interpret at the trial of Miller in the Appeal Court of Tokyo.

The funeral of the late General Le Gendre was attended by all the foreign residents of Söul and by the Minister of the Imperial Household, representing the Emperor. The deceased had been decorated by the Sovereign of Japan with the the Second Class Order of the Rising Sun, and a large detachment of Japanese troops followed the bier, as is usual in the case of persons thus distinguished.

It is expected that the next half-yearly report of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will show a very flourishing state of affairs. During March, April, and May business was somewhat slack, but from June it became exceptionally brisk, and, in addition to obtaining full freights, the Company found its expenses reduced by about three hundred thousand *yen*, in consequence of the diminished cost of coal. Thus the rate of dividend will probably be 9 per cent. and may be as much as 10.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a thoughtful article on the subject of international reputation. It refers to the Dreyfus affair and the effect produced on France's fair fame, and it quotes various incidents from modern history to show that a country must now-a-days expect to be arraigned at the bar of the world's opinion if it commits any act contrary to the canons of morality. Among the incidents catalogued by our contemporary is the so-called "desecration of the Mahdi's tomb" after the Soudan campaign. We imagined that everybody understood that affair by this time. The thing was done by the deliberate order of Lord Kitchener for a purpose with which all men of ordinary common sense must approve. To have refrained from doing it in deference to the emotional sentiment which some folks take for moral guide, would have been to fail in the plain duty of a General officer.

Professor Ladd delivered the first of two promised series of lectures in Tokyo on the 12th instant. Several distinguished publicists were present, and the audience numbered some four hundred persons.

The Osaka arsenal is busily engaged in the manufacture of the new Arisaka quick-firing field-gun. It is expected that the whole of the Artillery will be provided with the weapon before many months have passed. But there is said to be some difficulty in finding a sufficiency of officers and non-commissioned officers to give instruction at the school (*Yasen Hōhei Shageki Gakko*) where the manipulation of the gun is taught.

Another telegram from New York, published by the *Shōgyo Shimpo*, puts the cotton crop at 74 per cent. of the average. This last figure is the official estimate. It will be remembered that the previous statement was 68½ per cent., being a calculation based on privately obtained information.

On Monday the *Official Gazette* published the text of a Convention between Germany and Japan with reference to the method of measuring ships. On Wednesday the publication was cancelled. The explanation of the fact is that, owing to an error, the document was sent to the *Official Gazette* prematurely. The processes preliminary to publication had not been concluded.

A MISSIONARY SCHOONER.

The missionary vessel *Fukuin Maru*, which is to be used as an evangelising agent by the Baptist Mission, was dedicated on Wednesday afternoon.

The schooner is the gift of a Scottish shipowner and was constructed by Mr. Cook at Honmoku. She is designed to convey missionaries, native and foreign, among the small islands of the Japanese Empire, especially those in the Inland Sea. The master is Mr. Luke W. Bickel, formerly of the Ross Line of Steamers plying between London and Montreal, and afterwards engaged in evangelical work in London. He takes with him two or three Japanese Christians and a crew of nine. The vessel sails on Friday on an evangelical mission in as yet unbroken ground. The ceremony on Wednesday was attended by a considerable number of persons interested, including several ladies. The proceedings were presided over by the Rev. A. A. Bennett, who called upon the Rev. F. G. Harrington to give the invocation. After this the whole company sang "Eternal Father, Strong to Save,' Mr. Bennett being at the harmonium. Some Scripture selections were afterwards read by the Rev. E. S. Booth, and the Rev. W. B. Parshley gave an address as to the objects of the mission and the use which it was proposed to make of the vessel. A hymn entitled "Great God, whose mighty hand." composed for the occasion by the Rev. A. A. Bennett, was sung, and a dedicatory prayer given by Mr. Mark Finch.

Tea and light refreshments were served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

USEFUL HINTS.

NOTE FOR THE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CERTAIN TECHNICAL TERMS AND LEGAL TERMINOLOGY AS USED IN THE CODES.

The following information has been kindly placed at our disposal and we think it will be appreciated by business men —

1.—Always translate *Kwaisha* (Com. C. Bk. ii., c. i), *corporation*; never as *partnership*: *Sha in*, or member of a corporation, *corporator*; never as *partner*: *Kumiai*, (Civ. C. Bk. iii., s. xii.; also London Treaty of 1894, Art. iii.), *co-partnership*, or *partnership*; *Kumiai in*, as *co-partner*, or *partner*: and the English words *firm*, or *& Co.*, by *Shokwai*.

2.—COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS, or SHŌJI-KWAISHA (Com. C. Bk. ii., c. i.), are thus classified:—

(a) Bk. ii., c. ii., CLOSE CORPORATIONS, or GŌMEI-KWAISHA. Their stock is not purchasable in the market, and their liability is unlimited.

(b) Bk. ii., c. iii., CORPORATIONS EN COMMANDITE, or GŌSHI KWAISHA. They are composed of stockholders whose liability is limited, in French, *commanditaires*, and of members whose liability is unlimited; in French, *Associés en nom collectif*.

(c) Bk. ii., c. iv., SHARE CORPORATIONS, or KABUSHIKI KWAISHA. Their capital is divided into shares, and their liability is limited.

(d) Bk. ii., c. v., SHARE CORPORATIONS EN COMMANDITE, or KABUSHIKI-GŌSHI-KWAISHA. Their capital is divided into shares, the liability attaching to which is either limited or unlimited.

(e) Bk. ii., c. vi., FOREIGN CORPORATIONS, or GWAIKOKU KWAISHA.

(f) Imp. Ordinance 272 of 15th June, 1899, Art. v. FOREIGN CO-PARTNERSHIPS being possessed of corporate property.*

All the foregoing are juridical persons, in respect of which registration is compulsory.

3.—COMMERCIAL FIRMS may be classified as

(a) Civ. Code, bk. iii., c. ii., s. xii., CO-PARTNERSHIPS, or KUMIAI.

(b) Com. Code. bk. iii., c. iv., ANONYMOUS or DORMANT PARTNERSHIPS, in Japanese TOKUMEI KUMIAI.

COMMERCIAL FIRMS are not juridical persons; but they are at liberty to become so if they wish, and to register as such, in which case they become Corporations. STUDENT.

* A foreign co-partnership possessed of corporate property is, strictly speaking, a contradiction in terms. The meaning of the Ordinance is that a foreign trading Society that may be possessed of corporate property, though not coming exactly within the foregoing definitions, is regarded as a corporation.

It is still asserted that arms are reaching the Philippines from Japan, and the U.S. authorities have been arresting Japanese in Manila on suspicion of complicity.

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THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS.

IT is certainly a difficult question to determine what course the Christian schools in Japan should adopt under existing circumstances. There is an impression, strongly supported by the *Jiji Shimpo*, that the original purpose of the conservative section in the Educational Department was to drive the Christians altogether from the field of education, but that, finding public opinion radically opposed to any such course, the policy has been modified, so far, at any rate, as concerns the privilege of conscription. Probably that is an extreme view of the Department's policy. It seems more reasonable and consistent with the facts of which the public has cognisance to assume that the Educational Authorities never contemplated anything more than the complete differentiation of secular and religious teaching, without regard to distinctions of creeds. In our opinion they have prosecuted their purpose in an injudicious manner, and the result of their action will be more disastrous to Japan's reputation abroad than anything that has happened during the *Meiji* era. But we are not prepared to assume that they have been influenced by hostility against the Christian faith in particular. We can assure them, however, that if we know anything at all about public opinion in Europe and America, their conduct will be interpreted in that sense. Most certainly people will say that one of Japan's first acts after her admission to the comity of nations was to revert, in a new form, to the anti-Christian legislation of pre-*Meiji* days. It will be of no use for the Educational authorities or their apologists to repudiate any such intention. It will be of no avail for them to plead that this legislation is not anti-Christian, but simply anti-religious in the general sense of excluding religious teaching from the curricula of all officially recognised schools. The answer of plain, every-day folks will be that no religion except Christianity is concerned. There are no Buddhist schools for secular education in Japan; no *Shinto* schools. There are Christian schools only. Consequently, when the Minister of Education issues an Ordinance declaring that official recognition must be denied to any school where religious instruction is given or religious exercises are carried on, whether in or out of school hours, the veto must be assumed to be directed against the only religion that suffers by it, namely, Christianity. Japan could not possibly have taken a step more fatal to her good repute abroad. The only apology that can be offered—and it is an excellent apology to those looking closely at the matter—is that Japanese public opinion has unhesitatingly ranged itself against this unfortunate legislation. We can not recall any previous official act that elicited such unanimity of condemnation. The restrictive policy can not survive this consensus of denunciation: that is certain.

But in the meanwhile, what are the schools to do? The *Jiji* would like to see them close their doors and wait quietly for the dawn of a more enlightened day. That course doubtless commended itself to many, if not the great majority, of the Christians themselves when they first considered the problem. But it must be remembered that they are not forbidden to teach their creed in schools. They are only told that, if they do teach it, the schools will be placed at an enormous disadvantage as compared with other educational institutions. Parents will still be found who so highly value the religious element in the training of their children that they will be unwilling to forego it even at such a cost. For the sake of such parents the foreign and Japanese Christians may deem it their duty to maintain some schools at any rate. But the larger aspect of the problem is that which relates to education as an aid to Christian propagandism and the inculcation of Christian ethics. Must that part of the work be abandoned for an indefinite time? Our Tokyo contemporary suggests, or, perhaps, echoes a suggestion which is finding favour among Christians, that the schools should be re-organized so as to separate the religious and the purely secular branches. The school itself, according to this plan, would be an institution conforming in every respect to the requirements of the Educational Department, but attached to it there would be a section where religious instruction would be given and religious exercises performed for the benefit of those willing to attend. This plan is based on the undeniable fact that the Minister of Education has no right to interfere with the voluntary acts of the students. He may say that if they are required to receive religious instruction or required to take part in religious exercises at any time during their attendance, official recognition will be withheld from the school, but he has no power to say that they shall not receive such instruction or take part in such exercises of their own free will after they have completed their day's work at the school. As to this device, we fully agree with the *Jiji's* view that the atmosphere of Christianity would more or less pervade a school having such a branch attached to it. But we apprehend that some of those who support the Christian missions may be unwilling to subscribe for the support of schools organized according to the above suggestion.

As we write, however, intelligence comes that the Educational Authorities themselves favour the method here referred to. They now affirm that their sentiments towards Christianity are of the most liberal kind; that they have no desire whatever to exclude it from the sphere of education, and that their sole object is to keep the declared curricula of the officially recognised chain of schools on a purely secular basis. Provided that the regular course of instruction given at a school satisfies the prescribed standards, and provided that the students are not required to attend religious classes or religious exercises, there will be no difficulty in obtaining official recognition for the school. Such is the view now taken by the *Mombusho*. It may be, therefore, that these difficulties will largely disappear in practice.

HOUSE TAX.

THE issues raised by Mr. SNODGRASS in a letter published in our correspondence column are well worth discussion. first point refers to house tax. He has not furnished any evidence of his original statement that the foreign residents have hitherto been exempt from the obligation of paying house tax "by force of the language of the Treaties." Yet that is a question of prime importance. Had the foreign residents a treaty right to be exempted, or did they enjoy exemption because of the Japanese Government's failure to levy the tax? We understand that Mr. SNODGRASS originally asserted their possession of the right, but inasmuch as he refrains from adducing any quotation from the Treaties in support of that view, we must assume that he abandons it, and relies solely upon the negative evidence, first, that, since the tax was not collected under the old Treaties, the absence of any right to collect it must be inferred; and secondly, that since the Revised treaties do not create any new right in this respect, the exemption enjoyed under the former Treaties must be held to continue. We have already explained, with regard to the former line of reasoning, that the Japanese Government is understood to have hitherto refrained from levying house tax, not because the Treaties deprived it of the right to do so, but because they deprived it of the jurisdiction which had to be exercised in order to effectively enforce the right. To that Mr. SNODGRASS very naturally retorts that the Japanese Government always had the remedy of recourse to the Consular Courts; that, if the right existed, the Consular Courts might have been trusted to aid in enforcing it, and that, as he believes, the Consular Courts used to be relied on for assistance in collecting taxes from foreigners. Of course there can be no question that the Consular Courts would have endeavoured to administer justice so far as their competence went. But it is very doubtful whether their competence would have extended to the matter in question. Referring to the form of title deed prescribed

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by treaty for foreign land-holders, we find it distinctly laid down that "for non-performance of the any of aforesaid conditions"—including the payment of annual rent—"proceedings may be instituted against the said. . . . his heirs or assigns, before his or their Consular Authorities." By virtue of that provision the Consular Courts could enforce the payment of the annual land-rent, and, as Mr. SNODGRASS says, they were sometimes asked to do so, but had they been asked to go further, had they been asked to enforce the payment of a house-tax, they would certainly have replied—or, at least some of them would—that no power for such a purpose was vested in them. Sir HARRY PARKES once calculated that a period of about 12 years would be required to bring the Governments of the various Treaty Powers into line with regard to the exercise of municipal authority by the foreign community of Yokohama. Probably the Japanese Government did not care to undertake a twelve years' campaign for the sake of such a bagatelle as the house tax. We remember very well that in 1881 a foreigner organized in Tsukiji Settlement a rice exchange which was contrary to the provisions of Japanese law. When the Tokyo Municipal Authorities sought Consular aid to restrain him, they were recommended by the Representative of his nationality to abstain from pushing a matter which would be remedied by the then imminently pending revision of the Treaties. Treaty Revision, in short, has been perpetually "pending," and one effect of that state of affairs was that many questions were left in abeyance because it did not seem worth while to seek a solution temporary at best, and demanding great trouble to obtain. We have always understood that the house tax was among such questions. Of course we should all be pleased to escape the payment, if that were justly possible: but for our own part we greatly doubt the wisdom of seeking any exemptions that would have the effect of differentiating foreigners and Japanese.

The second point raised by Mr. SNODGRASS is very forcible. He calculates that if the foreign residents of Tsukiji were taxed at the same rate as the people of the Koishikawa suburb, they would have to pay 0.2788 *sen* per *tsubo* annually, whereas they actually pay 28 *sen* per *tsubo* as land tax and land rate. In fact, they are taxed a hundred times more heavily than the Koishikawa folks. We do not think that Tsukiji and Koishikawa are fairly comparable. Land in Tsukiji ranges from 20 to 40 *yen* per *tsubo* at present, whereas land in Koishikawa does not cost half as much. Again, we are perplexed by Mr. SNODGRASS' arithmetic. He put the land tax in Koishikawa at .0315 *sen* a *tsubo*. Now the land tax in urban districts is 5 per cent. of the taxable value of the land. It would follow, therefore, if our correspondent is rightly informed, that the assessed value of the Koishikawa land for purposes of taxation is only 0.63 *sen* per *tsubo*—a little more than half a *sen* a *tsubo*, or 7½ *yen* an acre. Is that really the case? It sounds quite incredible. However, without going into minute calculations, we believe that the general fact suggested by our correspondent is quite correct, namely, that no land in Tokyo is assessed so highly for purposes of taxation as the land in the foreign concession at Tsukiji. No land in Tokyo, not even the costly lots in the neighbourhood of Nihonbashi, pays as much as 28 *sen* per *tsubo* The explanation is, of course, that the price of the land in the Settlement was assessed on the basis of the sum spent by the Government for purposes of reclamation and laying out, whereas other urban lands are assessed on the singularly insufficient basis to which attention has often been drawn in these columns. But that is a question of incidence only, not of principle. The inhabitants of the Asakusa district might urge, with equal justice, that whereas their land continues to pay tax according to the high assessment of prosperous eras, it is now not nearly as valuable as land elsewhere which pays only a mere fraction of the impost.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

As already noted in these columns, a new religious magazine called the *Sangan* (Three Eyes) has made its appearance. The "Three Eyes" are Shintō, Buddhism, and Confucianism. Mr. Noguchi Shōichi, a Chinese scholar and a member of the Diet, is the editor. The chief object of the new organ is to oppose Christianity by uniting against it all available forces connected with the three above-mentioned creeds. It has commenced its career by publishing a number of familiar charges against the Christian faith, such as disloyalty to the throne and the nation, and it accuses those who have accepted Christianity of being traitors to their country. It is a significant sign of the times that the *Sangan* has been treated with almost universal scorn by the leading magazines, both literary and religious. For the sake of showing what is the state of opinion throughout the empire on religious conservatism we give a summary of the comments of a few leading organs.

The *Tenchijin* says, that after European and American thought has been known in this country for 30 years, the fact that a magazine like the *Sangan* should make its appearance is no cause for surprise. Its publication is like the appearance of a boil on the surface of the skin. When it has run its course and given vent to all the innate unhealthiness whose existence it reveals, the patient (the Japanese nation) will be stronger than it was before. But while this is true, continues the *Tenchijin*, the language used by the *Sangan* is so violent that the Government may feel called on to suppress it, and in that case the new organ would find defenders among the politicians who are always in search of a stick wherewith to beat the Government.

A man, says the *Taiyō*, who spends most of his time in his study perusing classic prose and poetry has undertaken to become the mouthpiece of a number of out-of-date Confucianists and to reiterate fusty Chinese commonplaces on loyalty and patriotism. . . . The Editor of the *Sangan* accuses Professor Miyake Yonekichi, of the High Normal School, of committing an offence against the state because he espouses Darwinism. This new champion of Confucianism is no better than the anti-foreign agitators of the early part of the Meiji era. It has not been without reason that for 40 years Mr. Fukuzawa has been a steady opponent of Confucianism as one of the chief obstacles to progress. But in saying this we do not mean to imply that the mass of Christians are in favour of progress, or to give the impression that the doctrine of evolution is any more to their liking than it is to the conservative school represented by Mr. Noguchi. The majority of missionaries are of a conservative type. But there are a number of Christians in Japan who set a high value on scientific knowledge, and it is plain that they have a bright career before them.

Even the *Nippon Shugi* has no word of welcome for its new contemporary, but joins heart and soul with other organs in heaping ridicule on it. "A hideous monster," says this magazine, "calling itself the 'Three-Eyes' has made its appearance in our midst. The *Sangan* bears witness to the fact that Conservatism is not quite dead. This effort may scare a few ignorant people, but such an ill-planned scheme can never succeed. The three Creeds it is sought to combine have no more affinity to each other than fire and water. If the promoters of the *Sangan* are anxious to help the cause of nationality, we recommend them to join our party."

The *Fukuin Shimpō* doubts whether the movement will be supported by the leading Buddhists, and says that already dissentient voices have been heard in their midst.

Among the various utterances of the party whose cause is championed by the *Sangan*, the remarks of Mr. Otsuki Fumihiko, the compiler of the Standard Dictionary known as the *Genkai* (Word Ocean), have attracted a great deal of attention. One of the objections he has to Christianity is that by insisting on monogamy it undermines belief in the unbroken continuity of the Imperial line. Mr. Otsuki's paper reads like a defence of polygamy. The *Shakai* (No. 6) in warm terms objects to Mr. Otsuki's whole line of argument and accuses him of gross ignorance of the teaching of Christianity and of the customs of civilised countries. The writer maintains that Christianity, according to the Bible, does not insist on monogamy as the only natural arrangement to be followed. Monogamy was arrived at as the result of the experience of many civilised countries, and Christianity has never done more than give its support to a custom which rests on a purely utilitarian basis, says the *Shakai*. The insinuation of Mr. Otsuki that the Japanese nation approves of polygamy and that the existence of the practice has to be admitted in order to defend the theory of the unbroken line of Imperial ancestors are both alike repudiated by

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the writer in the *Shakai*, who maintains that Mr. Otsuki misrepresents Christianity on the one hand and Japanese sentiments and customs on the other.

* * *

In the *Kyōiku Jiron*, discoursing on Religion and Education and their separate spheres, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō, after maintaining that on no account is religion to be introduced into schools, goes on to affirm that the Japanese mind is essentially frivolous and craves for amusement as much as that of the French. One of the essentials of the general acceptance of a religious creed, says Dr. Inoue, is a certain amount of seriousness, and this is lacking here. As a nation the Japanese are emotional, and their feelings are apt to undergo rapid changes when under the influences of passing events. With this ground to work on there is little probability of any rich harvest being reaped.

The chief reasons for keeping religion out of state schools given by Dr. Inoue are: (1) The practice of other civilised countries. (2) The natural distaste of the Japanese for religion. (3) The sectarian jealousy and animosity which would be caused by allowing schools to become a hunting ground for the representatives of the various sects.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* states at considerable length the views of Dr. Takakusu Junjirō on religion in general and on the prospects of the various creeds in Japan. As some of our readers are doubtless aware, Dr. Takakusu is peculiarly qualified to express an opinion on religious topics, having undergone a special training at Oxford under Professor Max Muller and attained such proficiency that to him was committed the work of translating certain portions of the Buddhist scriptures into English. The following is a brief epitome of Dr. Takakusu's views as given in the *Kirisuto-kyō Shimbun*, ranged under fourteen heads:—

(1) Religion depends entirely on faith. Without faith there can be no religion. To represent religion as a form of philosophic thought or as an instrument of reform is an inadequate explanation of its true function and nature. Ethical ideas and moral reforms must be based on faith. At the present time there are a great many remarkable men in the Buddhist ranks in Japan, but there are very few who are entitled to be called religious.

(2) There are people who point with great pride to their charitable actions, to their benevolent institutions, their free schools, and the like, as a proof of their religious faith. These actions are no proof of faith and often emphasise its absence.

(3) The Buddhist agitation for State recognition is a movement which is in no way connected with religion, strictly speaking, and one which I am at a loss to understand.

(4) All works of charity are vain unless prompted by real benevolence of heart.

(5) While at Oxford I took considerable interest in Unitarianism and hoped that it would prove the most suitable form of Christianity for wide adoption in Japan. But after returning to my native land, as a result of special investigation, I changed my mind. It did not seem to me that Unitarianism in Japan was a religion at all. It savours more of philosophy; is a school of learning rather than a religious sect.

[The topics treated under the sixth and seventh headings have to do with Oxford and Dr. Takakusu's life there and may be omitted here.]

(8) I do not pretend to any special knowledge on the subject, but it seems to me that Unitarianism in the West and Unitarianism in Japan are very different things. The Unitarian body in Japan is to me more like a Club than a Church. Whether this form of Christianity will succeed in Japan is an open question.

(9) Japanese religious education is very deficient. The ideas of the masses are primitive in the extreme. They create their own objects of worship. There is considerable interest from the point of view of the student of comparative religion in the forms of faith one sees here, but considered as religion they are most defective. Few people have any conception of what true religion is. Europe has passed through the image-worshipping stage. Japan as yet has got no further.

(10) There is nothing like a national religion for binding a nation together. Once in possession of such a religion, a code of morals suited to the people is formed and the control of society becomes an easy matter. The union of which I speak can only be cemented by means of faith. Men must believe alike in order to feel themselves one. Neither Buddhism nor Confucianism will serve this purpose. Christianity alone has the true principle and to it we are inclined to look. But since the war for some reason or other Christianity has been losing ground. Before that it was persecuted, but it flourished.

(11) The fortunes of Christianity and Buddhism since the war have been alike. Before that event Christianity certainly occupied a higher level in the estimation of the public than the sister creed. But now it has descended to the same level as Buddhism. Christianity has undergone secularisation. Men of mercenary spirit hold office in the Church and Christians as a body no longer occupy a position above the world. They are now both in the world and of it.

(12) Religious schools were wont to have a character all their own, but of late years they have been changed so as to resemble Government Schools as much as possible. This tendency may be beneficial for all we know (*kore wa aruiwa yoki keikō ka mo shireuu.*)*

(13) Such a demonstration as was made in Tōkyō this spring by the Fukuin-dōmei Kai, if made years ago, would have attracted great attention. But the movement fell flat, the chief reason being that Christianity has descended to the plane occupied by the outside world and no longer excites the interest that is attached to a body that maintains a higher level of attainment than is reached by the masses.

(14) People are attracted by professors of religion whose force of character and daily actions are high-class. There must be real faith in the superiority of a creed if men are to be induced to accept it. To be always trimming in order to please society and make doctrines more palatable is not the way to succeed. It is the function of the religious teacher to be always in advance of the world and to beckon it on. I am one of those who have set their hopes on Christianity, but more attention must be paid to the points on which I have dwelt.

* * *

No. 835 of the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* comments on the present position and prospects of the Kumiai Churches, as revealed in the 31st Annual Report of the Mission recently published. Hitherto, says this organ, the Kumiai Churches have congratulated themselves on the spirit of independence they possessed and have pointed with pride to the number of self-supporting churches connected with them. But the last report shows that the number of self-supporting Churches has fallen from 40 to 34, and, if the truth be told, there are not more than 24 or 25 of these that are self-supporting in reality. In the matter of money contributed for religious and charitable purposes, the Kumiai Churches used to occupy the first rank. But it is no longer so. The total sum collected during the year, according to the last report, was 21,937 *yen*, being an average of a little over 2 *yen* per convert. The amount in the previous year was 23,261 *yen* and that in the year before 22,925 *yen*. Turning to the number of new converts, we find that there have been during the year 432 baptisms and that 289 persons belonging to other bodies have joined the Congregationalists. But over against these figures the number of deserters has to be put, which amounted to 685. This only leaves 35 as the increase of converts during the year, a state of things not to be parallelled in any Church (*Kakaru arisama dono Kyōkai nimo nakarubeshi*). The falling-off in the number of Sunday School scholars has also been marked: the figures being 3,505 as against 3,781 of last year, and 4,132 of the year previous. But there is one subject for rejoicing, and that is the organisation of large churches. Some of these churches are most prosperous, and their members subscribe liberally.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* comments on the fact that the *Rikugō Zasshi* has become a Unitarian organ. There is no magazine, says the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*, that has helped forward the development of Christian thought in Japan so much and has been so widely read by educated Christians and others through a series of years as the *Rikugō Zasshi*. When last year it was announced that the Unitarian magazine the *Shukyō* and the *Rikugō* had been amalgamated, it was foreseen that the new organ would certainly be Unitarian in reality. Now it has declared itself as such. While not approving of the change, says the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*, we prefer that people should show their colours. It may be stated in this connection that Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta, hitherto editor of the *Rikugō*, has resigned and been replaced by Mr. Abe Isoo (formerly a teacher in the Dōshisha). Messrs. Yokoi, Yebina and Kishimoto are among the chief contributors to the new organ.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* (No. 214) under the heading of "Christianity and the Home Office," maintains that what Christians generally desire is that as much as possible they should be let alone under the new régime as they have been under the old. They do not desire any Government patronage nor even exemption for their buildings from the taxes paid on other

* Dr. Takakusu evidently means that the course adopted is beneficial only from a worldly point of view. He cites it as an instance of the secularising process to which Christianity has been subjected.—WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.

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structures. Nothing could be more undesirable than constant official interference with their affairs, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*. They claim all the privileges attached to the liberty of religious belief granted by the Constitution. The less they are connected with foreign mission bodies the better for their peace and prosperity. . . According to No. 41 of the orders lately issued by the Home Department, Christian teachers are required to conform to certain regulations in erecting and opening places of worship. These rules may work smoothly in some places, but considerable power being given to local officials, it will be possible for them to place many obstacles in the way of Christian work and to act contrary to the spirit of liberty to which Christians have a right. With the letter of the new regulations not much fault can be found, but we confess, says the organ we quote, that we are not without apprehensions as to the way in which they will be carried out by the local officials. It would be most unfortunate if friction arose between Christians and the authorities, or led to the curtailing of the liberty of action which Christians have hitherto enjoyed.

* * *

Readers of these Summaries must have been often astonished to find so many conflicting accounts of the progress of Christianity in Japan. There are the extreme optimists and the extreme pessimists and every grade of opinion between these two extremes. In a recent number of the *Seikyō Shimpō* we have a report of an address delivered to his converts by Bishop Nicolai on July 12th, in which he predicts that in the next century the light of Christianity will spread all over Japan. He says that year by year about 1,000 fresh names are added to the roll of Greek Church converts. Last year the number reached 953. The total number of adherents is now 24,944; the ordained ministers, 33; the evangelists, 39; the assistant-evangelists, 55; the divinity students, 32. On these numbers Bishop Nicolai bases his forecast for the future. The amount of real faith and Christian life that are displayed by the converts is a subject on which there would be great difference of opinion among those competent to judge of such matters.

* * *

"A Nation that Dislikes Morality" is the title of an article which appears in the *Rikugō Zasshi* from the pen of Mr. Nakajima Tokuzō, of which the following is the gist:—If the pupils at Elementary Schools be asked what study they most dislike, they reply at once, morality. At Middle Schools the study of Chinese books is regarded with the greatest aversion by the boys, because these works are so interlarded with moral sayings. This being so, Buddhist priests take no delight in preaching, having as an audience only old men and women who are anxious not to miss the road to heaven. Christianity is regarded as an alien creed and hence objectionable. If an attempt be made by the teacher to lay down rules for practical guidance in the walks of life, his hearers remark with scorn that nobody needs to be told such things, they are known to everybody. The youths who are heard shouting snatches of moral poems are only giving vent to overflowing animal spirits and show no appreciation of the sentiments expressed by the words they utter. This morality-hating spirit so manifest in the schools, figures largely in the House of Representatives, whose members are corrupt beyond all bearing.

The attempt to apply old classical sayings to the moral wants of modern days is bound to be futile, says Mr. Nakajima. Japan has for many centuries been a slave to the letter in the matter of morality. She has quoted sages without imbibing their spirit. The moral spirit has been lacking all along. While lauding Confucius, Mencius and Shaka, her sons have been satisfied with a very small amount of actual attainment. They have not learnt to value teaching on account of its own inherent truth or excellence, but only because it is backed by the authority of some great name. . . . . A new method of teaching morality must be devised. Its utility must be insisted on. It must be shown how important a *rôle* it has filled in the history of nations. The basis of ethics must be both scientific and practical and the whole subject must be presented in an entertaining manner and be thoroughly dissociated from those lifeless sayings of teachers whose influence for good so far as Japan is concerned has entirely ceased.

* * *

Dr. Toyama's address at the Kanda Seinen Kaidō early in July, to which we referred briefly in our last Summary, was of great length, occupying nearly 3 hours. It is reported in Nos. 16, 17, and 18 of the *Taiyō*. It is quite impossible to do more than state the general conclusions reached by this eminent lecturer and scholar and give a bare outline of the speech:—

Among the histories of different nations some are interesting and others not. Japanese history may certainly be ranked among the former class. Among the events in our annals which stand out prominently, the following are specially worthy of mention:—The putting to death of the usurper Sōga-no-Iruka in A.D. 645, in the reign of the Emperor Kyōkyoku; the commencement of military rule in A.D., 181, when Yoritomo began to levy forces; the stand made by Kusunoki Masashige against the usurper Ashikaga Takauji in 1336, and the Mito championship of the cause of royalty; the birth of the Taikō in 1535 and his feats of valour and generalship, which were known in foreign countries; the battle of Sekigahara, A.D. 1600, which rendered the Tokugawa Shōguns supreme to the land; the overthrow of the Bakufu in 1867; the Saigo rebellion in 1877; the opening of the Diet in 1890; and the China-Japan-war in 1894-95. These are the chief events, but a few less important ones may be mentioned, such as the first use of firearms in 1530, the arrival of Xavier in 1549 and the subsequent addition of no less than 150,000 Japanese converts to the Christian Church, to say nothing of the 200 churches that were erected at that time. These converts were all made in the space of 30 years. The number of Christians afterwards reached 600,000. It will be noted that the number exceeds considerably that of the Christians who have joined the Church during the *Meiji* era. This point is interesting, as it throws light on the question of the depth of the religious sentiment among the Japanese. Pre-*Meiji* history tends to show that this sentiment was originally very strong. Nothing could exceed the popularity that Buddhism enjoyed during its prosperous days. The great Hongwanji at Kyōto was burnt again and again, but there was no difficulty in collecting 10 million *yen* wherewith to erect a new building. There are those who maintain that the religious spirit has nothing to do with the hero-worship that has prevailed among us. But I have never been of that opinion. It seems to me that here as in Europe men of deep religious earnestness have always become objects of admiration.

What is wanted at the present day is more religious zeal. The opposing forces are doubtless formidable, and can only be overcome by great determination on the part of religious professors. I am often asked whether it is possible for Japan to succeed in competition with Europe and America. That is a question which cannot be answered offhand. The important thing to bear in mind is the necessity of possessing the will, spirit, and perseverence that make for success. It is good for us to remember what our forefathers accomplished under great difficulties and how graciously the subjects of the empire for successive generations have been treated by the occupants of the throne . . . One of the results of the changes which have marked the *Meiji* era has been the replacing of that code of honour and morals known among us as *Bushidō* by materialism and utilitarianism. The steps by which this was effected are familiar to us all. We are conscious that the almost total extinction of the old spirit of chivalry is most detrimental to our highest interests and our progress. In Europe and America utilitarianism reigns supreme, but in all the leading nations there is a moral code which is strictly adhered to. A Frenchman will risk his life rather than suffer what he deems to be dishonour. In England and America justice and liberty are held in higher esteem than property or worldly rank. We cannot get on without a substitute for what has been effaced by the march of events. I have great hopes in Christianity as a creed that is suitable to the situation in which we find ourselves. What needs to be created for the nation as a whole is a strong *will* and a strong *self-consciousness*. Japan is at present in a very corrupt state: the merchant class are corrupt. The nobility are corrupt. We have no great reformer among us: no Xavier, no Savonarola, no Wesley, no Manning, no Newman. But if the Church stirs herself in right earnest, there is no saying that a Paul or a Calvin may not appear in our midst. That as a result of 30 years' labour there should be only about 110,000 converts as compared with the 600,000 that joined the church in the 16th century is quite pitiable. . . . . But when I say that more zeal is needed in the Christian Church, I would not be understood to encourage the zeal that abuses all other sects or the Pharisaism that assumes that Christians only are on the way to heaven, nor can I approve of the ostentation and the air of superiority with which some Christians press their views on others . . . There are politicians who are endeavouring to strengthen their party by furthering the objects of religious sects. But I would warn Christians against mixing themselves up with any such movements. It is most important that earnest Christians should keep themselves free from all

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trammels and should be known only as men of faith and devotion.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* says that the address might have been compressed so as to have occupied only an hour and a half with profit. It was by no means full of new thoughts, and the burden of it amounted to no more than insisting on the necessity of earnestness as a condition of success in Christian propagandism. The *Sekai-no-Nihon* adds that Dr. Toyama's remarks on education and religion, for which we have no space, are likely to do good.

It will be seen that Dr. Toyama, like so many of his kind, carefully avoids the subject of his own personal belief. It is on this account that many of the Christian organs are indisposed to attach much weight to his utterances. They say that the Doctor evidently does not feel the need himself of what he so earnestly recommends to others.

A PACIFIC CABLE.

Mr. Otani Kahei, who is attending the Philadelphia Commercial Exposition as a delegate of the Yokohama and Tokyo Chambers of Commerce and the Japan Traders' Society, will introduce the subject of a Pacific cable to the Congress. We have been supplied with a translation of the paper which he intends to read on the occasion, and give it *in extenso* :—

A PROPOSITION FOR THE LAYING OF A SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH CABLE IN THE PACIFIC.

The laying of a submarine telegraph cable across the Pacific being of the utmost importance for the further development of commercial intercourse between the North American Continent and the countries in the Far East, we hereby propose that the question be discussed, and such measures be taken by the conference as may seem suitable.

KAHEI OTANI,
Representing the Yokohama and Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and the Japan Traders' Society.

MEMORANDUM.

It is not more than fifty years ago that the North American States came into contact with the countries in the Far East. Yet their commercial intercourse has attained such a prosperous pitch that in 1898 the total sum of exports and imports between the United States and Japan has increased to *yen* 87,312,253, compared to that of the previous year, which was *yen* 79,466,942. This state of things points to a very promising future.

Now China is inclining to adopt the "open door" policy and unclosing her ports; she seeks to afford a convenience for the commerce of the world. What the future progress of the trading relations between the great continent and the vast empire having a population of four hundred millions may be, it is needless to enumerate here.

But among several means which lie in the path for promoting this hopeful relation, the one that requires urgency is, as a general truth, to secure the requisite means of communication between the two continents; that is, to furnish the complete organs of transportation and of correspondence. The former is, however, in a fair state of perfection for the present; but the latter, especially in the case of telegraphic communication, is still in its infancy. Now telegrams between America and the Far East can only be exchanged by two routes—the one going through Siberia and Northern Europe, and the other through India and Southern Europe. As a consequence, high charges are inevitably levied on the correspondence and delays are frequent. For instance, the rate per word from Japan to New York is *yen* 3.58 via the Northern or *yen* 4.38 via the Southern route, and the time required for the transmission of a telegram is about thirty hours; and as it passes through a great many stations the frequency of errors is unavoidable.

This is the present condition of telegraphic service between the American Continent and the Far East.

As the telegraph is one of the most important of commercial organs, the merchant must make use of it; and the charge which he pays for telegrams is in reality a duty imposed on commerce. Should the duty be too much, then it burdens him heavily. Should the transmission be slow, then it retards commercial transactions. Should the occurrence of errors be frequent, then it impairs the security of commercial confidence.

Lower charges and quicker transmission of telegrams, and the security of confidence—these are the essential ingredients for the furtherance and the development of commercial intercourse. Even with such an imperfect telegraphic system, as above stated, twenty thousand telegraphic messages containing some two hundred thousand words were forwarded and received between the North American States and Japan during the year 1898. The existing telegraphic system between North America and the Far East not only does not guarantee the commercial requirements of the future, but is even incompetent to answer for the purposes of the present. Such being the case, a perfect and capable system must be constructed as early as possible.

Now most countries are telegraphically placed in one neighbourhood notwithstanding the existence of high mountains or of vast oceans. The absence of electric wires across the Pacific and the desert of central Africa is a matter which has long been regretted; but in the latter place, British enterprise has already commenced the establishment of the lines which will soon be completed.

What about the Pacific? Nothing has yet actually been done. Is it not the great defect, telegraphically, of the world; commercially of the North American States and of the countries of the Far East?

The Pacific Cable must be laid connecting directly North America with Japan, China and Australia. This cable, when once opened, would effect a great saving in the charges, and the telegraphic errors which occur in transmission would naturally be abated, as they pass a less number of intermediate stations. Thus the advantages arising out of the cable would enormously affect the commerce of North America and of the Far East?

As we have explained above that the laying of a cable in the Pacific is to make good the deficiency of the telegraphic system of the world, we will now consider whether the undertaking could be effected without any difficulties, and whether the income arising out of the working of the cable would be sufficient to maintain it. The surveys previously made show that the depth of the Pacific is generally below three thousand fathoms, but it is supposed there might be places reaching five thousand fathoms. Even by the aid of our present advanced science, is it still impossible to lay a cable in five thousand fathoms of water? At a meeting held by the members of a certain scientific association at Bristol, in the latter part of 1898 it was decided that the Pacific cable would not be a matter of impossibility, if the wires should be constructed and laid with special caution in places reaching five thousand fathoms, as some of the present cables have been laid in depths of three thousand fathoms of water and no serious difficulty has been met with in grappling them up for repairs. Of course an enormous capital must be invested for the carrying out of the enterprise, but we are of opinion that the income would be more than sufficient for maintaining the line, as in spite of the present roundabout routes and the high charges, the total number of words transmitted yearly between Japan and the North American States does not come under two hundred thousand.

If, therefore, in the event of the completion of a cable across the Pacific, the messages should be transmitted quickly at reduced rates, it is evident that the traffic between Japan and America would be considerably augmented, and moreover, the China and Australian messages might be forwarded by this route. This is a natural consequence.

The question that the Pacific cable would injure the interests of some of the cable companies is not a matter worthy of serious notice. The cables between Asia and Europe may be exclusively used for traffic exchanged with each other. With the profit derivable from their respective traffic, the companies should be able to maintain their own, and they would not play the foolish part of attempting anything to retain the monopoly in their hands, despite their geographical position and the public interest. So far, we can see nothing to obstruct the Pacific cable plan, which has been talked about for so long a time.

In 1870 Mr. Cyrus Field designed to lay a cable between California and Japan, via Alaska. In 1879, the United States Government sent out a war-ship for the purpose of surveying the Pacific. The result having been excellent, the same government proposed to lay a cable, firstly, to connect North America with the Sandwich Islands, and then to extend the wire to Japan, via the Bonin Islands. In 1884, a certain syndicate of financiers formed a plan to connect Brisbane with San Francisco by a submarine cable. In 1892, the U.S. Government again dispatched a warship in order to survey the Pacific, and ascertained that a submarine cable could be laid, the depth not exceeding three thousand fathoms. The same design was formed by Mr. Spalding in 1895. His intention was to connect California with the Sandwich Islands and thence to extend the line to Japan and he concluded an agreement with the Hawaiian Government to that effect.

Similar designs have been formed by many other parties, but most of them, having been projected merely as speculations, have ended in failure; sometimes through the policy of the governments concerned. Recent information from abroad is that a cable company had been formed in New York, with a capital of ten million dollars for the purpose of laying, across the Pacific, a cable which would connect the United States with the Philippines, Japan and Australia, and that the company had applied to the U.S. Government for the concession. Another report announced that Canada, together with England and the Australian Colonies, were proposing to link each other by a cable in the Pacific.

We wish that the cable should be laid as soon as possible. It matters not whether this gigantic enterprise should be done by some of the present cable companies, or whether by a new cable company established by American capitalists or by the combined capitalists of several nationalities.

As the cable, beside requiring an enormous capital, affords great interest and advantage to the commerce of North America and of the Far East, the Governments concerned should be quite willing to assist the enterprise which would affect the political situations.

We shall endeavour to induce the Japanese Government to guarantee such aid as they can render, to the cable company if it founded on a firm and steady basis.

THE TOKYO TRAMWAY QUESTION.

ADVANTAGES OF THE SERPOLLET CAR.

The merits of the Serpollet system of tram traction have already received attention in these columns, but in view of the importance of the question at present at issue in Tokyo, it will be well to place before the public fuller details than have yet appeared of the working of the system, its comparatively low cost, and its suitability in the case of Japan. Broadly speaking, the following is the scheme put forward for Tokyo by the Serpollet partisans :—

Total length of line	20 miles.
Gauge.....	3 feet 6 inches.
Automobile cars to carry 40 passengers	Weight (loaded) 7 tons.

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Speed. Eight miles an hour. Whole journey (going 10 miles and returning 10 miles) acccomplished in three hours, including stoppages *en route* and at the ends of the line.

One departure every five minutes.

36 cars to be used for traffic and six held in reserve; total 42.

Five complete journeys (say 100 miles) to be covered by each car per day.

That is, 36 500 miles per car per annum; which, 36 cars working, gives a total of 1,314,000 car-miles per annum.

The following are the estimates of the cost of installation and the annual expenses of management.

ESTABLISHMENT EXPENDITURE.

Land and buildings:—		
3,000 *tsubo* at 10 *yen*	30,000	
Sheds and workshops 1,000 *tsubo* at 50 *yen*	50,000	
Plant for workshops	10,000	
Offices	2,000	95,500
Lands and buildings for the station at end of line	3,000	
Apparatus for lighting	500	
Permanent way:—		
Grooved rails at 45lb. to the yard 21 miles (one for the depots and sidings) 1,600 tons per mile with accessories, at 85 *yen* the ton	136,000	
Sleepers, at *yen* 0.60 a piece, plus 10 per cent. for bolts and for reserve	29,000	231,500
Points and turn tables	3,000	
Ballast and preparation of road 3.000 *yen* per mile	63,000	
Apparatus for lighting	500	
Rolling Stock:		
42 automobiles, in sections, unfitted, and without coaches, 8,500 *yen* each	357,000	
Mounting and cars for above at 500 *yen* per car	21,000	383,000
Spare parts and accessories about 115 *yen* per carriage	5,000	
Floating capital and reserve funds		90,000
Total		800,000

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL EXPENSES.

Fuel—Coke 2 5 kilo. per car-mile for 1,314,000 car-miles, 3,285, tons, at 25.5 *yen*	83,800	84,800
Wood (for lighting furnaces) *yen* .075 per car per day	1,000	
Oil, water, waste, &c., at *yen* .02 per car mile, for 1,314,000 miles		26,300
Up-keep and repairs:—		
Permanent way	5 000	
Rolling Stock 300 *yen* per car	12,600	18,600
Buildings	1,000	
Administration and Offices	—	20,000
Employes	—	34 300
General Expenses:—		
Uniforms and boots (4,000 *yen*), lighting (3.000), furnishing and heating offices, fire insurance (4,000 *yen*), travelling and various expenses	—	20,000
Sinking fund for amortisation, within ten years, of cost of material and buildings, one-tenth of establishment cost, less price of land, floating capital, and reserve, say	—	68,000
Total		272,000

Having thus arrived at the initial and annual cost, it remains to consider the probable revenue. Taking the receipts of the horse Tramway Company as a guide, we find that in the last half year, December, 1898, to May, 1899, the Company, over a total length of 16 miles of line, received from travellers 461,160 *yen*, which would give more than 1,100,000 *yen* per annum for a length of 20 miles. The present Tramway Company exploits the busiest quarter of the town, and its tariffs are high; a new company would find less favourable conditions as to traffic, and lower tariffs would, in all probability, have to be fixed. The new company must therefore reckon on receipts inferior to those of the Horse Tramway Company, but it would appear that the reduction could hardly begreater than one half, and that 500,000 *yen* could be calculated as the minimum annual receipts from passengers on a second urban line of 20 miles. We have before us various minute calculations which bring us to the same result, but with them we need not trouble our readers. Admitting this estimate, we have the following as:—

ESTIMATED REVENUE.	Yen.
Receipts from passengers	500,000
Receipts from advertisements	2,000
Interest on current accounts and reserve and sinking funds	18,000
Total	520,000

Deducting the annual expenditure, 272,000 *yen*, there would thus remain 248,000 *yen* net profit, representing 31 per cent. of the capital, 800,000 *yen*. It should be observed that the charges to the sinking fund being comprised in the annual expenditures, the whole profit would be available as dividend, except for gratuities to the staff and royalty to the municipality.

A glance at the history of the Serpollet system may not be uninteresting. The first Serpollet boilers were exhibited at the Paris Exposition of 1889; they were then applied to small carriages of three or four wheels, carrying two or three persons. In 1893, trials were made with a view to applying the system to tramways, but it was not till 1896 that the Compagnie Générale des Omnibus de Paris decided to employ Serpollet cars on the line from La Madeleine to Gennevilliers. The company has since transformed to the Serpollet system the lines from La Madeleine to Colombes, from Saint-Ouen to the Bastille, and from the Halles to Ivry. The total length of these lines is 25 miles, and it will not be long before a further increase takes place. At the same time the Serpollet system has been adopted for the tramways at Tours, St. Etienne, and Cherbourg in France, and for those of Stettin in Germany. An English Syndicate has purchased the rights for Great Britain, after some highly satisfactory experiments in London.

The system promises to have its sphere of usefulness in light railways as well as tramways. The Stuttgart Company is using it for a suburban system, on which heavy trains would be too expensive; and the Northern France Railway Company is also availing itself of Serpollet cars to connect the main line with some small localities. There is a probability of the use of Serpollet locomotives on ordinary railways becoming more extended than at present. While on this subject it may be well to quote from the remarks of a French engineering expert. He says (we take the liberty of translating):—

The Serpollet system is not confined to one single type. It consists essentially of an inexplodable boiler in which the vaporisation is instantaneous, and also in a special disposition of the machinery; but the boiler and the machinery may be modified according to the object to be gained, and special types have been evolved for tramways and railways, each having their distinctive characters. The principal types at present in use are the following:—

1. Type for the Paris tramways. Car, roofed, with 50 seats. Gauge 1 mètre, 44 centimètres (4ft. 8⅞ inches). Weight (loaded) 14 tons. About 30 horse power. Speed, 12 kilomètres per hour. This car will draw one or two others.

2. Type for provincial tramways. Car with 30 seats. Gauge 3ft. 6in. Weight (loaded) 14 tons. About 20 horse power. Speed 10 kilomètres per hour. This car can draw another of the same size.

3. Type for the Wurtemburg Railway, for the Stuttgart suburban service. Car to carry 40 passengers, weighing 20 tons, and fitted with powerful machinery, capable of drawing one or two passenger cars or goods wagons at a speed of 35 to 40 kilomètres per hour.

4. Type for the Northern France Railway Company. Lighter than the last mentioned, carrying passengers and mails for unimportant localities beyond the reach of the principal lines of which the traffic is insufficient for numerous ordinary trains. Goods are conveyed by a heavy night train.

The authority we are quoting is of opinion that for Japan the following sizes would be suitable:—

1. For town tramways, a car weighing empty about 5 tons, with machinery capable of drawing one other car of the same class at a speed of 8 miles an hour. Accommodation 40 seats.

2. For trains on light railways, a car with powerful engine, weighing empty about 15 tons and capable of drawing one or two ordinary cars or wagons at a speed of 30 kilometres an hour.

It would appear advantageous to adopt a single uniform gauge, that of the railways, 3ft. 6in., which will permit of the cars entering all railway stations for the transfer of goods. Coke being dear in Japan, it would be economical to use petroleum or coal for suburban lines and light railways, the Serpollet system lending itself equally well to the use of this class of fuel.

We have already mentioned the Northern France Railway Company as having adopted the Serpollet system for its light lines. It is interesting to hear what an expert engineer in the employ of this company, Mr. R. Godfernaux, thinks of the working of the different tramway system which are are at present under discussion in Tokyo. In "Une Etude sur la Traction Mécanique des Tramways," he has taken the results obtained on the lines working in Paris and French provincial towns, and in the case of of each system investigated he has been careful to see the following conditions fulfilled:—

Length of line 30 kilomètres. Moderate gradients and easy curves.

Gauge 1 mètre 44 centimètres (4ft. 8 1/10 in.)

Thirty roofed cars, each carrying 50 passengers and weighing (loaded) about 14½ tons.

Speed 12 kilomètres per hour.

20 cars only in use, ten others in reserve.

Each car in active use to do 150 kilomètres a day, say, about 1,000,000 kilomètres altogether traversed by the 20 cars during the year.

The results arrived at were as follows:—

SERPOLLET SYSTEM.

Cost per car-kilometre.	Francs.
Coke	0.102
Oil, water, waste, &c.	0.017
Workshops, repairs, and upkeep of rolling stock and motors, &c.	0.100
Mechanics	0.080
Amortisation (10 per cent. of cost of first establishment)	0.096
Cost per car-kilometre	0.395

TROLLEY SYSTEM.

	Francs.
Motive force	0.164
Upkeep and repair of cars and motors.	0.060
Upkeep of overhead wire	0.010
Electricians	0.080
Amortisation (as above)	0.166
Cost per car-kilometre	0.480

COMPRESSED AIR SYSTEM.

	Francs.
Cost of compressed air	0.234
Upkeep and repair of cars and motors.	0.110
Mechanics	0.080
Amortisation as above	0.150
Cost per car-kilometre	0.574

These results are very obviously favourable to the Serpollet system. Pressing the calculations a little farther, we find that under similar conditions the expenses of each system are:—

100 per cent. for compressed air,
83⅓ per cent. for trolley system.
69 per cent. for the Serpollet system.

Of course there is some variation allowable for local conditions, but the difference indicated above is so considerable that it may be taken for granted that in any circumstances the Serpollet system would have the advantage of superior cheapness.

We described some weeks ago at considerable length the trials of the Serpollet car at Asakusa. Those trials were carried out under conditions the least favourable to the new car. The car used, not being made for Japan, was too heavy and powerful, of too great speed, and of too wide gauge. The trials took place in a shed the roof of which re-echoed the least sound. There were not more than 96 yards of straight tram line, and consequently stops were too frequent, and the car was never running at the ordinary speed. The curve at the end of the shed was also too sharp and badly constructed, while the rails were not heavy enough

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for a vehicle of this weight. The results obtained were, however, on the whole satisfactory, and the few criticisms made can be explained by the conditions referred to above. First as to noise. We are assured that when the car is running at the ordinary speed in the open air there is no appreciable noise, but when a sudden effort has to be made for a stop, a gradient, or a rapid slackening of speed the escape of steam can be heard, but the noise is not sufficient to frighten horses, or even to attract the attention of persons walking along the track in front of the car. A little vapour may be observed when a sudden effort is about to be made, especially after a stoppage of some duration, but this is only momentary, and moreover it is simply water vapour and not smoke. Something was said as to the heat from the boiler being felt in the car, but this inconvenience is never practically experienced in actual working, while it would of course be perfectly easy to leave a wider space between the boiler and the body of the car. The very stringent regulations of the City of Paris authorise the running of Serpollet cars in the finest quarters of the French capital, and it cannot therefore be supposed that the system offers inconveniences which the municipality of Tokyo could not tolerate.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

In 1898 the imports and exports of Formosa from the following countries were as follow:—

	Imports. Yen.	Exports. Yen.
China	10,103 052	10,872,750
Hongkong	951,197	1,385,115
British India	489,006	—
French India	509 357	—
Dutch India	162,143	—
Russian Asia	80,006	—
Siam	66,767	—
Korea	24,011	—
Philippine Islands	14,608	—
Great Britain	1,617,656	—
Germany	299,695	—
Austria	12,668	—
France	9 233	—
Belgium	6,678	—
Holland	3.524	—
Norway and Sweden	—	—
Switzerland	974	—
Spain	909	—
Italy	329	—
Denmark	245	—
Portugal	93	—
Turkey	5	—
The United States	870,109	501,029
British America	3	—
Australia	85,220	—
Other countries	1,569 732	—
Unknown	1,751	864
Total	10,879,190	12,819 759

The Yokohama Earthern Ware Traders Corporation have held a committee meeting to consider the demands of the packing coolies. The latter demand an increase of wages from 60 *sen* to 80 *sen* per day and declare that if their claim is not acceded to they will cease work.

A model of the Horyuji (Golden Temple) will be exhibited at the Paris Exposition. It seems that when Prince Arisugawa was last in France he was asked by the President if it was possible for Japan to send some specimens of her most ancient art to the Paris Exposition. When the Prince returned home he delivered this message to the authorities and it was then resolved to send a model of this ancient temple. The temple will be erected near the Trocadero.

The coal trade at Kobe in August amounted to the following figures:—20,438,206lb. brought over from previous month; 35,294,200lb. arrived; 43,784,540lb. sold; 11,937,866lb. in stock at the end of August.

The Meiji Life Insurance Company was founded in July, 1881, the first life insurance company of its kind in Japan. Its balance sheet for the period, July 1898 to July 1899, is given in the following table:—Insured persons, 37,449; policies, 14,199,700 *yen*; average amount per person, 379 *yen*; premia during the year, 508,352 *yen*; fund for insurance pure and simple, 1,481,825 *yen*; working account, 232,662 *yen*; reserve, 546 906 *yen*; total funds, 2,261,393 *yen*.

Vessels entering and leaving the ports of Formosa during 1898 were as follows:—

	Entered.	tons.	Cleared.	tons.
Japanese	18	(9,491)	15	(11,693)
British	135	(106,230)	116	(87.369)
Chinese	3,943	(99,294)	3.804	(100.923)
Danish	3	(1,272)	3	(1,672)
French	1	(763)	—	—
German	30	(26,716)	30	(21,716)
Norwegian	6	(4,520)	4	(3,100)
The U.S.	4	(2,004)	3	(2,725)
Swedish	—	—	—	—
Total	4,140	(254,330)	3,990	(236,886)

Formosa tea has hitherto been chiefly exported to Europe through Amoy. Now that no export duty is placed on tea in Japan, the Amoy market begins to suffer, and the British merchants there are appealing to the British Minister in Japan.

The amount of Japanese raw silk exported to Russia during the past five years is shown in the following table:—

	Lbs.	Value in Yen.
1894	1,424	10 549
1895	5,391	44,700
1896	10,469	70,244
1897	17.457	135 855
1898	23.095	199.286

The committee of the Yokohama Earthenware Traders' Corporation have passed a resolution that they will not employ any of the coolies who attempted to strike for a rise in wages from 60 *sen* to 80 *sen* per day.

During August rice was imported and exported at Kobe in the following quantities:—

EXPORTED.

	Piculs.	Yen
Australia	7.042 40	31.633 75
Canada	1,133.98	5.627.00
China	5.00	20.00
France	33.87	157.92
England	3.00	12.00
Hawaii	7.875.87	32.513.74
America	10.477 42	42.716.97
Hongkong	9.396.99	46,866.60
Turkey	1,693 44	7,644.50
Total	37,663 36	167,191.98

Compared with the previous month there is a decrease of more than 260 piculs.

IMPORTED.

	Piculs.	Yen.
China	58.72	257.75
India	8,484.55	26 490.20
Annam	12,644.29	39,651.33
Siam	977.22	3,208 16
Total	22,105.42	69,607 44

Compared with the previous month there is a decrease of 30,627.52 piculs.

Raw silk is being steadily exported from Yokohama, as the following figures show:—

	Jany. to Sept. 5th, 1898. bales.	Jany. to Sept. 5th, 1899 bales.
To Europe	8 172	11,393
To the U.S.	15.395	21,457
Total	23 567	32,850

Mr. Amenomiya has not succeeded in settling the differences that have arisen between the chief officials and the "reformers" of the Kyushu Railway Company. Consequently a provisional general council will meet at the Osaka Hotel on the 25th inst. Some 300 shareholders are expected to attend, and as the majority have more or less connection with political parties now competing in the election of local assemblies, lively times are expected. The reformers are issuing a special whip.

The so-called winter-goods traders are feeling an increasing need of funds this year, as every sort of winter goods are dearer than last yaar, having risen by 10, 20 or even 30 per cent. But the purchasing power of the people is better than last year and so traders are not a bit discouraged.

The nationalities of the foreigners who have registered in Yokohama Settlement, as distinct from the Bluff, are classified below:—

	Houses.	Men.	Women.
China	1,081	2,098	722
Great Britain	146	205	71
United States	84	97	40
France	27	37	10
Germany	48	51	5
Austria	5	6	4
Spain	5	5	3
Portugal	10	16	4
Belgium	4	4	—
Denmark	5	5	—
Switzerland	14	15	8
Norway and Sweden	5	5	—
Turkey	1	1	—
Russia	3	3	—
Italy	6	11	3
Peru	1	1	—
Chili	1	1	—
No nationality	1	1	—
Totals	1,451	2,566	873

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOUSE TAX IN THE FOREIGN CONCESSIONS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—Your remarks in Thursday's issue of the *Japan Mail* takes the position that though the Imperial Government claimed the right from the first to levy house tax upon residents in the Concessions, yet, having surrendered jurisdiction over foreigners, there was no means of compelling foreigners to pay the tax. Is this strictly correct? Has not the Japanese Government had recourse always to the Consular Courts in collecting this tax? And are there no cases on record where this means has been resorted to in cases not specially covered by the treaties? I ask for information.

In cases where careful decisions as to right and wrong between citizens are involved we may easily grant the expediency of Consular Courts in Japan in the day of their existence. But the levying of legitimate taxes is admitted by all. And if the treaties in the clause stipulating the taxes to be paid did not thereby impliedly exclude other taxes, it will certainly be difficult to discover any reasonable cause for not collecting these taxes *heretofore*. Based upon the ground you assign, the non-collection of these taxes has been equivalent to saying that the Japanese Government had no hope of obtaining justice before Consular Courts in case it should have filed a claim for these taxes. This would appear to be an unreasonable conclusion.

It would be interesting to know whether or not this question came up in the formulation of the agreement which specified the taxes to be collected from the Concessions. But there seems to be some ground at least for an inference that all taxes levied on houses and lands among the Japanese might have been embraced in the one land tax within the Concession. Let us see. Take for instance one section of Tokyo, —Koishikawa. The taxes, however, may not be the same throughout the city. But I take it that the Concession in Tokyo in respect to the desirableness of location is about on a par with Koishikawa. There the land tax is .0315 *sen* a *tsubo*, house tax is .224 *sen* a *tsubo* (on just what the house actually covers), all the other taxes amount to 0233 *sen* a *tsubo*. So if every inch of a lot in the Concession was covered by a house the taxes would be only .2788 *sen* a *tsubo*. The present land tax only in the Concession is 28 *sen* a *tsubo*. It would seem quite reasonable to suppose that the con-

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struction of the language of the treaties embraced all taxes in the one tax on land.

If I be correct here it will be seen that the additional tax imposed upon houses in the Concession will raise the tax on each *tsubo* covered by a house to .3348 *sen*. If now this *kazei* (house tax) of .224 *sen* a *tsubo* is going to be levied in the Concession, it would be only justice to diminish the tax on the uncovered land to the same that is paid outside the Concession. This, of course, cannot be done without breaking the treaty. But if the treaty left the gate open for increasing the taxes to any extent, but not for lowering them, it has been another case where Occidental diplomacy has been outwitted by Oriental.

Very truly, E. SNODGRASS.

Tokyo, September 9th, 1899.

JAPANESE TAX DEMAND NOTES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I enclose two receipts for taxes on green paper, and two on pink that were handed to me, by an official, who said I was to pay same to the Treasury within a few days. As the sum was small I sent it at once and was told the pink receipt was for a tax on 2 jinrikis and a kuruma for the month of September, and the green for a city tax, but for what I could not find out in spite of several enquiries. The receipts are, as you will see, all in Japaeese, and nearly every one I have given them to read, renders them differently.

Surely it is not too much to ask that what the tax is for be printed on the back in English after the style of the new land tax receipts, and with something, either a crest or coat of arms, on them. At present there is nothing to distinguish them from a tea house or shoemaker's bill.

Yours truly, BRITISHER.

Yokohama, Sept. 9th, 1899.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Referring to the paragraph in to-day's *Japan Mail* headed "Local Taxes," I beg to say that on sending our interpreter to the Mayor's Office to ask the meaning of the Pink and Green Tax Notices, they explained that the Pink Notice is the Government jinrikisha Tax of 12 *sen* 2 *rin* per month, and the Green Notice is the Municipal jinrikisha Tax of 18 *sen* 3 *rin* per month—which Municipal Tax is levied under the general name of Business Tax. If this is correct this makes a total Tax of 30 *sen* 5 *rin* per month on each jinrikisha, which seems pretty stiff. Personally I have a closed and an open jinrikisha on which I am notified I am taxed *sen* 67 per month—*yen* 8.04 per annum—which is 8 per cent. per annum on their original cost! Are the people who hire out jinrikishas charged on the 18 *sen* 3 *rin* per month basis?

Yours truly, SOJOURNER.

Yokohama, 12th Sept., 1899.

[Among the receipts shown to us there was only one for a *jinrikisha* tax. There is no such thing now as a *jinrikisha* tax levied by the Central Government. It has been abolished. The only tax is a local tax, and its proceeds are applied to repairing the roads. In Tokyo the annual tax on private *jinrikisha* is one *yen* for a single *jinrikisha*, 2 *yen* for a double one. There is no other tax.—Ed. *J.M.*]

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In your footnote to my letter in to-day's *Japan Mail* you say you have only seen one Tax notice marked *jinrikisha*. That is so, but the other tax notice accompanying it, marked Business Tax, is, according to the Municipal Officials, the Municipal *Jinrikisha* Tax. When asked why it was not marked so, they said that they collected about fifty different Taxes under the name of Business Tax, and that they could not insert all the various names.

Yours truly, SOJOURNER.

Yokohama, 13th Sept., 1899.

[We learn from Kanagawa Kencho that the pink form is a *Ken* tax, 1 *yen* 46 *sen* per annum; the green form is a Municipal tax, 2 *yen* 19 *sen* per annum=3 *yen* 65 *sen*. Both taxes are collected by the Municipal office in Kanagawa Ken.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE POST OFFICE—A COMPLAINT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me a few lines in your valuable columns in order to point out what I consider an important defect in the management of the Post Office business in Yokohama.

The window at the Central Post Office, where one has to apply for the issue of inland postal orders, is open only from 8 a.m. to noon every week-day, and shut during the whole of Sunday, so that it is open in all only twenty-four hours in the week, and the public finds it impossible to send an order for forty-four hours consecutively, from Saturday noon till Monday at 8 a.m. Whether other people are annoyed or not by this regulation, I cannot say, but I should think they must be, as I, although I have only a few occasional postal orders to send, have been much inconvenienced lately on account of the rule.

I have lived in several countries in Europe, and do not remember instances of Post Offices being shut at noon every day and on Sunday. Post Offices are not like private offices where people are at liberty to do as they please; they should try and meet the public's convenience. What is the clerk doing behind his window in the afternoon? If he is busy with something else, why not have another man take his place after 12? Yokohama is not a rustic hamlet, and the extent of the postal business here must be such as to enable the Department of Communications to spend ten *yen* a month more on a useful clerk.

Another annoyance at the Post Office is the unnecessary waiting and walking about from one window to another. If you want to send money you call at the window where inland postal money orders are supposed to be issued; after some waiting, the clerk hands you a piece of paper which you must take to another window, where you have again to wait. After a few minutes have elapsed, the cashier will take your money, and give you another piece of paper, which you have to take to the former window, and wait again. When, after all, you get your postal order and receipt, twenty minutes or more will have elapsed.

In Europe, one clerk does the whole business.

The principal improvement, it seems to me, would be to open the window a few hours every afternoon on week-days, and two or three hours at least on Sunday morning.

Yours, E. B.

Yokohama, Sept. 7th, 1899.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to the complaint made by Mr. E. B., which appeared in your issue of the 11th inst. in regard to the management of the Post Office Money Order service in Yokohama, I beg that you will kindly insert my answer in your columns in order that the public may not be mistaken by the comments of your correspondent.

During 2 months of the year, *i.e.*, from the 11th July up to the 10th September, the Money Order and Saving Banks business had been ordered to be transacted between the hours 8 a.m. and 12 noon, throughout the country, every other month the windows for both the Money Order and Savings Banks remain open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mr. E. B. is pretty much annoyed at waiting and he complains of the trouble in walking about from one window to another. I feel extremely sorry for him, but the points Mr. E. B. complained of can not be got rid of, unless the system is reorganised.

Mr. E. B. may not be aware that the Post Office business has lately increased and it is only natural that applicants who crowd at the window should be kept waiting a little longer.

To facilitate the transaction of business, the necessary instructions to all my clerks have from time to time been given and I heartily desire that your correspondent should understand that any of my Post Office Staff would not purposely keep him waiting and walking thereabouts.

I would like to say that anybody who observes any mismanagement on the part of my clerks will do me a favour if he applies to me for an explanation, which shall be readily accorded.

I am, Dear Sir, yours respectfully,

T. TAKESHITA,
Postmaster.

"A POLICY OF SECULARITY."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The question now under discussion, of the relation of the Japanese Government to instruction in religion in the schools of the empire, is one vitally connected with the future welfare of this people. In a sense, the settlement of the question is a matter in which Japanese opinion only is concerned. The judgment of foreigners might consequently be wholly gratuitous and obtrusive. But Japan has invited criticism of her acts from the outside world, by having, within the very recent past, cast aside her ancient civil and social order and undertaken to appropriate the kind of civilization whose origin lies in the West. The European and American, therefore, has part in Japan's present transformation, and does not assume impertinent privileges when he passes judgment upon the various measures by which Japan marks her present change. As one who is deeply interested in seeing Japan make only helpful advances in her new career, I am prompted to say something about a special claim, in connection with discussion of the religio-educational question, made in the editorial columns of the *Japan Times* this morning.

"Yamato Chuyo," the writer of the *Times* editorial, attempts to justify the present exclusion of religious instruction from all government schools, and the consequent practical extension of religious teaching from all private schools, upon the claim of the adherence of the Japanese nation to "a policy of secularity." In the same sentence, with another reference, however, the writer employs an epigram, "to ignore is to condemn." Are we then to suppose that "Yamato Chuyo" holds that the secularization of the Japanese nation and its ignoring of religion in its system of education is condemnation of religion? Yet the Constitution of the empire guarantees freedom to every person under Japanese law in the exercise of his religious faith, a fact that does not very strongly support the *Times* writer's extraordinary claims.

But what of this provision of the Constitution in connection with the treatment now ordered towards private schools in which religious teaching is associated with the ordinary educational curriculum? I incline to think that true respect has not been shown to this guarantee by the authorities to whom its interpretation and application have been entrusted. So long as the Imperial Department of Education so discriminates between secular Government schools and private schools that add religion to the standard educational curriculum,—so discriminates as to expose the pupils of the latter to serious political and social injury, just so long there is no real freedom of religious faith and practice in this country. With this discrimination, the Government is not *non*-religious, or merely *secular*, it is *anti* religious. With this discrimination, the Government brings every religious father and mother under constraint, and puts a premium upon irreligion for every school boy and girl in the land. I see no other conclusion to the regulation that now shuts out religion from all Government schools and, at the same time, condemns to various evils the pupils of schools that encourage religious faith and life, and sets free from those evils the pupils of the schools that the Government recognizes.

There is but one just and constitutionally justified policy—so it seems to me—for the Japanese Government to adopt in the settlement of the present question. Let the Government be, as it is, practically anti-religious,

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but let it be religiously impartial. It is undoubtedly wise for this and for any other nation not to make religion part of the curriculum of schools supported by the nation as such. No Government can fairly recognize and take under its protection any one form of religion, so long as there are any of its subjects who can not accept for themselves that form of religion. But every Government can fairly, and should, allow the free practice of any moral form of religion among the people and take no account of the religious faith of any of its subjects, so long as, in other respects, the subject's actions conform to law. Let the Japanese Government be secular in its national school system, but let it not only allow private schools to be religious if they will, but also allow them to be on the same footing politically and socially with the national schools, so long as they maintain the Empire's standard courses of study and discipline. In other words, let the national schools remain as they are, purely secular, but also let Buddhists, if they will, support with their own money the same kinds of schools, adding "the great Law's" teachings to them; let Mohammedans, Confucianists, Shintoists, and Christians do likewise for their own creeds; and for all the pupils of such private schools let there be the same postponement of liability for conscription in the army and the same opportunities for places in the Government official service that are enjoyed by the students of the secular schools of the Empire.

In this very clearly lies justice and progress. But, as the Government is now tending, beyond question, the religious liberty guaranteed to the Japanese people by their constitution is not fully given them and the Imperial authority is not used in behalf of national "secularity" but as a force that makes directly for irreligion and its consequences. CLAY MACCAULEY.

Tokyo, Sept. 14th, 1899.

AMERICAN NOTES.

Commenting on the present political outlook in the United States, *Bradstreets* remarks:—It is seldom that the line of cleavage between national parties is so nebulous as it now happens to be in the United States. At the last presidential election the issue was defined with sufficient clearness. It was between sound money on the one hand and a demand for free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 on the other. Many things, however, have happened since that issue was forced upon the electors of the country. A steady movement in the direction of improved material conditions has removed the basis of discontent which gave the main element of strength to the opponents of the free-silver heresy. The abundance of gold provided by the increased productiveness of the mines has destroyed the arguments based upon the alleged scarcity of the world's standard money metal. The successful conduct of a foreign war has given the administration at Washington a prestige which mistakes in the conduct of one of the great departments and the failure to put an end to the Filipino insurrection have not sufficed seriously to weaken. The fact that the work of the government remains unfinished, coupled with a general feeling that it should be completed, seems to put the administration in a position from which it will require a revolution in public opinion to remove it. Upon the other side, affairs seem to be in a chaotic condition. There seems to be no clear indications as to the nature of the ground which will be occupied by the opposition in the next national campaign. The standard bearer of 1896 appears to be keen for the retention of the free-silver issue, but too many leading members are convinced of its hopelessness to admit of its being again galvanized into the activity it manifested in 1896. The free-silver leader is also an opponent of expansion, but the temper of a people just emerging from a victorious war is hardly of a nature to lend itself to opposition upon this ground, and it is certain that many democrats will vote with the administration if any issue should be made upon this point. Much has been made of the anti trust issue, but upon this it is only fair to expect that both parties will take positions which it will require a fine discrimination to distinguish. Upon the various points raised the opposition has the doubtful advantage of the choice of position; the administration party is to a large extent compelled by events. It is obliged to stand for the things that it has maintained, and to that extent cannot choose its ground; but this limitation may be regarded as an element of strength rather than of weakness among a people to whom positive and definite opinions and actions have always appealed with peculiar force.

Great interest is being expressed in the maiden voyage of the *Oceanic*, the new White Star liner. She was expected to arrive at New York early in September. The *Oceanic* is 704 feet long and 68 feet beam, with a hold measuring 44 feet in depth. Her gross measurement is a little over 17,000 tons, or about 5,000 tons larger than those of the great Cunard line vessels, the *Campania* and *Lucania*, which heretofore have held the record for size on the New York and Liverpool route. Her cost is placed at over $5 000,000, and special interest attaches to her going into commission because in many respects, notably in length and displacement, she exceeds the celebrated *Great Eastern*, which, while a great undertaking and superior in size to anything built before or since, up to the present was a failure commercially mainly because of insufficient engines. The *Great Eastern*, it will be recalled, after its failure as a passenger and cargo carrier, was used considerably in cable laying, and finally became a coal hulk before disappearing for ever from the maritime lists. The *Oceanic* will, it is said, have accommodations for 1,710 passengers—410 first class, 300 second class, and 1,000 third class or steerage, besides carrying a crew of 390 men.

In an interview a few days ago Governor Atkinson, of West Virginia, speaking of his state, said that it was just beginning to grow. There are thirty-six railroads projected, eight of which are under construction. West Virginia is the first state in the Union for oil and lumber, second for coke, and third for coal. In a short time we hope, said he, to pass Pennsylvania in the manufacture of coke, as the area of Pennsylvania is limited, while that of West Virginia is almost unlimited. Eighteen months ago West Virginia passed Ohio in the production of coal, and this year we will go into second place, ahead of Illinois. It will take Virginia about twenty-five years to surpass the Pennsylvania coal output. Our oil production last year was 20 000,000 barrels of white sand oil, and oil is being found in nearly all the counties; we turned out 2,600,000 tons of coke and 16,000,000 tons of coal in the same period. Mines are being opened all over the State.

Some 25,000 cases of leaf tobacco, valued at about $1,000,000, changed hands in Milwaukee in the third week of August. The greater proportion of the tobacco was grown in Wisconsin, and the American Tobacco Company was the purchaser; the price paid being somewhere between 10 and 12 cents a pound. Each case contained about 350 pounds. The deal is said to be the largest on record in the tobacco trade.

The managers of the *Atlantic Monthly* announce the resignation of Mr. Walter H. Page from the editorship of that well known periodical. Mr. Page is to take up work for the allied houses of Harper & Bros and the Doubleday & McClure Co. While his retirement from the editorship of the *Atlantic* is to be regretted, the directors of that magazine have chosen one who will no doubt prove a worthy successor, Professor Bliss Perry Holmes, professor of English literature at Princeton University. He is a graduate of Williams College, class of '81 and the author of a number of essays, two novels, and several stories.

William Baldwin, a diver of Seattle, lost his life on Aug 16, near Tacoma, while trying to reach the sunken ship *Andelana*. He had descended 150 feet when he signalled distress, but life was crushed out by the terrible pressure before he could be brought to the surface.

THE DYING OF DEATH.

Death as a motive is moribund. Perhaps the most distinctive note of the modern spirit is the practical disappearance of the thought of death as an influence directly bearing upon practical life. We insure our lives, it is true, but, having done so, think no more of the matter, except in the spirit of William Micawber when he signed a promissory note. There are no skeletons at our feasts nowadays, or at worst they are living ones. Death has lost its terrors, and is often regarded as the last and best friend.

Here, more than anywhere, we find the greatest contrast between modern times and the Middle Ages. It is of course difficult—more difficult than some people think—to make generalisations about what mediæval folk thought and felt; but on this particular point there can be little doubt, that death was king throughout mediæval Europe, and that he not only reigned but governed. The power of the Church consisted in large measure for the appeal it could make to this motive. The institutions of the chantry-priest, indulgences, and dispensations, were in the most intimate connection with the financial side of the Church's organisation. In the sphere of art the *Danse Macabre* is almost the only secular subject, if it can be called secular, which attracted the imagination of the mediæval artist. The greatest and most Christian poem of the Middle Ages deals entirely with the life after death, and we can see from Dante how vividly a man's fate after death is connected with any survey or reminiscence of his life in the sublunary world. Death and the Devil rule over them all; and even the most modern of the mediævalists, Villon, expressed his sentiments in fullest detail in his last will and testament.

With us of the modern world all this has changed, or is changing. The Church in all its sections is devoting its attention more and more to this life than any other. Death is regarded no longer as a King of Terrors, but rather as a kindly nurse who puts us to bed when our day's work is done. The fear of death is being replaced by the joy of life. The flames of Hell are sinking low, and even Heaven has but poor attractions for the modern man. Full life here and now is the demand; what may come after is left to take care of itself. Ever since Spinoza laid down the proposition—"Homo sapiens de nihilo minus quam de morte cogitat," the world has become wiser in a Spinozistic sense. Death is disappearing from our thoughts.

One of the main causes of this remarkable change in sentiment is the improvement in modern sanitation and hygiene, and the increased average duration of life. In the Middle Ages nothing was so uncertain as life. Duels and private wars, feuds and bandits, plagues and pestilences, made men uncertain of their lives from hour to hour. When men's position in life depended upon the strength of their right arm they ceased to be effective when they became "stale" as athletes. Thus old age began for men early in the forties. The average age was younger, yet death came more frequently, so that his visits were the more and more unwelcome. When any day might be one's last it was natural to be always thinking what came after death. Nowadays death comes later, with more warnings of his approach, and takes us less by surprise. We are more willing to go, less eager to stay.

That increase in the average age of men has wider results than would appear at first sight. The forties in a man's life are the decade of disillusion, and a society in which the tone is mainly given by men of forty and upwards is sure to be practical and pessimistic. Now the tendency of modern life is to put power in men's hands mainly after they have reached the age of forty. Mr. Galton has noticed, in his *Hereditary Genius*, that men do not get into the

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biographical dictionaries till after the age of forty. It is only in the present generation that the cumulative effect of the increased age of the men of influence has had time to show itself, and the result has been what is known as the *fin de siècle* tone. Part of this tone is characterised by the dying of death.

It is true that quite recently there has been somewhat of a reaction against the general tendency towards dissolution. For the moment at least the Young Man is given a chance, at all events in literature. But this is due to another tendency of the age, a demand for individuality combined with the spread of the practice of advertisement. Yet the "boom" rarely reaches anyone under thirty, whereas but a generation or two ago a genius to be a genius ought to come to the front under twenty-five.

That very tendency towards individuality which for the moment is giving the young men a chance again, is another of the causes that diverts the attention from death. The hurry-scurry of modern life leaves no one time to meditate among the tombs. The increased number of interests lowers the intensity of any single one, and prevents us from being able to concentrate our attention on the subject, which, if it is to be thought about at all, makes a demand upon our whole thought. We have so much to think about we cannot think much about anything.

Town life, again, increases this tendency towards a distraction of interests, and we are getting more and more a nation of town dwellers. Everyone must have noticed how in a town the disappearance of a friend by travel or migration is less noticeable than in the country, and the same applies to his total disappearance. We are cast back for the moment on to our natural feeling self, when we hear of a friend's death; but almost immediately the claims of modern life are upon us. Letters have to be written, business, or even pleasure has to be attended to; send a wreath, and our friend drops out of life.

Only in one direction does town life tend to increase the intensity of grief at the final parting. The slackening of the bonds of friendship strengthens the ties of family. Human nature must have something to cling to, and town life leaves us only the family to which we can cling. Thus the loss of those nearest to us is felt more deeply, more as a loss of part of ourselves, than under simpler conditions of life, where affection has a wider range over which to spread. Yet here modern conditions tend to soften the blow. More and more death tends to remove the oldest, and the gaps it causes seem more natural and normal. Often, too, medical science protracts life at the cost of extra suffering, so that death comes at last more as a release, and frequently causes more relief than grief to those who remain.

For this and other reasons death is losing its terrors, and is often regarded rather as a welcome friend than a grisly visitant. Ceasing to be on the part of our friends is so often regarded as a happy release for them, that it is losing its terrors for ourselves. The stress and strain of modern life, again, make us regard the cessation of life with much more equanimity than of old. We go about ingeminating peace, and most of us who live the town life can only look forward to peace in the grave. Part of the growing attraction of Buddhism consists undoubtedly in the prominence given to the conception of Nirvana.

In another way, too, town life lessens the insistent dread of death. One of the few things we know about the younger Hallam from *In Memoriam* is, that he thought that life in towns tended to crush individuality. There can be little doubt of the truth of his opinion. The very gregariousness that leads to town life tends to imitation of our neighbours, and the "suburban mind" is the ideal of the conventional. The same books from Mudie's, visits to the same theatres, holidays at the same time, all tend to produce a sameness in character. The increase of branch establishments all over London, and even in the provinces, tends to make people dress alike, eat and drink alike, more and more as the century nears its end.

Now, with this dying out of individuality, the belief in personal immortality tends to fade simultaneously. There is a dim feeling that the Recording Angel would not be able to distinguish between me and my neighbour in any future life. The average man feels a crushing sense of insignificance produced by the air of great cities, which renders his continued existence less likely to the imagination, and men are getting more of an average every day. We are getting more humble; we are realising the possibility that the universe can manage to get on without us. The world forgets us while we live; we are getting to fear or think that God may forget us when we die.

Thus on all sides death is losing its terrors. We are dying more frequently when our life's work is done, and it seems more natural to die. We live so hurriedly that the final ceasing to be is getting to be regarded as the *summum bonum*. The favourite text on tombs is getting to be—"God giveth his beloved sleep." The sentiment expressed on Professor Huxley's tombstone, "It is well even if the sleep be endless," expresses a general feeling. Life is becoming so complicated that any one man seems less important and significant in this life: so it is harder to imagine him having any more significant function in any other. And when the joys and fears of a future life become dim, death as a motive disappears.

It is not as if any marked revolution of feeling with regard to continued life in the future existed: that remains the great Perhaps it always was. What people think about it, when they do think about it, depends on their temperament. But the point I am making is, that they do not think about it at all; and the whole subject is ceasing to have practical effect on the life of man.

There are signs of this everywhere. The increasing popularity of cremation is one of them. Still more significant is the disappearance of Hell from popular theology. "That is all very well," said the Scotch Calvinist, when he heard Dean Stanley, "but gie me my Hell." But few will be found to re-echo his cry. And with the disappearance of Hell the divergences of the various creeds lose much of their significance; and so we have toleration, which so often wears the garb of indifference.

The most significant of all, however, is the attitude of the Church in all its branches. The old idea of the clergyman was of the man who prepared us for another life. This is being gradually changed to a conception of him as a social regenerator. Acts of corporeal charity are taking precedence of the sacraments. Other-worldiness is giving way to worldiness of another sort. At the root of half the socialism of the day is the thought that this life is the only one with which men have practically to do. While Heaven and Hell could act as compensating balances, the inequalities of men's lives could be regarded with something approaching equanimity: it would all be made right in another world. But now this thought fails in efficacy, and as a consequence we are socialists now.

With some, however, the need of redress is not keenly felt, and the dying of death affects them in a different direction. The text is "Eat, drink, and be merry, for to-morrow we die"; though perhaps the motive is only subconscious. The increased pace of the pursuit of pleasure, to which Lady Jeune some time ago drew attention, is not remotely connected with the change of sentiment which we are discussing. The exclusive worship of wealth is not perhaps an entirely modern phenomenon, but its heightened intensity may be regarded as a part of the same movement. The good things of this world do not lose in attractiveness when they are thought to be the only good things we are likely to know.

Not that death is dying without a struggle. The marked recrudescence of mysticism, occultism, esoteric Buddhism, and other obscurantisms is *au fond* a reaction against the growth of the sentiment that death is dying. While most men are getting accustomed to the thought of a possible existence of the universe without them, there is a minority whose imaginations cannot consider absence of death as a motive from its have a much stronger hold on life. Whether this implies a greater amount of individuality or a larger infusion of personal vanity, we need not inquire. But the fact remains, that many refuse to dismiss death from their thoughts in the modern way. The Society for Psychical Research is a conspicuous example of this tendency. Though its leaders refuse to prejudge the question of an after life, the practical result of their researches has always been to assume possible communion with those on the other shore. Mr. F. W. H. Myers, who is in large measure the soul of the Society, is a conspicuous type of the mind which refuses to let death die. He has written much on many subjects, but whatever his topic he cannot leave death out of his peroration. Whether he writes on Virgil or Victor Hugo, George Eliot or Marcus Aurelius, French Thought or Greek Oracles, death is always part of his refrain. It would be difficult to say how far Mr. Myers is exceptional, but for the purposes of the present argument he may be taken as the exception proving the rule.

The striking increase in the popularity of suicide in the present generation may possibly be regarded as another peculiarity of the dying of death. The whole subject is bizarre and weird, and difficult of treatment. But among the motives that have led to the rise in the suicide rate of civilised nations, there can be little doubt the disappearance of the death dread must be reckoned. Shakespeare saw that the dread of something after death was one of the main motives for preventing suicide. It is not astonishing that as this dread diminishes suicide should increase.

What further effect the dying of death may have upon the tone of civilisation would be hazardous to predict. The sentiment at present takes two different forms. The question of a future existence may be regarded as an insoluble mystery which is not allowed to have practical effect upon life. This leaves room for the possibilities of speculation as to another existence merely as a matter of speculation. Or, on the other hand, belief may spread as to entire extinction of conscious personal life after death. The former form of the sentiment will still leave room for mysticism, the latter would ultimately lead to the complete death of death. Just at present the tendencies seem to be rather in the former direction.

Thus, if the second form of the feeling ultimately predominates, it may have different effects on different minds. Thus Tennyson, in *In Memoriam*, felt that if death were annihilation, love could not exist; whereas George Eliot, in her *Legend of Jubal*, makes the consciousness of the last parting send thrills of finer tenderness through love and wedded bliss. Which of these two tendencies will prevail will depend upon temperament and character. Just at present the refrain seems to be with Morris, in his *Earthly Paradise*:

> "Kiss me, love, for who knoweth
> What thing cometh after death."

Generally speaking, the loss of belief in personal immortality may influence the character in two opposite directions. Either there will be a clutching after the goods of this world for oneself, and feverish activity of enjoyment of them; or, with the higher and better mind, there will be increased social activity and a striving to make things better all round. There are signs of both tendencies in contemporary life. The spread of the decadent spirit marks one form of the tendency. The wide interest in social schemes and regeneration may be regarded as a move in the other direction. How far either of these is consciously based upon what I call the dying of death, or may be traced to other influences, is a question not easy of decision.

It is perhaps worth while recalling the fact that, once before in the world's history, death lost his power to influence. The nation that gave the conception of righteousness to the world managed to do so without bringing death into the account at all. One of the most striking things about the Old Testament is the complete absence of death as a motive from its

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pages. Recent research has indeed shown signs of the rise of the doctrine of personal immortality in some of the later Psalms, possibly under the influence of Persian thought. But on the whole, the Old Testament is without any appeal to death as a motive. Death was dying two thousand years ago, but he revived to rule the world almost to the present day. Shall we see the revival? Who knows?

JOSEPH JACOBS, in the *Contemporary Review*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The late Baron von Heydebrand, who died recently, aged 80, has left a large and valuable collection of works on chess, and efforts are being made to keep it in Germany.

The New Zealand Budget shows that the past year closed with a surplus of £496,000 The ordinary revenue exceeded the estimates by £207,500. Nearly all the Australian colonies show a like increase.

Mr. Krausse, in his book on Russia and her policy, says the promulgation of the Peace manifesto is as if an "expert and oft-convicted burglar were to issue a plea for the reduction of the police force on account of its cost."

The Tientsin Railway Bureau has concluded a contract with a German firm, Messrs. Arnhold Karberg & Co., for the supply of 10,000,000 tons of Japanese coal, as the Kaiping coal mine has suffered from floods, and is unable to yield a sufficient supply.

While operating against the banditti in Negros, a private of the 6th U.S. Infantry was swept away by a mountain torrent and drowned, the weight of his rifle slung on his back, with the cartridge belt, canteen, and haversack, dragging him under the water.

This is a special correspondent's account of "Social America":—"Although it is Midsummer and very warm here, things are not very dull. What with yacht races, strikes, political investigations, and the yellow-fever spectre, there is plenty of interest for rich and poor alike."

The Kobe Fire Insurance Association have presented Mr. A. C. Sim with a cheque for *yen* 1,000 "to show their appreciation of the valuable services you have rendered to the community and the Fire Insurance Companies, as superintendent of the Concession Fire Brigade for so many years." We endorse the *Hiogo Evening News's* opinion: "Never was a testimonial more richly deserved."

Since the publication of the Law for the Encouragement of Deep Sea Fishery in 1897, the number of foreign smuggling boats has greatly decreased and consequently Japanese have benefited not a little. The authorities are considering methods of encouragement in the way of giving information of the positions of productive fishing grounds and instruction in fishery methods.

At Molenbeek, near Brussels, a savage fight recently occurred between two workmen. During a quarrel one caught up an axe and rushed at the other, who, at the same time, armed himself with a foil. Almost immediately afterwards the first fell pierced through the body, while his companion sank down, his head split by a blow from the axe. The tragedy was witnessed by a crowd, who, it seems, had no time or will to interfere.

The French Far Eastern squadron for 1900 will be the *D'Entrecasteaux* (1st-class cruiser), *Jean Bart*, *Pascal*, *Descartes*, and *D'Estrées* (cruisers), *Lion*, *Surprise*, *Décidée*, and *Zélée* (gunboats). A Rear-Admiral will command the Cochin China division, which will be composed of the following vessels:—*Bengali*, *Aspic*, *Baionnette*, *Caronade*, *Triomphante*, *Comète*, *Styx*, and *Vauban* (in reserve); the Annam and Tonkin station will be under the command of a captain, who will have the *Bayard* as flagship, with the following vessels in his division:—*Kersaint*, *Estoc*, *Avalanche*, and *Jacquin*. The *Bayard* will be stationed at Port Courbet.

In Styria and the Carniole, according to M. Ottavi, editor of *Il Coltivatore*, a leading Italian journal of agriculture, vine-growers there have no fear of hail now, thanks to the employment of mortars firing blank cartridge. The mortar, shaped like a slender funnel, is charged with 1,500 grains of powder, and the discharge acting on the hail cloud produces rain instead of hail. In Venetia, Piedmont, and elsewhere, societies have been started to apply this "para-hail" for the benefit of the farmers. One mortar suffices for a space 500 to 750 yards in diameter, so that they ought to be situated from half a mile to a mile from each other.

The police have arrested the thieves who broke into the residence of Mr. F. S. Mayer, 43-A, Bluff, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Okada, who is always most courteous in his dealings with foreigners and indefatigable in his efforts to prevent and trace crimes of this description, set the detectives at work, and two men named Sugiyama Naotaka, 29, and Sugiyama Rintaro, 22, were arrested in the act of trying to dispose of some of the stolen articles. A third man was arrested yesterday afternoon. The two first-named have confessed to making an attempt on the house occupied by Mr. R. W. Borthwick, at No 112, Bluff. Many of the articles stolen from Mr. Mayer's house have been recovered.

The "Bower-birds" of Australia and Papua, which make "runs" or bowers" of grass, are described, with photographs, by Mr. A. J. Campbell, of Melbourne, in the "Proceedings of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh." These "bowers" are different from the nests of the birds, which are built from 10 to 15 feet above the ground, and usually contain two or three white eggs finely pencilled. The Satin Bower-bird decorates its bower with gay parrot feathers; the Spotted, the Great, the Queensland, and the Regent Bower-birds prefer bones and shells. When a glittering object, for example, a jewel, is lost in a district of Bower birds it is well to look for it in their bowers, Some of the bowers of grass and sticks are four to six feet high.

The funeral of the late Mr. Charles Carssia; who was found dead in a bath at Ashinoyu, took place on Saturday afternoon at the cemetery, the cortége starting from 113 Creekside, the residence of Mr. Taller, deceased's uncle. Numerous wreaths were sent and Mr. Noel and Mr. Hamilton, of Shanghai, friends of the deceased, followed the remains to the grave. Mr. Carssia, who was in the service of the Chinese Imperial Post Office at Shanghai, had left on six week's leave and had been staying at Ashinoyu with his uncle Mr. Taller, of Kobe, and remained there after Mr. Taller returned. On the afternoon of his death he had been playing lawn tennis and afterwards went into a bath, where he was found dead half an hour later by the amah. It is supposed he was overcome by the sulphur fumes. Mr. Carssia was an Austrian by nationality. He was 25 years of age, and has a mother and two sisters in Shanghai.

CRICKET.

FLEET *v.* Y. C. & A. C.

The Fleet made a much better show in on Wednesday's match against the local Club. Going in first, they compiled a total of 153 for the loss of seven wickets before declaring their innings closed. Yokohama responded well, making 81 for two wickets, but unfortunately time did not permit of the match being played out. The weather was delightful, and the day was altogether a most pleasant one.

Jellicoe and Farie commenced batting for the Fleet, Kilby and Libeaud sharing the attack. Kilby's first ball Jellicoe hit for two, but next ball he was taken in the slips by P.B. Clarke. Chapman succeeded and, despite several changes of bowling, he and Farie carried the score to 33 before they were parted, Farie succumbing to a ball from Goddard. Salisbury then partnered Chapman, and they remained together till 45, when Sales was bowled by P. Clarke. Wood followed and the score mounted steadily till 61 was reached, when Edwards dismissed Chapman, and four later Killick, who succeeded him, lost his wicket without scoring. Bull then partnered Wood, and the two kept obstinately together, though several bowling changes were tried, until at 115 Wood was stumped by Kilby after contributing a useful 28. Manisty was run out at 138, after scoring six, and Tuke then partnered Bull, who signalised the event by scoring six by hitting the ball right away over the fence. E. B. Clarke then missed a fairly easy chance from Bull. The mistake was an expensive one, for the batsmen continued to score freely, and were still unparted when the Fleet captain "declared" at 153, Bull carrying his bat for 57, which included one 6, five 4's, and four 3's.

P. B. Clarke and Crawford started batting for Yokohama, Manisty and Killick sharing the attack. Clarke was taken by Killick in the slips during Manisty's first over, after a single had been scored by Crawford. One wicket for one. Kilby followed, and the play became most uninteresting, no fewer than five maidens being bowled in succession. As the batsmen got set, however, the pace of scoring quickened, and 50 went up before Crawford was caught by Lawson at cover-point after contributing a careful and well played 31. White followed, and the score mounted rapidly. Salisbury took the ball at 70, and sent in some lobs, but they had no effect, and the pair were unparted when stumps and the game were drawn with the score at 81. Score:—

THE FLEET.

Captain Jellicoe, c. P. B. Clarke, b. Kilby ...	2
Lieut. Farie, b. Goddard ...	19
Chapman, b. Edwards ...	17
Rev. C. H. Salisbury, c. Kilby b. Clarke ...	10
Lieut. Wood, st. Kilby b. White ...	28
Killick, b. Kingdon ...	0
Mr. Bull, not out ...	57
Mr. Manisty, run out ...	6
Commander Tuke, not out ...	5
Lawson, Peace } did not bat; innings declared closed.	
Extras ...	9
Total ...	153

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
E. W. Kilby ...	40	38	—	1
C. E. Libeaud ...	50	12	2	—
H. S. Goddard ...	55	14	2	1
P. B. Clarke ...	35	13	3	1
F. E. White ...	40	27	1	1
A. Kingdon ...	40	18	3	1
E. B. S. Edwards ...	30	8	2	1
F. H. Bugbird ...	15	13	—	—

Libeaud bowled 1 wide.

Y. C. AND A. C.

Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Killick, b. Manisty ...	0
Mr. K. S. Crawford, c. Lawson, b. Farie ...	31
Mr. E. W. Kilby, not out ...	22
Mr. F. E. White, not out ...	23
Mr. A. Kingdon, Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, Mr. F. A. Stewart, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. E. B. Clarke, Mr. H. S. Goddard, Mr. C. E. Libeaud } did not bat.	
Extra ...	5
Total (for two wickets) ...	81

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Manisty ...	105	27	10	1
Killick ...	51	18	5	—
Salisbury ...	20	8	—	—
Farie ...	20	11	—	—
Preece ...	10	7	—	—
Lawson ...	10	5	—	—

Preece and Manisty each bowled a wide.

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BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept. 9th :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,735,218
Amount of convertible notes issued...	203,583,250
Government deposits	46,566,626
General deposits	8,185,855
Exchange liability	199,567
Total	303,370,518

CR.	
Discount notes	44,991,882
Foreign discount notes	11,531,482
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	66,641,904
Exchange liability	1,562,263
Government bonds	49,597,343
Property...	1,928,220
Bullion and Specie	105,117,421
Total	303,370,518

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	206,212,626
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,742,902
Silver	—
Total	103,742,902
Securities :—	
Government bonds	28,716,621
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,778,656
Commercial notes	40,974,447
Total	102,469,724

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	19,614
Silver	—	—
General loans	8,774,947	—
Government deposits	1,158,990	—
General deposits	85,577	—

A QUESTION OF UP OR DOWN.

Some unkind remarks are being made about Mr. Stephen Crane's new book of verses, "War Is Kind." For instance, "The Lounger" in *The Critic* (August) says that many of the poems will read equally well backward or forward—though perhaps we should regard this as an advantage rather than a flaw, since each poem is thus equally practically to two. Says the writer :—"Take the lines on page 28 and submit them to this process as I have done, and you will see that nothing is lost. Will the reader please say which of the following is right-side up without referring to the book :—

"Fast rode the knight
With spurs, hot and reeking,
Ever waving an eager sword,
'To save my lady!'
Fast rode the knight,
And leaped from saddle to war.
Men of steel flickered and gleamed
Like riot of silver lights,
And the gold of the knight's good banner
Still waved on a castle wall.

. . . . .

A horse,
Blowing, staggering, bloody thing,
Forgotten at foot of castle wall.
A horse
Dead at foot of castle wall."

"Dead at foot of castle wall.
A horse
Forgotten at foot of castle wall.
Blowing, staggering, bloody thing,
A horse

. . . . .

Still waved on a castle wall.
And the gold of the knight's good banner
Like riot of silver lights,
Men of steel flickered and gleamed
And leaped from saddle to war.
Fast rode the knight,
'To save my lady!'
Ever waving an eager sword,
With spurs, hot and reeking,
Fast rode the knight."

NOTES FROM SHANGHAI PAPERS.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of Sept. 7th has the following paragraph :—It was currently reported in Manila that the captain of the U S. transport *Hooker* was warned that he was running into danger, but still persisted in steering for the very centre of Corregidor Island, up which he ran his ship, and she is now a total wreck. She was a beautiful vessel, captured from the Spaniards at Porto Rico. When the news of her being stranded reached Manila, the Quartermaster's Department looked about for a heavy steamer to send to tow her off, and they took the *Espana* with 2,000 tons of hemp on board, telling the captain of the *Espana* to put himself under the orders of the captain of the *Hooker*. The *Espana* went down to Corregidor and made the hawsers fast, and the captain of the *Hooker* showed him in what direction he wanted to be towed. "Not much," said the captain of the *Espana*, "for if anything happens to the hawsers, I shall run up as high as you are." "Those are my orders," said the captain of the *Hooker*, "and you have to obey them." "If you will give me them in writing," said the captain of the *Espana*, "and sign them, I will obey them." This was done, and the captain of the *Espana* went on board his craft, collected all his papers and valuables, which he made into a parcel, and took up on the bridge with him, saw that the hawsers were fast, and steamed in the direction ordered by the captain of the *Hooker*. The *Hooker* would not budge, the hawsers parted, and the *Espana* duly went up on the shore and remained there.

It seems probable that the great scandals attaching to the tribute rice in transit to Peking by the Grand Canal will soon be swept away. On the 5th Sept. the following Imperial Edict was issued :—"The Censor Tsin K'uei-yang sends us a violent denunciation of the peculations and waste that have been rampant in the Tribute Rice Transport Department of the Grand Canal, belonging to the North Kiangsu division, and suggests, in order to put a stop, once for all, to this fraud upon the Imperial Government, that the transport of tribute rice by way of the Grand Canal be abolished altogether and that the grain due annually to Peking by that route be henceforth sold for its value in money and the amount transmitted to the Imperial Exchequer. The saving by this course would enable the Central Government to receive twelve times as much money as it does under the present wasteful and expensive *régime*. The Board of Revenue is commanded to consult on the above and report thereon to us."

Shanghai papers report the death of Mr. Alexander Thurburn, which occurred at the General Hospital at 5 a.m. on Sept. 6th. He arrived at Shanghai early in the sixties as a teataster in the firm of Smith, Kennedy & Co., and subsequently became a sharebroker, a profession which he followed up to the time of his being taken ill some weeks ago. He was, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, a gentleman in the fullest sense of the term, cultivated, courteous, and of the nicest integrity. Some years ago he undertook the Secretaryship of the General Hospital and held the post until his death. The Sisters there will keenly regret him. Whether fortune smiled or frowned on him he was always the same, and there was no man among the older residents here more generally and deservedly respected. He died a bachelor. His brother is the well-known Manager of the Mercantile Bank at Hongkong.

A remarkable squall occurred at Weihaiwei on the afternoon of the 5th instant. Tremendous hailstones fell, and two waterspouts broke well inside the harbour.

The *Sin Wan Pao* gives a list of the presents sent by the Empress Dowager to the Emperor of Japan through the Secret Commissioners Liu and Ching. There were 13 pieces in all, mostly jade curios, dating as far back as the time of the Sung, in the 12th and 13th centuries; there were also one scroll and two fans written by the Emperor or the Empress-Dowager's own hands.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Mr. Brenan, British Consul-General at Shanghai, has some instructive observations in his last report on the projected collection of the likin duties of certain provinces by the foreign Customs staff. He says that the privilege of navigating the inland waters by steam has not been availed of to any great extent, either at Shanghai or elsewhere. A few launches run with passengers to places hitherto closed to them, but they do nothing as carriers of merchandise. The uncertainty as to the treatment merchandise will receive at the likin stations so thickly planted in the region deters people from investing the money necessary to start line of properly constructed steamers. The tariff of dues and duties, which was promised before the end of the last Chinese year, has not been published, and no merchant can tell by how much the cost of his goods will have been increased when the journey is completed. But even the printed tariff would not tell him much, for at the likin stations the tariff has nothing to do with the amount levied. If the promised tariff were published, the only result would be that goods carried by steamer would have to pay the full amount at every station, while junks would continue, as at present, to act in collusion with the likin officials and pay much less than the tariff. As to the collection of likin by the foreign Customs, Mr. Brenan observes that strictness and impartiality are not to be expected until this desirable change is introduced, though there is no indication of it at present. "When the likin revenue of certain provinces was given as security for one of China's foreign loans, some Chinese officials shrewdly remarked that henceforth foreigners would cease to denounce the likin tax as an illegal exaction. Foreigners on their side said that as likin could not be abolished, the next best thing was to put the collection under foreign control. As usual, the provincial officials have got the better of us. They pay into the foreign bank the amount necessary to meet the interest on the foreign loan, which satisfies the foreign bondholder and they retain the collection in their own hands. It requires no great experience of Chinese methods to foretell that, as a result, the amount paid to the foreign banks will be an additional burden put on the back of the long-enduring likin victim." As to the proposed voluntary opening by the Chinese Government to foreign trade of Woo-sung, at the mouth of the Shanghai river, Mr. Brenan says that this also has been delayed, and many persons, whose opinion is entitled to respect, think it does not matter whether it is opened or not. He thinks land speculation amongst native officials has had much to do with the proposal. "The opening of new ports 'voluntarily' can be made profitable to those with early information. The officials and their friends buy up the best sites, and, if necessary, expropriate the Chinese owners; the foreign settlement is then marked out so as to include all these sites, and the port having been opened 'voluntarily,' China claims the right to name the conditions, one of which is that foreigners may not acquire land outside the foreign settlement.

Recent telegrams from the Shanghai Correspondent of *The Times* refer to the losses caused to British merchants by the Arbitrary prohibition by Chinese officials of the exportation of rice from ports on the Yang-tsze. Some light is thrown on this prohibition by Mr. Brenan's report. He says that the exportation of rice from Shanghai last year was nearly a million sterling less in value than the preceding year by reason of the restriction arbitrarily imposed by the local officials. Rice cannot be exported from China, but there is a considerable trade in it between the Yang-tsze and other Chinese ports, and the capricious and ill-considered restrictions put on the trade by the provincial authorities are a source of much annoyance and loss to British steamship companies. The officials justify their action by saying that exportation to the south would cause a scarcity in their own districts and produce a rise in the price of grain; but the true explanation, as given by Mr. Brenan, is this:—When the prohibition is in force rice can be sent away only under special passes, which officials sell, or grant only to their friends, who thus monopolize the trade; or they may arrange that only a certain quantity of rice shall be exported to the starving Canton province where it will be sold at a large profit; or, by prohibiting the exportation, they force down the market price locally, and then having bought all they can, they remove the interdict and export at a large profit on their own account. The treaty allows British merchants to carry rice and other grain from one part of China to another; but "if prohibition of the free movement of grain from one part of China to another is considered necesssary, it should only be

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after reasonable notice has been given by the central Government, and under such conditions as would prevent the local officials from cornering the market and enriching themselves at the expense of the people."—*The Times.*

THE ZODIACAL COINS OF THE EMPEROR JAHANGIR.

By E. Walter Maunder, F.R.A.S.

That acute critic in Wonderland, Alice, remarked, "What is the use of a book without pictures or conversation"; and we are afraid that to the ordinary lay mind unversed in numismatics, the great majority of Muhammadan coins must lie under the same ban. For, in accordance with the exhortation of the Qur'ān (Sūra, v. 92), "O ye who believe! verily wine and al maisar and statues and divining are only an abomination of Satan's work; avoid them that haply ye may prosper," as a rule such coins bear only inscriptions, but no device.

There are, however, some exceptions, and these of much more than ordinary interest, to which our attention was called during our stay in India some sixteen months ago.

It was our great good fortune, when passing through the city of Ahmadābād, that most interesting capital of the ancient kingdom of Gujarāt, to be introduced to Dr. George P. Taylor, M.A., who not only constituted himself our guide to all the chief buildings of the city, but who treated us to a sight of his collection of silver rupees, the most complete in the world after those of the public museums of Calcutta and Lahore. Hardly a year is wanting in the succession of coins that recall the history of the great Moghul Empire from the accession of Akbar the Great, whilst the reigns of the Sultans of Gujarāt, stretching backwards some two centuries earlier, are well represented. It was the rule of these sultans that impressed upon Ahmadābād its striking characteristic architecture—Muhammadan ideas being carried out in Hindu workmanship.

Amongst these our attention was at once caught by several coins, which not only appeared beautiful even to our unpractised eyes, but which were evidently also astronomical. These were some of the Zodiacal rupees of the Emperor Jahāngīr, son of Akbar the Great.

The story of how these coins, which seem so distinct an infraction of the Muhammadan rule which forbids the making of "any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth," came to be struck is a very interesting one. Neither Akbar nor his son and successor Jahāngīr were at all bigoted Muhammadans. The former, indeed, was a decided eclectic, and, in accordance with his exceedingly broad views, had married a representative of each of the three great faiths with which he was acquainted—the Christian, Muhammadan, and the Hindū. Jahāngīr, or Prince Selim, as he was called before his succession, was the son of the Muhammadan wife, but with the influence of his father's example before him it was not perhaps surprising that he held his mother's creed but laxly.

A far more potent influence came into his life when a Persian, named Kwāja Ghyās-ud-Din accompanied by his beautiful wife, and yet more beautiful daughter, visited his father's court. With the latter, Mehem-Nissa by name, he fell desperately in love. The emperor, in order to prevent the *mésalliance*, hurried the beautiful Persian into marriage with a valiant Turk of the name of Shere Afgan, whom he appointed as Deputy-Governor of Burdwan. Shere Afgan did not long survive his royal master, owing to circumstances upon which the new emperor, Jahāngīr, has not thought fit to enlarge in his *Memoirs*. It was not, however, until six years later that Mehrun-Nissa was married to the emperor, under the title of Nūr Mahal ("Light of the Palace"), changed two years later into the title by which she is best known, Nūr Jahān ("Light of the World").

The extraordinary influence which this great queen exercised is a well known fact of history, and is illustrated by coins both in silver and in gold, which bear her name along with that of her husband. Dr. George Taylor, who has kindly allowed me to quote freely from a paper of his, writes concerning these coins:—"As in the history of the Mughal Emperors of India she alone of all the Consorts wielded practically supreme power, so of all the Queens-Consort her name alone is found on any purely Indian coin. On the coins of a much earlier date the name of Sultā Razīya does indeed occur, but she was for three years a Queen Regnant (Dillī, 1239). The rupees of Nūr Jahān are gold coins, struck only tentionally to be found in the bazārs of Gujarāt. My collection contains twelve, of which nine were struck at Sūrat, between the Hijrī years 1033 and and 1036, one at Lāhor in 1034, and two at Ahmadābād—a very rare issue—in 1036 and 1037. Other mints of this coin are Agrah and Patna. The legend, covering both the obverse and the reverse, runs:—

"By the order of Jalāngīr Shāh, gold has gained a hundred splendours through the name of Nūr Jahān Pādshāh Begam."

"The jeweller Tavernier, whose travels took him into Persia and India about the year A.D. 1670, records at length how the famous zodiacal muhrs and rupees came to be struck during the four-and twenty hours that Jahāngīr permitted his wife to reign in his stead. On these coins, instead of the name of the month of issue, was stamped the figure of the zodiac corresponding to the particular month.

"The story, as recounted by Tavernier, runs thus:—

"One day that the king was extremely well pleased, and, having drunk briskly, began to be merry, after the queen had danced in his presence, he took her and sat her by him, protesting to her that he loved her above all the princesses in his court. . . . The queen, seeing the king so highly affected towards her, failed not to make use of so favourable an opportunity. 'To which purpose, sir,' said she, 'if it be true that your majesty has that kindness for me of which you would persuade me to assure myself, I know you will grant the one favour which I have passionately desired a long time; that I may only reign as sovereign the space of twenty-four hours.' This request surprised the king, and kept him sad for some days, being unwilling to deny her anything, and yet being as loath to grant her a boon of so high a nature. In the meantime the queen plied the king with pastime and divertisements, pretending to take no notice of his melancholy. At length, the fifth day after she had made her petition, the king, no long able to resist her charms, nor the strong passion he had for her, told her he would retire for twenty-four hours, and that she might assume the absolute command of the kingdom during that time. . . . It was a long time before that the queen had made everything ready, and that she had secretly hoarded up great quantities of gold and silver in all the cities where the mints were appointed, and had distributed the stamps as she thought convenient. And indeed it was a wonderful thing that a woman should so politically carry on so great a design as to have four-and-twenty stamps engraved, and to keep in readiness in gold and silver about two millions in all the cities, without being discovered to the king or any of the court. . . . . The day being appointed, she sent away messengers to all the cities, commanding them on that date to coin rupees of gold and silver to the value already mentioned. . . . . The thing was so suddenly done, especially in the cities near at hand, that within two hours after she was sate upon the throne, she caused several quantities of that gold and silver to be thrown among the people, which during the reign of Jahāngīr went currently for rupees. But when Sultān Kharram, who took upon him the name of Shāh Jahān, came to the throne after the death of his father, he forbade all persons to use those rupees upon pain of death, and commanded all that had any of them, either in gold or silver, to carry them to the mint, where they should receive the value of them, to the end they might be melted down. For which reason they are at present very rare, particularly those in gold. Among the rest, two or three of them are so hard to be found that an hundred crowns has been given for one of them. The rupees of gold are worth one-and-twenty livres of our money, and those of silver thirty sous. The queen, during her reign of twenty-four hours, had that respect for the king that, on the back-side of the pieces, whereon the twelve signs were engraven, she caused the name of Jahāngīr to be stamped with her own, and the name of the place where they were coined, all in Arabic letters."*

"One is tempted to regret the necessity to relegate this artless story to the domain of fiction. But its refutation comes from the coins themselves, for the dates they bear cover no less a period than nine years, the Hijrī years from 1026 to 1034. Still, that there is a substratum of truth in the legend may perhaps be granted from the fact that at least three of the zodiacal coins do present the name of Nūr Jahān. These are: (*a*) A gold Sagittarius of 1035, now at Paris; (*b*) a gold Cancer of 1034, mint Ajmir, once in the possession of the late Hon. Mr. James Gibbs; (*c*) A silver Leo of 1028, described a century ago by M. Augustil du Perron.†

"The many evident errors in Tavernier's narrative notwithstanding, I confess I should be surprised if 'my lady magnificent,' who at this time so distinctly held the *rôle* of 'predominant partner' in matters imperial, should prove to have been entirely innocent of connection with these zodiacal coins, forming, as they do, a series quite the most beautiful of all issued in Jalāngīr's reign. That he himself claims them as 'my own innovation'‡ scarcely determines the question, for, as Talboys Wheeler says, 'Jahāngīr always exaggerated; he never told the truth in anything.'¶

The emperor's own account is give in the *Waqi'at-i Jahāngīrī*:—

"'Formerly it was customary to strike my name on one side of the coin, and that of the place and the month and year of the reign on the reverse'—this, we have already seen, had been the custom during the seven preceding years, that is, from 1020 to 1027 H.—'It now occurred to my mind,' Jalāngīr adds, 'that instead of the name of the month the figure of the sign of the Zodiac corresponding to the particular month should be stamped. . . . . This was my own innovation. It had never been done before.'"—Dowson's "Elliot," VI., 357.

"Of the zodiacal coins it would seem that 'with one or two exceptions the gold muhrs were all struck at Agra and the silver rupees at Ahmadābād.' This at least was the conclusion arrived at by the late Honourable Mr. James Gibbs, C.S.I., and communicated to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in a paper read by him as President in the year 1878. (Jo. B.B.R.A.S., No. 36, Vol. XIV).

"Of all these zodiacal coins, the reverses, struck from dies probably engraven by a European artist, and one of no mean order, exhibit on a background of solar rays some one of the conventional signs of the zodiac, while in a few cases (Cancer, Leo) even the stars of the constellations are represented. Beneath the sign comes the regnal year 13 and the phrase 'Sanah Julūs,' or, in the case of Gemini, Cancer, and Scorpio, the word 'Sanah' alone.

"Of the complete series of the twelve zodiacal Ahmadābād rupees four (Virgo, Libra, Sagittarius, and Aquarius) are quite unpresented in the published catalogues. That all the twelve were issued there is no room to doubt, and James Forbes, writing his 'Oriental Memoirs' in 1813, expressly states: 'I once saw an entire collection of these rupees in silver, and a few others procured by chance of the same metal. (2nd Ed. II., 215). While poor imitations of the whole series are still sometimes exposed for sale (in Bombay I have been offered the twelve for Rs. 25), it is much to be feared that the complete sets formerly met with, as Forbes quaintly puts it, 'in the cabinets of the curious,' have long since been broken up and dispersed."

It will be observed that in the preceding paragraph Dr. Taylor is confining himself entirely to the question of the silver rupees minted at Ahmadābād. The British Museum collection of coins contains representatives of every one of the signs of the gold mohurs, minted at Agrah, and several forms for some of them. Of the eight signs known to exist of the Ahmadābād rupees, the British Museum collection contains all but Pisces.

In a large number of cases the design is evidently European. Numbers 1 and 21 shows us the typical ram of Aries with the reverted head, significant, no doubt, of the position of Aries as the last and not the first of the signs of the zodiac at the time when they were originally mapped out. Number 22—the Tamus rupee—give us again the traditional figure, the half bull charging from out of the cloud, which we still have in our atlases. Numbers 2 and 3 are, however, more strictly Indian in design, showing the humped Indian Bull in full figure; and the two examples face different ways, showing that the artist attached no significance to the direction in which the sign was turned, and that strict astronomical accuracy was not sought by him. Numbers 4 and 23—the Twins—follow the Indian and not the European zodiacs, in representing a man and women, and not the Dioskouroi. This form—the man and woman—is common to nearly all the Oriental zodiacs, but we have seen its place taken on a Burmese zodiac

* "The Six Voyages of John Baptista Tavernier," made by J.P., 1678 Edition, page 11

† "Notes on the Zodiacal Rupees," by the Hon. J. Gibbs, in *Journal of the Bombay Branch of the R.A. Society*. Vol. XIV., No. 36, pages 157, 160, and B. M. Catal. Mughal Emperors, page LXXXI., Note *.

‡ Dowson's "Elliott," VI., 357.

¶ Talboys Wheeler; "History of India," Vol. IV., Part I., page 344.

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by a single female figure. The Crab, Numbers 5 and 24, is a very spirited figure, and stands in high and sharp relief. The Lion, Numbers 5, 7, and 25, is one of the poorest designs, and can scarcely have been due to the same artist who designed Numbers 5, 14, and 22. It will be seen that the Lions in Numbers 6 and 7, like the Bulls, face different ways. Three forms for the Virgin follow: Numbers 8 and 9 are, without doubt, of Indian design; Number 10 recalls the conventional one known in Europe. The Scorpion is shown under several forms, Numbers 12 and 13 being probably Indian, whilst the sun is omitted from the background of Number 26, possibly a reminiscence of the evil astrological repute of this "dark" and "ill-starred" sign. The Saigttarius of Number 14 is, perhaps, the finest design of the series, but the Archer is represented as firing a Parthian shot, and not, as in our zodiac, shooting before him. Capricornus, Numbers 15 and 27, would appear to have the head of a gazelle rather than of a goat. The fish-tail is very strongly emphasised in both cases. The three designs for Aquarius are evidently native, Number 17 being simply an ordinary *lotah*.

Whether we owe to Jahângîr to his far more gifted empress the original idea of employing the zodiacal symbols as designs for coins, it must be admitted that they have proved themselves admirably suited for the purpose. There are few indeed in the long array of stiff and formal British coins with anything like the grace and beauty of the best of these Moghul mintages.—*Knowledge.*

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

Shanghai, Sept. 8.

The English newspapers regard the Transvaal's reply as unsatisfactory, and as increasing the gravity of the situation, since it constitutes an impugnment of the suzerainty in South Africa, which it is impossible that the nation should allow.

At Bloemfontein it is understood that the artillery reserves have been called out and the Burghers warned.

The Transvaal despatch is regarded as having destroyed the last hope of peace.

Shanghai, Sept. 9.

Reuter learns that the British Cabinet has decided to send a strong despatch to the Transvaal, which will probably be published in London simultaneously with its receipt in Pretoria.

It is reported that the Cabinet has further decided to send ten thousand troops owing to an appeal from Natal, but not to call out the Reserves at present.

In the debate in the Volksraad concerning the mobilization of the British troops on the frontiers of the Republic, the speeches were extremely warlike, and filled with insults to Mr. Chamberlain. President Kruger urged moderation, but repudiated British suzerainty, and said that he placed his trust in God.

Three regiments of cavalry, four of infantry, three batteries of artillery, and four field-hospital corps in India have been warned to hold themselves in readiness for service in South Africa at the shortest possible notice.

There was absolute unanimity at the Cabinet Council in London on Friday.

The debate in the Volksraad concluded with the adoption of a resolution regretting the concentration of British troops on the Transvaal borders while friendly correspondence was proceeding, and declaring that in the event of hostilities the responsibility would not rest with the Republic.

Shanghai, Sept. 13.

The last British despatch was delivered in Pretoria yesterday. It is reported to be virtually an ultimatum.

Sir George White has been appointed to command the troops in Natal. General Buller goes only if an Army Corps is sent.

The entire Indian force for the Transvaal will embark by the 25th instant.

Shanghai, Sept. 14.

The despatch sent by Her Britannic Majesty's Colonial Office to the Transvaal Government says that England can not consider any proposal which is conditional on her acceptance of the Transvaal's claims to be recognised as a sovereign state in international affairs. Great Britain is prepared to accept the offer of a five-years-qualification franchise, provided that increased representation in the Raad is also conceded, and provided that the newly enfranchised electors have an equal share in the election of the President of the Republic and of the Commander-in-chief. It is also essential that the Transvaal's offers should be unincumbered by any nullifying conditions. The British Government assumes that the new members of the Volksraad will be allowed to use their own language. The despatch declares that the immediate acceptance of these terms will probably render further intervention unnecessary for the redress of the Uitlanders' grievances.

SENTENCE ON DREYFUS.

Shanghai, Sept. 10.

Dreyfus has been found guilty and condemned to ten years' imprisonment.

THE DREYFUS CASE: AN APPEAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 11.

Dreyfus has been found guilty by 5 votes to 2. Extenuating circumstances were admitted, and he was sentenced to 10 years' detention. He signed an appeal for revision, which will not go to the Court of Cassation but to a special committee.

AN UNIVERSAL DEMONSTRATION.

Shanghai, September 12.

A movement has been started on the Continent of Europe and in the United States of America to boycott the Paris International Exhibition of 1900 owing to the Dreyfus affair.

BRITISH DEMONSTRATION ABOUT DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Shanghai, Sept. 13.

Several large British firms have notified the Commission of the Paris International Exhibition that they withdraw from all participation in the Exhibition.

IMPROVED PROSPECTS IN INDIA.

Timely rains have averted the apprehensions recently entertained that Western India would be visited by a famine this year.

DISASTER TO A FRENCH FORCE.

The French force which was despatched on the Larny expedition to Lake Chad has been annihilated by an overwhelming force of the natives in the Tuareg Oasis.

DEATH OF MR. VANDERBILT.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, the head of the family, has died in New York.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

Saigon, Sept. 7.

The Ambassadors of France in Berlin and Rome will transmit the citation to M.M. Schwartzkoppen and Panizzardi. The two officers will be able either to proceed to Rennes or to make their depositions before magistrates in their own countries. These measures will delay the conclusion of the trial at Rennes by about eight days. Some witnesses were examined to-day. A lively incident took place between the President and M. Labori. The clerk of the Court read the depositions of du Paty de Clam declaring that Dreyfus said to him, "the Minister knows that I am innocent."

Saigon, Sept. 8.

In the trial at Rennes M. Labori demanded that a commission should be sent to examine M. M. Schwartz-Koppen and Panizzardi, since they could not come to Rennes to testify. The President rejected the application. The hearing of evidence is concluded. M. Carrière, speaking for the prosecution, argued the guilt of Dreyfus, and demanded that the 76th Article of the Penal Code be applied to his case. The pleadings will take place to-morrow.

Saigon, Sept. 9.

M. Demange has commenced his speech for the defence before the military court at Rennes. He disputes the right of General Officers and Ministers to bring forward presumptions only, and declares that a man can not be condemned on hypotheses. He will continue his speech to-morrow.

Saigon, Sept. 10.

M. Demange furnished his speech in defence of Dreyfus on Saturday. The court rose until 3 p.m. M. Labori abandoned his right of speaking. Dreyfus was condemned, by 5 votes against 2, to ten years of detention with extenuating circumstances.

Saigon, Sept. 11.

The judgment of the Military Court at Rennes in the Dreyfus case has been received in Paris and throughout the provinces with the utmost calm. There have been no demonstrations.

Dreyfus received the verdict of the court imperturbably, but the audience were much moved. The next morning, Dreyfus signed an appeal against the judgment.

Saigon, Sept. 13.

The Military Court at Rennes has recommended that Dreyfus should be spared degradation. The *Temps* and *Débats* approve of this course.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

GREAT ROBBERY AT SHANGHAI.

MIKADO'S GIFTS STOLEN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, Sept. 11, 12.40 p.m.

Commissioner Liu's house at Shanghai has been robbed and the gifts of the Mikado, valued at 18,000 taels, have been stolen.

THE SITUATION AT PEKING.

The reported gravity of the native situation at Peking is a fabrication.

SHIPPING DISASTER NEAR HONGKONG.

THE WORK OF WHITE ANTS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, Sept. 11, 6.10 p.m.

The paddle-boat *White Cloud* proceeding to Manila on an American charter, has foundered ninety miles from Hongkong. She simply collapsed. The disaster is said to have been occasioned by the rav-

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ages of white ants. The Captain and half the crew were saved by a passing junk, but the mate's boat is missing. The loss is estimated at 20,000 dollars.

[The *White Cloud* was a well-known Canton river steamer.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE WEST RIVER PIRATES.

H.M.S. *Wyvern* leaves Hongkong to-morrow to patrol the Canton river to suppress the piracy that is so rife in those waters.

(FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

H.I.M. KUANG HSÜ'S DETHRONEMENT IMMINENT.

Peking, September 7.

Arrangements for the dethronement of the unfortunate Emperor Kuang Hsü are proceeding apace. The Empress Dowager's choice has definitely fallen upon Pu Ts'üan, the nine-year old son of Duke Tsai Lan, to succeed Kuang Hsü as Emperor of China. This Imperial candidate can only speak the Manchu dialect and knows no Chinese. Kuang Hsü has already been forced to draw up a memorial to the Empress Dowager asking to be allowed to resign his throne owing to his chronic illness, *vide* Imperial decree of the 4th instant, and a pretence will be made by the Empress Dowager to refuse accepting the resignation and to ask the Emperor to consider the matter again. This will be done three times, and at the third time resignation is to be accepted as showing the Emperor is really anxious to resign. The dethronement is expected to take place shortly. The troops of Prince Ching and Jung Lu will be under arms on the occasion in case something untoward happens. Duke Tsai Lan is a close friend of Prince Ching and there are doubts whether Jung Lu's party will be satisfied at this further strengthening of the Ching faction by the appointment of the new Emperor. There are rumours that, perhaps, Russia will have something to say before the dethronement takes place, as Chinese officials in Fêngtien have recently reported that the Russians are preparing to send a large force to Peking in a few days.

[This news has been contradicted by our Shanghai correspondent.—ED. *Japan Mail*]

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE")

STEAMERS IN COLLISION.

Hongkong, Sept. 8.

The steamers *Suevia* and *Kiangpak* collided yesterday off the Lammocks. The *Kiangpak* arrived at Swatow with her bows completely stove in. The *Suevia* anchored outside Swatow, with a large hole in her starboard bow, above water.

[The *Suevia* belongs to the Hamburg-American line and was formerly the *Ceres*. The *Kiangpak*, late *Nord*, belongs to the Chinese Steamship Trading Company of Shanghai.]

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 436.

By O. NEMO.

(A Prize-Taker.)

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q Kt 6	1—K to Q 5
2—Kt to K 6 ch	2—K to Q 4 (must)
3—Kt to K 7 mate	
	1—B takes either P
2—Kt to B 6!	2—K takes Kt
3—Q to K R 4 mate	if 2—B or Kt takes Kt
3—P to K 4 mate	if 2—Any other
3—Kt to Kt 4 mate	
	1—B to Kt 2
2—Kt to Q 3	2—K to B 3
3—Kt to K 4 mate	if 2—Kt to B 3
3—P to K 4 mate	

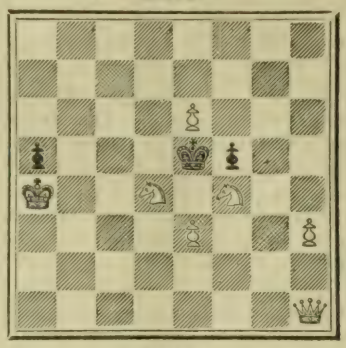
Other variations depend upon those given.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, and L.M.A.

PROBLEM No. 439.

By George RUSHBY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAMES FROM THE LONDON TOURNEY.

GAME No. 547.

PILLSBURY BEATS STEINITZ.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Pillsbury. Black—Steinitz.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	17 QR Q sq	Q K sq
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	18 Kt R4(d)	QR Ktsq
3 B Kt5	P Q3	19 Kt B5	Kt B4
4 Kt B3	B Q2	20 P KKt4(e)	Q K2
5 P Q4	PxP	21 PxKt	RxBP
6 KtxP	P KKt3(a)	22 Kt Q3	Q R5
7 KtxKt	PxKt	23 R B2	P B4
8 B QB4	B Kt2	24 R R2	Q K2
9 Q K2	Kt K2	25 R Kt2	K R2
10 P KR4(b)	P KR3	26 Q Kt4	Q B2
11 P R5	P Kt4	27 KtxP	BxP
12 P B4	PxP	28 Q Kt6ch	QxQ
13 BxP(c)	B K3	29 PxQch	K Ktsq
14 BxB	PxB	30 BxB	RxB
15 P K5	Castles	31 Kt Q7	Resigns.
16 Castles	P Q4		

Notes (abridged) from The American Chess Magazine.

(a) Not to be recommended.

(b) He does not hesitate to thus early declare his policy, which is an aggressive one.

(c) An open game with a vengeance, at least on the part of White.

(c) White goes straight to the mark, occupying all the points of vantage.

(e) Relentlessly the finishing touches are administered.

GAME No. 548.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

White—M. Tschigorin. Black—R. Teichmann.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 B K 5	RxP
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	16 Q B3	P K4(d)
3 B B4	Kt B3	17 Kt B6ch	K B2
4 P Q4(a)	PxP	18 P KR4!(e)	P KR3
5 Castles	B B4(b)	19 Kt K4ch	K K3
6 P K5	P Q4	20 P R5	Q B2
7 PxKt	PxB	21 B B6	KR Ktsq
8 R K sqch	B K3	22 Q B5ch	K Q4
9 Kt Kt5	Q Q4(c)	23 P K3	RxPch(f)
10 QKt B3	Q B4	24 QxR	R K Ktsq
11 QKt K4	B Kt3	25 PxPch	KxP
12 PxP	KR Ktsq	26 B K 5	PxB
13 P KKt4	Q K 3	27 Q Kt3	Kt R4
14 KtxB	PxKt	28 QxKP	Resigns.

(The notes are by the Rev. C. E. Ranken.)

(a) This transformation into the Max Lange is rather a favourite way of treating the Two Knights' Opening, because it retains the attack for first player, whereas 4 Kt to Kt 5 hands it over to his opponent.

(b) Kt takes P is usually considered better.

(c) If Castles: then 10—R takes B, P takes R; 11—P to B 7 ch, K to R sq; 12—Q to R 5, P to KR 3; 13—Q to Kt 6, and wins.

(d) M. Tschigorin has prosecuted his attack most ingeniously, and Black's moves have all been forced. Now, however, he had a choice, but a very difficult one, and it is little wonder that he should miss his way. He could not play R to B 2 on account of 17—Kt to B 6 ch, K to B sq; 18—R takes P, and if Q takes B, 19—Kt takes Pch, followed by Q takes Rch, and wins. We doubt whether there is any satisfactory defence in this position. K to Q 2 is perhaps the best but then, upon Kt to B 6 ch, the K must go to B sq, for after any other move White can at any rate draw by perpetual check.

(e) White, of course, both here and at his last move could have won the exchange, but he would have lost the attack.

(f) Too late for this now, but he was in the clutches of a strong grip, and appeared to have no escape.

GAME No. 549.

ANOTHER MORPHY BRILLIANT.

We are indebted to the Rev. T. B. Foster, Rutland, Vt., for the score of the following game played in New Orleans in the year 1864 or 1865. It has special interest from the fact that it is one of the last games Morphy played. The comments are from an old copy of *The Evening Telegram*, New York.

EVANS GAMBIT.

(Odds of Queen's Knight.)

WHITE—Morphy.	BLACK—Maurian.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B3	5—B to B 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Q 5	9—Kt to R 4

In the game between Mackenzie and Holman at the same odds, Mackenzie now played B to Q 3, and several of the strongest modern-school players could find no better move, entirely overlooking the powerful line of play now introduced by Morphy.

10—P to K 5!	10—Kt takes B
11—Q to R 4 ch	11—Q to Q2
12—Q takes Kt	12—Kt to K 2
13—R to K sq	13—P takes P (best)
14—Kt takes P	14—Q takes P
15—Q to R 4 ch	15—B to Q 2

A fine opportunity for any modern master to study out the line of play, which White had evidently mapped out several moves in advance, and which few, if any, could see, even from the present standpoint.

16—Kt takes B!	16—Q takes Kt
17—R takes Kt! ch	17—K takes R
18—B to R 3 ch	18—K to K sq
19—R to K sq ch	19—B to K 6

Well played; a beautiful move, which shows Mr. Maurian to be no ordinary player. If White takes the proffered Bishop, Black retreats with perfect safety.

20—Q to Kt 3	20—K to Q sq
21—Q takes Kt P	21—R to Q B sq
22—P takes B	22—Q to Q 6
23—B to Kt 4	23—P to K B 4
24—R to K 2!	

Of course, Black would be mated in three moves if he takes the Rook; but how many would see that this simple little move wins the Queen?

	24—R to K sq (best)
25—R to Q 2	25—R takes P
26—R takes Q ch	26—R takes R

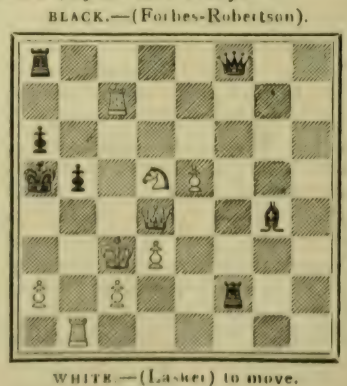
27—B to K 7 ch! and wins.—*Literary Digest.*

END GAMES.

Our readers will have noticed the unfortunate error in the diagram of End Game "Judd-Hodges" appearing last Saturday. The White King should have been at Kt 6 and the White Pawn at R 6, instead of at Kt 7 and R7 respectively.

The *Cheltenham Examiner* gives the following pretty finish from a simultaneous display at Cheltenham, by Lasker recently:—

BLACK.—(Forbes-Robertson).



WHITE.—(Lasker) to move.

SOLUTION.

1—R takes P ch!	1—P takes R
2—Q to R 7! ch	2—R takes Q
3—R takes R mate	

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NOTES.

Schlechter and Alapin are playing a match of six games at the Vienna Club. When the mail left Schlechter had won one game and three games were drawn.

Showalter, says an American exchange, will play Janowski, the French champion, another set match in the fall, the latter having signified his willingness to come over for that purpose whenever the Kentuckian was ready. Incidentally, he expressed confidence in his own ability to repeat the defeats of last spring, which made Janowski so anxious to meet him again. Showalter also confirmed the report of Janowski's challenge for the world's chess championship, but added that Lasker would not play until the spring of 1900.

The chess library of the late Rev. John Frederick Schroeder, of New Milford, Conn., has been given to the public library of that place as a memorial of its late owner. In writing of the collection, Boardman Wright, a nephew of Mr. Schroeder, states that it is one of the best libraries on chess in America, being excelled by only three or four private collections, and exceeding in number and value any public collection. Mr. Wright states that it is particularly rich in complete sets of magazines.

Probably the oldest chessmen which are known to exist are an almost complete set which is preserved in the East Indian Museum, London. They were excavated about thirty years ago on the site of the city of Brahmunabad, in Sind, which was destroyed by an earthquake in the eighth century. They are black and white, made of ivory and ebony, turned and plain in character, without ornament.

In an article upon "The Influence of Mind over Mind in Chess," *Knowledge* writes:—"A common kind of influence has frequently been experienced by many chessplayers. Who has not met an opponent whose peculiar play or personality influenced the result of a game played with him? If you happen to meet an opponent who is all smiles and compliments, and of such extreme modesty as to hold up your own play as being beyond praise, while he evinces a corresponding contempt for his own weakness, then be very careful lest you be beguiled into believing him and taking it easy, for you are sure to lose. Another person who may be a dull and cautious player will tire you out, and thus win a proportion of games quite beyond his chess strength. Again, there is something irritating in the style of some players which prevents you doing justice to yourself. We were much amused on one occasion when one day, playing both a father and his son, we found the son to be a better player than his father. Our surprise was, therefore, great on learning that the son received the odds of Knight from his father and that the latter often won. In all these cases the influence admits of a natural explanation. We are conscious that our senses are affected, as in the above instances, by being either beguiled, wearied, elated by a firm belief in our own superiority, &c. This we will call a conscious or natural influence."

The Scotch Gambit, like Scotch whisky, brings about many interesting and peculiar positions. Both should be marked "handle with care."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 1	Sa. Sept. 16
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Laos 2	Tu. Sept. 19
America	O. & O Co.	Doric 3	Th. Sept. 21
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Sept. 25
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Sept. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Sept. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept 27
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 4	Su. Oct. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R Co	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 5
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Su Oct. 8

1 Left Nagasaki on the 13th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 14th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu Sept. 19
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Sept. 20
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Sept. 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Sept. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Sept. 25
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Laos	W. Sept. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Sept. 27
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Oct. 2
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 4
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F Oct. 6
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Oct. 9

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 7th September,—Kobe 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 9th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe 2nd September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 9th September,—Otaru via ports, 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Jerome, British steamer, 1,845, R. F. Reid, 9th September,—Batoum via ports, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 10th September,—Yokkaichi, 9th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 10th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 9th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Algerine (6), British sloop, 1,050, Lt.-Com. C. H. Grafton, 11th September —Shanghai.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 11th September,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 25th Aug., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 11th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 10th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 11th September,—Hakodate, 9th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 12th September,—Kobe, 10th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Grier, 12th September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 10th Sept., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 12th September,—Kobe 10th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 13th Sept.,—Kobe, 11th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 13th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 13th September,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 12th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 13th Sept.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 12th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 14th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 12th September, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 14th September,—Kobe, 12th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 14th September,—Otaru via ports, 9th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 8th September,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 8th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Sydney, U.S. Army Transport, 1,966, Pillsbury, 8th September,—Manila via Kobe and Nagasaki.—U.S. Government.

Rattler (6), British gunboat, 715, Lt.-Com. G. A. Hardinge, 9th September,—Kobe.

Hermione (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain George A. Callaghan, 9th September,—Kobe.

Fame (6), British Torpedo Boat Destroyer, Lieut. Com. Reger J. B. Keys, 9th September, —Kobe.

Victorious (16), British Battleship, 14,900, Capt. Anson Schomberg, 9th September,—Kobe.

Barfleur (14), British Battleship, 10,500, Capt. Hon. Stanley, C. J. Colville, C.B., 9th Sept.,—Kobe.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 9th September,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Olsen, 9th September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 9th September,—Shiotsu via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 10th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 10th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 11th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 11th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 11th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 12th September,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 4,149, C. de la Perrelle, 12th September,—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 12th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 13th September—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Indus, French steamer, 2,331, Duchauteau, 13th September,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,597, N. Ohno, 13th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 13th September,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, J. Thorn, 14th September,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. W. Taylor, Mr. Chee Kew Chong, Mr. Hollman, Mr. Bagley, Miss Dukes, Mrs. Matsue, Mr. Geo. Hubbard, Mr. Ayers, and Mrs. Dukes in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. F. B. Walker, Mr. Joseph Sutherland, Mr. T. Shioda, Mr. H. Shioda, and Mr. U. Shioda, in cabin; Mr. S. Miura, Mr. G. Kawahara, and Mr. K. Kamio, in second class: 37 Japanese, 3 Chinese, and 2 Indians, in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Baiff, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Grosvenor, Mr. F. Gross, Mr. C. R. Rusby, Rev. and Mrs. D. R McKenzie and 2 children, Mr. A. Thibout, Mr. J. H. Nellis, Mr. C. H. Griffin, Mrs. W. T. Barton, Mr. J. T. Stone, Mr. T. Wakamatsu, Mr. G. F. Heidinger, Mr. and Mrs. E. R Russell, Mr. W. A. Dubbers, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Nugent, maid and 3 children, Mr. P. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. W. Haywood, maid and 2 children, Mrs. Renzes and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Primley, Mr. and Mrs. A. Post, Master Primley, Miss C. L. Steiner, Mr. G. Thibout, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Miss N. Craynor, Mr. V. Heller, Mr. K. H. Pollock, Mr. W. M. Thornton, Mr. E. D. Matts, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Hassett, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Donkin, Mr. C. N. Spencer, Mr. C. R. Osberg, Mrs. J. F. Bass and child. For Kobe:—Mrs. L. Wilkinson, Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Sharrocks, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. McElwaine and 3 children, Miss S. H. Nourse, Miss M. Atkinson. For Shanghai:—Mrs. E. W. Bailey and 3 children, and Mr. Y. P. McCoy. For Hongkong:—Mrs. C. H. Sleeper and child, Mrs. K. W. Fleeson, Miss M. A. McGilvary, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Patterson, Mr. F. B. Jones, Mrs. R. M. Kennington, and Mr. Jas. McMuttrie.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. Andreas, Mr. W. F. Balden, Mr. Beaumont, Mrs. Beaumont, Lieut. Von Boehm, Mr. H. B. Byles, Mr. Brown, Mr. Del. Chevaliere, Mr. G. Condon, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Dalton, Mr. J. H. Dixon, Mr. G. Eutticknap, Mrs. F. C. Farmer, and child, Mr. L. Gielen, Mr. M. E Hanssen, Mr. Handleman, Mr. A. C. Harper, Mr. Hertsheim, Mr. Hertsheim, Mr. R. Hamaguchi, Mr. F. W. Horne, Mr. W. Holland, Miss Hunt, Mr. H. R. Hunt, Mr. O. C. Joline, Mr. T. Kachi, Mr. A. L. Kennedy, Mr. T. Kimura, Mr. H. Lawlest, Mr. Hector McKenzie, Mr. H. Midzuta, Capt. W. S. Nattion, Mr. A. Lee Norman, Mr. T. Ooka, Mr. Otani Kahei, Mr. Arthur Peterson, Mr. Peterson, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. H. Skott, Mr. C. R. Sheaff, Mrs. St.

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John and child, Mr. Torkington, Mr. T. H. De Witt Veeder, Mons. Verne, Madame Verne, Mr. Wani, Miss Wani, Miss Wood, Mr. K. Yokoo, Mr. K. Yamamoto, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, for London via ports :—Inspector H. Takahashi, I.J.N., Mr. H. B. Darnell, Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Stanford, Mr. Thomas Harvie, Mr. F. C. Adie, Dr. Seale, Com. K. Ide, Com. K. Isobe, Lieut. K. Seushin, Inspector of Mach. K. Nagase, Inspector Surgeon J. Ishikawa, Inspector Paymaster Y. Shimidzu, Eng. K. Masui, Sub-Lieut. K. Otani, Sub-Lieut. M. Onishi, Eng. B. Kaneko, Sub.-Lieut. H. Yoshikawa, Eng. T. Saito, and Sub-Lieut. S. Midzuno, in cabin; Mr. S. Ishiuji, Mr. K. Konishi, Mrs. K. Takano, Mrs. K. Kashiwada, Miss Tane Konishi, Miss Kimi Tatsuno, Count Kasimir de Suchekomunty Miacgyuki, Gun Room Officers S. Kawano, K. Natuse, M. Nakane, K. Morikawa, S. Ohki, and M. Nakashima, in second class; 274 crews I. J.N., in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mrs. A. J. Allen, Mr. L. E. Bohn, Mr. R. C. Bagley, Mr. Chee Kew Chong, Mrs. Dukes, Miss Dukes, Miss E. Faltin, Mr. T. Isaka, Mr. T. Ikeda, Mr. and Mrs. L. Merle, Dr. G. Niederlein, Dr. Oska Nachod, Mrs. O. Nachod, Mr. C. W. Purrington, and Mr. R. Sato, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Indus*, for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. C. N. Milliken, Mr. Rud. Schmid, Mr. R. Gysin, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. Ch. Bremer, Mr. and Mrs. Helmer, Mr. and Mrs. Gaillard, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Dukerts, Mrs. and Miss Serebrenit, Mrs. J. Meyer, child and amah, Mrs. Crawford D. Kerr, Mrs. Sherwood, Mrs. Leonard Kerr, child and amah, Mrs. Skottowe, Mrs. and Miss Brunat, Mrs. S. Komoi, child and amah, Miss Florence Thornton, Mr. J. Henningson, Mr. Geo. W. Noel, Mr. Payan, Capt. P. B Pattison and boy, Mr. A. Becker, Mr. A Trojan, Mr. Daguinet, Mr. S. Komoi, Mr. S. Fulcher, Mr. J. M. Eca da Silva, Mr. E. J. Marques, Mr. U. Yosaburo, Mr. H. Abrams, Mr. Louis M. Darfeuille, Mr. E. A. Forster, Lt.-Colonel S. Sekomizu, Mr. Okamura, Mr. Katsumoto, Mr. N. Murakami, Mr. G. Mitsukuri, Mr. G. Takayasu, Mrs. Robert and 3 children, Sister Celina, Sister Etienne, Sister Marie Joseph, and Mr. Chun Yick, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. L. Wilkinson, Miss S. H. Nourse, Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Sharrocks, Miss M. Atkinson, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. McIlwaine and three children, Mrs. R. W. Bailey and three children, Mr. Y. P. McCoy, Mrs. C. H. Sleeper and child, Miss M. A. McGilvary, Mr. Jas. McMurtrie, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Patterson, Mr. R. M. Kennngham, Mr. F. P. Jones, Miss K. H. Feelson, Mr. P. A. Huffman, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Bullard, Mr. John Wadsworth, Mr. J. Reidie, Mrs. C. W. Vance, Mrs. A. Forrest, Mrs. C. P. Hance, Mr. C. Stockwell, Major W. R. Little, Dr. P. K. O'Brien, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Hasford, Miss M. H. Krout, Mr. G. Landman, Mr. H. Grun, Mrs. H. Grun, Mr. and Mrs. L. Little, child and amah, Mrs. A. F. Wenyon, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Whitman, Mr. F. Jung, Mr. A. Coutts, Mr. Li K. Bennett, and Master Bennett, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. G. Gundry and child, Mr. S. Reynell, Miss Emma L. Mc Knight, Mr. and Mrs. C. Barnes, Baron N. Shimadzu, Miss B. M. Nottidge, Miss Freeth, Miss E. M. Kern, Miss Hideko Sakai, and Mrs. Shizuko Soga, in cabin; Mr. S. Yamaguchi, Mr. N. Shimidzu, and Mr. Y. Sawamoto, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Futami Maru*, for Australia via ports :—Miss Sale, Miss Lilian Sale, Mr. R. C. H. Forster, Miss Julia E. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. E. McLeod, Mr. T. Kusumoto, Mr. F. G. Sale, Mr. K. C. Bray, Mr. and Mrs. N. Patience, Miss Hancock, and Consul and Mrs. K. Iijima, in cabin; Mr. Y. Kitajima, Mr. T. Wheeler, and Mr. Seizo Kaneko, in second class.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.					TOTAL TEA PKGS.
	KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND HONGKONG.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK & EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER DESTINATIONS.	
Hongkong	552	—	83	163	—	800
Amoy	—	554	8,528	—	—	9,082
Foochow	3,505	330	—	93	—	3,928
Shanghai	1,104	412	—	—	—	1,516
Hankow	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	1,068	—	—	—	—	1,068
Yokohama	4,572	792	305	—	—	5,669
Total	10,801	1,668	8,918	256	—	21,555

	SILK. NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL BALES.
Hongkong and Canton	304	—	304
Shanghai	547	—	547
Yokohama	463	—	463
Total	1,314	—	1,314

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were silk shippers per C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, Sept. 8 :—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	149
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	29
Otto Reimers & Co.	26
Vivani Bros.	25
China and Japan Trading Co.	25
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	30
Doshinsha	86
Kiito Kaisha	93
Total	463

Following were silk shippers per T. K. K steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco, Sept. 9 :—

	Bales.
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	50
Middleton and Smith	10
Doshinsha	31
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	7
Total	98

Per French steamer *Indus*, for Marseilles via ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,129 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 406 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *America Maru*, Captain Cope, reports :—Left Hongkong the 29th August at 12.49 p.m., Shanghai the 3rd September at 8.54 a.m., Nagasaki the 4th at 6.48 p.m., Kobe the 6th at 6.47 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th at 6.45 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A considerable demand for yarns has sprung up owing to the shortness of stocks, and prices are firmer all round. The same remarks apply also to grey shirtings. Fancy cottons are very dull, though stocks are small. Fancy woollens are in fair demand, but dealers will not pay the equivalent of home rates.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 36½ yds. 45 inches	3.10 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Grape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.20 to 43.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	46.00 to 48.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	86.00 to 88.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	110.00 to 112.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	82.00 to 86.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	96.00 to 102.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	126.00 to 133.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$20.50
Indian Broach	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 20.50

METALS.

The market is dull, but prices are gradually going up.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (¼ to 1⅜ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$1.42 to 2.46
Russian	2.50 to 2.10
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

There is no special feature to note, the market being steady at last quoted rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.90 to 5.75
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.70
Brown Taitung	4.20 to 4.50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.70
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fair demand continues for Europe, but holders have had to lower their prices by 10 *yen* to 20 *yen* per picul. There has been little inclination to purchase for the United States and prices have tumbled from 40 *yen* to 50 *yen* per picul. The Japanese continue to ship largely to New York.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1180 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1145
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1030 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1.65
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

There is a firm tone in the market and a good demand. Settlements to date are about 3,675 piculs, but a large quantity has not been reported officially.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	160 to 170
Noshi—Filatures, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Best	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Best / Noshi—Shinshu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best / Noshi—Bushu, Good / Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$95 to 100
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

A large trade continues to be done, and considerable purchases have been made during the past week, chiefly in lower quality leaf, for which the demand is good. Teas from 18 *yen* to 25 *yen* are mostly enquired for. There is at present a stock of over half a million catties.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 32
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 14.

Silver from London is $\frac{1}{16}$ lower without any change in sterling quotations from China or in local rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅜
— Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213⅜
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75⅜
— Private 10 days' sight	76⅛
On India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	154⅛
Bar Silver (London)	27 5/16

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MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 14.

Breweries can be placed at *yen* 180. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 230, a few more shares may be had at this price. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 90, while buyers offer *yen* 82 50. Oriental Hotels, a few shares are wanted at *yen* 125. Langfeldts are offering at par. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Bretts are obtainable at *yen* 9.50. Laundries have sellers at *yen* 65. Helms may be had at par.

Debentures—Breweries are wanted at *yen* 110, Y. U. Clubs at *yen* 108, Oriental Hotels are offering at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, L.d., $50 ...	225 S.
Japan Brewery Co., L.d, *yen* 50 ... . 4....	180 B.
Grand Hotel, L.d., $100.....	230 Sa.
Club Hotel, L.d., $100 ..... 1....	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, L.d., $100..... ..... 2 ..	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, L.d. (Pdrs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel L.d., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, L.d., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., L.d., $10.....	9 50 S
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100.....	100 S
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa.
Hingo Gas Co., L.d., $100..... 3...	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50 ...	65 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., L.d. 7% Deb., $100.....	120 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100.....	108 B.
Brett & Co., L.d. 7% Deb., $100.....	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, L.d. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, L.d. 7% Deb. $100	100 N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,298 41; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 14.

Japan Breweries changed hands to-day at *yen* 180. Grand Hotels have been sold at *yen* 230. Langfeldts are obtainable at par. Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 230.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...230 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....230 Sellers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. .....180 Buyers.

Tokyo, September 14

Redemption Loan Bonds.....	96.30
War Loan Bonds	96.30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.45
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	403.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50.....	63.60
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	262.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	67.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	67.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	29.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	72.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	25.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	83.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	60.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	46 80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	66.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	51.70
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	104.50
Hokkaido Colliery R'w y, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28	84 80

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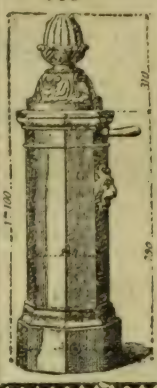
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 23RD, 1899

BIRTH.

On September 19th, at 38, Bluff, the wife of Mr. HENRY FARDEL, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SENATOR SCHEURER-KESTNER, the Dreyfusard, is dead.

THE Söul-Chemulpo Railway was opened to traffic on Monday.

CAPTAIN PENDER, well known in Yokohama, died at the General Hospital on Monday.

THE French President has decided to extend a pardon to Dreyfus who has been set at liberty.

SOME of the chief officials of the Nippon Railway and more than 50 experts have been dismissed.

THE hearing of the appeal of Robert Miller against the sentence of death passed on him by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho came before the Tokyo Appeal Court on Tuesday and Thursday.

THE Italian iron-clad *Carlo Alberto* has received instructions to prepare for a voyage to China.

HER MAJESTY'S ship *Terrible* has left England to relieve the *Powerful*, both proceeding *via* the Cape.

AN inquiry into methods of silkworm feeding and raw silk making is to be held at the end of this month.

MR. YOSHINUMA MATAYEMON, one of the principal clock-makers in Tokyo, has been arrested for forgery.

THE Chinese Minister in Washington has protested against the exclusion of Chinese subjects from the Philippines.

MR. KOTAKE YASHICHIRO, an artist in lacquer wares, has invented a new method of photographing on lacquer.

THE Franco-Chinese agreement for the construction of a railway from Lang chau to Nanning has been concluded.

THE latest news from the Transvaal indicates that war is apparently inevitable, and may be expected to commence at any moment.

THE Hokuriku railway, which has for some time been obstructed by the debris resulting from the last storm, is now quite clear.

THE Kyushu Railway Company has obtained government permission for the construction of 3 miles of railway at a cost of 450,000 *yen*.

THE fire on the *America Maru*, which necessitated the ship's return to Yokohama, has only caused 500 *yen* worth of damage to the ship.

A RISE of 10 *sen* in *habutaye* has been telegraphed from Kanazawa, and 15 *sen* at Fukui, but business continues brisk in spite of the advance.

THE tea trade in Yokohama from the 1st to the 15th inst. was as follows:—778 000 lbs. sent in from country; 1 060 100 lbs. sold: 478,000 lbs. left in stock.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha is now undertaking the construction of two steam vessels (each of 1,200 tons) for the China line, and one for the American line.

THE attempt to deter the Powers from taking part in the Paris International Exhibition of 1900 on account of the Dreyfus judgment, has failed completely.

THE office of the *Hioga News*, the stores of Mr. Julien, ship chandler, and the establishment of Mr. Culty, at Kobe, were destroyed on the morning of Sept. 20th.

THE Tokyo Marine Court has given judgment in the case of the collision between the *Saikio Maru* and a junk at Nagasaki. The captain's certificate was suspended for a month.

MR. NOSE, Consul at Chicago, speaking before the Nippon Trading Association, said that commercial credit is very limited at Chicago as compared with New York, being as 1 to 100. Few Chicago traders have sufficient knowledge of foreign trade, and the Consul does not think there is much prospect of any extensive commercial relations between Chicago and Japan.

A KEROSENE well has been discovered at Fukuyama, Osumi. Messrs. Mayeda Masasa, Haseba Junko, Akaboshi Yanosuke, Suguta Kenshi, and Somekawa Gonsuke are promoting a company to exploit it.

THE Boers have occupied Komati-foort on the Portuguese frontier and Fangwana Mountain near Laings Nek. Several of the Free State commanding officers have arrived in Pretoria to consult with General Joubert.

THE Osaka Insurance Company has not yet paid the claims for 454 houses burnt in the great fire at Toyama. The liabilities on this account amount to 110,756 *yen*. There is some dispute in regard to about 11,000 *yen* of this total.

THE steamer *Argyll* ashore near Kobe was successfully floated by the aid of H.M.S. *Hermione* at six o'clock on the evening of the 17th. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Sakura Maru* anchored abeam ready to lend help if needed.

AT a meeting of the Keizai Gaku Kyokai, Mr. Fujita gave an address warmly advocating the compressed air system for street railways, which he said had passed the experimental stage and was acknowledged to be the best street system.

A GERMAN expert is to be employed as adviser on Japanese tobacco cultivation by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The American expert, Mr. Johns, is rather a practical man, but the German will be a scientific student of tobacco culture.

THE American sailing ship *George Stetson*, of the State of Maine, was destroyed by fire thirty miles east of Miaco shima, in the Loochoos, on the night of the 10th September. Captain Patten and five others were saved in three boats. There was no loss of life.

THE Emperor of Germany has conferred the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle on Marquis Yamagata; the Third Class of the same order on Mr. Koyama, Chief Naval Constructor, and the Fourth Class on Mr. Uyeno, Naval Constructor, of the Japanese Navy.

THE decrease of the Hoshu Railway dividend (which is now 7 per cent) was caused by the closing of the Hokoku Coal Mine owing to accident. The Tagawa line alone used to carry 2,600 tons of coal a day, but the average tonnage from the 1st to the 10th inst, was only 1,200 tons a day.

A TELEGRAM is said to have reached No. 198, Yokohama, from a firm at Hamburg, to the effect that the nail makers of the United States and Germany have formed a trust, and that competition will cease between them. The price of nails per cask shows a rise of one *yen* in consequence.

THE ordinary meeting of the Nippon Lacquer Work Association was held the other day at the Nihonbashi Club. Mr. Akimoto, a member of the Association, gave an address on the subject of wood used for lacquer. He dwelt on the necessity of using the driest of wood, as the climate of Europe or America is generally very trying to Japanese lacquer ware.

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LOCAL TAXES IN TOKYO.

Our Tokyo readers will doubtless be interested in learning something about the local taxes to which they become liable under the new regimen. The taxes leviable by the Central Government—Income Tax, Business Tax, Land Tax (in the case of those occupying land outside the former Settlements), and Land Rent (in the case of those having lands within the former Settlements—have been explained from time to time, but about the local taxes there is still much perplexity, as was proved by correspondence recently published in these columns. It has to be understood that the manner of levying local taxes varies more or less in different parts of the empire. The names of the taxes are the same, but they are not assessed in an uniform way. Then, again, persons living in an urban district, like Tokyo or Yokohama, for example, are liable for two payments under the same heading, one being the Prefectural Tax (called *Ken-zei* in the case of a rural prefecture, and *Fu-zei* in the case of an urban prefecture); the other the Town Tax (*Shi-zei*). In Tokyo the Town Tax is always 30 per cent. of the Prefectural Tax (*Fuzei*).

Thus much premised, it is easy to understand the liability of each resident. Perhaps the simplest plan is to tabulate the various taxes.

Object Taxed.	Amount of Prefectural Tax.	Amount of Town Tax *i.e.* 30 per cent. of Prefectural Tax.	Total.
Jinrikisha for two persons; measuring 2 ft. or upwards across, internally, and kept by a private person	Yen. 5.00	Yen. 1 50	Yen. 6 50
The same, if kept for hire	4 00	1.20	5 20
Jinrikisha for one person; measuring less than 2ft. across internally, and kept by a private person	3 00	0 90	3 90
The same, if kept for hire	2 00	0 60	2 60
Carriage for two horses, if kept by a private person	20.00	6 00	26.00
The same, if kept for hire	12.00	3 60	15 60
Carriage for one horse, if kept by private person	13.00	3 90	16 90
The same if kept for hire	8 00	2.40	10 40
Bicycle, if for private use	3.00	0 90	3 90
The same, if for hire	1 00	0 30	1.30
Ox-cart	8.00	2 40	10.40
Goods' waggon (hand), large size (*i.e.* capacity 14 cubic feet (or more)	1 50	0 45	1 95
Goods' waggon (hand) small size (*i.e.* capacity less than 14 cubic feet)	0 75	0 225	0 975
Horse, if for private use	8.00	2 40	10 40
Horse, if for hire	2.00	0 60	2 60

The House Tax (*Kaoku-zei*) is not so easy to understand. It is, in fact, a very complicated affair, the complication being chiefly due to the fact that the rate depends upon the locality where the building is situated and upon the class of the building. The urban prefecture (*fu*) of Tokyo—that is to say, the fifteen urban and suburban districts—is parcelled out into 18 localities for the purposes of the tax, and the houses are divided into 180 classes, so that each locality has 10 classes. Below the 18th locality and the 18th class of house, there is no subdivision. Each locality has a certain numeral (*kasu*) assigned to it on a sliding scale. Thus:—

First locality, houses of class 1 to class 10	numeral 5 50
Second locality, houses of class 11 to class 20	numeral 5.25
Third locality, houses of class 21 to class 30	numeral 5.00
Fourth locality, houses of class 31 to class 40	numeral 4.75
etc., etc.,	etc.
Nineteenth locality, all houses below class 180	numeral 0.75

The class of a house having been ascertained, and its area in *tsubo*, the area is multiplied by the numeral corresponding to the class, and the product is regarded as the taxable superficies. There is then a co-efficient (*joritsu*) by which the taxable superficies is multiplied to obtain the amount of the tax leviable on the building. This co-efficient may vary from year to year. The classification is not subject to change, but the Prefectural Assembly alters the co-efficient according to fiscal necessities of the year. At present the co-efficient is 1.76. Let us take an example:—A house measuring 70 *tsubo* is found to belong to the third locality. Then $70 \times 5 \times 1.76 = 6.16$ *yen*=the annual Prefectural House Tax. The Town Tax is obtained by the same process, but the co-efficient at present is 4.8, so that, in the case of the house we are considering, the Town Tax would amount to $70 \times 5 \times 4.8 = 16.80$ *yen*, and the total tax on such a building would be 22.96 *yen*. Let us finally suppose that the resident of such a house keeps a one-horse carriage, a single *jinrikisha*, and two bicycles. Then his local taxes will be:—

	Yen.
Carriage	16 90
Horse	10.40
Jinrikisha	3 90
Two bicycles	7.80
House Tax	22 96
Total	61.96

It will be observed that this system proceeds upon the principle of taxing the wealthy. Take for example, the case of a drayman living in a house measuring 20 *tsubo*, and keeping an ox-cart. His taxes would be.

	Yen.
Ox-cart	10 40
House Tax	5.24
Total	15.64

The drayman, if he owned the land on which his house stood, would be liable also for Land Rate (*chiso-wari*), which can not exceed 1¼ per cent. of the taxable value of the land. In addition to the above regular taxes there is levied at present a Special Tax (*tokubetsu zei*) for purposes of city improvement. It amounts to 40 per cent. of the Town Tax. In some districts also District Expenses (*Kuhi*) are collected, but they vary in quantity and method of assessment. Generally, however, they are one per cent. of the Income Tax paid to the Central Government.

FUKUI PREFECTURE IN THE STORM.

The record of Fukui Prefecture's sufferings in the recent storm is very heavy:—

Killed	6
Wounded	7
Houses overthrown	70
Houses partially wrecked	404
Houses washed away	26
Houses inundated above the level of the floor	21,002
Houses inundated below the level of the floor	10,720
Banks broken	1,549
Roads torn up	1,047
Bridges washed away	943

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND THE TRANSVAAL.

The news telegraphed by Reuter's agent from Bloemfontein adds to the gravity of the situation in South Africa, but we can not call it altogether unwelcome intelligence. There are sixty-three thousand Transvaal Boers and eighty-seven thousand Uitlanders, of whom sixty-nine thousand are British subjects. If we assume that every white man in the Transvaal, except those that are actually subjects of the Queen, is prepared to throw in his lot with the Boers in the event of a war with England, we find that President Kruger will have a population of eighty-one thousand at his back. The assumption is unquestionably excessive, but we are taking the most unfavourable view of the situation. Now males between the ages of 21 and 49, inclusive, average one in every seven of a normal population of both sexes and all ages. It would follow, therefore, that if the Boers could enrol in their army every male burgher and every non-British Uitlander from 20 to 40 years of age, they would have an army eleven thousand strong. But of course they could not do anything of the kind. If they managed to muster eight thousand effectives, it would probably be the limit of their capacity. There has been much talk of a Boer army of from twenty to thirty thousand, but no such calculation will bear analysis. Perhaps the contingency of drafts upon the native population must be taken into account, but no forecast hitherto publish-includes that element. We are probably safe in assuming that, if the Transvaal entered the War single-handed, she could not put more than eight thousand men into the field. But the burghers of the Orange Free State have now to be considered. The white population of the State is seventy-seven thousand, which could furnish an army of about the same size as the Transvaal's force. If, then, the Free State burghers are serious in their resolve to stand by the Transvaal, it means that the hostile force will be increased by about fifty per cent.—not doubled, for the Free State could not afford to denude itself altogether of defenders for the purposes of a campaign in the Transvaal. The fighting strength of an army of twelve or thirteen thousand resolute men, tolerably skilled in the use of the rifle, and battling, as they think, for their independence, is not to be underrated. Yet we can not consider it a misfortune that the whole question of Boer rule in South Africa should come up for solution at once, and be disposed of finally. It seems to us that Her Majesty's Government have been prepared for something of the kind from the first.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

The war in the Transvaal may now be said to have commenced. Fangwana Mountain, which the Boers have occupied, is virtually the same as Laings Nek, that is to say, the point where the high road from Durban enters the Transvaal. Similarly, on the eastern frontier, Komatifoort is the point where the road from Delagoa Bay crosses the Komati River and enters the Transvaal. There are no other ways of getting at the Boers from the sea-coast, except by marching through the Orange Free State or taking a wide detour. It is in the

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power of the Boers to make these positions very strong before they can possibly be attacked. A month devoted to constructing entrenchments, a good supply of quick-firing guns, and a resolute garrison of nine or ten thousand men—that is a combination the value of which must not be under-estimated It will be a matter of the greatest interest to see what steps the Boers take to control the British element among the Uitlanders when fighting begins. Evidently the Uitlanders are not likely to sit quiet, seeing that the issue means so much to them. A considerable interval must elapse, however, before any forward movement can be made on England's part. It will probably be the end of October before the troops are assembled in Natal.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION ON THE TRANSVAAL AFFAIR.

If the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* may be regarded as fair exponents of Japanese public opinion, England's attitude towards the Transvaal is entirely approved in this country. Reference to the *Nichi Nichi's* views was made by us in a recent issue. The *Jiji* now writes in the same strain. It says that there has not been the smallest display of impatience or haughtiness on Great Britain's part; that the position taken by her has been moderate and fair, and that it is impossible for her to suffer herself to be flouted continually by a vassal state. At the same time, our contemporary thinks that this trouble has occurred most opportunely. For England had just conceived a great plan of South-African federation, including the building of long lines of railway to connect the various parts. The Boers, standing, as they do, against all real progress, and actuated by an exclusive policy, would have been a fatal obstacle to the consummation of that project. They have, therefore, provoked forceful interference precisely at the moment when it suits British interests to interfere. Possibly they count on the sympathy, if not the active support, of Continental Europe. But the *Jiji* thinks that, if England stands firm, neither France nor Germany will be disposed to intervene. Our contemporary's only apprehension is that, while England is occupied with the Transvaal, the opportunity may be seized by certain other Powers to make aggressions in China. Japan must watch the course of events very closely.

THE "AMERICA MARU."

Monday, Sept. 18.

The case of the *America Maru* attracts much journalistic attention in Tokyo. It is confidently stated that the Japanese engineers pointed out the danger of putting to sea with fire smouldering among the ship's coal and asked to be relieved from their duties if their protest was not heeded. But the Captain declined to see any peril, and was supported in his contention by Mr. Naito, a naval expert. The engineers then felt that to leave their posts just when the vessel was about to sail would probably be construed as desertion, but the result has verified the correctness of their judgment.

We gather from these comments that no doubt is entertained as to the existence of fire in the ship's bunkers before she left port. The only question is whether it had really developed proportions such as to suggest any reasonable apprehension that it could not easily be dealt with. No one would be a better judge of that point than the captain of the vessel, and if he and the Agents took the risk of her going to sea, we fail to see why outsiders should busy themselves about the matter. It strikes us as one of those familiar examples of the newspapers knowing more about everybody's business than the person chiefly concerned, or than anybody else, for the matter of that. The responsible people acted according to the best of their judgment in the interests of all parties, and we may be sure that they had fuller knowledge of the conditions than newspaper reporters could possibly have. The issue shows that their judgment erred, which is unfortunate for them, inconvenient for the passengers, but very agreeable for *post-facto* wiseacres.

Wednesday, Sept. 20.

The *Jiji Shimpo* seems determined to create a sensation about the *America Maru* incident. It set its cartoonist to work yesterday, and he produced a species of dissolving scene. In one picture we have the captain diagnosing the ship's condition before she sailed. She is represented as carrying in her frame-work an ogre whose head forms the cut-water, his legs and arms protruding from the sides of the vessel. The captain, with an enormous nose and a very self-sufficient face, stands at the prow, watch in hand, feeling the ogre's pulse and looking, at his tongue, which, as it protrudes is accompanied by a thin column of smoke. At the stern stands a Japanese passenger unwilling to embark. The second scene depicts the vessel on her return to port. The ogre is belching flames, the crew are taking to the rigging, the captain's nose has lost its pride of extension and is curled in terrified horror, and the Japanese passenger has his tongue in his cheek. Our contemporary considers that the occurrence may reflect very seriously on the competence of the Japanese to manage sea-going steamers, and possibly for that reason it assigns to the captain the chief part in sending the vessel to sea. The incident will of course form the subject of a court of inquiry, and we shall then know who is really responsible. In the meanwhile all this excitement seems premature.

The agitation about the *America Maru* is kept up. A strong article on the subject appears in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The Post Office authorities, the steamship agents, and the officers of the vessel are all declared equally blameworthy, our contemporary being apparently persuaded that fire had declared itself in the ship's bunkers before she left the harbour. Surely it is a matter of common prudence to await the verdict of the Court of Inquiry before pronouncing these definite opinions.

We learn, as we are going to press, that the *America Maru* has been examined by officials from the Communications Department in conjunction with Lloyd's surveyors for this port, and that they found the ship practically free from injury. Five hundred *yen* will cover all the damage. The fire was confined to the coal. These facts have been telegraphed to the insurance offices in London, and it is expected that the ship will leave for San Francisco on the 26th inst.

MISSIONARY SCHOOLS.

"Yamato Chuyo," who sometimes uses the leading columns of *The Japan Times* to formulate his opinions, is now engaged in a polemic with the Rev. D. C. Greene on the question of religion in education. Curiously enough, "Yamato Chuyo" started the controversy by means of an article at the outset of which he declared his conviction that no occasion for controversy existed. Certainly if he thought that the views expressed by him in that article were likely to pass unchallenged, he must have had remarkable faith in the *nonchalance* of those that differ from him. In effect he stood forth and made proclamation:—"These are my opinions. I know that they are diametrically opposed to the opinions of a large number of educated people, especially to the opinions of the whole of the missionary body and their supporters and sympathisers; but nevertheless I really see no reason why there should be any discussion." Of course a discussion has resulted. It will not lead to anything. That is tolerably certain. "Yamato Chuyo" starts from the radical basis that religion is quite unnecessary in the education of the young. He thinks that the whole function of education is "to unfold the faculties latent in the minds of the young for the reception of higher knowledge, and to impart to them, at the same time, the ideas of truth, justice, honesty, love, &c., the axiomatic principles essential for the social existence of the human kind." All that, he believes, can be done without any reference to a Supreme Being or to a life beyond the grave. It is plain that a man entertaining such convictions stands at the very antipodes of the ethical belief which permeates the civilized world of the West. He is an extremist of the most pronounced type. His proposition amounts to a distinct declaration that religion is quite superfluous; for if religion be useless in the education of the young, it must be useless in the career of the adult also. There is no lever to move a man out of such a groove as that. "Yamato Chuyo" has entered it deliberately in the face of the evidence of history and the story of humanity, and he will not step out of it for the sake of a newspaper controversy. If he represented Japanese opinion, a very serious situation would be created, But the views widely elicited by this problem are against him from first to last, and, for the rest, we do not forget, though he himself seems oblivious of the fact, that during the six centuries prior to the establishment of the *Meiji* school system in Japan, religion had at least as large a share in Japanese education as it has had in the education of any nation at any era. The purely sectarian method has been in operation for something like twenty-five years "Yamato Chuyo" thinks that it has succeeded. He says that "the result, as far as it goes, has been quite satisfactory." Does he really think so? We do not.

But we did not set out to discuss "Yamato Chuyo's" views, interesting and lucidly expressed as they are. Our chief object to make two comments. A passage in Dr. Greene's letter, says that exemption from conscription is denied to the students of all schools where religion is taught. Dr. Greene has probably failed to take note of the recent utterances of the Minister of State for Education published in these columns, and if one usually

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so well informed as Dr. Greene labours under a misapprehension, many others are probably in the same condition. We would therefore call attention to the fact that the privilege of exemption from conscription is not to be denied to schools where religious instruction is given. Under that disadvantage, at any rate, they will not labour. The point is fully explained in a late issue of the *Japan Weekly Mail*.

The second comment we wish to make is on "Yamato Chuyo's" expression of belief that "Dr. Greene and his colleagues would be the first to sympathise with us if we were to say that we would not like to see any part of our common school education come under the control of black-robed Brothers and Nuns." There is no ground for preferring such a charge of bigotry against Dr. Greene. His opinions on the work of the Roman Catholic Missionaries, as expressed, for example in his remarks at the meeting of the Asiatic Society last March and repeated in these columns, forbid the supposition that he would wish to see them prevented from opening private schools, or that he would advocate the idea of subjecting their pupils to any disadvantages whatever on the ground of religious training.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

The telegram from Paris which we publish this morning disposes finally of the rumour that an intention existed among business men to boycott the French Exhibition on account of the verdict given by the Rennes Court. Probably no thoughtful person attributed any importance to the rumour from the first. The idea was hysterical, and though we can imagine that men who had found in the Dreyfus affair a constant source of excitement and sensation may have temporarily lost their moral equilibrium on receipt of the news from Rennes, it was inconceivable that such a vertigo should invade official or industrial circles. The Military Court at Rennes must be assumed to have done its duty conscientiously. The Paris correspondent of *The Times*, who certainly never showed any disposition to condone the irregularities that occurred in connexion with the Dreyfus case, referred to the members of the Rennes Court in these words:—"I am certain, and everything I hear confirms the conviction, that his present Judges, as, indeed, those of 1894, are men of irreproachable sincerity and scrupulousness, so I am confident that under the close and passionate scrutiny to which they are exposed they will judge according to their consciences." That is what every reasonable person must believe. The French Government, in view of the strange and painful experience that Dreyfus suffered, and in view of the conflict of opinion between the Civil and Military Judiciaries as to his guilt, may deem it right to pardon him, but the members of the Rennes Court had simply to judge according to the evidence and in obedience to their conscience. It would be quite extravagant that foreign business men or foreign administrations should meddle in a matter of the kind. The Exhibition will not be affected in the smallest degree. Its success may be confidently predicted.

CONFLAGRATION IN HAKODATE.

Monday, Sept. 18.

This is a most unfortunate year for conflagrations. The great fire in Toyama was followed by one only slightly less disastrous in Yokohama, and news now comes that on the morning of the 15th, at 9.45, a fire broke out in Hakodate and destroyed from three to four thousand houses. Hakodate's population is only 50,000, so that this conflagration, unless its dimensions are greatly exaggerated, must have reduced about one-fourth of the town to ashes. The fact that the news comes so late is due to the destruction of the telegraph wires. Until special arrangements could be made communicating with Tokyo from Aomori, no message could be sent. The Meiji and the Tokyo Fire Insurance Companies are the chief sufferers on this occasion. They are said to have issued policies for about a hundred thousand *yen* each. The Osaka Fire Company loses thirty thousand.

Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Fuller intelligence shows that the number of houses destroyed by the conflagration in Hakodate was not four thousand, or three thousand five hundred, as originally stated, but 2,494. One life was lost and 16 persons were injured. The fire broke out in Toyokawa-machi, and reduced to ashes Nishikawa-machi, Higashi-kawa-machi, Shiotome-machi and Jizo-machi—5 streets in all. The principal buildings destroyed were the temple Nishi-Hongwan-ji, the Gendarmes' barracks, and the primary schools of Higashi-kawa and Nishi-kawa. Five thousand *yen* were at once subscribed as a relief fund, and active measures were taken to house and feed the destitute. It appears that the insurances were not so large as was originally reported. The Meiji Fire is now said to be liable for 80,000 *yen*; the Tokyo Fire for 20,000 *yen*, and other companies for smaller amounts.

On the following day (16th) another fire broke out in Hakodate. It is said to have had its origin in the residence of a Russian whose name we can not identify in its *kana* transliteration: it appears to be "Semanov." On this occasion only 5 houses were destroyed, but a policeman was killed and 8 persons injured by electricity.

This should serve as an object lesson to the Tokyo Municipality. A terrible addition to the casualties caused by a fire might result from the phalanx of wires already hanging above the city, and soon to be increased by the cables of an electric railway, if the municipal authorities are so short-sighted as to sanction such a scheme.

THE CONSUMPTION OF RICE IN JAPAN.

There is a theory, pretty generally entertained, that the consumption of rice in Japan has increased greatly during the past ten or fifteen years. The theory rests chiefly on the hypothesis that the standard of living has improved steadily during the *Meiji* era, and that families which seldom tasted rice in former times regard it now as an essential staple of daily food. It is confidently asserted that such is the case in rural districts, and the same rule should apply to the inhabitants of the towns. A table has just been published, however, which can not be said to support the theory. In order to determine the quantity of rice actually consumed, the compilers of the table have taken the yield of rice each year, subtracted from it the quantity exported, and added the quantity imported. Their figures are these:—

Year.	Yield. Koku.	Export Koku.	Import. Koku.	Consumption. Koku.
1888	38,645,473	1,310 852	22,994	37,357,615
1889	33,007,566	253,817	2,042,932	34,896,680
1890	43,037,809	799,410	745,781	42,984,150
1891	38,121,548	486,666	366,360	38,003,242
1892	41,378,474	635,415	622,813	41,364,872
1893	37,199,663	570,052	1,468,724	38,098,335
1894	41,825 714	719 324	749,045	41,845,435
1895	39,920,882	756,803	827,556	39,991,635
1896	36,199,771	517,678	2,800,653	38,482,746
1897	33 039,293	420,472	5,198,354	37,817,155
Totals	382,368,193	6,370,519	14,844,292	390,841,860
Average	38,236 819	637,052	1,484,429	39 084 286

In calculating the number of *koku* exported, 250 catties have been taken as 1 *koku*; and for imports, 225 catties.

It would appear from this table that the average yearly consumption of rice is about a million *koku* greater than the average yield, and that, consequently, that quantity must be imported. But there does not appear to be any marked tendency to increased consumption.

A STRIKE OF RAILWAY NAVVIES.

Three hundred and fifty navvies, working in the tunnel at the celebrated Kobotoke-toge, recently struck work. They objected to a change of system. Formerly each man went on once in the 24 hours for 8 hours at a time. That method was afterwards altered, the length of a spell being reduced to 6 hours, which involved two spells for each man in the 24 hours, his time being thus increased to 12 hours, with the still greater hardship of never having more than 6 hours' interval. Of course the navvies asked for more pay and shorter hours. Their demands are said to have been complied with, yet they do not appear to be yet satisfied. The Kobotoke Pass is on the line of the Chuo Railway—a State road. In Tokugawa days, a force of a thousand men was maintained in Hachioji for guarding the Pass.

SHOOTING LICENSES.

An interesting point arises with regard to shooting licences issued to foreigners. Hitherto the foreigner has been obliged to pay 10 *yen* for a licence. Of course the Japanese Game Law does not distinguish between foreigners and natives and an arbitrary decision has been necessary to determine under what Article of the Law foreigners should come. It results that they were placed on the same footing as Japanese subjects paying at least 15 *yen* of income tax annually or 200 *yen* of land tax. But that sort of broad generalization will hold no longer, inasmuch as for purposes of taxation foreigners and Japanese have to be treated exactly alike. On the other hand it has not yet been possible to conclude the investigations necessary for classing foreigners in the manner prescribed by the Game Law, the amount of the taxes to be paid by them to the Central Government being still undetermined. It has consequently been decided that, pending such investigations, foreigners shall be charged only 1 *yen* for a shooting license. Moreover, instead of applying to the Police Head Quarters (*Keisatsu Honbu*) they will have to apply to the Police Station in their district (*Keisatsu-sho*).

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FOREIGNERS AND MINING ENTERPRISE IN JAPAN.

Wednesday, September 20.

Not certainly in the columns of the *Shogyo Shimpo*, usually an eminently liberal journal, should we have looked for a protest against the rumoured amendment of the Mining Law in the sense of removing the restrictions upon foreign enterprise. The *Shogyo* grants that Japanese capital is quite unequal to the task of exploiting the mineral resources of the country; that foreign capital would readily be forthcoming for the purpose, and that many mines now abandoned and others unopened would become productive in foreign hands. Yet it shrinks from the prospect. It believes that all the mines in the country would ultimately pass into the hands of foreigners; that the profits made by working them would go abroad, and that nothing would remain to Japan except the wages of the workmen. Perhaps the *Shogyo* has not considered that the question lies between wealth absolutely unutilized and wealth turned to profitable purposes. Perhaps, also, it has not considered that the gains realized in mining are seldom more than a moderate per-centage of the capital sunk; that only those gains would leave the country; that, the minerals being sold outside Japan, the profits accruing on them would not come out of Japanese purses; that the price paid for the privilege of working the mines would be so much clear gain to Japan, and that if the exceedingly timid policy is to be pursued of excluding the foreigner merely because he has more capital to invest than the Japanese, and because he knows better how to get a good return on it, Japan ought to turn her back at once on all progressive measures.

Friday, September 22.

The opinions of certain leading Japanese men of affairs have been sought by the *Shogyo Shimbun* with reference to the question of amending the Mining Law so as to permit foreign enterprise in that important field. Three of these opinions are published by our contemporary: two are emphatically conservative and one is liberal. The conservatives are Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke, formerly Governor of Tokyo, and Mr. Okura Kihachiro; the liberal is Mr. Masuda Ko. Mr. Tomita is astounded that such a project should be entertained for a moment. He appears to have a very singular idea of the methods of foreigners. They would extract ore recklessly, he says, and sell it recklessly (*rankutsu rambai*), and altogether his language suggests that he regards the foreigner as a kind of ogre, who consumes everything he finds and produces nothing for any one but himself. If Mr. Tomita could show that mining operations are conducted in any part of the world, not excluding Japan, on lines of moderation and conservatism, his dread of placing this country's minerals at the disposal of all nationalities might have some basis of reason. It is plain, however, that he does not reason from facts but from fancies. He considers the mines of Japan in the light of delicate properties, to be nursed and cherished like pretty babies, and he considers the average foreigner a rough, greedy individual who can not be safely permitted to lay hands on Japan's frail belongings. One would suppose that in working a coal mine, for example, Japanese owners carefully considered every ounce of mineral taken out, calculate the number of ounces left, and adjust their prices with reference not merely to the remaining stock, but also to the importance of preventing the public from becoming too greedy for coal, whereas the foreign owner plies pick and shovel and dumps the mineral on the market without any thought of these sundry contingencies. Truly Mr. Tomita should devote himself to the study of the *cha-no-yu* cult. He could not fail to find that science congenial. Mr. Okura Kihachiro has more definite ideas. Minerals are, in his opinion, the great source of national wealth, the veins in which the life-blood of the nation circulates. He can not reconcile himself to the notion of allowing aliens to lay rude hands upon these treasures. He is shocked by the violence to which China is exposed by greedy exploiters of her mines, and when he contemplates the result of extending the Mining Law in the sense suggested, he sees the country's mineral resources monopolized by European and American vampires who will suck her life-blood and leave her in a condition incapable of recuperation. We wonder what Mr. Okura would do with Japan's minerals. Does he think that they ought to be left lying in the ground, like money in an old woman's stocking, or does he hold that they should be extracted at a strictly limited rate and by Japanese workmen and capitalists only? It is pleasant to turn from such theories to the broad views of a man like Mr. Masuda, who sees no reason whatever why the foreigner should be excluded from the field of mining, and who believes that Japanese enterprise would receive a wholesome stimulus and Japanese methods be materially improved by association with foreigners.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* itself invites us (*Japan Mail*) to consider the arguments advanced by it in an article published subsequently to our recent comments. The gist of the article, so far as we can judge, is that if the country's coal mines fell into foreign possession, great inconvenience might be suffered in the event of war. But why? The mines would still remain in Japan's dominions, and practically subject to her control. The *Shogyo* can not imagine, surely, that if coal was wanted for the country's ships, and if the foreign mine-owners refused to furnish it, there could be any hesitation on the Government's part as to the proper course to adopt? Perhaps our contemporary thinks that the owners would flood their mines, or blow them up, or render them otherwise unproductive, rather than suffer the coal to serve the uses of warships fighting against an European or American State. We can only say that foreigners of that kind have yet to be discovered.

THE JAPANESE IN KOREA AND AMOY.

Wednesday, Sept. 20.

There has been much talk lately of arbitrary acts on the part of the Korean Government with regard to the monopoly of ginseng, and of lawless violence displayed by Chinese subjects in Amoy towards Japanese. The *Mainichi Shimbun* avers that the fault is not all on one side. The Japanese in Amoy are mostly "loafers" who, having failed to secure a subsistence in Formosa, crossed to the Chinese continent as a last resource. They are always ready to lend their names to any Chinaman who wants to evade taxes or other inconvenient interference on the part of the Authorities. As for the ginseng business, it is true that the Korean Government claims, and endeavours to enforce, a monopoly under circumstances of great hardship to the people, and without taking any measures such as would impart an appearance of practical reality to the claim. In order to evade the arbitrary interference of officials, many growers of ginseng in Korea have made a habit of putting their ginseng farms into the nominal ownership of Japanese subjects, but the latter, in several cases, have abused the trust and appropriated the ginseng for themselves. Of course the original transfer having been illegal, no legal remedy is available for the unfortunate owners, and, not unnaturally, quarrels and disturbances have resulted.

Thursday, Sept. 21.

From the negative evidence that no official report has been received of the attack said to have been made upon the Japanese Consulate in Amoy on the 15th inst., it is naturally conjectured that nothing of the kind took place. But the Japanese Government is evidently uneasy about the state of affairs existing in Amoy. We stated yesterday that the *Yayeyama* had received orders to proceed to Amoy and it was believed that her mission was to relieve the *Takachiko*. But that statement does not accord with the fact that the *Tatsuta* also has been ordered to proceed from Shanghai to the same destination, so that three Japanese men-of-war will presently be anchored at Amoy. The *Tatsuta* is only a despatch vessel of 864 tons, and the *Yayeyama*, though a much larger ship (5,400 tons) belongs to the same category. Nevertheless the three vessels will represent a formidable force and can easily land six or seven hundred marines, if necessary. It is naturally inferred that such a force would not be assembled at Amoy without some sufficient reason.

THE EPIDEMIC OF DYSENTERY.

The epidemic of dysentery, which threatens to assume very large proportions this year, is naturally attracting much attention. The disease is believed to have made its appearance in Japan in 1880, having been brought to Kiushiu by a ship coming from abroad. That year it killed thirteen hundred people, and thereafter it grew steadily until, in 1893, forty-one thousand persons perished from it. Such a record moved the authorities to adopt vigorous measures of sanitation, and, whether from that cause, or because the disease, like the other ills to which humanity is heir, has its alternating periods of activity and sluggishness, things mended slightly in 1894, and very perceptibly in 1895. But from 1896 a tendency to renewed vigour showed itself, and it seems likely that the current year will have a thoroughly bad record. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that lack of funds cripples the Authorities' preventive measures. There is some talk of a want of fifty thousand *yen*. Our contemporary justly observes that ten times fifty thousand *yen* ought not to be considered a serious obstacle, and that the Gov-

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ernment should boldly appropriate whatever is necessary from the second reserve. The *Jiji* gives a table showing the spread of the disease since 1880 :—

	PATIENTS.	DEATHS.
1880	5,047	1,305
1881	7,001	1,837
1882	4,330	1,313
1883	21,173	5,066
1884	22,702	6,036
1885	47,377	10,690
1886	24,326	6,839
1887	16,149	4,257
1888	26,815	6,576
1889	22,873	5,970
1890	42,633	8,706
1891	46,358	11,208
1892	70,842	16,844
1893	167,305	41,282
1894	155,140	38,094
1895	52,711	12,959
1896	85,876	22,356
1897	91,077	23,189
1898	90,976	22,392
Total	1,000,711	246,919

The terrible scourge of dysentery attacked 49,818 persons in Japan from January 1st to Sept. 14th, and killed 11,788 of them. Niigata fared worst. It had 9,041 patients and 1,704 deaths. Next in order came Fukushima, Iwate and Nagano. The capricious behaviour of the disease is well illustrated by the records from the last two places. Iwate lost only 397 out of 4,042 persons attacked, whereas Nagano had 778 deaths among 3,281 cases. The Authorities anticipate that the number of cases will aggregate a hundred thousand by the end of October.

TOKYO HARBOUR.

About twenty-five years have elapsed since the talk of constructing a harbour for Tokyo began to be seriously listened to. A foreign resident of Tsukiji was then the chief promoter of the scheme, and his project was understood to be feasible. But it appears that such a work would have been premature at that time. Since then the subject has cropped up from time to time in a nebulous unpractical manner, and the public have learned to class it as part of the programme of "Dreamland Tokyo." Recently, however, there seemed to be some possibility of an earnest effort. Two prominent citizens of Tokyo proposed to undertake works of fore-shore reclamation which would have provided a good anchorage in the vicinity of Shinagawa. It is understood that both these schemes were rejected by the Municipality. We now learn that Mr. Furuichi, Chief Engineer of the Department of Home Affairs, is engaged upon a project which he expects to have finished in three or four months. His work at present is confined to the general outlines of the scheme, and doubtless the detailed plan will require a tolerably long interval for elaboration. Nothing is said about the cost of this new project or about its exact nature, but there is some satisfaction to be derived from the fact that the matter has been placed in the hands of a man so competent and energetic as Mr. Furuichi.

Mr. Bardens has appealed against the decision of the Kobe Court that fined him 30 *yen* for accidentally striking a child with a whip as he was driving through Kobe recently.

THE JAPANESE ARMY.

Figures which, we presume, may be regarded as trustworthy, have been published by the *Kenseito Tōhō*, with reference to the numerical strength of the Japanese Army and Navy at present. The returns relate to the conditions existing at the end of 1898, when the recruits for that year had been drafted into the ranks.

TROOPS WITH THE COLOURS.

	Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.	Rank and File.
Infantry	8,266	58,108
Cavalry	646	2,532
Artillery	1,635	12,811
Engineers	583	5,089
Land Transport Train	596	1,473
Total	11,726	80,013
Total of all Arms and Ranks		91,739

RESERVE.

	Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.	Rank and File.
First Reserve (*Yobi*)	8,894	105,104
Second Reserve (*Kobi*)	8,583	62,537
Troops still on the First-Term Roll but not actually with the Colours		13,432
Supernumeraries		50,871
Totals	17,477	231,944
Total of Arms and Ranks	249,421	
Grand Total on Active & Reserve Lists..	341,160	

The Naval statistics are only partial :—

Admirals of the Fleet	2
Vice-Admirals	7
Rear-Admirals	14
Captains of 3 years' seniority	60
Captains	110
Commanders	109
First Lieutenants	280
Sub-Lieutenants	52
Midshipmen	66
Cadet-midshipmen	61
Total	761

ENGINEERS.

Engineer-in-chief	1
Chief Inspectors of Machinery	9
Inspectors of Machinery	36
Fleet Engineers	19
Staff Engineers	57
Chief Engineers	10
Engineers	58
Assistant Engineers	22
Total	212

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Inspectors General	2
Deputy Inspectors-General	13
Deputy Assistant Inspectors General ...	21
Fleet Surgeons	31
Staff Surgeons	63
Surgeons	13
Assistant-Surgeons	26
Deputy Assistant-Surgeons	2
Total	171

PHARMACEUTISTS.

Fleet Pharmaceutists	4
Staff Pharmaceutists	1
Pharmaceutists	2
Assistant Pharmaceutists	2
Deputy Assistant Pharmaceutists	4
Pharmaceutist Cadets	2
Total	15

PAYMASTERS.

Paymaster Inspectors	2
Deputy Paymaster Inspectors	8
Fleet Paymasters	27
Staff Paymasters	24
Paymasters	57
Assistant Paymasters	22
Deputy Assistant Paymasters	20
Paymaster Cadets	18
Total	187

There are besides 61 officers in the Construction Department and 6 in the Pilots, making the grand total 1,413.

JAPANESE IN MANILA.

From further special correspondence in the *Tokyo Asahi* we learn some particulars about the recent arrest of Japanese subjects in Manila. The number apprehended was five in all, Mr. Hiyama and four others, of whom four were released on the following day on the representations of Mr. Consul Mimasu; but one, Nakamura Seiji, was still in custody at the date of the correspondence, viz., the 29th ult. The facts about this man are rather curious. It is stated that he and a citizen of the United States named Brown are partners in a restaurant in Tarak. Nakamura started for Manila during the first week in August to lay in a stock of provisions, but although he travelled by the American military line, he neglected to provide himself with a passport, and, the deficiency being discovered, he was "dumped" by the railway authorities somewhere along the route. There the rebels managed to get hold of him, but on discovering that he was a Japanese, they became as courteous as they had previously been menacing, and undertook to despatch one of their number to escort him to Manila where he was subsequently arrested by the American authorities. One is disposed to think that if the absence of a passport got Mr. Nakamura into trouble with the United States officers, the escort of a rebel was not the best means of extricating him, and he will probably have to mend his story before he recovers his liberty. It should be observed that suspicion attaches to the Japanese solely on the evidence of a Filipino spy who really seems to have told either too much or too little.

THE DOSHISHA.

It may interest the friends of the Doshisha to learn that the arrangement recently noted in the *Japan Mail* under which it was thought to be possible to continue the middle school of that institution, has been disapproved by the Department of Education. As a consequence the middle school will be closed at the end of the school year, next March.

It is proper to say, in view of the feeling often expressed that this action should not be deferred until March, that the Trustees have competent legal authority for the opinion that the School Regulations forbid the closing of a school without adequate provision for the students. Such provision could not be made in the middle of the school year, for there would be no hope of finding accommodation for so considerable a body of students in the already crowded middle school of the vicinity.

THE "MORGAN CITY."

The *Kobe Herald* learns that the Nagasaki Marine Office will shortly institute a prosecution against Mr. Meyer, Pilot of the foundered *Morgan City*, in respect of an infringement of the Pilot Regulations. We also learn that a protest against permitting non-licensed pilots to take charge of a ship in the Inland Sea has been forwarded to the Osaka Marine Office by the secretary of the Kobe Pilots' Association, and it is reported that the Osaka Marine Office may take steps to prosecute Mr. Meyer as a non-licensed pilot. As a licensed pilot he would have been summoned and examined before the office, but, not being licensed, he may simply be prosecuted as stated above.

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THE IMPERIAL ESTATES.

It appears that the management of the Imperial landed estates is one of the principal questions which the new office presided over by Marquis Ito has to consider. These estates are of immense extent. Some estimates put them at ten millions of acres, or over fifteen thousand square miles; others do not go beyond one half of that amount. In either case it is an immense area, and at present it is said to produce no revenue. If a moiety were sold and the proceeds applied to establishing a system of supervision and management for the remainder, there can be no doubt that a very large addition to the imperial revenues would result. That is the plan now being pursued with regard to the State forests and moors. But the law of entail forbids a similar step in the case of the Imperial estates. Some measure ought, of course, to be devised, for under existing circumstances the estates do not benefit any one.

THE GERMANS IN KOREA.

The doings of Mr. Walter, a German subject residing in Chemulpo, have afforded material for a great many paragraphs in Japanese newspapers. First he figured as applicant for the charter of the Söul-Wonsan railway. That being refused, he sought permission to build a railway from Cheung-nam-po to Pyöngyang, and thence to Wonsan. That also was refused. Then he proposed to act as capitalist for the Söul-Wonsan road, which, according to the Korean Government, was to be built by an impecunious native company. That too was refused. And now Mr. Walter has sought permission to employ the Korean national flag as a trade mark. That application again has been rejected, and the question propounded by Tokyo journals is whether Germany will sit down under all these rebuffs. We admire Mr. Walter's enterprise if the tales of his doings be correct.

THE TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The Tokyo Electric Light Company is the latest addition to the list of concerns victimized by dishonest officers. Quite recently the Company subjected its affairs to a thorough investigation and re-organization, and incurred so much expense in connexion with the abuses existing in various sections of its business, that the shareholders had to be content with a dividend of 7 per cent. instead of 11, as had previously been paid. Just when all these improvements had been effected, and the Company's affairs were supposed to be in excellent order, one of the officers, Hayashi Keijiro, was found to have appropriated fifty thousand *yen* of the Company's money to his private uses. It was the old story; unsuccessful speculations on 'change, and fraudulent use of the Chief Manager's seal. The Directors are said to have determined that the shareholders shall not suffer any loss. Hayashi's property has been seized and will yield ten thousand *yen*; the President pays twenty thousand out of his own pocket, and the Directors and principal officers make up the remainder.

COUNT KABAYAMA.

The Minister of Education denies emphatically the rumour that he has tendered his resignation, and ridicules the idea that he has any intention of doing so. As to a difference of opinion between him and the Minister of State for Finance, he says that there is none, and no reason for anything of the sort. It will be remembered that the removal of Count Kabayama's family from his official residence was one of the bases of the rumour, but the Count says that the removal was simply a question of climatic convenience in the summer months. The eight-years' scheme of educational expansion drawn up by the Count, said to have been rejected by the Finance Department, appears to be still on the tapis, but the appropriations made by the Treasury will probably be inconsiderable at first.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

It is stated that the directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have amended their method of assessing coast freight charges, in the sense of calculating by weight instead of bulk. This change is believed to be due to the competition of the various railways.

There appears to be a strong probability that a railway will be built from Hakodate to Otaru *viâ* Yesashi and Fukuyama. Such a line would pass through the most beautiful parts of Hokkaido. The projectors seem to have gone to work in a clever manner. They prepared a prospectus containing full information, and mailed it to some fifteen hundred of the best known capitalists in Japan, with the result that they quickly obtained a promise of more than the necessary support.

The problem of private versus State ownership of railways is reported to have been taken up again very vigorously by Messrs. Shibusawa (Eiichi), Nakamigawa, Shioda, Watanabe (Koki), Suyenobu and Ikeda. The main idea of these gentlemen, it is said, is unification of the railway system throughout the empire with a view to organizing a great railway syndicate—a trust, in fact, for the Japanese are perfectly familiar with that idea, and the expression *daigōdō* conveys just as much to them as its English equivalent conveys to us. They see that the larger a business the simpler the principles applicable to it, and that the monster company can direct labour and handle money with a degree of efficiency and economy unattainable in smaller operations. It is thought that with such men as the above at its head, the movement for the sale of the State's railways to the people will acquire unprecedented impetus. But there are strong interests arrayed against the proceeding.

Japanese newspapers report very brisk transactions in the silk market. They say that during the 16th and 17th instant a foreign firm purchased no less than 4,200 parcels, involving an outlay of 1,300,000 *yen*. What is meant by the indefinite term *ka*, which we here translate "parcel," we can not tell, for the price shows than neither piculs nor ordinary bales can be referred to.

The *Official Gazette* gives fac-similes of the new ten-*yen* bank-note which is to be issued this year (from November) in exchange for the ten-*yen* note of 1884. The note has, on the reverse, a design of a wild-boar in the centre, 1899 being the year of the boar according to the old almanack; and the English words "Nippon Ginko Promises to Pay the Bearer on Demand Ten Yen in Gold."

Count Itagaki, according to the *Kokumin*, is opposed to making the Tokyo Street Railway a private enterprise. Our contemporary gives an exhaustive *résumé* of his views, but as they are of a general character we need not repeat them. It would appear, then, that with regard to this important topic, Mr. Hoshi Toru and Count Itagaki are in opposite camps.

The Judges of Japanese manufactures for the Paris Exhibition have had recourse to the Fourteenth Autumn Exhibition of glyptic specimens now going on in the Uyeno Galleries in order to make up a reasonably sufficient number of articles for despatch to the Exhibition. They have found the following objects adapted for the purpose:—

Rush cutter, in wood ...by Hoyashi Binn
Cow, in bronze .....by Makino Yaijiro
Monkey and mule in bronze .....by Yamanaka Sukeyoshi
Rustic, in ivory .....by Yoshida Sōju
Old man drawing water, in ivory .....by Hamada Masaaki
Wolf, in ivory .....by Okada Tomokatsu
Okina, in wood .....by Hirakushi Teitaro
Obaname, in wood .....by Mori Hō-ei
Lady, do .....by Watanabe Nagao
Young lady, in wood ...by Mitsuhashi Kiyoshi
Old woman, do ...by Nakamura Naohiko
Lady, in ivory .....by Yamada Masaharu
Child, in bronze.....by Kamiya Kuniharu
Tiger, in silver .....by Numata Ichiga
Youth of *Genroku* era, in ivory .....by Shimomura Yoshiaki
Child, in ivory .....by Morino Kōrin
Old woman and child, in wood .....by Yamada Kisai

The following comparative figures relating to the tea trade are published:—

	1898. Catties.	1899. Catties.
Entered market	18.935.000	20,617,900
Sold	18.067.000	20 061,700
Remaining	868,000	556,200

Thus in point of quantity the transactions this year have already exceeded those of last year, though lower prices have ruled.

The following returns shows the improvement that has taken place in the condition of the cotton-spinning industory owing to the reduced price of coal and rate of interest and the increased demand for yarns in Northern China:—

Year.	Number of companies.	Average profit.	Average dividend.
1895	54	46,018 yen	11 3 per cent.
1896	63	20,333 yen	5 per cent.
1897	67	25.391 yen	4 per cent.
1898	66	11,766 yen	2 per cent.
1899	65	23.018 yen	9 6 per cent.

It is stated that the Government will submit to the Diet next session a bill for amending the Mining Law, in the sense, first, of extending its scope, and secondly of removing the restriction upon foreigners engaging in mining enterprise. The Law, as it now stands, does not cover quarries—granite quarries, marble quarries, and so on—which are sometimes scarcely less valuable them coal mines. That is an obvious defect. Further, it is now abundantly plain that the full development of Japan's mineral resources can never be effected without the aid of foreign capital. So the restriction is to be abolished.

The Tokyo Municipality's six-per-cent.

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Loan Bonds now sell for 99.50 *yen*, and even the five-per-cent. consols are worth from 96 to 97 in the market. It does not seem unreasonable, therefore, that the new City Loan of two million *yen*, carrying six-per-cent. interest, should be issued at the minimum price of 98. The purpose of the loan is not stated, but we presume that it is connected with the water works. Applications are to be made at the First and Third Banks from the 24th of September to the 14th of October, and are to be accompanied by ten per cent. of the amount applied for, which sum will represent the first instalment in the case of successful applicants. The allotments will be made by the 31st of October. The second instalment of 50 *yen* will have to be paid between November 1st and November 10th, and the remainder of the money between December 1st and December 11th. Three previous issues of this loan failed to find subscribers among the general public. Only 95 was offered, and the Mitsui Bank finally took over the bonds.

The new first-class cruiser *Azuma*, which has just been launched in France, is spoken of as a most successful type. She combines the best features of English and French ship-building, and is not unlikely to become a model. The *Nippon* claims that the men-of-war built for Japan in foreign countries are all designed by Japanese naval experts and superintended by them also during the course of construction. That claim is all right so long as the vessels are successful, but if we remember aright, the mysterious disappearance of the *Unebi-kan* was attributed by Japanese writers to faults of construction for which French builders were held responsible. However, there is no doubt that Japanese naval experts have made remarkable progress in technical knowledge and its practical application during recent years. We have heard it said by a thoroughly competent judge that the *post-bellum* programme of naval expansion drawn up in this country was the completest thing of the kind he had ever seen.

Mr. Sakuma Dentaro, who used a sword-cane upon the person of Mr. Hoshi Toru's assailant in Aomori, and who was subsequently arraigned on a charge of unlawful cutting and wounding, has been acquitted. His plea, of course, was "lawful self-defence." The Public Procurator argued, somewhat strangely, that the use of a lethal weapon for purposes of self-defence is permissible only when a man is threatened with fatal injury, and that, as Mr. Hoshi's assailant was armed with only an umbrella, to thrust a sword into him was not permissible. The Judge, however, took the view that a man cannot be expected to estimate exactly the nature of the danger to which he is exposed by a violent assault. He repels the assault by any means in his power. Besides, Mr. Hoshi's assailant did not confine himself to an umbrella. He was using stones also, and stones discharged at close quarters may be as dangerous as fire-arms.

The talk now is that the Tokyo water works will be completely finished in two or three years. That is certainly vague enough. However, the works are already in operation in some of the most populous quarters of the city, and when their entire completion is spoken of the meaning is that the whole of the urban districts will be supplied by that time. The engineers in charge say that of the three accidents which have occurred up to the present, two were due to the bursting of bad pipes —some of those supplied by the fraudulent syndicate—, and one was simply an over-flow resulting from omission to insert a plug.

Heavy sales of Kiushu Railway shares have taken place—5,440 old shares and 16,438 new. This transaction provokes some comment by a section of the shareholders. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regards it merely in the light of a transfer of capital for economical reasons. The Mitsui are believed to be the sellers, and their object is to put more strength into their mining enterprises, into their plan of forming a coal trust, into their importation of iron ore from China, and into their Hokkaido fisheries. We may mention in this context that the efforts of Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi and his coadjutors are said to be likely to eventuate in a compromise between the disputing shareholders of the Kiushu Line.

The *Asahi* describes an encounter between sailors of H.B.M.S. *Victorious* and Japanese labourers in Shimizu (Shizuoka). According to the Tokyo journal's account, a party of blue-jackets surrounded a peaceful fishmonger, took his fish from him, and beat him into the bargain. A Japanese onlooker interfered, only to receive similar treatment, and the *Victorious'* men were then attacked by several coolies, the result being a regular fracas, which the police had great difficulty in checking. We take leave to doubt the correctness of this version.

The Kompira lottery affair is likely to end in the law courts. In a recent issue we described the details of the disgraceful business, but we failed to note that one of the managers of the Shrine had drowned himself in a well. Proceedings have now been instituted against Mr. Otori Setsunen, the chief official of the shrine, by some of the holders of tickets in the lotteries. Mr. Otori is a cousin of Marquis Asano. No one appears to think that he knew anything about the lotteries. He occupies himself entirely with the rites of the Shrine. But he has now to answer for the sins of his subordinates. The question is, will the law courts assist the lottery folks? If, as seems beyond question, the lotteries were illegal, the courts can scarcely lend their assistance to protect the interests of the persons engaging in them.

The Liberal Party claim to have no less than 41 newspaper organs in various parts of the empire outside Tokyo. Nothing of the kind is the case with the Progressists. In fact the Liberals are in the happy position of being able to say *haud æqui aut secundi*. That is not a wholesome state of affairs. When Count Okuma went out of office in the spring of 1898, he declared that a strong opposition was essential to the political welfare of the country. There is no room to doubt the truth of that view, but unfortunately it finds no practical expression just now. What has happened to the Progressists? No one seems to be able to answer that question satisfactorily.

The *Mainichi*, using double-leaded capitals and notes of exclamation—which look very curious among ideographs—, announces that a change in the Cabinet is impending, owing to the contemplated resignation of Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education. Count Kabayama, according to our contemporary, has provoked opposition among educationists by want of energy. He has taken no steps to give effect to the Representation voted by the Diet last session, in favour of educational expansion, or to improve the High Normal Schools and to provide increased accommodation for the Engineering College in the University. Mr. Toyama is regarded as most likely to succeed the Count, but the whole story may be merely one of the too-familiar sensational rumours.

A number of gentlemen, eminent in the sphere of Christian Propagandism, have combined, say Tokyo journals, to establish a library in a central position in Tokyo. The names are mentioned of Mr. Greene, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Loomis, Mr. Soper, Mr. White, Mr. Coates, and others. They propose to raise a capital of a hundred thousand *yen* for the purpose. Pending the selection of an independent building, the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association at Kanda is to be used.

The new school for police and jail official (*Keisatsu Kangoku Gakko*) has been opened in Tokyo. Mr. Ogawa, an official of the Bureau of Prisons in the Department of Home Affairs, in his speech at the opening ceremony, which took place on the 18th instant, said that Japan might congratulate herself on having been the first to adopt the suggestion formulated at the last meeting of the Council on International Law in Rome, with regard to the establishment of such schools.

The Industrial Bank has obtained the sanction of the Finance Department for the 6th issue of its five per cent. bonds. The amount is one million *yen*; the face-value of the bonds is 20 *yen*; subscriptions will be received during 21 days from the 11th of October, and the money must be paid during 5 days from the 25th to the 30th of November. The prizes are to be one of a thousand *yen*, five of 100 *yen*, and ten of 75 *yen*; or 16 prizes among 200,000 chances.

The Tamashima Spinning Company of Osaka, which recently went into liquidation, has been sold for 375,100 *yen* to Mr. Shimamura Kyoji. The sale was by tender, and the bidding seems remarkable, the first three tenders having been 375,100 *yen* 375,080 *yen*, and 375,005 *yen*, respectively. Mr. Shimamura was a creditor to the extent of 350,000 *yen*. His competitors appear to have discovered with admirable accuracy how much he was prepared to pay!

Correspondence from Manila, under date of the 23rd August, is published by the *Tokyo Asahi*. The rainy season having set in, we read, the American troops are unable to undertake any active operations, and have to remain cooped up, suffering not a little from the climate. The insurgents, on the contrary, who are acclimatized and thoroughly familiar with the country, are able to harass the Americans in many ways, and the correspondent's impression is that the end of the campaign is still far distant. He speaks, also, of the arrest of certain Japanese on suspicion of dealing in contraband of war. It appears that, in

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the middle of August, a Filipino captain was apprehended in Manila as a spy. He declared, under examination, that he had come to the town for the purpose of escorting two Japanese subjects who were engaged in the sale of arms and munitions to the insurgents. On the strength of this information, General Otis issued a warrant for the arrest of Mr. Hiyama Gonsaburo, a teacher in the Tokyo School of Foreign Languages. Apparently suspicion attached to Mr. Hiyama chiefly because he was about to start for Japan the following day. He was released almost immediately, only to be again apprehended just as he had boarded the outgoing steamer. There was nothing tangible against him, however, and, after 24 hours in jail, he recovered his liberty. Another Japanese, arrested at the same time, fared similarly. Mr. Hiyama declares that he received inhuman treatment in prison, but such assertions must be taken with all reserve. We are almost forced to conclude that some dealing in contraband goods has been carried on by Japanese subjects. All this talk could scarcely be without any basis.

A German subject seems likely to have the distinction of being the second foreigner arraigned before a Japanese tribunal under the new system. He belongs, apparently, to the genus of genteel loafer. After spending some time at the Club Hotel in Yokohama, he absconded, leaving an unpaid bill amounting to over 300 *yen*. Then he turned up at the Oriental Hotel in Kobe, but, a complaint having been lodged in Yokohama, instructions for his arrest were forwarded to Kobe. Before they could be carried out, however, he escaped to Nagasaki, under a new name, by one of the M.M. steamers. He has been apprehended in Kobe and is now on his way to Yokohama, overland it is said.

Fuji-yama received its first coat of snow this season on the 16th instant, which is fifteen days earlier than the average, and ten days earlier than last year. It was a heavy fall, covering the mountain to the foot of Hoyei-zan. People say that during the past fifteen years the mountain has not had such an experience, and we can well believe it, for certainly the temperature in Tokyo and Yokohama during the past few days has been unprecedentedly cool.

The Söul-Chemulpo Railway was opened to traffic on the 18th instant. Better late than never.

The *Yayeyama* has been ordered to proceed to Amoy, probably for the purpose of relieving the *Takachiho*.

A telegram from Taipeh, dated the 19th, says that at dawn on the 15th a Chinese mob attacked the Japanese Consulate in Amoy and wounded Mr. Uyeno, the Consul, and that all the Japanese subjects in the Settlement took refuge on board the *Takachiho*, which was lying in the river. There is, however, every reason to believe that this news has no foundation. No interruption of telegraphic communications between the Consulate in Amoy and the Foreign Office in Tokyo has taken place, and a message received from the former place, dated 11.05 a.m. on the 17th instant, makes no mention whatever of any disturbance. On the contrary, it is understood in official quarters that tranquillity has been restored at Amoy, and that the marines landed from the *Takachiho*, some time ago, for the purpose of protecting the settlement, have returned to their ship. The Taipeh telegram, it will be observed, speaks of the disturbance as having occurred on the 15th instant, which can not be reconciled with the fact that a telegram despatched by the Consul two days later makes no allusion to the affair. We regard it as a pure canard.

It is stated that the agreement relating to the special Japanese settlement at Foochow was signed on the 15th instant. The area of land selected is 170,000 *tsubo* (142 acres), and an additional lot of 40,000 *tsubo* (35 acres) has been appropriated for the same purpose.

Telegraphic news received by the *Jiji Shimpo* from Peking, under date of the 17th instant, says that the Chinese Government has signed an agreement with France that a railway from Lung-chow to Nanning shall be constructed within three years, the Chinese Government furnishing 3,100,000 taels towards the expenses, and the expert labour as well as the materials being purchased in France. Lung-chow is on the Yellow River in Shensi; Nanning, on the West River in Kwangsi. The distance between the two places is 900 miles as the crow flies, and the railway would cross the Yang-tsze at Chungking. It is plain that Great Britain has not secured any monopoly of railway construction in the Yang-tsze valley. Germany's attitude in Shantung is radically different. If any railway touches her sphere of influence, she insists that the section of it falling within that sphere shall be under her control.

Siam has decided to establish a Legation in Tokyo. The first Minister has already started from Bangkok, according to Japanese newspapers, and the *kana* transliteration of his name is before us, but if this dress obscures Russian names, it conceals Siamese altogether and we cannot attempt to decipher the original.

The Public Procurator is not satisfied with the acquittal of Mr. Sakuma Dentaro, who considered that a thrust of the sword between the ribs is a proper reply to a flourish of a gingham umbrella. He has carried the case on appeal to the Hakodate Court.

The *Jiji Shimpo* employs its leading columns to advocate the appointment of Japanese trade inspectors in the various countries with which Japan carries on commerce, especially East Asian States. There has always been a great deal of dissatisfaction in Japan with the reports of the Consuls. They are required to furnish these documents monthly, yearly, and on extraordinary occasions; an order which they observe punctiliously but with results that Japanese merchants seem to regard with contempt. Critical people say that a Consul has too much to do to devote himself continuously to tradal investigations, and that when it comes to preparing a report, he has to fall back upon information furnished by one or two merchants, or even to content himself with extracts from newspapers. Under such circumstances his statements are apt to be biassed, it not erroneous, and it is said that merchants have been involved in losses by following Consular advice. Hence the *Jiji's* advocacy of trade inspectors. To us (*Japan Mail*) it has always seemed that a mistaken idea prevails in Japan about the nature and object of Consular trade reports. A Consul cannot be expected to tell merchants anything about their business that they do not know already, or to indicate any new roads to profit. He is not a commercial expert. The original purpose of Consular reports, we imagine, was simply to place the Consul's Government *au courant* of the general trend of business within his district and to furnish statistics for official uses. The report was never intended to be addressed to merchants, and its publication and general circulation must be attributed to the same motive as the publication of a Blue Book—that is to say, to tell the world what has been done, and what is doing, rather than to suggest what ought to be done. It is absurd to suppose that a Consul can possess special knowledge of the various subjects treated in his report, and we are not at all sure that the additional advantage gained in that respect by appointing trade inspectors would be commensurate with the outlay.

The *Official Gazette* says that the agreement with regard to the special Japanese Settlement at Foochow was concluded on the 15th inst. The total area appropriated is 175 acres, divided into two lots of 142 and 33 acres respectively.

The exact number of houses destroyed in the Hakodate fire is now stated to have been 2,494 and the insurances aggregated 150,000 *yen*. The streets destroyed are as follow:—

	Houses.
Shiodome	195
Toyokawamachi	260
Jizomachi	191
Nishikawamachi	433
Hishikawamachi	1,415
Total	2,494

The new issue of the Industrial Bank's bonds have to be applied for at the Bank between the 10th and the 31st of October, and 2 *yen* security money has to be paid on each share.

The well-known barrister, Mr. Motoda Hajime, a member of the Diet, sued the Tokyo Municipality for 20,000 *yen* for services rendered in the celebrated waterworks affair. The case came before the Supreme Court in Tokyo on the 19th inst., and Mr. Motoda lost his suit.

The Kiushiu Railway affair has been complicated by a strike. The whole of the *employés* at Kurume in Fukuoka and a number of the engine-drivers and stokers have suddenly abandoned work and disappeared from the scene; a novel method of continuing a strike but very effective so far as the non-resumption of work is concerned. These strikers are said to be in sympathy with the so-called "reform party," but if so, they must be more obdurate in their views than even the leaders of the party, for the latter have consented to submit the question to the arbitration of Count Inouye.

"Diplomaticus" essay in the *Fortnightly Review* for August has naturally attracted attention in Japan. The well-known writer contends that the complaisance shown by Great Britain in the presence of Germany's Kiao-chou *coup* was prompted by a desire to secure the good-will of Berlin when the time should come for a

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final settlement of the Transvaal affair. That hypothesis, say Japanese journals, plainly means that the Far East has become liable to be indirectly involved even in South-African troubles. But surely the discovery is nothing new. The Liaotung business of 1895 showed, beyond any room for doubt, that the Great Powers of Europe had already learned to regard Oriental complications as pawns in the big game which the world calls international progress.

The Osaka Municipality has placed a million *yen* worth of its Harbour Works Bonds with the Third Bank at 95. These are 6 per cent. bonds, and it is interesting to observe that whereas the Municipalities of Tokyo and Yokohama will not sell their bonds under 98, Osaka it now content with 95 and was recently induced to receive 90.

It is now stated that when Count Kabayama was Minister of State for Home Affairs, he pledged himself to grant a charter for the Tokyo Street Railway to the combined electric-light companies, provided that they inserted certain conditions in their application. The Department thus became bound to the principle of private enterprise. Subsequently the Municipality came forward as a candidate for the charter and now the question is to effect such an arrangement between the companies and the municipality as shall satisfy the latter. In other words, what remains to be settled is the royalty that the companies are willing to pay the Municipality.

The new despatch boat *Miyako*, built at Kure, has passed her official trials, but the *Hochi Shimbun* insists that she is far from being a success, and that until she has undergone a further and much more exhaustive series of tests, the public will not feel satisfied about her.

Certainly as the *Fiji Shimpo* remarks, the figures relating to the import of flannels during the past three years are remarkable.

Year	Value of Imported Flannel in Yen	Germany's per-centage	England per-centage
1896	1,999,444	89 9	10 1
1897	1,187,655	89 3	10 7
1898	1,360,037	88 7	11 7
1899 (first half).	72,522	61 7	38 3

Of course the comparatively large percentage of English flannel now sold is chiefly referrable to the fact that the demand for the German material, which is thick and heavy, is principally among the lower orders, who have not of late been active buyers, whereas the thin, fine flannels of England are gaining favour among the better classes. As for the remarkable decline in the quantity imported during the present year, it may be partly attributable to the laying in of large supplies last fall in anticipation of the new Tariff, but we are inclined to think that the German flannel is really going out of favour and that the English takes its place to a limited extent only. The Goto Flannel Factory is turning out very good fabrics but can not yet compete successfully with the imported goods.

A disastrous fire is reported from Shiraiso in Ibaraki Prefecture. Five hundred houses were destroyed.

The *Fiji Shimpō* keeps up its agitation in the cause of railway improvement. It declares that the only really progressive company in Japan is the Sanyo Company, that the Kansei (Ise to Osaka through Yamato) comes next, and that the Government roads, which ought to be an example, are the worst of all. Incidentally our contemporary notes that the average speed on the Sanyo line is 24 miles an hour; that on the Tokaido line, 23; that on the Kansei line, 21, and that on the Nippon lines, 19.

The new line-of-battle-ship *Shikishima* is now in Portsmouth Docks, preparatory to her public trials. It is expected that the Japanese officers and men sent to England to bring her out will take delivery of her during November.

The Public Procurator, after full investigation, has decided that there is a case against the conductors of the Kompira lottery, and proceedings are to be opened.

The Japanese Consul in Newchwang telegraphs that the export of hides, dressed and undressed, to Shanghai, and of bean-cake has been suspended. It is supposed that this measure has been taken in consequence of the prevalence of plague in Newchwang.

We were mistaken in saying that the Emperor had conferred the First-class Order of the Rising Sun on Mr. H. W. Denison for services in connexion with Treaty Revision. Japan has not given decorations or titles to any members of her own service who contributed to that consummation.

THE FIRE ON THE "AMERICA MARU."

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha's steamer *America Maru*, which left Yokohama for San Francisco on Sunday week, had to put back in consequence of fire on board, and returned just after dark last Friday evening. She anchored some distance outside the breakwater, and on Saturday morning was allowed to take up a position at the anchorage allotted for kerosene ships just near the northern lighthouse.

The following information is furnished officially: The *America Maru*, 6,210 tons, W. H. Cope commander, left Yohohama on Sept. 10th at 12.05 p.m. There was fine weather and a smooth sea at the time. On Sept 11th, a fresh N.E. gale sprang up, and the sea rose On Sept. 12th, at 4 p.m. the weather showed signs of moderating, but at midnight the wind and sea increased. On the 13th, at 3.45 a.m., smoke and a strong smell of fire were found coming from hold No. 2. The ship was stopped at once, all outlets from the hold were secured, and the steam fire extinguisher was turned on. After consultation with the officers Capt. Cope decided to return to Yokohama, as there was great trouble from the escaping coal gas. At 4.30 a.m. on the 13th, the ship's head was turned towards Yokohama, and full speed ahead was ordered. She arrived at Yokohama at 6 30 p.m.

This is the official account, but there is naturally a large crop of rumours. The statement is very confidently made that there was a fire in the coal bunkers of the *America Maru* as early as the 9th inst., that this was still unextinguished when the steamer left for San Francisco on the 10th, and that the company, with the full knowledge of the fact, ordered the ship to sea. According to this theory the trouble which has compelled the ship's return was merely a continuation of what already existed before her departure, and a very serious reflection is made on the discretion of the responsible agents of the company. According, however, to the captain and officers the fire in No. 2 hold, discovered at sea, is altogether distinct, and has nothing to do with any bunker fire; indeed, it is denied that there was any fire in the bunkers before the steamer started on its voyage. The fire in No. 2 hold, which is close to the bunkers, reduced the coal on the other side of the partitions to coke, and cause a great deal of gas to be emitted, much to the discomfort of the passengers. This, however, is not in itself inconsistent with the theory of a separate fire. The volume of smoke in the 'tween decks was very large, and the Japanese fourth officer, who went below, was nearly suffocated. The fire was not extinguished when the ship reached Yokohama, and the passengers were landed as quickly as possible, and put up at the different hotels at the expense of the company. They eventually took their departure by the *City of Peking* on Tuesday. The baked coal was discharged on Saturday and Sunday, and a commencement made with the removal of the cargo. The fire was got out on Tuesday afternoon.

The passenger list is as follows:—Cabin passengers: Chow Leu Lung, Miss Dukes, Miss E. Faltin, L. E. Bohn, Mrs A. J. Allen, H. Midzuno, R. C. Bagley, Dr. Nachod, Mr. L. Merle, Dr. Neiderlin, C. W. Purington, T. Ikedo, Mrs. Dukes, Mrs. Nachod, Mrs. Merle, T. Isada, and R. Sano. Five European and 263 Asiatic steerage passengers.

GOING ROUND THE WORLD.

Mr. W. J. Johnston, the New York publisher, who, on August 1st, started upon a pleasure tour of the world, reached Yokohama on the *Doric* from Honolulu. This is Mr. Johnston's first stop outside United States territory. When seen last night, he said, referring to this, that the cordial international relations between the progressive Land of the Rising Sun and the vigorous Land of Liberty across the Pacific, ought to render it particularly appropriate that Japan should be the scene of the first neighbourly call made by an American going abroad to see other countries.

"Besides this," he added, "I have had the pleasure of meeting in New York a number of charming Japanese gentlemen, who were at the time attending college in America, or studying latest engineering practice in manufacturing establishments there. I hope now to renew some of these delightful acquaintances, in addition, of course, to enjoying the far-famed picturesque scenery of Japan, over which every visitor becomes so enthusiastic."

Mr. Johnston is a diligent and observant traveller. Within the past six months he has been in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Hawaiian Islands. After devoting from now until the middle of December to Japan, Korea, and China, it is his intention to go on to Manila. Thus he will have seen all the newly acquired island possessions of the United States, and that, too, during the first year after their having passed under the Star and Stripes.

From the Philippines, Mr. Johnston is to complete the circle of the globe by visits to Java, India, Egypt, Turkey, Greece, Spain, etc., and after attending the Paris Exposition, he expects to be back in New York about June or July, 1900. The total distance travelled will have been about 40,000 miles.

YOKOHAMA LADIES AND THE VOLUNTEERS.

A San Francisco paper refers thus to the hospitality of the American ladies of Yokohama to the troops returning from Manila:—

The American community is small, but it is intensely American. The task which it has undertaken in connection with the passage of American troops is all sufficient to prove its ardent patriotism. For some forty or fifty families, hardly enough to make up a small country village, to feed and to entertain in every possible way an army of 10,000 is something never before known in the annals of hospitality. Yet half of this gigantic task is already accomplished, and the devoted hosts are full of pluck and energy to pursue it to the end. They feel amply repaid by the unbounded gratitude of the soldiers, while even the Japanese have been taught a new lesson in patriotism.

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THE HOUSE TAX.

WITH reference to the interesting question of the Japanese Government's right to levy House Tax on buildings in the former Foreign Settlements, we observe that the Arrangement of 1868 for the Settlements of Hyogo and Osaka is quoted. It runs thus:—

> The annual rent of the said ground at Osaka and Hyogo shall be one *bu* per tsubo, which shall be paid in advance into the Municipal Fund of each place, and shall be appropriated to the repairs of roads and drains, lighting the streets or other Municipal purposes, subject, however, to a first charge of one thousand five hundred and twenty-four *bus* at Osaka, and one thousand six hundred and forty-one *bus* at Hyogo, which sums shall be paid annually to the Japanese Government as the ordinary Land Tax due on the said ground.

This provision is interpreted as disposing of the question, for since the House Tax is a municipal tax, and since the liability of the foreign land-holder with regard to municipal taxes on his land is distinctly limited by the agreement to a payment of 1 *bu* per *tsubo*, including Land Tax, he can not now be required to make a further contribution for municipal purposes in the form of a tax on the buildings in his possession. That argument appears to us to be defective. The Agreement quoted refers to land only. It does not cover the buildings erected on the land. Municipal taxes are imposed in three forms: first, Land Rate (*Chiso-wari*), which by law must not exceed five-fourths of one per cent. of the value of the land as assessed for taxation; secondly, the House Tax (*Kaoku-zei*); and thirdly, the Business Tax (*Yeigyo-zei*), which is practically a tax on vehicles and animals. Now there can be no question that, by virtue of the Treaties and their correlated conventions, a foreign holder of land within the districts formerly known as the Foreign Settlements, can not be required to pay any local tax *on account of his land*, other than the amount already included in his ground rent. He is, therefore, exempt from the Land Rate (*Chiso-wari*). But surely that contention can not be extended to the houses he has built upon the land? The Treaties say nothing whatever about buildings. Moreover, it is plain that if the argument quoted above be valid with respect to House Tax, it must be equally valid with respect to taxes on carriages, *jinrikisha*, and other vehicles or draught animals. If the Arrangement of 1868 guarantees the foreign residents of Hyogo and Osaka against the payment of any municipal tax over and above the amount included in their land-rent, then it guarantees them, not merely against the municipal House Tax, but also against the municipal tax on their carriages, their horses, their *jinrikisha*, and their bicycles. We can not adopt a partial interpretation of the term "municipal tax" to suit our own convenience. If we have a treaty-right to exemption from the House Tax, because it is a municipal tax and because our liability on account of municipal taxes is limited to the sum we have always paid hitherto, then we have precisely the same right to exemption from the Carriage Tax, the Horse Tax, the *Jinrikisha* Tax, the Bicycle Tax, the Goods-cart Tax, and the Ox Tax, because they too are municipal taxes, and because our liability on account of municipal taxes is limited to the sum we have always paid hitherto. There has not, so far as we can see, been any exhaustive and carefully reasoned statement of the proposition that foreign holders of perpetual leases should be exempt from the House Tax. The Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty says:—"Existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property." What has to be considered, then, is the meaning of the word "property," for the purposes of this Treaty. What is the "property" covered by the leases? We have nothing to do with any general significance of the word "property." We are not required to consider whether the term used in the German Revised Treaty is more restricted or less comprehensive than the term used in the British Revised Treaty. The "property" in question is explicitly declared to be the "property held under the perpetual leases," and we have only to go to the leases in order to determine exactly what "property" is designated. When we do so, when we examine the leases, we find that they confer a title to land, and to land only. "In consideration of the sum of, &c., &c., the Japanese Government hereby leases in perpetuity to . . . . the lot of land numbered and described, &c." Plainly the property in question is land, and with respect to that land foreigners are entitled to claim exemption from all taxes other than those defined in the leases. Therefore they can not be required, and are not asked, to pay the municipal tax called "Land Rate" (*Chiso-wari*), or the national impost called Land Tax (*Chiso*). But they are required to pay every municipal tax which is not levied in respect of the land—namely, House Tax, Vehicles Tax, and Animals Tax.

That seems to us to be a just and logical view of the situation. As a matter of expediency it is not desirable that foreigners should be differentiated from their Japanese fellow-residents by fiscal immunities which must tend to make them objects of jealous observation. Nevertheless, if any valid ground could be shown in support of the claim for exemption from House Tax, we should be the last to advocate a sacrifice of solid rights on the altar of sentiment. But the grounds of the claim remain to be reduced to intelligible form.

There is, however, a very strong plea which may properly be urged in defence of the foreigner's reluctance to be called upon for a farther payment in respect of his house property. It is not a plea that touches his Treaty rights, but it is a plea that concerns equity. To make it clear, let us take the case of a Tsukiji land-holder, who has a perpetual lease of 500 *tsubo* of land and on it a residence covering 70 *tsubo*. Such land, were it assessed for taxation purposes on the scale applied to lands owned by Japanese subjects throughout Tokyo generally, would not carry a value of more than 1 *yen* per *tsubo*. Let us suppose it valued at 2 *yen*. Then we have the following comparative tables:—

TAXES THAT WOULD BE PAID BY A JAPANESE LAND-OWNER IN TSUKIJI.

	Yen.
Land Tax (5 per cent. on 500 *tsubo* of land assessed at 2 *yen* per *tsubo* for taxation purposes)	50.00
Land Rate (1½ per cent. of the taxable value of the land)	15.00
House Tax (*vide* calculation in *Japan Daily Mail* of Sept. 18th)	22.96
Total	87.96

TAXES ACTUALLY PAID BY A FOREIGN LAND-HOLDER IN TSUKIJI UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS.

	Yen.
Ground Rent (28 *sen* per *tsubo*) on 500 *tsubo*	140.00

Hence, the foreigner is already paying 52.04 *yen* per annum more than a Japanese land-owner would pay under the same conditions—even on the very liberal basis of assessment taken above—, and, if House Tax were added, the foreigner's burden would be 75 *yen* heavier. Certainly these figures suggest a plea for consideration, but they do not touch the question of right, and whether the plea could be wisely advanced is a matter for thought. It is a very great advantage to be guaranteed for all time against any increase of taxation in respect of one's landed property. The assessments for taxation in urban districts are, at present, quite ludicrous. Some day or other they will be amended so as to approximate to the actual market value. Land in Tsukiji is easily worth 20 *yen* per *tsubo* to-day. Suppose that it were assessed at 10 *yen* for taxation purposes. Then the Japanese landowner whose payments we have tabulated above, would be liable for 325 *yen* annually on account of Land Tax and Land Rate, whereas the foreign land-holder's payments would still aggregate 140 *yen* only. But all that is in a future very distant, perhaps.

It is sometimes stated that the sum now paid by foreigners under their perpetual leases includes rent as well as taxes. That is true, to some extent. But the Japanese Land Tax also includes rent, in the same sense. There is no valid difference.

THE DECADENCE OF BUDDHISM IN JAPAN.

THERE are 41 sects of Buddhism in Japan. Of these about 30 are of comparatively recent origin. The practical Tokugawa Regents provided against the recurrence of religious conflicts by interdicting the formation of new sects.

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Mediæval Japan had an exceedingly bitter experience in connexion with sectarian quarrels, and the TOKUGAWA Government did not fail to profit by that object lesson. They managed to keep the number of sects down to eleven. At one time eight had been regarded as the maximum, and men spoke habitually of *Buppo no hasshu*. But when the veto was withdrawn, differences of opinion, which had doubtless existed for a long time without taking openly declared effect, began to produce schisms, and there are now 41 sects. It is difficult to form any idea of the manner in which the Japanese nation is divided according to creeds. Official statistics put the number of *Shinto* ministers at 82,000, and the number of shrines at 193,000, in round numbers; by the same authority we are told that the Buddhist priests aggregate 81,000, and the Buddhist temples 108,000. Figures varying greatly from these were recently published by a Tokyo contemporary, but it must be assumed that the Government has the best information. Apparently, then, so far as the numbers of pastors and of places of worship are concerned, Buddhism and *Shinto* stand on nearly the same level in Japan, for although there are 193,000 *Shinto* shrines against 108,000 Buddhist temples, many of the shrines are too insignificant to be worthy of count. May we therefore assume that the nation is equally divided between the two creeds? We have to guess, for no statistics exist showing the number of *Shinto* worshippers as distinguished from the Buddhists. One can easily understand the absence of any such information, for since the ninth century the two creeds have been nominally one. To have said a prayer at a shrine yesterday did not disqualify a man for burning incense in a temple to-day. Hence, while we know how many temples there are, how many priests, how many shrines, and and how many ministers, we do not know how many *Shinto* believers there are or how many Buddhist. A return recently published put the number of *Shinto* sects at twelve and the number of believers at fourteen millions. But the same return reckoned the Buddhist adherents of the 41 sects at only a million and a half, and showed that the *Shin* sect alone had anything like a million parishioners. The fact is that there are no trustworthy figures. Foreigners are accustomed to speak of the Japanese as a nation with little if any religious fervour. That may be true in the sense that there has hitherto been very little to educate such a sentiment in Japan. But it is generally admitted by the Japanese themselves that very few persons throughout the empire are without a religious creed of some kind. If it be true that *Shinto* has 14 millions of followers, then we are confronted by the curious fact that the representatives of the faith followed by one-third of the nation have just denied its title to be called a religion at all. But we attach no importance to that figure. Very likely there are fourteen millions of Japanese who would follow *Shinto* rites in preference to Buddhist for burying their dead, but it does not follow by any means that there are 14 millions without faith in Buddhism. Buddhism is the creed of the country, and Buddhism is said to be in a state of decadence. The *Jiji Shimpo* has just published two very interesting articles on the subject. It seems to accept without question the fact that Buddhism has actually entered the downward grade, and it refers its decline to the immorality and ignorance of the priests, who, since the *Meiji* Government abolished the rules of celibacy and vegetable diet, have abandoned themselves to riotous living. No doubt if Buddhism is to be rejuvenated the priests must become radically different, and some publicists, who are naturally perturbed at seeing Japan drift into the condition of a country without any living faith of any kind, advise that the old laws against marriage and meat should be revived, and that some fiscal system, like the tithes in England, should be devised for supplying funds to the temples. Both propositions excite the *Jiji's* ridicule. There is not, it declares, the remotest possibility of instituting a system of forced payments for the support of a special creed, even if the Constitution permitted anything of the kind; and as for the priests, if the call of their faith does not awaken in them an active impulse to live pure and useful lives, no secular laws would have any force. The *Jiji's* suggestion is that the Government should withdraw its hand altogether, should abandon even the slight supervision that it now exercises. Possibly we should then see some temples turned into threatres or casinos, and some prelates dancing with *geisha* in chancels, while others beat out the measure on sacred gongs. But there would be a natural winnowing of the chaff from the grain. The good would shake the bad from its skirts, and if there is in Buddhism anything fit to survive, it would survive. Japan is an interesting country. It has been an interesting country for the past 40 years. This moribund condition of its only religious creed is certainly not the least interesting feature of its modern career.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LOCAL TAXES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to express to you sincere admiration for the patience and thoroughness you have shown in the endeavour to make clear to your readers the intricacies and trivialities of taxation to which we have become subject. In reference to your note appended to "Sojourner's" letter of Sept. 12 kindly allow me to send for your consideration two receipts for jinrikisha tax actually paid by me for the period April—Sept 1899. The jinrikisha, a special one, is two inches too wide to come in the class of single ones, but it is no wider than many now in use by foreigners for a single rider. So the tax is for a double jinrikisha. You will note that what I have paid is *yen* 4.40 for the half-year, or *yen* 8.80 the year. Supposing from your note that I had paid 3.40 *yen* too much, I went to the tax office this morning to get it back if possible, and was told that the red or pink tax notice is for road tax (chihozei) *yen* 2.40; the green notice is for city tax (shizei) and that the city tax will henceforth be the same as the road tax, namely, *yen* 2.40 the half year. It was plainly said to me at the tax office that these taxes are levied for the sole reason that I had a jinrikisha. So it seems that "Sojourner" is correct in his conclusion, except that he put the amount too low. I was told that the tax on private single jinrikisha will be in Kyoto 4.80 *yen* for the year and for a double one 9.60 *yen*, which in the case of my borrowed jinrikisha would be 34 per cent. of its original cost. I gave notice that I should return this one to its owner, and was informed that it would be necessary to get a permit to stop the use of it. In other words, as some Kobe man has said, if one gets on his jinrikisha or bicycle he must have a permit—and pay for it—to get off.

Sincerely yours, J. T. M.

Kyoto, Sept. 16, 1899.

[It is an immense tax. There can be no doubt of that. But the discrepancy in the amounts as between Yokohama and Kyoto is explained by the fact that the local taxes vary according to localities. In Tokyo the taxes are exceptionally light; in Kyoto they are heavier, and in Osaka still heavier, we believe.—ED. *J. M.*]

HOUSE TAX IN THE FOREIGN CONCESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have noted carefully your editorial of the 12th. It is just what many foreigners have been seeking in Japan,—not to have any excessions made for them "that would have the effect of differentiating foreigners and Japanese." If a Japanese should buy a place in the Concession he would have to pay only .0315 *sen* a *tsubo jizei* (land tax), and .224 *sen* a *tsubo kazei* (house tax) on the ground covered, going on the principle illustrated in my former letter; while a foreigner will have to pay .224 *sen* a *tsubo kazei*, and .28 *sen* a *tsubo* in addition as ground rent. Excluding some other small taxes he will have to pay then .504 *sen* on every *tsubo* his house covers, and .28 *sen* a *tsubo* on every *tsubo* not covered; while a Japanese who might own the same property would pay only .2555 *sen* a *tsubo* on what his house covers, and only .0315 *sen* on what his house does not cover. It is this differentiating foreigners and Japanese, who are now alike subject to the same Government, which seems unjust.

The actual difference now imposed by the old treaties in this matter is in the simple method of holding the land, and a permanent fixing of the land rent, or tax.

As I intimated before, here is a door open for discrimination in favour of a native who should possess property in the Concession, and all who possess property outside, since, if the treaties did not embrace house tax (which in its very nature pertains to the land) in the .28 *sen* a *tsubo*, no limit can be placed. I feel confident that the Governments will consider this disproportion existing under these circumstances, and make some kind of adjustment whereby all may stand upon an equal footing.

My figures on the *jizei* (.0315 *sen*) for Koishikawa I obtained from the Kuyakusho. And it does not seem to me that this tax is incredibly small. Apply it to a 500 *tsubo* lot (⅛ acre about) in Tokyo,—15.75 *yen*—31.50 *yen* a year on one acre—315 *yen* on 10 acres,—not so small after all.

But if we take land contiguous to the Concession the same facts are obtained,—that the

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Concession residents (foreigners only) will be taxed out of all proportion if house taxes are levied in addition to the land rent already paid

My calling attention to, and emphasizing, this matter is offered as a small contribution to the agreeable and pleasant working of the new treaties. I do not know that I have anything more to say on the subject.

Thanking you for the space given,

Very truly, E SNODGRASS.

Tokyo, Sept. 16th, 1899.

[We perceive now the reason why we could not understand our correspondent's former figures. He writes *sen* when he ought to write *yen*. He speaks of foreigners paying 0.28 *sen* a *tsubo* ground rent. If so, their tax would be 28 *sen* per 100 *tsubo*, instead of 28 *yen*. So, too, the tax on 500 *tsubo* of Koishikawa land at 0.315 *sen* per *tsubo*, would be 15.75 *sen*, not 15.75 *yen*.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PEKING.

THE REV. GILBERT REID ON HIS TRAVELS.

The Rev. Gilbert Reid, D.D., of Peking, China, arrived in Yokohama on Thursday, by the *Doric*, on his way back to China after a two years' tour in Europe and the States in the interests of the proposed International Institute to be established at Peking under the patronage of the Chinese Government. Being asked to give some information concerning the progress made, he spoke as follows:—

"That there is progress I am bound to state, but I candidly confess the progress is nothing remarkable. Two years ago very few people outside of China and certain portions of my own country knew anything about the plan to further reform in China by a persistent educational work among the ruling classes. Now prominent men in eight of the countries of Europe have had the matter brought personally to their attention, while in five of those countries committees are formed to assist in securing financial support. I am thus in communication with influential men in these different countries who in turn are in communication with others. Thus the chief progress is in the way of organizing the Institute on an international basis. Not once did the plan or I myself meet with opposition from the government authorities of any country. The reception was most cordial."

"How much money have you actually secured?"

"Besides the $15,000 (gold) subscribed in China, I have secured a similar amount in New York, and a Committee is appointed there to raise some $7,000 more. The commercial Museum in Philadelphia will assist in duplicates of exhibits to the same value, if we so desire. I have also just formed a Committee in San Francisco, to be appointed by three of the commercial bodies of that city, to raise $15,000 more. This is a fair start in my own country. I have a strong representative committee in London which has decided to raise $1,500 for another building. A committee in Holland has begun to raise funds, but I do not know with what success. Neither am I sure what financial backing will come from Russia, France, Germany, Denmark, and Belgium. Perhaps I ought to include Japan, for I have made a presentation of the case to leading Japanese companies. Different countries will be represented in the control and working of the Institute in proportion to the money put-up. This has been determined upon as the result of my visit to many persons of the leading Powers."

"What is your opinion as to the attitude of the Powers towards maintaining the "open door" in China?"

"My opinion is unofficial and a mere surmise, but as such I am glad to say that it seems to me that every country prefers to have China held together, than to have a general scramble for territory. Strange to say, the greatest agitation for spheres of influence, which to my mind means ultimate dismemberment, is found in England, but the Government, as yet, have not rushed into this policy. Hence there is still hope for China's future, if China's authorities decide on immediate reforms."

"Do you think there is any prospect for such reforms?"

"I have been absent too long to know the present situation in China, but I am fairly hopeful—not sanguine,—if only Western Powers will give China a chance, and, still better, a helping hand, rather than hound her down or tie her hands. I am satisfied with the crusade I have made for the International Institute, because it has in essence been a plea to help China to respect her traditions and to believe in her capacity and possibilities."

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

The meeting of the combined Chambers of Commerce to be held in Tokyo on the 10 h Oct. will be attended by some hundred members who have the right of voting. Out of 52 chambers, the three *fu*, the five open ports, Nagoya, Shizuoka, Hakata, Bakan and a few other important places will send two representatives each, but all other places have but one delegate. Several influential members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce will also attend, though they will not have the right of voting.

The coal in store at Moji, which amounted a short time ago to a million tons, has now been reduced to 300,000 tons. As only about 70 000 tons are in stock in Hokkaido the whole amount of coal in Japan is not much more than 400,000 tons, 70 per cent. of which consists of second class coal and coal dust.

The representatives of 44 Agricultural and Commercial Banks in Japan will meet in Tokyo in November to discuss the idea of applying to the next Diet for changing two or three articles in the Law concerning Banks.

The tea trade in Formosa is very dull. There are 3 800,000 lbs. of tea in stock.

A photographer in Kyoto has invented a new method of printing by photography, and is busily engaged on the work of printing Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. According to his method, a sheet of printing may be finished in three minutes, the expense being only one-third of common printing. From the Japanese journalist's account it is impossible to guess what the nature of the discovery is, if a discovery it is.

The President of the Sake Brewers' Corporation in Japan, Mr. Watanabe Toru, will represent the sake brewers at the French Exposition. He will, at the same time, inquire as to the prospect of the export of *sake* to Europe and America.

The settlement of the dispute in the Kyushu Railway Company is said to have been due to the impartial attitude of the Mitsui family throughout, and the natural influence of the Mori family, who hold 4,500 shares, over Count Inouye.

The Sanyo Railway's dividend will be 7 per cent. for the past half year.

The last few days have been the most active of the year in the Yokohama silk trade. On the 18th the transactions amounted to 1,720,000 *yen*. Prices have risen by from 10 to 15 *yen* per bale.

The Kushiro (Hokkaido) Harbour Works will, it is stated, cost about 3,500,000 *yen*.

A telegram has reached Yokohama to the effect that muslin has risen in Manchester by 15 *sen* per *tan*.

Interest is now at its lowest, and in Osaka, especially, money is coming back so rapidly to the banks that they are at a loss how to deal with it.

Experiments in tea-growing have been carried out in Carolina, U S.A. The methods are widely different from those of the East, and the quality of the leaf is at present poor, but some Japanese are apprehensive that America may some day prove a keen competitor.

Tea to be exhibited at the Paris Exposition is now being collected at Yokohama and Kobe. The quantity and prices are as follows:—

		lbs.	Yen.
No. 1.	First class tea.....	30	150
	Second class tea...	30	90
No. 2.	First class	50	40
	Second class	50	35
No. 3.	First class.....	50	25
	Second class.....	50	26
	Third class	50	15

The above are all green teas. Several other kinds of tea are also to be exhibited.

In view of a comparatively short crop of rice in Japan this year, all the vessels from Korea to this country are being filled with the grain. Last year, with a full crop this side, the Korean export trade was depressed.

The new Bankers' Club building in the compound of the Tokyo Bankers' Association has been finished. Tokyo bankers alone will be admitted as members.

Government sanction for the Industrial Bank bonds will be given by the 15th inst. They will be placed on the market about the 20th. The first applicant will be awarded 1,000 *yen* prize.

A meeting was held the other day at the Maple Club to welcome Dr. Kaneko, ex-Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, on his return from America. The promotors were those interested in the Private Industry Bank (Kogyo Ginko Kisei Domei Kwai)—about 80 in all. Mr. Kaneko gave an address to the effect that capital was so rapidly increasing in United States that the capitalists were looking for any kind of investment. Ownership of land was no barrisr to introducing their money to Japan. Chicago was one of the most prosperous American cities, though land ownership was not allowed to foreigners there.

The latest statistics of the banking business in Japan are as follows:—

(END OF DEC., 1898)	Yen.
Total deposits	324,570,418
Total loans	321,149,058
Bonds and securities	106,214,857
Securities on loans	321,149 085

The banking business in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, for the same period, stood as follows:—

	Tokyo. Yen.	Kyoto. Yen.	Osaka. Yen.
Deposits	110,245,751	9.856,533	47,231,323
Loans	72.750.678	6,875 320	26,674,437
Bonds	49 272,108	1,847,757	13.387,059
Securities on loans	72,750,678	6,876,320	26,674,437

It is stated that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha decided to allow a discount of 15 per cent. on passenger fares to Marseilles during the French Exposition. The first class passage will thus be reduced 400 to 340 *yen*, and the second class from 280 to 238 *yen*. The per cent. dis- is allowed on return passages. The company may suffer a loss of several thousand *yen*, but thinks it only right to support Japanese traders and artists.

The expenses of the construction of Tokyo harbour will be about 30 million *yen*. The authorities consider the expenditure should be met by means of municipal bonds.

The Yokohama Trading Articles Exchange (Shohin Torihikijo) held a meeting on the 11th inst., and it was decided to wind up the concern.

Messrs. Asakura, Miyama, Yoshino, and Takayama started for Osaka on the 3rd inst. in order to investigate the harbour works there with a view to getting information for the benefit of the Tokyo scheme.

Mr. Toyokawa Ryohei, from a banker's point of view, gives his opinion of the Kyushu Railway question. His earnest wishes are to see peace between the two factions. The Mitsui Bank holds about 20 million *yen* worth of shares

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as security, and the Mitsubishi, No. 1, No. 100, and Teikoku Shogyo Bank have each of them from 2 million *yen* to 5 million *yen* worth. If the strife continues the price of shares may fall 10 per cent. or so, and cause panic in the markets at large.

Ninety-five accidents were reported on the various railways of Japan between August first and fifteenth.

The Odawara Tramway Company is about to run electric cars on its line. They will be running by November.

The electric tramway between Yumato and Kojiri will be constructed as soon as Government permission is given. The same promoters are considering the construction of another line between Matsuda Station on the Tokaido, and Miyanoshita, passing Doryo-Gongen.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha is about to open a weekly run to North China from Kobe. The first vessel is the *Maiko Maru*, due to leave on Thursday.

An exhibition of field products, silk stuffs, &c., will be opened on Oct. 1st, at Hachioji. The show grounds are 16 000 *tsubo* in extent.

The Japanese mining industry has made wonderful progress of late. In 1893, the total value of mineral products was 16 million *yen*, while in 1898 it was 40 millions. The State income from royalties in 1893 amounted to 230,000 *yen*; in 1898 it was about a million. In 1898 the mineral exports were 13,750,000 *yen*. The two chief mineral products are iron and kerosene. The Government expenditure on mining works is from 80,000 to 90,000 *yen*. That is far from sufficient, and next fiscal year more than double the amount will be proposed in the Imperial Diet.

In 1894, the total foreign trade of Otaru was 200,000 *yen*, of which exports alone were 199 000 *yen*. In 1897, exports alone were 414,000 *yen*, and imports more than 20,000 *yen*. In 1898 the depression in the coal trade caused a slight decrease, but this year, the foreign trade has made remarkable progress. In the first half year the total of imports and exports was 300,000 *yen*—the chief exports being timber and coal. It is expected that an aggregate of 6 or 7 hundred thousand *yen* will be reached this year.

The Hokkaido Coal Mining Company recently dispatched some officials to Vladviostock to enquire whether there is any prospect for trade in Japanese coal. They found that the extraordinarily heavy duty on imported coal is absolutely restrictive. It is meant to stop altogether the import of the mineral.

The revenues of the Government railways from the 21st to the 31st ult. viz., 10 days, were as follows:—

	Yen.	
Tokaido line	326.609	
As compared with	265,190	(1898)
	61,319	increase
Hokuriku line.....	33 767	
	17.907	(1898)
	15.860	increase
Shinetsu line	38 395	
	26,307	(1898)
	11,989	increase
O-U North line	4.972	
	4.030	(1898)
	942	increase
O U South line	3.213	
Total	406 954	(1899)
	313.524	(1898)
	93 431	increase

Information concerning the Hokkaido fisheries is given by a traveller who has recently been up north. The prosperity of the fishery itself is stationary, but the number of fishermen is constantly increasing, and independent fishermen are by degrees losing their status and becoming employed fishermen on a larger scale. An independent fishery requires a capital of from 3,000 to 4 000 *yen*, which is as a rule borrowed from usurers at about 70 per cent. interest. This high interest cripples individual enterprise. About six-tenths of the Hokkaido fishery is appropriated by the Mitsui, who have invested about a million *yen*: 600,000 *yen* for fishery implements, and 400,000 *yen* for current expenses.

The gold dust collecting industry at Kitami, Hokkaido, is now extremely prosperous, and is attracting ordinary labourers. There are now about 8,000 in this district alone, each of whom can earn 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per day as wages.

The latest figures as to the tea trade in Yokohama are as follows:—

(UP TO 31ST AUGUST.)

	1899 lbs.	1898 lbs.
Tea sent in.....	20 617,900...	18.935 000
Tea sold.....	20,061,700...	18,067,000
Left in stock ...	556,200...	908,200

English scales have hitherto been used in the tea trade at Yokohama; 100 lbs. being counted as 75 Japanese *kin*. Thus native traders have suffered about one pound loss for every 100 lbs. They are now consulting with foreign traders with a view to introducing Japanese scales from the New Year.

The Buildings and Articles Fire Insurance Company (Tokyo) has increased its capital by 200,000 *yen*. There are already in Yokohama alone 13 000 applications for payment of fire claims.

The Saishi Spinning Factory has entered into a contract with No. 100 Bank pledging its buildings and implements on condition of the bank being responsible for 300,000 *yen* of the factory's indebtedness. This is said to be the first instance of the kind in the case of a Japanese bank.

The Yokohama Trading Articles Exchange has forwarded to the Authorities a petition for winding up the concern. The total paid up capital is 248.000 *yen*, and the total loss from the foundation of the Exchange has been 19.219 *yen*. The security money deposited with the Government is 15.759 *yen*. The estimated value of the premises is 35.067 *yen*; the furniture and business implements are estimated at 1,374 *yen*.

The Tokyo Tramway will be connected with the Shinagawa Tramway as soon as Government sanction is given.

The Nippon Railway and Sanyo Railway are now working in conjunction, and through tickets will be sold at the following stations:—Sanyo line—Hyogo, Himeji, Okayama, Onomichi, Hiroshima, Uji, Tokuyama, and Mitajiri. Nippon line—Akabane, Oyema, Utsunomiya, Koriyama, Fukushima, Sendai, Morioka, Aomori, Takasaki, Mayebashi, Tochigi, and Mito.

The following are recent statistics of the spinning industry in Japan, for the 65 factories in operation:—

	1st half. 1899 Yen.	1st half. 1898. Yen.	increase. Yen.
Net profits	1,496.189	776,636	719.552
Reserve funds ..	335,281	257,274	78.007
Dividends	996,276	413.850	582,426

The average ratio of dividend to paid up capital is $4\frac{4}{5}$ per cent.

THE MILLER TRIAL.

The hearing of the appeal of Robert Miller against the sentence of death passed on him by the Yokohama District Court took place in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Tuesday morning. Judge Koyama presided, and the Associate Judges were Takikawa Chokyo, Hirayama Sentaro, Nonaka Shoryo, and Arai Misao. Public Procurator Hiranuma Kiichiro conducted the prosecution. The counsel for the defence were Messrs. Akiyama Genzo, Inouye Yaekichi, Makino Shizuo, Takahashi Shonosuke, Nano Shokichi, and Toyama Shigeyoshi. Mr. Kobayashi Beika acted as interpreter. The Court was crowded. The public began to assemble at 6 a.m., though the trial did not commence till nine. Only about 300 were ultimately admitted. Miller presented the same indifferent demeanour he showed at Yokohama, and appeared quite cool and collected.

The first part of the examination brought out no new facts; but afterwards the prisoner made statements of importance. He was warned by Mr. Akiyama that his statement that he remembered nothing of the night of the 16th July was very disadvantageous to him, and that if he made a statement it might greatly improve his position.

Prisoner then, in reply to the President of the Court, made the following statement:—I awoke about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 17th. When I awoke there were two Chinamen in the bar-room who were speaking with Suye in English. I drank two glasses of whisky and after that I went to sleep. Before I fell asleep I saw one of the Chinamen was larking with a maid servant. I again fell into sleep. When later I awoke it was still dark, but I saw the figures of a man and woman struggling on a long chair. When I went to see what was the matter the man deprived me of my coat and wanted to fight. He tumbled and fell on a table, and on rising he got hold of an empty bottle and attempted to strike me. I then seized a nail-extractor I found on the counter and gave him a blow on the face. He fell on the floor. My object in knocking down the man who offered me violence being attained, I retired to sleep and don't know what happened to the strange man whom I struck.

The Judge—Why did you not make this statement in the Yokohama Court?—I was asked in the Yokohama Court whether I knew a man named Nelson Ward, and I replied that I did not know him.

The man whom you struck in the Rising Sun saloon was the same man whom you met at Bartlett's house?—I can't tell.

Did you know at that time what became of Suye?—I couldn't think of her, being occupied in the defence of my own person.

The evidence of various witnesses examined at Yokohama was read over, and the case was adjourned to Thursday.

NOTES FROM KOREA.

The *Korean Independent* is to resume its bi-weekly issue, appearing every Tuesday and Friday. We take the following notes from our contemporary:—Mr. McLeavy Brown has been appointed Chief Inspector of the Ginseng monopoly by His Majesty.

Choy Ick Hyen, an ex-councillor of State and a great Confucian scholar, is memorializing the throne, against bestowing upon Prince Sai Do the posthumous honour of King.

Pak Young Wha, the Korean representative to Japan, has contracted a loan with one of the banks in Tokyo to the amount of *yen* 5,000 and has written asking the Foreign Office to repay the money. As the Minister had to borrow the cash for current expenses in connection with his official duties we conclude it will be repaid. It is disgraceful that a representative to a Foreign Country should be driven to such means to enable him to live.

The Members of the Government of Korea appear to be hopelessly divided into three sections, each of whom is seeking to find some flaw in the life, either public or private, of those whom they are fighting against. One party is led by the irrepressible Cho Pyeng Sik, another by Yi Chai Soon, and the third by Yi Ki Dong. The first party are endeavouring to drive Youn Young Sun from the Premiership.

Pyeng Yang is, at last, an open port. The Japanese Consul is here and the metropolis of the north has been decorated in his honour. Pyeng Yang has long led as the missionary centre of Korea, the success of Presbyterians, Methodists

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and Roman Catholics being far in excess of that of their work in other parts of the country. There are those, mostly outsiders, who believe that in a material way Pyeng Yang is destined to distinguish herself. The only trouble about this is what has the country to send south? Besides a little rice from Anak valley, millet and buckwheat, and wheat, most of which is consumed locally, there is not much. The great Tatong and its tributary valley is capable of producing the stuff for two or three times the population which now flourishes on it, but there is something in the way of an incentive, which is not answered by a market for it, and which politicians may explain, socialists guess at, and those who are on the spot *know*.

On His Majesty's Birthday, the 30th of last month, the Electric Railway broke all records, by carrying 4,218 passengers, the greater number of whom went to the Imperial Tomb, outside the East Gate. Several buildings have been put up close to the Tomb Terminus of the road, and the enterprising owners are doing a thriving business, serving refreshments to the crowds of sight-seers, who fill the cars daily on a trip to the country.

Dame Rumour says that a public park is to be opened shortly, near the Tomb of the Late Empress; flower-beds and landscape gardening are to be laid out on an entensive scale, and pavilions, benches, and tables to be set up for the use of the pleasure seekers. Who says the Koreans are not waking up? An Electric Railway, with a pleasure resort at its terminus, is not so far from the civilized idea of amusement.

The management of the trolley line has arranged for special cars for parties, to be run at the option of the passengers, and one can now indulge in a ride without being compelled to hang on to the steps of an overcrowded car. For the convenience of those who travel to and fro daily on the cars special 50 ride tickets have been issued, entitling the holder to 50 first class rides in either direction, between the East and West Gates of the City.

During the celebration of the Emperor's birthday, last week, a procession of the Peddlers' Guild, with banners and music, passing by Chongno, came to one of the trolley cars standing at the Chongno switch. A halt was made, the banners were crossed in front of the car, the Peddlers surrounded the car, shouted many a "mansai" to the Trolley Car, and a goodly number shook hands with the American motorman in charge of the car. And all this friendly demonstration took place at the exact spot where the mob burned a trolley car only three months ago. Railroads and civilization surely go hand in hand.

The Governor of South Ham Kyeng and the Magistrate of North Pyeng Yang report to the War Office that there are large bands of Chinese robbers in their districts who are killing and robbing the people. The bandits are said to be residents of Tong Wha in China.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese torpedo destroyer *Akebono* arrived at Falmouth on the 16th inst. The *Shiranui* arrived at Colombo on the 18th inst.

The story of the intended abdication of the Czar is attributed to M. Pobyedonestzeff, Procureur-General of the Holy Synod, whose influence is waning.

The German Emperor, referring to the late Peace Conference at the Hague, informed an American gentleman that "a big navy was the best Conference."

Major Marchand has been appointed by the French Government, Governor of French Somaliland (near the Gulf of Aden), and Envoy Extraordinary to King Menelik II., of Abyssinia.

Kobe defeated the Fleet at cricket on Monday by two runs, the scores being 99 and 97.

The Emperor William has created Count Munster, German Ambassador at Paris, a Prince, in recognition of his services as principal representative of Germany at the Peace Conference at the Hague.

There has been a tremendously heavy fall of snow in New South Wales. At some places ten inches of snow fell in a few hours and a tract of twenty thousand miles of country was covered with snow.

The *Standard* states that Sir George O'Brien, Governor of Fiji, and formerly Colonial Secretary in Hongkong, has resigned. It is expected that Sir J. A. Swettenham, Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements, will succeed him. This same gentleman is also "slated" for Ceylon.

Nine men of the Cheshire Regiment, while marching from Limerick to Thurles in the first week of August, were struck by lightning. A sergeant became paralysed in the legs, but is now recovering. The pier at Llandudno, Carnarvonshire, was set on fire by lightning the same day.

Judgment has been delivered in the Tokyo Marine Court, in the case of the collision between the N. Y. K. *Saikio Maru* and a Japanese junk off Nagasaki. Mr. Christopher Young, Captain of the *Saikio Maru*, had his certificate suspended for a month.

The Appeal Court has reversed the decision of the Kobe Court in the case of Mr. Bardens, who was charged with the offence of striking a child with his whip. The Kobe Court found the accused not guilty, but the Public Procurator appealed, and Mr. Bardens was convicted and fined *yen* 30.

At a recent meeting of the Committee for the reception of H.I.M. the Emperor on the occasion of his visit to Yokohama, it was decided to distribute the balance in hand, mostly arising from the sale of materials, as follows:—Ladies' Benevolent Society, 56.13; Yokohama Charity Organisation, 56.13; Yokohama General Hospital, 56.13; total, *yen* 168.30.

The ear-boxing of privates and recruits by officers and non-commissioned officers used to be quite a common outrage in the Austrian Army. It is now to be stopped. The Minister of War has now issued an order prohibiting this practice, it having appeared that thousands of soldiers have become incapable of service through the breaking of the drum of the ear.

News reached Shanghai by wire on Sept. 10th that a Russian Government doctor, sent to make an investigation, has discovered in the Chinese quarter at Newchwang four depôts, containing *two thousand* fresh coffins of plague victims, waiting to be sent to their native provinces. It is understood that the most stringent precautions are being taken to prevent any of these being brought by junks to Shanghai.

From a thoroughly reliable source it has transpired, says the *Hongkong Telegraph*, that Aguinaldo has now at command forty-three thousand men armed with Mauser rifles and another nine thousand with small arms of another make. Of these some twelve thousand are at the Capital, Tarlac, the remainder occupying various points along the Manila-Dagupan Railway and the vicinity of Lake Canareu, Pangasuian Province.

Capt. Pender died on Monday evening at the General Hospital. Three days ago he fell from a two-storied building and broke his arm and leg, besides sustaining internal injuries. He was very well-known in Yokohama, having been in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. He went to England a year or so ago, and returning to Japan, left his wife in the old country. He was a Cornishman by birth and used to boast of a clear descent from a mythical King Penda, who held sway in Britain long before the times of the Romans.

Of the Northern Pacific steamers the following six have been chartered as transports by U.S. Government:—*Glenogle*, *Olympia*, *Columbia*, *Lennox*, *Victoria*, and *Tacoma*. Three vessels have been engaged by the N. P. Co., but their sailing dates have not yet been fixed.

The American barque *George Stetson*, which has been burnt at sea off the Loochos, was built in 1880 at Bath, Maine, U.S.A., by Hathorn, the well-known shipwrights. She was owned by Messrs. Sewall & Co., and was registered as 1,710 tons (1,845 tons gross). On November 20th last she sailed from New York for San Francisco and arrived there on April 18th. Evidently the unfortunate ship was bound on a voyage to Manila when her doom overtook her.

Mr. Smith, chief officer of the *America Maru*, sustained a nasty accident two days before the steamer reached Yokohama. A quantity of coal was stowed on deck, and Mr. Smith was on duty close to this spot when a sudden lurch of the vessel upset him, throwing him about twenty feet distance into the iron supports at the side of the ship. He sustained a terrible scratch on the leg, and there is reason to suspect some cerebral complications. He is being treated at the German Hospital.

The *Globe* is reminded of an old election story by Colonel Saunderson's retort courteous to Mr. Dillon, who demanded "Do you speak Dutch?" and received in reply, "Can you speak Irish?" An Ulster member was speaking at a meeting. "Connemara," said he, "is happy, contented, ignorant, and good. They speak Oirish in Connemara. And d'ye know why the people in Connemara are happy and contented and good? The pathriots cann't spake Oirish."

The *Echo de Chine* quotes the section of the Penal Code (No. 76) under which the Government prosecutor demanded the death penalty in the case of the conviction of Dreyfus:—"Whoever shall have practised machinations or engaged in understandings with foreign powers or their agents, with the view of engaging them in the commission of hostilities or the undertaking of war against France, or of procuring them the means, shall be punished with death. This provision shall be adopted even in the case where the said machinations or understandings have not been followed by hostilities."

By the death of the Rev. Dr. Wright, the British and Foreign Bible Society has lost the services of an able editor of the various versions of the Scriptures issued from Queen Victoria-street. It was in 1876 that Dr. Wright succeeded Canon Girdlestone as head of the Translation Department, and as during the last twenty years the society has added to its translations of the Scriptures at the rate of about ten languages or dialects yearly, it may be readily seen that the work of the department has been considerable. Despite his exacting labours, Dr. Wright found time for other literary efforts, of which the best known is "The Brontës in Ireland."

In view of the collapse of the *White Cloud* soon after leaving Hongkong, the following paragraph from the *China Mail* is of interest:—The Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. have sold the paddle steamer *White Cloud* to Mr. Charles Robinson, Manila. The *White Cloud* has been running for some time between Canton and Macao, and has been replaced by a small screw steamer. This is the second steamer of the same name possessed by the Company. The first *White Cloud* was wrecked, and the present *White Cloud* was built by the Patent Slip Dock Company at West Point, in 1875, her engines being those of the old steamer.

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NOTES FROM THE FERNCH MAIL.

Details of the wills of two prominent members of the engineering world are published. Mr. Johnson H. Kitson, of Leeds, left property of the gross value of £125,978, and Mr. William Laird's estate has been proved at £307,875.

According to a telegram from a Constantinople correspondent, the finances of the Sultan are in an exceptionally bad condition. He and his advisers are said to be at their wit's end to devise means for replenishing the exhausted Treasury.

The new battleship *London* is to be launched at Portsmouth on Sept. 21. It is understood that the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will be asked to officiate at the naming ceremony. The *London* is one of the finest battleships ever built.

The cricket on August 10th (latest date by this mail) was remarkable for high scoring. At the Oval the Yorkshire team made 478 runs for the loss of four wickets against Surrey; at Taunton, Somersetshire scored 500 runs for seven wickets against Sussex; and Middlesex made 379 for nine wickets against Gloucestershire, at Clifton.

The August Bank Holiday was celebrated in the usual way throughout the Metropolis, and the customary places of entertainment attracted crowds of pleasure seekers. At the Crystal Palace an accident occurred during a balloon ascent by Mr. Spencer, and the balloon collapsed. Happily, the occupants escaped with nothing worse than a shaking.

The success of the German Emperor's racing yacht *Meteor* in the great sailing race for the Queen's Cup, cannot justly be called a German one, as the yacht not only has been built in England after an English design, but also is manned by an English crew, a fact which has called forth much dissatisfaction in German naval circles.

A marriage has been arranged between Viscount Castlereagh and Miss Chaplin, daughter of Mr. Chaplin, M.P. Viscount Castlereagh, who is the eldest son of the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, was educated at Sandhurst, and joined the Royal Horse Guards ("Blues") in September, 1897. He came of age on May 13th last. By a strange coincidence, within a few hours of the formal announcement of the engagement Lord Castlereagh met with an accident while out riding. His horse fell and his lordship sustained an injury to the head.

The lady guardian has at length appeared in the Police courts. Miss Jane Sumpter, who until recently was a member of the Bethnal-green Board of Guardians, was charged with corruptly soliciting gifts from contractors to the Board. Evidence was given by contractors to the effect that they had received letters from the defendant stating that she was in financial difficulties and asking for help. In return she promised her vote and influence at some future time. The defendant reserved her defence, and was committed for trial, bail being allowed.

The church clock at Harborne, near Birmingham, has of late been most erratic as to its movements. Frequent visits were paid by the clockmaker, but there was no permanent good effect. At last, says a correspondent, he decided to make a thorough overhaul, and on going into the turret and inspecting the works connected with the south dial he found a swarm of bees buzzing about and a huge deposit of honey attached to the dial and some of the working parts. It took two days to clear away the honey.

The two large German steamship companies, the Nordd. Lloyd at Bremen and the Hamburg American Steam Packet Company, notwithstanding their mutual agreement, are doing their best to beat each other in building ocean greyhounds. The Hamburg American Line has not finished its new crack *Deutschland* which is to beat anything afloat at present, and already the Nordd. Lloyd has contracted for a new boat with the Vulcan at Stettin, which vessel is to beat the *Deutschland*. The new Nordd. Lloyd boat has been contracted for for a speed of more than twenty-three knots, and will have to be delivered in the summer of 1901.

The Indian Viceroy's proposals for the protection of the Indian frontier have received the sanction of the Secretary of State. Lord Curzon's new policy, it is claimed, will restore to the regular army a large number of troops hitherto quartered at fortified posts in the tribal country, and will, it is hoped, result in an annual saving of many lakhs of rupees to the Exchequer. The enlistment of tribes in defence of their own country by enrolling them in local militia corps, under British officers, according to the requirements of the locality, is proposed, while movable columns and camps, connected with the military bases in India by light railways, will support the position where necessary.

A Berlin correspondent says that the German Emperor received Lieut. Baron von Strombeck on his return from Osborne on 8th Aug., and adds that the announcement of the Kaiser's impending visit to the Queen has been received with unmixed satisfaction in Germany. Viewed from a political point of view, the Kaiser's intended visi to the Queen at Windsor is regarded at Berlin by leading personages as an event of happy omen. Some years of political estrangement between the peoples of the two Empires have elapsed since Kaiser William last saw his illustrious English relative at Cowes in 1895, but in prominent circles this estrangement has always been regretted, and chiefly regretted for the reason that no real and tangible ground exists for such an attitude between Great Britain and Germany.

The arrest of Dr. James Colquhoun, treasurer to the City of Glasgow, with defalcations put at £200,000, has caused much sensation. The prisoner was an LL.D, of Glasgow University, a member of the Senatus, Treasurer of the City, an ex-magistrate, and a representative of, perhaps, the most important ward in Glasgow, an ex-deacon of the Ancient Incorporation of Fleshers, secretary to numerous societies, an elder of the Langside Free Church—an office involving the discharge of important spiritual functions, and, lastly, a life-long teetotaler. For years he received money for investment, which he never invested, and it is stated he was paying £4,000 a year of interest on bogus or non-existing bonds. The Corporation of Glasgow, though he bore the title of City Treasurer, have lost nothing.

Captain Adams, of the 5th Lancers, was the petitioner in a divorce suit on 7th August, and in support of his case told what Mr. Justice Bucknill described as one of the strangest stories ever heard even in the Divorce Court. The Captain, it appeared, was approached by Mrs. Howard Kingscote and induced to marry a friend of hers, a widow, whom he had not even seen when he gave the promise. He was told that she was liable to be made a bankrupt and to be criminally prosecuted, and he consented to the marriage to "save her." It was arranged, however, that he should not be called upon either to live with her or to support her. After a time he brought a divorce suit, which was dismissed for want of evidence of misconduct, but now he came forward with a stronger case. Mr. Justice Buckull said the petitioner was very ignorant of the ways of the world, and his marriage was almost Quixotic, but there was nothing in his conduct inconsistent with that of an officer and a gentleman. A decree nisi was granted.

The picture that Lord George Hamilton painted on 8th August in the House of Commons of progress and prosperity in India was darkened by one overshadowing cloud, namely, the rapid growth of population that alarms the Secretary of State for India and his advisers. The supremacy of British power means the abolition of the countless racial and dynastic wars to which India has been accustomed for centuries. It has further been the policy of the British Government to minimise to the utmost the ravages caused by plague and famine, and remarkable success has been achieved. But these very successes and the prevalence of universal peace bring their own troubles. The population in many districts has grown far too rapidly for the comfort of the inhabitants, and it is easier to talk of the advantages of migration than practically to shift tens of thousands of people to new homes. Moreover, the total increase, apart from local congestion, is a matter for anxiety. Even in the huge area of India a steady increase of more than 3,000,000 persons a year is not easily provided for.

Mr. Harry de Windt, the well-known explorer, is going to make another attempt of journeying from Paris to New York by land next year. Mr. De Windt left Paris on Sept. 1st, and travelled to Moscow, whence he will proceed by the Trans-Siberian Railway to Irkoutsk, *via* Omsk and Krasnoyarsk. From Irkoutsk he will go to Yakoutsk by sleigh, driven by horses, and from Yakoutsk to East Cape, Behring Straits *via* Verkoyansk, Srendi, Kolymsk, and Wankarem by dog sleighs. The traveller hopes to reach East Cape, Behring Straits, by the end of March, and has made arrangements with a San Francisco whaler to call for him at East Cape when the navigation opens, about the end of June, and to take him to Herschell Island, at the mouth of the Mackenzie River, in the Arctic Ocean. Mr. de Windt will then ascend the Mackenzie River in boats and travel, *via* Fort Chipewyan, to the Athabasca Landing, and thence *via* Winnipeg to New York, which he hopes to reach early in October, 1901.

Although the Session of Parliament which came to an end on 9th August was not distinguished by heroic measures, some solid and useful legislation has been compassed. The sessional programme announced in the Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament has been realised in an unusual degree. First and most important of the measures promised was the London Government Bill, conceived in a very democratic spirit. Mr. Chaplin's Act for facilitating an interchange of supplies between the metropolitan water companies is another measure for which the metropolis has to be grateful. It made no pretensions to dealing with the difficult question of the water supply, but it offered a useful tentative plan for preventing a recurrence of East End water famines. In the Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Act the Government gave a further indication of its desire to tackle social problems in a practical way, and in the reconstitution of the Board of Education and the creation of a central authority for the administration of technical education an important step was taken towards the completion of our national system of education.

The mimic war in the naval manœuvres has been won by the B fleet, Admiral Domvile's squadron having secured the safety of the convoy of slow ships, the protection of which was its object, and therefore gained the victory. The convoy has been brought safely into Milford Haven. The objective of the manœuvres was a convoy of British ships coming home from Nova Scotia. The admiral commanding the B fleet had the advantage of knowing the exact point in the Atlantic where he could find this convoy and afford it protection. Consequently, although he could not leave Milford Haven for nineteen hours after the declaration of war, he was able to proceed without delay to the effective point. It appears that Admiral Rawson's fleet, which is the weaker but the faster of the two, and had nineteen hours' start out of Belfast, never succeeded in coming in touch either with the convoy or with the enemy, who had the advantage of knowing where the convoy was to be found. Apparently, the search of the A fleet was hampered by forty hours' fog. It is unfortunate that for the second year in succes-

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sion the opposing fleets have failed to come in touch with each other, thus the lessons have been lost which might have been gleaned from more active conditions of warfare. Admiral Domvile is to be congratulated on his bloodless success, and upon the perfect manner in which his plans worked out, but all the same the results would probably have been more interesting if things had not run quite so smoothly for him. As it is, the chief feature of the manœuvres appears to be the success of the wireless telegraphy, which *The Times* Correspondent describes as "a veritable triumph for Signor Marconi."

CRICKET.

Teams from H.M. Ships *Daphne* and *Alacrity* met on the Yokohama Cricket Club Ground on Thursday, the 14th September. The following is the score:—

H.M.S. "ALACRITY."

Butland, c. and b. Neat	0
Baldwin, c. Neat, b. Godfrey	4
Lieut. Wood, b. Neat	22
Dr. Browne, c. Trythall, b. Neat	38
Mr. Coleridge, b. Boyle	21
Rooke, b. Willcox	0
Legatt, b. Neat	23
Mr. Peacock, c. and b. Neat	13
Stevens, b. Neat	0
Denham, c. and b. Neat	3
Lieut. Fraser, not out	1
Byes, etc.	15
Total	147

H.M.S. "DAPHNE."

Mr. Neat, not out	96
Mr. Head, c. Baldwin, b. Wood	13
Howe, c. Peacock, b. Baldwin	8
Dr. Trythall, b. Baldwin	11
Lieut. Godfrey, l.b.w. b. Stevens	1
Lieut. Willcox, c. Peacock, b. Baldwin	4
Lieut. Boyle, st. Butland, b. Baldwin	0
Mr. Griffiths, not out	16
Harris, Mr. Horrigan, Coysh } did not bat.	
Extras	8
Total (for 6 wickets)	157

VETERANS *v.* COLTS.

In the contest between crabbed age (athletically speaking) and youth on Saturday, crabbed age fared badly. The veterans started batting first, but only compiled the modest score of 90, F. E. White, E. Powys and Dr. Wheeler being the only players to get into double figures. Dr. Wheeler's 15 not out was one of the features of the innings. The Colts knocked up 137 without much difficulty, H. W. Kilby being the principal contributor with 39 Score:—

VETERANS.

Mr. F. H. Bugbird, st. Libeaud, b. Clarke	0
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Stewart	0
Mr. F. E. White, c. Libeaud, b. Stewart	32
Mr. E. B. S. Edward, l.b.w., b. Clarke	0
Mr. G. C. Allcock, b. Stewart	6
Mr. E. Powys, Jr., b. Stewart	21
Mr. G. J. Melhuish, b. Stewart	0
Mr. W. J. White, c. Strome, b. Brady	4
Dr. Wheeler, not out	15
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. Libeaud, b. Clarke	2
Mr. C. Thwaites, b. Clarke	4
Mr. A. W. S. Austen, c. Clarke, b. Lias	0
Extras	0
Total	90

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WD.
Mr. F. O. Stuart	75	35	4	1	—
Mr. P. B. Clarke	45	28	—	4	2
Mr. Brady	45	16	4	1	—
Mr. Lias	15	5	—	1	—

COLTS.

Mr. H. W. Kilby, l.b.w., b. F. E. White	39
Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Allcock, b. Goddard	15
Mr. J. H. Bathgate, c. F. E. White, b. Goddard	9
Mr. A. W. Read, b. Edwards	8
Mr. P. B Clarke, c. F. E White, b. Edwards.	9
Mr. G. G. Brady, b. Edwards	3
Mr. F. O Stuart, b. Edwards	0
Mr. F. J. Lias, st. Powys, b. White	9
Mr. C. E. Libeaud, b. F. E. White	4
Mr. O. Strome, not out	5
Mr. E. W. Kilby, not out	25
Extras	11
Total	137

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. A. Kingdon	55	28	3	—
Mr. H. S. Goddard	55	39	2	2
Mr. F. E. White	40	22	—	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	80	31	4	4
Mr. F. H. Bugbird	25	6	3	—

HOW CAPT. STORNAWAY OBTAINED HIS SCHOONER "FLY-BY-NIGHT."

BY JOHN C. WERNER.

(WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

"Lemme see," said Captain Stornaway, "how long have I been in this confounded business anyhow?" By "business" he meant sea-otter and fur-seal hunting. We were sitting one fine afternoon in Spring on a grassy knoll on the Bluff—trespassing on some rich man's domain—overlooking the Bay. Before us was spread the motley shipping; old and new Japan—the East and the West—junks of large tonnage side by side with monstrous steamers, sampans and steam-launches, cargo boats and full-rigged ships. The glossy, mirror-like water inside the breakwater was dotted with an ever-moving procession of craft of all kinds. But of the large fleet of hunting schooners that in former years had been moored off the French Hatoba only one remained, the *Diana*; the rest were dispersed—some to Davy Jones', others to the South Seas, and many again lumber droghing on the California coast, none to return to the land of joy and many sorrows, where fortunes were so easily won—and lost. Old Stornaway had been volubly discoursing on his favourite topic; bemoaning the decadence of the hunting business and his vanished fortunes, and, I, of course, chimed in with him. When he asked this question I suspected that a long yarn was coming, as most of his stories generally had a preface like that.

"Well, I really don't know if you don't," was my answer, "but by the number of your yarns I should say about fifty years."

"Fifty angels!" (he did not say "angels" though) exclaimed he, "what I wish to get at is how long I had the *Fly-by-night* before the Russians—darn them—gobbled her."

I could bet with safety that he knew to a day how long he had that schooner, but he was only leading up to his yarn. I knew there was some mystery attached to her, and all my pumping had so far been in vain—he was keeping that yarn back for some reason or another.

"Now, come, Old Man," said I, coaxing him, "let's have that missing link; who's yer to be afeard of, I want to know?"

"Afeard of your grandmothers?" was his reply, "who's afeard? yah! when I was surrounded by Russians, and bullets were flying like hail, was I feard? not I! I am not a blooming Dutchman—I'm a white man, don't cher know!"

I let him rail on without interruption, as I knew by experience that this was the quickest way to silence his blustering, and then in contrition the story would follow. I was not mistaken; in a few minutes the thundering died out, and with a bland and smiling countenance—a grin, I should have called it—he related the following yarn, which, I can honestly affirm, is as true and consistent as any of his former truthful stories. I am not using his piquant language exactly as he expressed himself—it would not do very well in the columns of a daily paper.

"When I bought the old *Fly-by-night* she was as well played out an old hulk as you would see; she was not *Fly-by night* then; that was the name I give her. She was built in the year 1801, I should have judged by her condition, but she could sail—aye, that she could, and, as you know, I saved my skin and skins more than once by her superior sailing. And I got her for a song, and after I had her fixed up somewhat I started up north with her, and that year I managed pretty well with the assistance of a few pounds of nails and strips of kerosene tins. But the next year she was a caution to me; I did not make enough the first year to have her properly repaired, only patched by a Japanese carpenter, and during the summer she was a constant trouble to me. At every gale we had she sprung a butt, or started to leak in some other way, and then I had to run for Shikotan and lose days—fine hunting days—and so it went on up to October. I had very little to show for my summer's work, and was making up my mind to do what old Kenneth did with the *Swallow* at Nemuro,—to burn her. Neither I nor anybody else on board were inclined to go down to Yokohama in her.

On the third of October I had to take refuge in Steamboat Bay from a fierce northeast gale, and here I experienced the turn in my tide. I hauled the old tub up on the mud bank at the head of the bay for a survey, but she really scared me by the looks of her bottom, and I launched her again without doing anything to her. That was on the fourth of October. That evening we had a consultation in the cabin, and concluded to land everything the following day, and when—as surely would happen—some other schooner would call in, before returning to Yokohama, for wood and water, we would put fire to her, and go down in the other schooner to Yokohama. Next morning I turned out early and, after I had my coffee, sat down aft and had what I may call a retrospective look at my old schooner. I had kept her clean and in ship-shape order, and nobody looking at her, unacquainted with her condition, would have imagined her to be such a total wreck. It is sad to have to leave a home, no matter how poor it is, and I felt rather melancholy at the thought of the disgraceful ending of my old schooner. To such an end will we all come when we get old and useless—sheer hulks—we get fired or poleaxed, and nobody will have anything more to do with us. Suddenly I was interrupted in my gloomy thoughts by one of the sailors singing out, "Sail oh!" A diversion! I looked up,—from where we were lying I could just see the entrance of the bay, and coming swiftly under a fresh northerly breeze was one of the hunting schooners,—which one I could not yet say. They seemed to be rather uncertain in their steering; probably did not know anything about the bay; but when they perceived us they came right for us, and anchored within 50 yards. I could not make her out—she was not a Yokohama schooner—and she was decidedly shorthanded. Moreover she seemed to be manned by men-of-war's men. She was of about the same build as mine, with a quarter deck aft; the galley on deck beaft the main mast, and with only main top mast aloft. A hunting boat was hanging on each side in davits, and a third one was lying aft, bottom up. An ocean mystery she was to all of us, as we stood watching her coming to an anchor. My boats were in the water, so I said to the boys, "It's not more than neighbourly to go over and help them to furl their sails, so who's coming?" Every mother's son of them was evidently willing, by the rush they made for the boats, and I had to put on all of my authority to keep some of them on board.

As I thought, they were Russians,—the smell alone would have told that; this peculiar aroma is inherent in the bodies of the lower classes, no matter if they dress in broad cloth or canvas. I introduced myself to the captain, who was quite a young fellow, not over twenty I should say, and who could speak tolerably good English. From him I heard the whole history of the vessel. He was an under officer on the Russian gunboat *Saborka*,—a small vessel,—and while they were surveying between Saghalien and Robben's Island, discovered one morning two schooners making a raid on the rookery. One of the schooners escaped, but the other one was captured with several hundreds of skins, just torn off the seals, on board. Of course, she was confiscated, and the crew taken on board the gunboat, to be later sent to a larger vessel, and a prize-crew put on board the schooner. This young fellow was put in command, and only four sailors given him for crew, as the gunboat itself was rather short-handed. I suppose he was not a schooner-sailor, as he complained most bitterly over his fate at being sent on this small vessel, where he had to work night and day. He had no rest whatsoever, he assured me. I asked him if he would get any extra pay or prize-money for this special work, or if the crew would get anything, but he was sure, he told me, neither he nor any of the men would get a cent extra. He did not care if the schooner was lost or not, he said, as he took no interest in her. He intended to stay here for some time to have a rest, and if he arrived at Vladivostock before Christmas, he thought he would do well.

The schooner was a San Francisco vessel and was bran new; she was as big again as mine, but otherwise they looked almost alike. Nearly all of the provisions had been left on board, but the guns and ammunition had been taken on board the gunboat. As I saw that both the captain and his men wanted to have a sleep I ordered my crowd back to the *Fly-by-night*, but when I went over the side I invited the young fellow on board to give me a visit, when he had had his nap. I postponed the landing of my stores and the burning of the *Fly-by-night* indefinitely. When later the boys mentioned it I told them to go ashore and pick cranberries, and they looked at me as if

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something had happened, but I noticed that they did not go ashore. I had a good peaceable crew that year and whatever I said or did was right. The Japanese sailors made a holiday of it and were presently whooping and yelling among the bushes like a lot of wild Indians.

Well, well, how those Russians slept! I was sitting on my favourite seat aft on the sail nearly the whole day, but with one of my eyes always on that schooner; she had a real fascination for me. George, my second hunter—an unmitigated rascal—came up to me at noon and nudged me in the side.

"Say de word, cap," was his infamous proposal, "and de Rooshians sha'n't wake up no more, and—my heyes, we'll have a bully schooner."

"You confounded scoundrel," was my reply to this, "do you wish to hang as a pirate? What do you take me for?" and he slunk off like a whipped dog—but unconvinced, I am afraid.

It was after four o'clock before any move was made on board there, and it was five before the commander showed himself. He soon perceived me sitting aft and saluted me. "Come on board and have supper with us," was my answer to his salutation, "I'll send a boat for you." He was not slow in responding—a square meal was a godsend to him, I could see—and before ten minutes he was sitting beside me at a well spread table. I had a good cook and I told him to exert himself that night. We had to laugh when the Russian described to us his living on the schooner; nothing was cooked except hot water for tea; aft he had tins of meat, jam, and other preserves, which he opened as he wanted them, and beside he had biscuits, cheese, and butter, and always tea. The sailors had salt beef and pork, which they ate raw, and lard and biscuits, and tea. After supper we had something hot and strong, and when my young friend went over the side to return he was maudlin drunk—wanted to kiss us all—and swore eternal friendship, with me specially. I had also sent half a bottle of gin to the Russian sailors, and we could hear them singing and making merry late into the night. Shakspeare is right when he says, "Oh, that men should put an enemy in their mouths to steal away their brains!" But for a few bottles of fire-water I would probably not have succeeded in my plan.

During the two following days we went through the same routine; the Russian commander was living with me, and even the sailors had some cooked food sent to them; and in the evenings we had a general jamboree. My hunters assumed that I was up to something, but had no idea what it could be, and I kept my mouth closed to them. On the morning of the 8th of October I gave the boys a hint that I wished to be alone that day, and after breakfast they asked me if I had any objection to their going ashore and across to Clambay. I told them to go and be—something unpleasant. Young Rusky was on board at the time and heard our conversation, and laughed heartily at our rough language. When the boys were gone we lighted our pipes—he smoked cigarettes, I believe—and I prepared for the *coup*; and I am positive if I had not made the first proposition my Russian friend would have done it; he was more than willing to accede to my wishes. I began by asking him what pay he had; I forgot now what it was, but I recollect it was something ridiculously little, and the mattrosen had considerably less. Well, it is no use repeating our conversation word for word, but the upshot of it was that I agreed to pay over to him in cash 300 Mexican dollars, and to each of his sailors 20 dollars, and that he on his part would turn over to me the schooner under his command, and take mine in exchange. This he could easily do, as no one but himself knew anything about her. Anyhow, when he was in the vicinity of Vladivostock, he could pick out some soft place when she would be planted for good, and nobody would be the wiser. Oh, he was an apt pupil! He did not require many lessons, and I was not the least afraid that he would bungle his work. It took us about an hour to perfect all our arrangements, and then he called for his boat and crossed over to see his men. Then consultation was brief, and he was back again in 20 minutes with the full approval of his crew. I took him down to the cabin and counted out 380 bright Mexican dollars into his trembling and excited hands, and the transaction was finished. When I left Yokohama this time I had 530 dollars over from my last summer's cruize; these I took with me in the schooner, instead of putting them in the bank; something I had never done before, and some good angel must surely have influenced my mind in this unusual action of mine. These dollars I had kept in a bag under my pillow, unbeknown to everybody on board, and now they came in handy, and I fairly hugged myself in glee.

Fly-by-night was painted in large white letters on my stern; the other schooner's was black. A few of my Japanese sailors were on board; I took two of them with me in the boat and with a pot of white paint and a brush in a short time transferred *Fly-by-night* to the new schooner, as well as a painter could do it; and I also covered over the name on the old schooner with black paint. Before the boys came tumbling down the hills in the afternoon a lot of alterations had been made, and when they came on board they were almost stunned with amazement. With a few words I explained to them our exchange of vessels without divulging how it was done, and three hearty cheers were given and joined in by all. I wished to be away as soon as possible before any other vessel popped in, and that night we transferred guns and ammunition, boats, and whatever provisions I wanted, but I neglected to take the principal thing I ought to have had—salt. I had taken a cursory glance at the new schooner's hold and opined that there were at least five tons of salt in it, so I let my three tons remain in the old schooner; and I made a grievous mistake, as she had only about three tons altogether. I received with the schooner about 300 seal skins—that was 6,000 dollars already.

At 10 o'clock that night we had everything on board, and as it was a moonlight night with a fine land breeze I concluded to take time by the forelock and leave that very night. I advised my Russian friend to leave with me, but he seemed to be adverse to it and said he would stay until morning. I pitied them with the old tub, and I was sure they would not reach far with her, but of course I only said what was good about her. I may as well mention now that I heard that she was wrecked on the N. E. point of Kunashiri,—whatever were they doing there?—and the crew were probably all saved, as the schooner lay there for a long time partly broken up.

I was not sure of my prize until I was well out of the bay, and with Shikotan astern; then I gave vent to my pent-up feelings, and that night we had a proper jubilee on board, fore and aft. I had been on my way down to Yokohama with the old schooner, but now I determined to make a trial for Robben's Island, and set my course in that direction.

I had a quick passage, and on the morning of the 12th was right up to the precious rock, monarch of all I surveyed. Nobody there—friend or foe! That same forenoon we set to work and clubbed seals; 10,000 and more were on the rocks, and now I found what a mistake I made in not taking all the salt. I used up the salt, and 2,700 skins was all I could take with safety for their preservation. The schooner was not half full, and the beach was crowded with seals. Well, I hadn't the salt, and that was the long and short of it, and all my cursing could not alter it. I had half a mind to kill a couple of thousand seals, and leave the skins piled up on the beach, the cold would preserve them, but it began to snow hard when I had finished with my skins, and so I gave that up. Forty eight hours from then there would not be a live seal remaining on the rookery; they would all have left for their southern home.

I arrived at Yokohama on the 28th October. On the passage down I did all I could to shape the schooner to the likeness of the old one, and I succeeded pretty well, all but the sails; the old schooner had a suit of old hemp sails, and this one had new cotton sails,—these I could not disguise, but I trusted to my luck. As soon as we had anchored off the French Hatoba the sails were unbent and sent below into the cabin, and I flattered myself it was done without anybody discovering anything. Old Chips, the carpenter, came on board, and, after tapping the woodwork and smelling round generally, asked me where I got this schooner.

"I stole her," said I," what do you think?"

"I bet you did," was his answer, with a guffaw. Strange that people always expected dishonesty, and would not have believed me if I had sworn that I had honestly bought her. Now the new vessel measured 20 tons more than the old,—59 tons—so when in the spring I applied for remeasurement nothing was said, and 79 tons she was rated for; I had kept the other schooner's papers, you see. Ah well, I did pretty well considering, and although many surmised some crookedness, nothing much was said, and my crew were silent as the dead. I had promised my hunters 1,000 dollars each above their shares, and the sailors 100 each, if nothing was divulged about my deal at Shikotan, and that worked splendidly. Cockney George, my second shooter, the only one I was afraid of, asked me to buy his share, as he wished to go home to the sweet land of Cockayne, and that just suited my books. I bought him out at 15 dollars per skin—I made a profit of 250 dollars—and gave him 2,250 dollars, including his advance, for his summer's work, and I also give him a draft for 1,000 dollars on a London bank, and I paid his passage home; I felt really relieved when he went. The rest invested in schooners of their own, but none of them made much of a figure at it. The sailors almost to a man went with me the following year.

That is how I obtained a good schooner in place of an old one, by fair, honest dealing. Remember—honesty is the best policy.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Sept. 16th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,855,713
Amount of convertible notes issued...	207,955,326
Government deposits	39,192,126
General deposits	6,111,761
Exchange liability	108,275
Total	298,223,202

Cr.	
Discount notes	41,643,328
Foreign discount notes	10,342,961
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	66,014,591
Exchange liability	1,669,374
Government bonds	49,664,388
Property...	1,928,930
Bullion and Specie	104,959,628
Total	298,223,202

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	205,644,403

Bullion and Specie :—

Gold	103,254,723
Silver	—
Total	103,254,723

Securities :—

Government bonds	33,478,121
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,330 515
Commercial notes	36,581,044
Total	102 389 680

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	488,179
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	627,313
Government deposits	—	7,374,500
General deposits	—	2,074,094

EUROPE AND THE PLAGUE.

It would be foolish and dangerous to state deliberately that the Western world is threatened by a fresh visitation of the scourge which in early centuries repeatedly reached it. On the other hand, it is raging in the East, and there is reason to fear that it is gathering in force; it has appeared in Alexandria, which is now only a week's journey from England, and the mediæval plague is quite capable of taking advantage of the modern conveniences of rapid travel. It is well that we should consider our liability to invasion in no spirit of panic, but with a prudent foresight. The plague is an acute infective fever; its primary cause is a living organism, a minute microscopical being which, having gained entrance to the body, multiplies with great rapidity, producing a series of local disturbances giving rise to a series of characteristic symptoms, and diffusing throughout the body a subtle poison which is generally the cause of death. In some cases the local lesions may actually cause death, as, in the case of diphtheria the morbid accumulations in the throat may physically strangle the patient, but, as in diphtheria, it is the diffused poison acting on different individuals which is the factor of real danger. Our modern physicians are not much better equipped for the treatment of the disease than were their mediæval predecessors. Inoculation, although its results are extremely important and promising, is a prophylactic rather than a treatment, a wall against the enemy rather than a weapon with which to meet it. There are of course great advances in the general treatment of the cases; there is a much greater certainty of diagnosis; there is the anti-

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septic treatment of the sores; there is a much better knowledge of what fever is and how a patient may be helped to resist it, and there is a complete rejection of a large number of positively or negatively injurious nostrums. There is an enormously larger body of doctors, nurses, and hospital attendants with a precise knowledge of the modes in which the danger of infection may be reduced to a minimum and with a discipline that would stand the shock of an extremely serious epidemic. The efforts of those who, by profession or from devotion, would give themselves up to the fight against the disease would now be directed to the best purpose, and it is not conceivable that there would ever again be a recurrence of the horrors which attended former epidemics. But medical science has not yet discovered a specific against plague, and should an epidemic come the mortality might still be appalling.

In order to understand how an invasion might come about it is necessary to consider the habits of the seeds of the disease. Microbes are living organisms, and, like all living organisms except green plants, are capable of living and multiplying only while they have access to supplies of organic nourishment. Fortunately for man most microbes are incapable of living within his body, and obtain their food from vegetable or animal organic matter in the soil or in water. Probably all microbes were originally of this harmless disposition, but certain of them acquired the habit of living and multiplying in man when they accidentally reached his body. Many such are now normal inhabitants of the human body and are either quite harmless or may even play a useful part in the chemical changes associated with digestion of food. Others again attack various organs of the body and diffuse through it harmful substances, and it is these which are the seeds of disease. In the extreme case such microbes, whether or no they cause disease, may have lost their primeval power of living in water or in soil and require as the condition of maintaining existence continual propagation from body to body. The microbe of plague is capable of passing directly from body to body or of remaining alive and probably multiplying outside the body. Thus there are two ways in which it may travel; it may creep from patient to patient in a direct chain, or it may use places where suitable decaying substances are to be found as temporary links in the chain.

There seems to be good evidence that the latter fashion was that in which the historical marches of the plague took place. No doubt the bodies of patients suffering from disease had a share in the process of dissemination, but the general course was from house to house, slowly down one side of a street, round a corner and along other streets, association between the disease and particular houses or localities being very strongly marked. There can be little doubt but that organic filth collected in ditches and cesspools and in badly drained subsoil provided the resting and breeding places of the microbe outside the human body. We find in the days of modern sanitary reform considerable difficulty in realising the vast opportunities given to filth-living microbes in older London. The personal habits of most of the population were not cleanly; the water supply and the drainage were extremely defective. Great houses had cesspools of immemorial antiquity underneath them; the Thames was lined by public latrines, and the Walbrook, the record of which in plague statistics is notorious, was similarly provided. It was little wonder that as soon as the plague got to London it established itself until practically only those who were naturally little susceptible to the disease were left. Just as the plague spread from house to house rather than from person to person, it became associated with particular ships rather than with the crews or passengers, and we are better able to judge of the insanitary conditions of the seventeenth and earlier centuries from what it is still possible to see on smaller merchantmen and tramp-steamers. If the danger of invasion comes nearer, it will be important that the sanitary authorities of the ports pay at least as much attention to the cleansing and inspection of infected ships as to the quarantine of passengers. It is clear, however, that the dangers of the plague obtaining a foothold have been lessened enormously, and that the greatest prophylactic against it is a still stricter inspection and regulation of the drainage and sanitary arrangements particularly in workshops and crowded quarters.

The modern facilities for rapid travel are so great and so enormously used that probably it would now be much more easy for plague to enter the country directly by means of infected human beings. The cumbrous old methods of quarantine are impossible without a dislocation of trade and public convenience that almost no danger of invasion would justify. Fortunately from what has been said already, it will be seen that the danger from a few intruding cases is now much less, as our big towns are no longer filled with natural culture beds for the microbes. If the danger become greater, it will probably be found sufficient to examine passengers and crew on arrival in all cases where there is likely to be special chance of the entrance of the disease, and to make the persons report themselves to the local authorities on arrival at their ultimate destination. Apart from that, the ordinary regulations for the management of infectious disease, put in practice with an unusually vigilance, will probably be ample to deal with a visitation of plague should such unfortunately occur.—*The Saturday Review.*

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, 15th Sept.

Reuter's agent at Bloemfontein telegraphs that a meeting of burghers of the Orange Free State has been held, and a resolution was passed to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Transvaal in case of hostilities breaking out.

Shanghai, Sept. 16.

A despatch from Sir Alfred Milner, dated August 23rd, has been published. He strongly deprecates acceptance of the quinquennial franchise as a liberal fulfillment of the demands preferred by him at the Bloemfontein Conference, since it is impossible to regard the franchise as a panacea for the grievances of the Uitlanders and as a settlement of other questions. Sir Alfred points out that all the Transvaal's franchise proposals have been encumbered by provisions against which the Uitlanders justly protested. Hence a careful examination of the latest proposals is absolutely essential. He urges the settlement now of all outstanding questions, several of which are incapable of submission to arbitration. In another despatch, dated the 31st of August, he urges the termination of the suspense, says that the distress is really serious, and expresses a fear that a reaction may set in against the policy of the Home Government if matters are allowed to drag.

Shanghai, Sept. 17.

The Times' Paris correspondent says that M. Delcassé has instructed the French Consul-General in the Transvaal to use his influence to induce President Kruger to favour the acceptance of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals.

The Transvaal Raads sat in secret session all Thursday (14th instant), to consider drafts of the final reply which was to be sent on Friday. The situation is not regarded so favourably.

Shanghai, Sept. 18.

The statement made by the Paris correspondent of *The Times* to the effect that the French Foreign Office had instructed the Consul-General in the Transvaal to exert his good offices to persuade the Boers to accept Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, has been contradicted.

From what has transpired about the Transvaal's reply to Mr. Chamberlain's final despatch, there is little hope of a pacific settlement, Excitement prevails in Pretoria. The young Boers ask to be immediately led into the field.

Shanghai, Sept. 19, 3.02 p.m.

The Transvaal's reply alleges that its proposals (since abandoned) for the five years' franchise, quarter representation, and no further British interference were the result of suggestions made by Great Britain which were acted upon in good faith.

Until England needlessly raised the question of suzerainty the Transvaal wholly desired to aid in terminating the strained situation. The Transvaal adheres to the proposal of a joint commission. It is indisposed to introduce both languages into the Volksraad, as it considers such a step undesirable.

The Boer Government is not unwilling to enter into the proposed conference, but there are difficulties owing to acceptance being made dependent on precedent conditions which cannot be submitted to the Volksraad.

The Transvaal would gladly accept arbitration, but it is firmly resolved to adhere to the Convention of 1884, and hopes Great Britain will adhere to her original proposal of a joint commission.

The papers are unanimous in regarding this as a reply in the negative, shutting the door to further negotiations.

Shanghai, Sept. 21.

A Cabinet Council will be held in London on Friday.

The Boers have occupied Komati-foort on the Portuguese frontier and Fangwana Mountain near Laings Nek. Several of the Free-State commanding officers have arrived in Pretoria to consult with General Joubert.

DREYFUS TO BE PARDONED.

Shanghai, 20th September.

The French Cabinet has decided in principle to pardon Dreyfus in a few days. Dreyfus therefore desists from appeal for revision.

Shanghai, Sept. 21.

Dreyfus has been released.

THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Chinese Minister in Washington has protested against the exclusion of Chinese subjects from the Philippines.

GERMAN DECORATIONS FOR JAPANESE NOTABLES.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle on Marquis Yamagata; the Third Class of the same order on Mr. Koyama, Chief Naval Constructor, and the Fourth Class on Mr. Uyeno, Naval Constructor, of the Japanese Navy.

THE "TERRIBLE" COMING EASTWARD.

Her Majesty's Ship *Terrible* has sailed to relieve the *Powerful*, both proceeding *viâ* the Cape.

GUARDING THE MINES.

Twelve hundred troops have been despatched from Capetown to Kimberley.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

DREYFUS.

Saigon, Sept. 15.

It is said that the Council of Ministers will sit next Tuesday, to consider the question of grace to Dreyfus.

Saigon, Sept. 20.

The Government has decided in principle on the pardon of Dreyfus.

Saigon, Sept. 21.

Dreyfus has been set at liberty. He quitted Rennes at 3 o'clock this morning.

["This morning" doubtless means the morning of the 25th instant.—Ed. *J. M.*]

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ITALIAN CRUISER TO SAIL FOR CHINA.

Saigon, Sept. 16.

The Italian iron-clad *Carlo Alberto* has received instructions to prepare for a voyage to China.

[The *Carlo Alberto* is an armoured cruiser of 6,500 tons displacement and 13,000 horse-power. She was built in Spezzia in 1896, and has a speed of 20 knots. Her main armament consists entirely of quick firing guns.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE LANG-CHAN-NANNING RAILWAY AGREEMENT.

Saigon, Sept. 18.

The Franco-Chinese agreement for the construction of a railway from Lang-chan to Nanning is concluded.

THE TRANSVAAL.—ENGLAND'S DEMANDS REJECTED.

The Anglo-Transvaal conflict is reopened owing to the exigencies of England.

The Transvaal has rejected England's demands, and an immediate rupture is feared.

DEATH OF A SENATOR.

Saigon, Sept. 20.

Senator Scheurer-Kestner is dead.

THE FRENCH EXPOSITION.

Certain foreign journals, in consequence of the verdict delivered by the Rennes Military Court, have sought to deter the Powers from taking part in the Paris International Exhibition of 1900. The attempt has failed completely. All the Powers have adhered to their original intention.

SHIPPING DISASTER OFF THE LOOCHOOS.

AMERICAN SAILING SHIP BURNED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Nagasaki, Sept. 18, 1.45 p.m.

The American sailing ship *George Stetson*, of the State of Maine, was destroyed by fire thirty miles east of Miaco-shima, in the Loochoos, on the night of the 10th September. Captain Patten and five others were saved in three boats. There was no loss of life.

THE "ARGYLL" FLOATED.

Kobe, Sept. 19, 6.55 p.m.

The steamer *Argyll* was successfully floated by the aid of H.M.S. *Hermione* at six o'clock this evening. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Sakura Maru* left her anchorage, and waited abeam ready to lend help if needed.

SERIOUS KOBE FIRE.

NEWSPAPER OFFICE DESTROYED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, Sept. 20, 7.10 p.m.

The office of the *Hiogo News*, the stores of Mr. Julien, ship chandler, and the establishment of Mr. Culty were destroyed by fire this morning.

The insurance on the newspaper office was 12,000 *yen*, that on Julien's premises 16,500 *yen*, and on Culty's 6,500 *yen*.

The publication of the *Hiogo News* is temporarily suspended.

(FROM A JAPANESE SOURCE.)

MOVEMENT OF WARSHIPS.

Nagasaki, Sept. 19.

The French cruisers *Pascal* and *Jean Bart* have left here for Tonkin. The Russian battleship *Navarin* left here for Vladivostock to-day.

Kobe, Sept. 19.

The Japanese gunboat *Chokai* left here for Kure to-day.

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CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 437.

BY B. F. BLAKE.

(First Prize *Liverpool Mercury* Tourney.)

Key move Q to R 2.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, Miss S, and Voila.

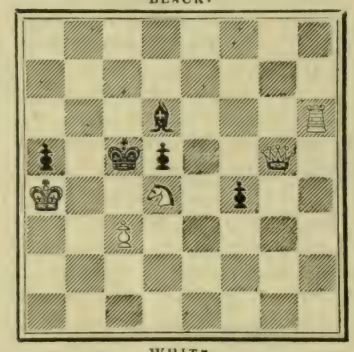
L.M.A.—Q to Kt 5 wont do. For if in reply ..... Kt to K 8, Q to Q 3 is not mate, as Kt takes Q.

We are glad to see some of our old solvers back again, and hope others will follow.

PROBLEM No. 440.

By WILL H. LYONS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SCHOOLS OF PROBLEMS.

The two principal schools of problems, says Will H. Lyons in his "Chess-nut Burrs," are the English and the German. The English is precise. The German is lax. The English clear cut, concise, with a central idea that must always be the prominent feature—side issues rigorously excluded, the duals cut off; the pose perfect; the variations correct in all details; the rules of composition observed strictly. The German school seeks for variations. If they are not there naturally, hang them on; get them in some way. The central idea is a good one, but introduce foreign ones seems to be the rule, until finally it is difficult to tell what the main idea is, or if there is one. A German problem is a marble statue, draped with beautiful garments to such an extent that the beauty of the statue is hidden and lost. An English problem is the statue, cold, clear and dependent only on its own merits and beauty. The American school is a branch of the English. It is not so stiff; it is more graceful; it is more brilliant in idea, while less correct in technical expression. It has more soul and less painstaking polish; it is the work of the artist, not the artistic artisan, it has more admirers, is more popular than either of the others, but, judged strictly by the rules is not equal to the English school—yet I confess it gives me more pleasure, and I prefer it.

FROM THE LONDON TOURNEY.

GAME No 550.

LASKER RETURNS THE COMPLIMENT.

The only game Lasker lost in this tourney was his first with Blackburne. The second time he played the English champion, he wasn't caught napping, as the following game shows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	23 B R2	Q Q2
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	24 Q Kt3	P B5
3 P K3	P K3	25 Q Q3	P K4
4 B Q3	QKt Q2	26 P B4	PxBP
5 QKt Q2	B Q3	27 KtxP	P K5(e)
6 P K4	PxP	28 Q B-q(d)	KtxKt
7 KtxP	P QKt3	29 RxKt	R Kt-sq
8 Castles	B Kt2	30 R B2	K R-sq
9 KtxBch	PxKt	31 KR Bsq	Q Kt5
10 R K-q	Castles	32 P B3(e)	QxRP
11 B KKt5	Q B2	33 PxP	RxKP
12 P B3	KR Ksq	34 R B8-h	RxR
13 B Kt5(a)	B B3	35 RxRch	K R2
14 BxB	QxB	36 Q Kt-q	Kt B3
15 Q Q3	P KR3	37 P Q5(f)	P Kt3
16 B R4	QR B-q	38 R B7ch	K R-q
17 QR Q q	Kt Q4	39 R B-q(g)	R K7
18 B K 3	P QKt4	40 K R-q	Kt Kt5
19 Kt Q2	QKt Kt3	41 R B8-h	K Kt2
20 P QR3(b)	P QR4	42 R B7ch	K B3
21 R QB q	P R5	Resigns	
22 P R4	P B4		

Notes from *The Evening Post*.

(a) The exchange of Bishops, challenged herewith, is not at all to our liking. The K B could have been used to better advantage.

(b) Tantamount to wrecking the Queen's wing. This move may have been necessary, but the cure seems worse than the evil.

(c) A beautiful and well-calculated rejoinder!

(d) If 28—R takes P, then Kt takes Kt; 20—R R takes ch, Q takes R, and White can not retake the Kt because of Q to K 8 ch. Or, 29—R takes Kt, R (K sq) takes R; 30—Q takes R (if R takes R ch, Q retakes, threatening mate), R takes R; 31—Q takes Kt ch, Q to B 2, remaining exchange ahead. If, however, 28—Kt takes Kt, then P takes Q; 29—Kt takes Q, P to Q 7, and wins.

(e) After 32—P to K Kt 3, P to B 6, White's Bishop would be shelved for good.

(f) If R to K 8, then P to Q 4, which White prevents with his last move, threatening also R to B 4.

(g) Nothing would be gained by continued checking at B 8 and 7, as the King crossing over would ultimately attack the Rook, which then must return to the first rank to guard against R to K 8 ch.

GAME No. 551.

THE WORLD AGAINST THE FRENCH.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Lasker. Black—Janowski.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	30 K Kt2	Q Q2
2 P QB4	P K3	31 Q K3	R K2
3 Kt QB3	P QR3	32 RxR	RxR
4 PxP	PxP	33 Q KB3	Kt Kt3
5 Q Kt3	P QB3	34 R B-q	R B2
6 Kt B3	B Q3	35 P B5	B Q-q
7 B Kt5	B K2	36 Kt Kt3	Kt R5
8 B B4	Kt B3	37 Q B4	Q K2
9 P K3	QKt Q2	38 Q K3	B B2
10 B Q3	Castles	39 R Ksq	QxQ
11 Castles	Kt R4	40 RxQ	B Kt3
12 Q B2	KtxB	41 Kt K2	B B2
13 BxPch	K R-q	42 P B3	K B-q
14 PxKt	P KKt3	43 K B2	R K2
15 BxP	PxB	44 RxR	KxR
16 QxP	R B3	45 P B4	B R4
17 Q R5ch	K Kt2	46 Kt B-q	B Kt3
18 Kt KKt5	Kt B-q	47 Kt Kt3	K B3
19 P KKt3	B KB4	48 K Kt3	KtxPch
20 KR Ksq	R Kt3	49 PxKt	KxP
21 Kt B7	KxKt	50 K B3	B B2
22 QxBch	B B3	51 Kt B5	P Kt3
23 QR Q-q	Q Q3	52 KtxP	B Q3
24 P KKt4	K Kt-sq	53 P QR4	K K3
25 R K3	R Q-q	54 P Kt4	K B4
26 Kt K2	R Q2	55 P R5	P Kt4
27 P KR3	R KB2	56 Kt B5	BxP
28 Q Q3	B R5	57 Kt Q7	Resigns
29 R K8	R(K 3) Kt2		

END GAME STUDY.

The following position occurred in actual play between the Russian expert, A. S. Stepanow, and an amateur:—

BLACK.—Amateur.



WHITE.—Stepanow.

White, having the move, played 1—K R to Kt q. Evidently, Black supposed that he now has an easy win, so he plays 1—B takes KtP. If 1—B takes B, White loses his Q. If 2—R to Kt sq, then B takes B, and White loses a piece. If 2—B moves, then B takes R, and as White is already a piece behind, the loss of the exchange would be fatal.—White did play 2—B takes B, and Black fixed his Kt on B 5 ch; White plays 3—K to R 2, and Black captures the Q with the Kt. White, then, mates in four moves; a beautiful mate! This is worth studying, as it shows the force of what looks like a very inoffensive move (K R to Kt sq), and yet this is the key of the combination. Of course, Black was not forced to win the Q, but it was so tempting he couldn't help it.

GAME No. 552.

A BRILLIANT FINISH.

This game was recently played between Mr. G. B. Hall, of Sydney and an amateur.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Mr. Hall. Black—Amateur.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	11 PxP	KtxP
2 P Q4	P Q4	12 KtxKt	BxKt
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	13 QR Qsq	Q KB3
4 B KKt5	B K2	14 Kt Kt5	P KK3
5 BxKt	BxB	15 Kt K4	Q K2
6 Kt B3	PxP	16 Q R6	B Q5
7 KtxP	B K2	17 Kt Kt5	P B4
8 B Q3	Kt Q2	18 B B4!	B B3
9 Castles	Castles	19 P KR4	BxP(?)
10 Q Q2	P QB6	20 KR Ksq	R B3

White mates in six moves.

Miron, in *The Clipper*, says:—The text enables White to execute such a brilliant manœuvre as only once in a lifetime occurs in actual play."

NOTES.

A Russian National Tournament of some importance, divided into two classes, was being arranged in Moscow for the first weeks of September. There were ten prizes in all—in the first class 300, 200, 150, 100 and 50 roubles, and in the second class 100, 70, 50, 40 and 25 roubles.

The Kent Chess Association inaugurated a successful congress during Whitsun week. Blackburne, Gunsberg, Lasker, Pillsbury and Tinsley, took part in simultaneous and blindfold displays, and in some consultation games, in which Pillsbury was both times on the winning side. The Kent Cup was won by Mr. P. Hart Dyke, the well-known Cambridge University expert, who from necessity plays *sans voir*.

The June number of the *Leisure Hour* contains a spirited description by Mr. J. Arnold Green of the troubles of a Club Secretary in organising a match for three hundred players. The first step is to write the secretaries of affiliated clubs, asking them to obtain the services of their strongest players, and to send in their lists with names arranged in the order of strength. This seems easy enough, but it is one thing to write the club secretaries; it is quite another to obtain replies. And so the organizers of the great Surrey *v.* Kent match found. Some did what was required, and a few did even more by adding a large number of names of players who would be willing to play if wanted. On the other hand, others merely sent names of men who might play if asked, not always giving addresses! Others again sent lists of names, following them up with addresses two days before the match!

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 14th September,—Yokkaichi, 13th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 15th Sept.,—Kobe, 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 15th Sept.,—Kobe, 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 15th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, 9th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nunoba, 15th September,—Kobe, 14th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 15th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 14th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 15th September,—Put back to port on fire, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 16th September,—San Diego, Cal., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 16th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 15th September, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 16th September,—Otaru via ports, 11th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pennsylvania, U.S. Army Transport, 2,567, Broomhead, 16th Sept.,—Manila via Nagasaki, 13th Sept.—U.S. Government.

Solace, U.S. Navy Transport, 2,362, Captain Dunlop, 19th September,—Manila via Guam.—U.S. Navy Department.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, J. Nagao, 17th September,—Vladivostock via ports, and Kobe, 15th September General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 17th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 16th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 18th Sept.,—Portland, Oregon, 1st Sept., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 18th Sept.,—Kobe, 16th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, C. Sellier, 18th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 17th September, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 18th September,—Yokkaichi, 17th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 19th September,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 20th Sept.,—Kobe, 18th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 20th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 19th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 20th September,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 2nd September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tartar, U.S. Army Transport, 2,768, H. Pybus, 21st September,—Manila via Hongkong and Inland Sea, Troops.—U.S. Government.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, C. Olsen, 21st September,—Otaru via ports, 15th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 21st September,—Otaru via ports, 16th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Warren, U.S. Army Transport, 2,926, F. W. Hart, 21st Sept.,—San Francisco, Troops.—Browne & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, H. Smith, R.N.R., 20th September,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 14th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 14th September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 14th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 14th September,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 15th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 15th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), British Despatch Vessel, 1,700, Com. Arthur H. Smith-Dorien, 15th Sept.,—Kobe.

Whiting (6), British Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 280, Lieut.-Com. Edward Kelley, 15th Sept.,—Kobe.

Centurion (14), British Battleship, 10,500, Capt. John R. Jellicoe, 15th September,—Kobe.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda 16th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 16th September,—Otaru via ports. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 16th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 16th Sept.,—Kobe, General:—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 17th September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nunoba, 17th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 18th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 18th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, H. Sakimoto, 18th September,—Vladivostock via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daphne (8) British sloop, 1,140, Com. Chas. W. Wennington Ingram, 18th September,—Kobe.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain Arthur C. Clarke, 18th September,—Kobe.

Iphigenia (8), British cruiser, 3,736, Captain Horatio N. Dudding, 18th September,—Kobe.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 19th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Pennsylvania, U.S. Army Transport, 2,567, Broomhead, 19th September,—San Francisco, Troops.—U.S. Government.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Grier, 19th September,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 19th Sept.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 19th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 20th September,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 20th September,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 20th September,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 20th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 20th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Solace, U.S. Navy Transport, 2,362, Captain Dunlop, 21st September,—San Francisco.—U.S. Navy Department.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Salter Wilett, Mrs. Thos. Evans, Mr. E. C. Lane, Mr. J. Simpson, Mr. D. Barnes, Mrs. Otorya, Surgeon-Major J. O. Coates, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. P. Scott, Captain Fullert, Capt. James, Mr. Law, Mr. F. Popert, Mrs. H. Russell, 2 children and amah, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Ohly, child and amah, Mr. J. W. Webb, Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. Ap Hoi, Mr. G. Verhoeven, and Mr. Edward T. Thomas, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. Jaeger, Dr. D. W. Winston, Mr. J. Adamson, Colonel Callin, Capt. Filey, Mr. F. E. Barts, Capt. S. Pochikapp, and Mr. and Mrs. Rock, in cabin; Mr. K. Tsudzuki, Mr. K. Komishi, Mr. Rokican, Mr. Wall, Mr. Overbeck, Mr. Y. Kamimura, Mr. Y. Rau, Mr. Muller, Mr. Bennemann, Mr. Won Wei Ping, Mr. M. Masamura, Mr. Gull, Mr. Sünn, and Rossal, in second class; 35 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. and Mrs. G. E. Gelm, Mr. C. H. Purcell, Mr. H. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Mrs. V. Leslie, Col. Brainard, U.S.A., Col. and Mrs. M. W. Sanno, U.S.A., Miss K. Sanno, Mr. T. W. Chang, Major G. D. De Shon, U.S.A., Major H. L. Hawthorne, U.S.A., Captain Kochler, U.S.A., Mr. John T. Bradstreet, and Mr. C. F. Fowler, in cabin. For Honolulu and San Francisco:—Mr. A. Schmidt, Mrs. Wright and infant, Mrs. M. H. Lund, Miss Lund, Mr. F. B. Moseley, Mr. H. C. Frosser, Rev. and Mrs. L. W. Curtis and two infants, Miss Marie Collins, Master F. Collins, and Mr. L. H. Nolte, in cabin; Mr. Jo n Maganie, Mr. Frank Marsal, Mr. D. A. Mitchell, Mr. R. F. Berault, Mr. A. J. McFadden, E. Krebes, Mr. W. Rambo, Mr. J. W. Carter, Mr. Chun Fong, Mr. F. Ukiah, Mr. Ng Gee Kee, Mr. E. Yarnelsky, and Mr. and Mrs. Ratmicroff and two children, in European steerage.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Portland, Oregon:—Mrs. Skinner and infant, Miss Wingate, and Mrs. Schnell, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Buell, Miss Jessie M. Buell, Mrs. H. B. Dotuck and child, Miss Ida Ekman, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Halsell, Miss E. Waggoner, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mora, Mr. R. Dubuffat, Dr. Stahl, Mr. J. D. Hall, Mr. J. D. Walker, Mr. R. E. Faucet, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hooper, Mr. C. R. Joy, Prof. and Mrs. Martin Kellogg, Mr. M. M. Kuhn, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Marsh and child, Mr. Wm. Maxwell, Mrs. Geo. Maxwell, Miss J. A. Maxwell, Mrs. Dr. C. C. Wadsworth, Mr. J. G. Walker, Miss M. W. Weber, Mr. J. H. Williamson, Mrs. F. K. Winston, and child, Dr. C. H. Vilas, Mr. P. H. Wooton, Mr. E. Bucks, Mr. W. Schlesinger, Mr. J. W. Cropton, Mr. W.

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B. Jones, Mr. J. D. Kingman and Mr. W. J. Johnstone in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. G. W. Hunt in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. A. McLeod, Mrs. A. McLeod, and Rev. Gilbert Reid, Mrs. Gilbert, and infant, and Miss Lena Stanley in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Geo. T. Bowman, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. N. O. Byers, Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, Mrs. S. P. Mobley, Mr. H. G. Miller, Mrs. E. C. Miller, Mr. A. A. Montague, Mr. H. Price, Mr. D. Muir, Mrs. D. Muir, Mr. T. R. Rivers, Mr. R. de Solis, and Mrs. I. M. L. Truitt in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. A. J. Allen, Mr. J. L. Bagshawe, Mr. L. E. Bohn, Mr. R. C. Bagley, Rev. and Mrs. L. W. Curtis and two children, Miss Callings, Master F. Callings, Mr. Chu Kew Chong, Mrs. Dukes, Miss Dukes, Mr. R. E. Dearburg, Miss B. Faltin, Mr. Y. Ishizuka and servant, Mrs. H. M. Lund, Miss Lund, Mr. and Mrs. L. Merle, Mr. F. B. Moseley, Mr. H. Mizuno, Mr. C. D. McGrath, Dr. G. Niederlein, Mr. L. H. Nolte, Dr. and Mrs. O. Nachod, Mr. H. C. Prosser, Mr. C. W. Purrington, Captain G. G. Rickman, R.W.F., Lieut.-General Sanford, Mr. A. Schmidt, Mr. Vincent J. Scantlebury, Mr. T. Takeda, Mr. T. Tsuna, Mr. Alfred G. Vanderbilt and valet, and Mrs. Wright and infant, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. T. D. Hutton, Miss Hutton, Mrs. Hutton, Miss Hutton, Commander S. Lovecchio, Fleet Engineer F. J. Moore, R.N., Mr. J. H. Neelis, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mrs. Ehmer, infant and amah, Mr. Justice Graeffe, and Rev. H. Loomis in cabin; 1 Indian, 13 Chinese, and 2 children in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Grants and 2 children, Mr. A. Adelsdorfe, Mrs. J. T. Esdale and child, Rev. and Mrs. Jones and 3 children, Mr. E. W. Noel, Mr. F. E. Barto, Mr. R. Hamilton, Mr. W. K. Wilson, Colonel T. Hayashi, I.J.A., Mr. S. Takenouchi, and Mr. K. Onogi in cabin; Mr. S. Iriye, Miss Hane Iriye, Miss Hane Iriye, Miss Riyo Iriye, Mr. and Mrs. K. Kano, Mr. T. Inagaki, and Miss Take Andoh in second class.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, from London via ports:—Dr. Hajime Onishi, Dr. A. C. Nathan, Dr. Tasuku Kono, and Miss M. Boorman, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Sachsen* by *Hohenzollern* from Hongkong:—Misses Hare (2), in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	M. Sept. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 3	M. Sept. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 4	M. Sept. 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 5	Tu. Sept. 26
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 6	Su. Oct. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	———	Th. Oct. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 5
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Su. Oct. 8
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Oct. 12

1 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
2 Left Honolulu on the 16th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
4 Left Vancouver on the 12th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Sept. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Tu. Sept. 26
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Laos	W. Sept. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Sept. 27
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Ikai Maru	W. Sept. 27
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Sept. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Oct. 4
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 4
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Oct. 6
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Oct. 14

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For San Francisco via Honolulu and San Diego, the "Carlisle City."—Butterfield and Swire.

For Keelung via Moji (from Kobe), 3rd and 18th at Noon (every month), the "Yokohama Maru."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For Keelung via Moji (from Kobe), 8th and 23rd at Noon (every month), the "Omi Maru."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For Vladivostock via ports (from Kobe), Sept. 24th, the "Sagami Maru."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For Hongkong, viâ Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, Sept. 25th, the "Empress of China."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For Marseilles, via ports and Shanghai, Sept. 27th, at 9 a.m., the "Laos."—M.M.S.S. Co.

For San Francisco, via Honolulu, September 27th, the "Gaelic."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For Shanghai, viâ Kobe, Shimonoseki and Nagasaki, Sept. 27th, at Noon, the "Ikai Maru."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For Hongkong, viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Sept. 29th, at 10 a.m., the "Hohenzollern."—Norddeutscher Lloyds.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is a large supplyy of yarns, but not much enquiry. For shirtings there is a certain amount of demand, but holders are asking extreme prices. Fancy cottons and woollens are dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 34½ yds. 45 inches	3.10 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	42.00 to 43.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	46.00 to 49.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	86.00 to 88.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	110.00 to 112.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	82.00 to 86.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	96.00 to 102.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	126.00 to 135.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$20.00
Indian Broach	19.00 to 19.25
Chinese	22.25 to 22.50

METALS.

Nothing much doing, but deliveries are satisfactory all round.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅞ to 13 inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$1.70 to 2.75
Russian	2.60 to 2.65
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.10 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.25 to 6.75
Brown Taiteng	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.70
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 8.40
White Refined	7.70 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A large business was done early in the week, and all decline in prices stopped. Less has been doing towards the close, and all qualities are very strong.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1080 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1145
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1020 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1065
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No. 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No. 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

A good daily business continues at hardening prices. There seem to be more buyers than sellers at the moment.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	160 to 170
Noshi—Filatures, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Best	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Good	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$95 to 100
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 140
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

There has been a fairly large trade, at prices quoted last week. The demand is chiefly for low grade qualities.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 32
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 21

Silver from London ⅛ higher without rates being affected in any way locally.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 11/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 7/16% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 5/8% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76
— Private 10 days' sight	76¾
On India—Bank sight	151½
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	27⅛

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 21.

Breweries changed hands to-day at *yen* 185 for cash and *yen* 195 for forward delivery. Engine and Iron Works are obtainable at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 235. Langfeldts were sold to-day at par. Club Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 85. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 9.50. Laundries can be had at *yen* 65. North and Raes are wanted at *yen* 215. Helms were sold again to-day at par.

Debentures—Breweries are wanted at *yen* 110, Y. U. Clubs at *yen* 108, Oriental Hotels are offering at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $50	995 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. *yen* 50	185 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $100	235 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $100	85 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $100	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., $50	9 50 S
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., $100	100 Sa
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa
Hiogo Gas Co., Ltd., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	65 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. $100	N

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,298.41; 4, *yen* 77,887.16 and *yen* 48,248.05 at Cr. of Working cc

B.—Buyers, S.—Sellers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 21.

Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 235. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 225. Laundries can be had at *yen* 65. Langfeldts are obtainable at par. Japan Breweries have buyers at *yen* 207.50 for June delivery; a few shares can be had at *yen* 190 for cash. Y.U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...225 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....235 Sales.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sellers.

Tokyo, September 21.

Redemption Loan Bonds	97 10
War Loan Bonds	97.10
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	90.60
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	402.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	63.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	262.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	67.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	67.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	29.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	73.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50	25.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	83 00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	57.80
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	47.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	66.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	51.70
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	106.20
Hokkaido Colliery R'w.y, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28	87.50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	93.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	49 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	40.50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	20 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	10 00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	23 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	980 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	182.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	71.30
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	23,00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	8.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	30.00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	33.50
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	14.50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	850.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	217.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	131 00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	80 00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	56 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	22.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	75 10
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	41 20
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	89 50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	36 50
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	55.50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	47.80
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	54 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	54.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	21.80
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	45.00

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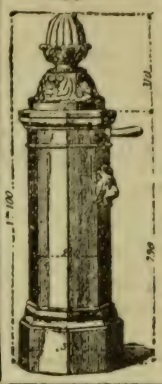
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 30TH, 1899.

BIRTHS.

On the 22nd inst., at 218 Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of HAROLD BAXTER, of a Son.

On the September 24th, 1899, at No 61, Yokohama, the wife of Mr. C. THWAITES, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT OKI died on the 25th inst., in the sixty-eighth year of his age.

THE Sirdar is preparing to attack the Khalifa, who is established near Jebelgedir.

THE next British flagship on this station will be the battleship *Glory*, of 12,950 ton.

A RISE of 10 *sen* in *habutaye* has been telegraphed from Kanazawa, and 15 *sen* at Fukui, but business continues brisk in spite of the advance.

A MARINE products exhibition will be held at Onabana from the 15th to the 25th November.

A TOKYO baseball team were defeated by the Yokohama Club on Saturday by 11 runs to 6.

THERE were 63,629 emigrants to Hokkaido in 1898, a decrease of 721 compared with 1897.

THE U.S. authorities seized $16,000 worth of opium at Manila the other day, the property of a Chinaman.

AN inquiry into methods of silkworm feeding and raw silk making is to be held at the end of this month.

THE Enetsu (Totomi and Echigo) Kerosene Company has been promoted by Mr. Arishima Tokeshi with a capital of 120,000 *yen*.

THE Hokuriku railway, which has for some time been obstructed by the debris resulting from the last storm, is now quite clear.

THE Bishop of the Laos was consecrated at Bangkok on the 3rd inst., when there were four Roman Catholic Bishops in the city.

THE Kyushu Railway Company has obtained government permission for the construction of 3 miles of railway at a cost of 450,000 *yen*.

THE strike of the Kiushiu Railway operatives is over. They resumed work on the 24th instant, with the exception of four, who were dismissed.

THE crisis in the Transvaal continues. Both parties are pushing their warlike preparations, though there is still hope that peace will be maintained.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha is now undertaking the construction of two steam vessels (each of 1,200 tons) for the China line, and one for the American line.

BISHOP GRAVES, of Shanghai, preached in Manila on the 10th inst. It is believed this is the first occasion on which a Protestant Bishop has preached in Manila.

CAVALRY are being steadily pushed forward to the fighting line around Manila, and it is expected they will bear the brunt of the fighting when the next advance is made.

IT is expected that the Diet will convene for its fourteenth session on the 13th or 14th of November. The date will be fixed at the next meeting of the Cabinet.

THE amount of local applications received by the Yokohama Fire Insurance Company on the 19th reached 1,500, exclusive of those from other provinces.

MR. KANEKO, ex-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, says that Japanese rugs have completely lost their place in the U.S. market owing to their inferior quality.

DREYFUS is staying with his relatives at Carpentras. General de Gallifet has issued an order declaring the Dreyfus incident closed, and urging that it be forgotten by the Army.

IT is stated that the Washington Government has instructed General Otis to admit the Chinese into the Philippines, and has intimated that Otis exceeded his authority in excluding them.

MR. AND MRS. READ took farewell of Yokohama theatricals on Tuesday. After the performance, which was largely attended, a silver punch bowl and seven goblets were presented to them.

THE Captain of the *America Maru* has had his certificate suspended for three months by the Tokyo Marine Board, who held him to blame for putting to sea with fire in a coal bunker.

VICE-ADMIRAL HILDBRANDT has left St. Petersburg in order to take over the command of the Russian Pacific Squadron at present held by Vice-Admiral Dubassow, who will return to St. Petersburg in the autumn.

THE number of Japanese exhibitors at the Paris International Exhibition, according to present calculations, will be 1,929; the number of exhibits, 29,728, and the value of the latter, 395,649 *yen*.

IT is stated that the Government will certainly introduce, in the next session of the Diet, a bill for promoting the construction of the Sōul-Fusan Railway by guaranteeing six per cent. on the capital employed in the construction of the line.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* continues its dissertations on the necessity of a renaissance of Buddhism. The gist of its writings is an exhortation to the good priests to come out from among the unclean and organise a body of pure, earnest ministers of the gospel of Shaka.

ONE hundred and twenty exhibitors to the Paris Exposition, resident in Tokyo, have signed a representation asking that Government aid be granted towards freight charges and the travelling expenses of four or five representatives who have to attend the Exposition.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Finance Department, at the end of August, the number of banks throughout the country was 1,936, and their total capital 415,148,754 *yen*, an increase of 10 banks and 1,800,000 *yen* in capital compared with July.

THE Sendai Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution that a representation should be passed by the combined Chambers of Commerce to the effect that Government aid should be continued to the N. Y. K. after the expiration of the present term.

ON the 10th inst., a trooper in the 4th U.S. Cavalry killed a comrade in the Barracks at Pasay. They had quarrelled over a gambling debt. The murderer took his carbine, and shot the other man through the neck. He afterwards committed suicide.

A CORRESPONDENT at Nagasaki, writing to the *Osaka Mainichi*, states that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. at Nagasaki have arranged to establish an agency at Shimonoseki with a view to importing sugar, iron, and other articles, and exporting Japanese commodities on commission.

THE Kanegafuchi Cotton-Spinning Company has concluded the negotiations commenced some time ago for the purchase of the Kashu Spinning Company, of Sumimichi, in the province of Kawachi. The Kashu Company has a capital of 500,000 *yen* and its mill contains 10,300 spindles.

IT is stated that a citizen of the United States, with a capital of three million *yen*, is making arrangements to start a large beer brewery in Japan. The place chosen will probably be Iwanuma, in the vicinity of Sendai. Investigations are now in progress to determine the quality of the soil and of the water.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE AMOY AFFAIR.

It is understood that the Chinese Government has agreed to all the terms proposed by Japan in connexion with the Amoy Affair, regarding them as reasonable. The most difficult condition was the removal of the Taotai. That is to be done, we believe, within a week. But of course everybody understands that this settlement does not touch the root of the matter. There is no security for foreign life and property in China to-day, and when we come to ask how security can be attained, the inevitable answer is that something more than Chinese administration is required. The *Jiji* suggests that a special body of police should be organized under Japanese sergeants and inspectors. That might be a good plan. There is an encouraging prototype in Shanghai's case, for we have no doubt that Chinese constables, trained and directed by Japanese, would work as well in Amoy as they do in Shanghai under European and American control. The *Jiji* further urges that no more time should be lost in securing railway and mining privileges in Fuhkien. As for the objection that the Japanese, not having sufficient capital for the railway and mining enterprises that present themselves in Japan, could not do anything with such privileges in Fuhkien even if they possessed them, the *Jiji* denies that there is any such inability. Well, it is a point that must be put to the test of practice. At all events, the question is not one of Japanese capital only. Our contemporary thinks that many wealthy Chinese would be only too willing to embark their money in enterprises under Japanese auspices. There is already, it appears, a strong disposition among the better classes of Chinese in Amoy to have themselves registered as Japanese subjects; not for the sake of changing their nationality, but solely because their commercial and industrial enterprises could be conducted with much greater security and without danger of official extortion under Japanese jurisdiction. If that be the feeling, it is plain that to combine with Japanese subjects in projects of railway building and mine working in Fuhkien might offer many attractions to Chinese capitalists.

COMPARATIVE TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE.

On inquiry we find that the land held by Japanese subjects in the immediate vicinity of the Foreign Settlement at Tsukiji is assessed, for purposes of taxation, at 3.556 *yen* per *tsubo*. It results that the Land Tax, which is 5 per cent. of the assessed value, and the Land Rate, which is five fourths of one per cent., amount to 22.225 *sen* per *tsubo*, against 28 *sen* paid by the foreign land-holder. These figures are very different from those recently adduced by a correspondent, who went to the Koishikawa district to find land of the same taxable status as the Tsukiji land. It is plain that when the inevitable reassessment of the taxable value of urban lands takes place, the foreign land-holder will find himself in a much better position than his Japanese neighbour, though just now he is not so favourably situated.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CYCLISTS.

Pneumatic tyres are at once the plague and happiness of the cyclist. If only some means of permanently inflating them could be discovered, they would be ideal affairs. M. de Parville has been writing on the subject in *La Nature*, and the *Literary Digest* translates his remarks. The idea of using some inflator other than air has occurred to many people, but, independently of the difficulty of procuring any special gas, there is the objection that the material of the tyre would be likely to suffer. For example, india-rubber, in contact with carbonic acid gas, swells, loses its elasticity, and gives easy passage to the gas. After all, atmospheric air is best and most convenient. But atmospheric air consists of oxygen and hydrogen, and there is reason to think that a separation of these two gases is effected when they are confined in a rubber tube under pressure. The oxygen escapes and the hydrogen remains. Every one has observed that a newly inflated tyre become deflated little by little even though the leakage is not indicated under water. The fact is that oxygen attacks india-rubber and hydrogen does not. Hence the oxygen finds an exit and the hydrogen remains. It follows that if complete deflation of a tube were avoided, if air were steadily pumped into it from time to time, its contents would ultimately be nitrogen only, and nitrogen, so far as scientists now see, is the best possible gas for the purpose. There would be much comfort for the cyclist in these facts if only the one little difficulty of a punctured tyre could be obviated. A puncture would dissipate at one fell *coup* all his carefully treasured hydrogen, and we imagine that, if punctures could be done away with, nobody would trouble his head about a substitute for atmospheric air.

THE INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN CAPITAL.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro has made an interesting statement of his reasons for thinking that foreign capital will not readily come to Japan. He divides capital into that in the hands of industrials and traders, and that in the hands of persons merely seeking investments. With regard to the former he sees several objections to the inauguration of great enterprises by foreigners in Japan. In the first place, there is the somewhat unscrupulous ambition of the Japanese. The foreigner knows that if he opens a factory and employs Japanese under skilled European or American management, these Japanese, so soon as they have acquired knowledge and experience, will step out of the factory and set up a rival business on their own account. In the next place, he has come to the conclusion that Japanese labourers are difficult to manage. They are not really industrious; they are not patient; they do not obey orders with fidelity, and they are easily induced to combine against their employers. In all these respects there is an impression abroad that the Chinaman is a better worker than the Japanese. In the third place, there is the difficulty of commercial immorality. The average Japanese trader or manufacturer does not value an engagement. A sample has no sanctity in his eyes. A foreign manufacturer, relying upon supplies of material in Japan, might find himself at any moment in a ruinous dilemma. The industrial capitalist, therefore, is not likely to choose the Japanese field. As for the investing capitalist, his ignorance of Japan is one of the great difficulties. He actually knows more about China for China, being a much larger field, has attracted his attention, and besides he can find in China investments secured by the State, whereas such things do not exist in Japan outside the region of public loan bonds. Altogether Mr. Kaneko is very pessimistic. He thinks that even though the privilege of engaging in mining enterprise be extended to foreigners, they will make little use of it.

VISCOUNT AOKI AND HIS CRITICS.

Tuesday, Sept. 26.

Viscount Aoki has given his critics a gentle reminder that there is such a thing as practical common sense in the affairs of men. They make a glib custom of calling him a man neither of deeds nor of ability, but they are careful to avoid any definition of what they call "deeds." It does not follow that a Minister is without ability because he makes no great *coups*. There are times and seasons for everything. The first business of a Foreign Minister is to choose his opportunities wisely, not to force them rashly. *Coups* are undoubtedly possible, especially in the fields of China and Japan, but is there any great encouragement? What use have the Japanese made of the facilities already procured for them? Special Settlements have been obtained from China, but they are inhabited only by weeds. The Government is placed in the humiliating position of having negotiated for advantages which the people have no strength to utilize. Would it not be the same with mining and railway concessions? If the glib critics knew exactly what they wanted, they would probably be able to form some sensible estimate of its feasibility. Possibly they may find, one of these days, that the Foreign Office is not such an inefficient, brainless sort of establishment as they imagine it to be because it does not furnish the public with perpetual sensations.

Wednesday, Sept. 27.

We published yesterday an epitome of some remarks made by Viscount Aoki to a member of the *Chuo's* staff on the subject of the Foreign Office's proceedings. The *Nippon*, an inveterate enemy of the Viscount, does not fail to embrace this opportunity of attacking him, but its assault is very nerveless. Viscount Aoki observed that if the Japanese people showed more energy and competence in utilizing the opportunities already provided for them in China, there would be greater encouragement to procure new facilities. The *Nippon* says, in effect, "Yes, that is true, but why does not Viscount Aoki point out that one reason of the Japanese people's inability to utilize the commercial and industrial opportunities offering in China is because their strength is over-taxed for the purpose of maintaining bloated armaments. Viscount Aoki is one of the armaments-expansion statesmen. He advocates the crippling of the nation by non-productive expenditures, and then he excuses his own failure to secure for it productive facilities by alleging that it is too much

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crippled to utilize them." Perhaps the *Nippon* is contented with that specious argument. Perhaps it really believes that the cost of Japan's armaments prevents capitalists from engaging in railway and mining enterprises beyond the seas, and her merchants from taking up the lands that lie vacant in the new Settlements in China. Perhaps it honestly ignores the fact that the tax upon *sake* alone - a tax which may be said to have had no existence half a dozen years ago and which certainly does not cause the people any inconvenience—pays for the maintenance of the Army. It is not inconceivable that the *Nippon* may be labouring under these hallucinations and lapses of memory, but one finds difficulty in believing such things of a journal usually so clever. There is just this difference between the *Nippon* and other critics of a country's foreign policy. The latter, when they complain, generally say what they want or explain what they condemn. But the *Nippon* conceals its ambitions and is careful not to give precision to its accusations. It is content with the phrase *mu-i mu-no*, "deedless and brainless," but what deeds should be attempted or what exercise of brain essayed, it never suggests. "Wanted a sensation" would be the proper heading, it seems to us, for most of these assaults upon the Foreign Office.

FOREIGNERS & MINING IN JAPAN.

The *Chuo Shimbun*—not the *Chuo Shogyo Shimpo*, as we inadvertently stated in a recent issue—continues to publish the opinions of prominent men of business with reference to the subject of admitting foreigners to mining enterprise in Japan. Mr. Shibusawa Eichi is quoted as saying that if Japan intends to shrink from foreign competition in the field of mining, she had better close her ports and go back into her shell altogether. He does not doubt that the foreign capitalist and labour-organizer would prove an invincible competitor in some instances, but Japan, he declares, must be prepared to face such contingencies. Mr. Shibusawa makes one reservation, however, which seems a little obscure. There must be no conflict, he says, with the laws of the land. Probably he means that to admit foreigners to mining enterprise ought not to carry with it the privilege of owning real estate.

Mr. Ikeda Kenzo, President of the Hundredth Bank, is the second publicist quoted by the *Chuo*. His attitude is guarded. He does not declare himself opposed to the projected measure, but he considers it so important that any decisive step must be preceded by the fullest investigation. We interpret Mr. Ikeda to be at heart hostile to granting the privilege in question.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce is anxious to have an opportunity of discussing the question of granting mining privileges to foreigners in Japan. Several of the members have moved that the Chamber should apply to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce to have the draft of the proposed Bill submitted to it for deliberation. Doubtless the Department will consent. There are several mine-owners among the members of the Chamber, but their attitude towards the problem does not seem to be known. It is certain, however, that great differences of opinion exist, and the controversy is likely to be very lively, as well as to bring the matter forcibly to public attention.

THE SECRET DOSSIER.

Among many reports circulated about the remarkable tenacity of the French War Office's resolve to keep the Dreyfus Dossier secret, probably the most widely received was that the Dossier contained despatches from the German Legation in Paris to Berlin, and that, as the intercepting of previous despatches by the French postal authorities had nearly precipitated a war with Germany, the utmost privacy had to be observed. It was even added that the resignation of the President, M. Casimir-Perier, had been connected with the question of intercepted despatches; that, in short, he had sacrificed himself to appease the wrath of Emperor William. When he appeared before the Military Court at Rennes, M. Casimir-Perier gave the following account of the relations between France and Germany in connexion with the Dreyfus affair :—

"This Dreyfus affair gave rise to an incident about which I wish to make an explanation. On January 5, 1895, in the absence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I was notified by the Prime Minister that the German Ambassador desired to have a conversation with me. He communicated to me the text of a despatch which had been sent to the Ambassador by the German Emperor. An appeal was made to my loyalty to declare that the German Embassy was not implicated in the affair. After consulting the Prime Minister I gave the German Ambassador an appointment for the following day. When he came I remarked to him that the communication which had been made to me was unusual in its form and that the request should in strictness have been addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. However, as my name appeared in the Emperor's despatch, I said that since the Chief of the State was not alone involved and since my name had been pronounced I could consider the conversation as having a personal character. I then said to the Ambassador that a document had been found which came from the German Embassy and had served as a foundation for the prosecution. He appeared very much surprised, and said to me that it was not possible that an important paper could thus go astray. I replied that the paper was not of great importance, and by this I meant that the act, very luckily, had not placed a foreign Government in possession of documents seriously interesting the national defence.

"'How shall we regulate this incident?' said Count Münster. I replied :—'You have made an appeal to my loyalty. You know all. Nothing proves that the document had been asked for by the German Embassy, which could not be held responsible for documents it received any more than we could be held responsible for those we received.'

"Then there was a talk about sending a note to the Havas Agency, but as this note was not to differ a great deal from the notes previously published the Ambassador insisted upon having a very categorical note exonerating the Embassy. I observed to Count Münster that the note ought to clear all the other Embassies, which would consider that there was some intention to involve them if one Power alone were exonerated. I added that it was for the Prime Minister to draw up the note. Count Münster asked to be allowed to refer the matter to the Emperor. Some days later the Ambassador informed me that the incident might be considered as settled.

That is a plain straight forward statement. It contains the grain—a very small grain—of truth from which the report referred to above grew. But when General Mercier appeared before the Court, he told a very different story :—

That same day we, the President of the Republic, M. Dupuy, the Premier, and I, Minister of War, remained from 8 p m. to 12 30 in the President's study at the Elysée awaiting the result of telegrams which were being exchanged between the German Minister and Count Munster. We remained four and a half hours waiting to see whether peace or war was to result from this exchange of communications."

"I had been apprised in the afternoon that the situation was very serious, and that Count Münster had orders to ask for his passports if his demands were not complied with. I consequently went to the President, telling General de Boisdeffre to go to the War Office and wait for me with the requisite number of officers for immediately, if necessary, sending telegrams prescribing the preliminary measures of mobilization. You see that we were within two finger-breadths of war. Not till half-past 12 did the President inform me that Count Münster and his Sovereign also definitively accepted the insertion of a somewhat vague note absolving the Embassies. It was to this that I alluded just now, when I said that the assertions of diplomacy must not be always taken literally, for it is certain that that note was not entirely correct, but was dictated by State reasons.

It certainly would be difficult to imagine that the two men were speaking of the same incident. According to M. Casimir-Perier the relations between the two countries were not strained in the smallest degree. According to General Mercier, the question of peace or war hung in the balance. M. Casimir-Perier did not allow General Mercier's allegation to pass uncontradicted. He asked to be again examined by the Court, and made this declaration :—

"I have no remembrance of a tragical scene ending at midnight with a communication made by the German Embassy. As for the diplomatic incident, it was treated by myself alone. General Mercier, whom I had appointed Minister of War, had not to interfere in a diplomatic question, and if he had done so I should have called him to order. If any one was able to have an impression and information about the conversations held with Count Münster, it was I, and not General Mercier. Now, I was not at all troubled on the evening in question. I do not know who was troubled. But I declare that my conversation with Count Münster left me in as calm a state of mind as I am in at this moment. I may add that, if the incident had been as tragical as it is represented, it is unlikely that I should have been asked to have the Premier draw up the note that was to close the affair. If the Ambassador judged that the communication I was to make through the Premier was of such gravity that it might lead to international complications, he would have referred the matter to Berlin before making an appointment with the Premier for the purpose of addressing him upon the wording of the note. What confirms the absolute accuracy of my memory on this point and at the same time destroys the theory of a painful and tragical scene at the Elysée is that we did not receive any news at midnight that day. It was upon the text of the note which the Ambassador referred to Berlin on the 6 h that the note published in the journals on the 8th was based. If we had received news on the 6th saying that the incident was closed, we should not have waited until the 8th to publish the fact. This incident has been exaggerated by General Mercier.

Exaggerated is certainly a gentle way of putting it.

BOER FORCE IN THE EVENT OF WAR.

We can not understand the basis of the estimate published by American journals in the form of telegrams from London, to the effect that, in the event of war in South Africa, the Transvaal will have about sixty thousand men at its disposal, including recruits from over the borders. The Boer population of the Transvaal is 63,000, and the white population of the Orange Free State is 77,716, making a total of a hundred and forty thousand in round numbers. Now the males between the ages of 20 and 50 number one in every five units of a normal population. Thus if every man from 20 to 50 years of age in both the Transvaal and the Free State took the field, there would be a force of 28,000 men. But of course every man can not possibly take the field. One half of the number, or say, fourteen or fifteen thousand, would be a liberal estimate. Whence are the remaining forty-five thousand men to be obtained? Then, again, what training have the Boers had in warlike exercises or the use of arms? An efficient soldier can not be made in a month. It is generally

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supposed that the Boers are first-rate rifle shots. So they used to be undoubtedly in the days of big game. But the big game is a thing of the past, and very few of the Boers get a chance of using a rifle now from year's end to year's end. Intrenched in a difficult country and well supplied with weapons, the Boers will give a great deal of trouble to any invader, but to talk of their putting fifty or sixty thousand men into the field seems to us mere moonshine.

TOKYO.

There seems to be a really practical desire at present to accomplish something substantial in the way of improving Tokyo. The difficulty, of course, is to procure funds. By means of a Special Tax, representing 40 per cent. of the City Taxes, the Municipality obtains a sum of 347,516 *yen* annually, and from the rent of 170,514 *tsubo* of riverine property a further sum of 146,480 *yen* accrues, the total thus being half a million *yen*, approximately. That is not nearly enough. The very lowest estimate of what is needed puts the aggregate cost at 20 million *yen*, and proposes that the work shall be accomplished in the space of 10 years. Another programme contemplates the expenditure of 50 million *yen* in 25 years, and yet another has 73,230,000 *yen* for total outlay in a period of 20 years. The formulators of all these plans are agreed that the Treasury should be invited to give its assistance, but they differ as to the amount which can reasonably be asked for. The seventy-three-millions folks think that the Treasury should give 20 millions, at the rate of one million annually. Then they would have the city raise a municipal loan of 10 millions, the remaining 43 millions being obtained from the Special Tax and the rent of riverine lands. But, inasmuch as the Special Tax and the River Lots yield only half a million *yen* at present, whereas this scheme assesses their product at over 2 millions, to say nothing of the interest and sinking fund of the ten million loan, it is not apparent that the projectors have thought seriously how to make ends meet. The fifty-millions men follow much the same lines, but in a more modest manner. Their estimate of annual outlay being 2 million *yen*, they propose that the Treasury should give three-quarters of a million, and that the remaining million and a quarter should be obtained by increasing the Special Tax and the River Lots' Rent, a loan not being resorted to except in the last extremity. Finally, the advocates of the twenty-millions plan expect the Treasury to find a million a year, and would double the Special Tax and the River Lots' Rent. Everybody, in short, wants to have the State come to the rescue. But the State is not in circumstances so opulent as to be able to entertain large demands. Tokyo will have to rely mainly on itself, and it ought to remember, before borrowing money for such a purpose, that the contemplated improvements are non-productive. They will yield no income, and any debt incurred on account of them must be liquidated from other sources. The *Jiji* recommends that a reassessment of the taxable value of urban lands should be made. Their present value for taxation purposes, as shown in the official registers, is a small fraction of their market value, and, if they were properly assessed, a large increment of revenue would accrue. That is a point upon which we have often insisted, but it holds good of other urban lands as well as of Tokyo, though not, perhaps, in such a marked degree; and moreover, the lands could not be reassessed for the purpose of local taxation only. The *Nichi Nichi* seems more practical when it points out that the citizens of Tokyo pay smaller municipal taxes than the citizens of almost any other town in Japan. The average per head in Tokyo is 85.9 *sen* (City Taxes), whereas the corresponding figure for Kyoto is 1.307 *yen*; for Osaka, 2.151 *yen*, and for Hiroshima 1.356 *yen*. The River Lots, also, are let at much too low rates, in our contemporary's opinion. It would have this defective state of affairs remedied before any appeal is made to the Treasury, and it would also have the Municipality confine its improvements at first to the most populous and important parts of the city.

COUNT INOUYE AND THE KIUSHIU RAILWAY.

In agreeing to undertake the task of arbitrating between the disputing sections of the Kiushiu Railway shareholders, Count Inouye has stipulated that he shall have an absolutely free hand. He was originally asked to judge fairly between the two, but he replied that he could not pledge himself to make any arrangement which would be qualifiable with the adjective "fair" in the opinion of both parties to the controversy: there must be no condition of any kind. On that understanding a social gathering was held at the Mitsui Club in Yurakucho on the evening of the 21st instant, and representatives of both sections publicly declared themselves willing to abide implicitly by the Count's decision.

In his speech at the meeting, Count Inouye dwelt upon the fact that considerable unrest exists at present in Japanese commercial, industrial, and financial circles. There is a strong tendency to friction and dispute. Troubles have occurred among the shareholders and the management of Sanyo Railway Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the Bank of Japan, the Japan Railway Company, and the Industrial Bank. Was it to be inferred that the Japanese people are deficient in the faculty of combination which is so essential to success in the business world of our time? Certainly that was the inference that foreign onlookers must draw, and, if it were a correct inference, little hope existed for Japan's success in international competition. Count Inouye evidently thinks, however, that the circumstances of the moment are exceptional. The strong industrial impulse created after the war with China and the receipt of a large indemnity, resulted in the starting of many enterprises, whose promoters find their original calculations dislocated by a sudden and sharp appreciation of prices. This divergence of estimates and results found some persons unwilling to make the necessary modifications in their methods, and suggested to others the advisability of excessive caution. It may be concluded from these remarks that Count Inouye does not lean to either side of the disputants in the Kiushiu Railway affair.

COTTON PROSPECTS FOR 1899.

The *Keizai Zasshi* devotes an article to the question of this year's cotton crop. It gives these figures by way of preface:—

IMPORTS OF RAW COTTON.

	Ginned Cotton. Piculs.	Value. Yen.	Cotton on the seeds. Piculs.	Value. Yen. 6
1896	1,678,680	32,106,225	86,870	467,071
1897	2,215,294	43,122,262	86,349	497,954
1898	2,497,247	45,410,457	56,339	339 98

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF COTTON YARNS.

	Exports. Quantity. Catties.	Exports. Value. Yen.	Imports. Quantity. Catties.	Imports. Value. Yen.
1896	12,974,713	4,029,424	20,014,128	11,372,001
1897	42,034,975	13,490,196	16,090,855	9,625,258
1898	68,833,763	20,110,585	15,929,991	8,547,585

The evidences of progress in the spinning trade shown by these tables are very gratifying to Japanese. But it will be observed that whereas Japan spent 46 million *yen*, approximately, on raw cotton in 1898, she exported only 20 million *yen* worth of yarns, and, if we include her imported yarns, it is evident that her domestic consumption amounted to 33½ million *yen*, exclusive of yarns spun with home grown cotton. Passing now to the question of this year's supply of raw cotton, the *Keizai* says that, on the average, 1,800,000 bales of Indian cotton come into the Bombay market, and, as a reduction of 20 per cent. is expected this season, the figure will be about 1,500,000 bales. Last year, on the contrary, the crop was 20 per cent. above the average, so that there were 2,100,000 bales in the market, of which total 960,000 bales were taken by the Bombay mills, 500,000 by Japan, and the rest went to Europe. How, then, will this year's crop of 1,500,000 bales be divided? Taking as a basis of calculation the number of spindles requiring to be fed, Japan wants 600,000 bales. That would not leave enough for the Bombay mills, to say nothing of Europe. If the American crop were particularly plentiful, no inconvenience would be felt, probably. But in America also the yield is inferior, and the same is true of China. It is therefore evident that the price of raw cotton this season is likely to be high.

THE LATE COUNT OKI.

Count Oki's funeral will take place on the 2nd proximo at 1 p.m., the cortege leaving the deceased's residence in Fukide-cho, Shiba, and proceeding to the Aoyama cemetery. The *Shinto* rites will be observed. Count Oki was in his sixty-eighth year at the time of his demise. His official career commenced in 1868, when he was thirty-six, and he rose speedily through various important positions on the Bench, until, in 1880, he was appointed President of the Committee for Compiling the Civil Code. Thenceforth his name was constantly before the public. Twice he held portfolios, once as Minister of Justice and once as Minister of Education, and during five years he served as President of the Privy Council. He was a scion of the illustrious Fujiwara Family, being a lineal descendant of Kamatari, to whom the Throne owed so much at the time of the fall of the patriarchal system of Government. Count Oki certainly deserves to be ranked among the great men of modern Japan. He was a genuine friend of progress, and his services in connection with legislation would alone entitle him to be honoured by the nation.

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ORIENTAL.

What is an "Oriental"? We have never seen the word intelligently defined; not the geographical definition, of course, but the ethical. What traits of character, what habits of thought, differentiate the "Oriental" from the Occidental? The question is suggested by an article in the *Daily Mail* of London. The writer says that though "a certain proportion of the Japanese wear European clothes, they are still true Orientals: the moral attributes of the people remain practically as they were." What are the moral attributes of the Japanese? That is precisely the problem that so many writers have tried to solve, but not one of them has found a solution which even pretends to be exhaustive. We remain to-day as uncertain as we were thirty or forty years ago about the real character of the Japanese. For thirty or forty years foreigners have been endeavouring to discover and catalogue the essential differences between Japanese character and European character, and they are still unsuccessful. Can it be that there are no salient differences? The writer in the *Daily Mail* is very confident about the matter. He tacitly claims absolute competence to judge whether, and to what extent, the Japanese people are Orientals. Perhaps, then, it will be worth while to follow the points of his demonstration.

First, he says that man remains superior to woman in Japan. The woman "is of no importance except from the point of view of children; if she has no family a rival is soon openly introduced into the same house." Without stopping to inquire how much exaggeration there is in such a statement, or whether the Occidental's treatment of women does not err quite as far in the opposite extreme, we can not but ask why the position held by women in Japan should be called "Oriental." The Romans were not Orientals, yet for hundreds of years the Roman woman lived in a condition of absolute subjection or subordination to her relatives. As to her conjugal status, it is true that the peculiar form of marriage called *confarreatio* was indissoluble, but what is to be said of the *coemptio* and the *usus*? The Greeks were not Orientals, yet to a Grecian husband almost unlimited indulgence was accorded. Most of us are familiar with the words of Demosthenes:—"We keep mistresses for our pleasure, concubines for constant attendance, and wives to bear us legitimate children and be our faithful housekeepers." That is very like what the writer in the *Daily Mail* says of the Japanese. Yet the Greeks were not "Oriental."

Then he goes on to explain that "conjugal infidelity on the part of the wife is a serious matter; on the husband's side it is not even a peccadillo." The assertion is largely untrue, but its truth or falsehood need not concern us. The point is whether to censure a husband's infidelities lightly and a wife's heavily can be called an "Oriental" trait. Lecky says:—"In early Rome the obligations of husbands were never, I imagine, altogether unfelt, but they were rarely or never enforced, nor were they ever regarded as bearing any kind of equality to those imposed upon the wife. The term adultery and all the penalties connected with it were restricted to the infractions by a wife of the nuptial tie." Yet the Romans were not Orientals.

Then the *Daily Mail* writer goes on to assert that "the Japanese Government protects, patronizes and almost encourages immorality, as does that of no other civilized country. It even draws part of its revenue from taxes levied on this shameful traffic." That also is largely untrue. But, true or false, is it an "Oriental" specialty? Are there not European countries also where prostitution is licensed, and are there not thousands of Occidental philosophers who advocate the system? Not yet, then, have we reached anything which differentiates the "Oriental" and the Occidental.

Then the *Daily Mail* writer goes on to state that "The Japanese student is not like the English school-boy, and that he plays games perfunctorily, with as little relish as Smith minor would show in tackling a quadratic equation." That also is largely untrue, but, even if true, we have to inquire whether English school-boys alone are the representative type of Occidentals. Do not European school-boys outside England show perfunctoriness in the matter of games of skill?

Then the *Daily Mail* writer goes on to rail at an obscure Japanese scribe who claims that Western civilization is effete, the white race played out, and "Japan destined to step into the van of progress." Considering that the Japanese are adopting Western civilization with all possible ardour and rapidity, the *Daily Mail* writer might easily have known that the Japanese critic whose opinions he summarizes is an altogether exceptional person, and that to cite him as typical is a very bad departure from the truth. But if there were many such Japanese, would their frame of mind be "Oriental?" We need not go beyond the writer in the *Daily Mail* for answer. His own article teems from beginning to end with a blatant assumption of superiority to all Eastern peoples, and he is not an "Oriental."

Then he goes on to declare that "the chauvinist press encourages rudeness towards foreigners as an assertion of Japanese superiority," and that "a large section of the native Press fosters the anti-foreign feeling." That is at once untrue and cruelly unjust. But even if true, is it "Oriental?" Again the *Daily Mail* writer himself furnishes an answer, for never in any Japanese journal have we read anything so bitterly anti-foreign as his article is anti-Japanese. Yet he is not an "Oriental."

So we remain as far as ever from any definition of "Orientalism." The *Daily Mail* writer calls the Japanese "true Orientals," but every attribute that he assigns to them as "Oriental" is entirely without distinctive meaning.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION AND ENGLAND'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

The Hongkong Branch of the China Association, through its Chairman, Mr. J. J. Francis, invites the attention of Her Majesty's Government to a point recently dwelt on in these columns, namely, the radical difference between the idea entertained by Germany and Russia, on the one hand, as to the practical signification of a "sphere of influence" and the idea entertained by England, on the other. Germany and Russia insist that in Shantung and Manchuria, respectively, there shall be no granting of railway or mining concessions to any persons but German and Russian subjects, whereas England in the Yangtsze valley does not seem to mind who comes in and takes a share of the cake. Mr. Francis justly points out that, although the mere privilege of constructing a line of railway through a certain district does not confer any special rights there, nor in theory disturb the territorial supremacy of the lord of the soil, the contingencies connected with railway building in China are innumerable, and their consequences may be far-reaching. Local disturbances are almost inevitable concomitants of the progress of the undertaking, and each disturbance furnishes a fresh pretext for the preference of new claims and the acquisition of new privileges until the presence of the concessionaire Power becomes invested with a character radically different from that originally contemplated. Under these circumstances two courses are open to a Power situated as England is. She may put her foot down as Germany and Russia do, and insist that all industrial privileges within her sphere of influence shall be restricted to her own people; or she may adopt the more liberal policy of leaving the privileges to be the prize of open competition, but taking steps to deprive their consequences of any inconvenience. In other words, she may herself undertake to be responsible for the efficient administration of the regions within which the privileges are granted, so far as concerns the enjoyment of the privileges. That is what the Hongkong Branch of the China Association suggests. It would have Great Britain adopt measures for the protection of life and property in the Yangtsze Valley, so that if the Russo-Franco-Belgian builders of the Peking-Hankow Railway were the victims of any lawless outrages in the Yangtsze region, St. Petersburg, Paris, and Brussels should look to London, not to Peking, for redress. The China Association thinks that a small flying column—a miniature *corps d'armée*—, quartered in Hongkong and ready to be despatched to any part of China within the Yangtsze sphere, would enable Great Britain to assume that responsibility. As to whether China would agree to the assumption in such a very practical manner, Mr. Francis does not pause to inquire. He leaves China out of the account altogether as a Sovereign State. The omission is not without justification, but will Downing Street take that view? It is true that Russia has stipulated for and obtained the privilege of protecting her own railway builders in Manchuria, and it is also true that Germany has given very practical demonstrations of her intention to take the law into her own hands in Shantung. But then these two Powers have made their spheres of influence efficient, and between a nominal sphere of influence and an efficient there is just the same difference as between an effective and an ineffective blockade of a port or occupation of a territory. The step that the Hongkong Branch of the China Association proposes would be much more difficult in practice, for, whereas the Russians and Germans, owing to their constant presence on the scene, have something of the knowledge required for police duties, the British flying column in Hongkong could never assume any part save that of a punitive expedition. It is further to be feared that

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the Little Englander will gird violently against the notion of Great Britain's undertaking to protect foreign life and property in China for the purpose of facilitating foreign enterprise. However, there is a fine imperial spirit in the letter of Mr. Francis. If the duty of building up the empire were entrusted to men like him and his fellow-members of committee, the work would progress a-pace.

UNREADINESS FOR WAR.

At the time of the Fashoda incident the French Navy was not ready for war, according to a statement subsequently made by the French Minister of Marine. It appears from the evidence given by General Mercier at Rennes, that the Army was not ready in 1894:—

"Now, at that moment should we have desired war? Should I, as Minister of War, have desired for my country a war undertaken in these conditions? I do not hesitate to say No, and that for several reasons. First of all, military reasons. We were at that moment transforming the mobilization plan. Moreover, we knew that Germany had begun the transformation of her quick-firing guns, and that this was tolerably advanced, whereas I had only just obtained from Parliament the first funds necessary for the construction of some batteries for a great experiment on quick-firing guns which have since been completely adopted. We were consequently in a state of absolute inferiority. From the diplomatic standpoint, the Emperor Alexander III. had just died. His successor, the Emperor Nicholas, seemed animated by excellent intentions, but after all we did not yet know whether he would ratify the military convention concluded with his predecessor by M. Casimir-Perier as Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs. From the diplomatic standpoint we had a fear, an uncertainty before us. We did not know whether Russia would march with us. Lastly, as to our moral situation before Europe, it is unquestionable that the pretext, the grounds on which that war would have commenced did not place us in an advantageous position. The first incidents would not have had a good effect. It is certain that we could have pleaded that we were exercising our right of legitimate defence, and that, feeling the ground under our feet undermined, a counter-mine was the only way of defending ourselves. But these are reasonings, and in the outburst of passions and interests involved in a declaration of war between Germany and France reasonings would stand for little, we may say for nothing.

It is not apparent that General Mercier was called on to make this statement. The effect of such revelations must be very disquieting to Frenchmen.

THE ALLEGED CHINA-JAPAN ALLIANCE.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* after quoting some remarks of ours on the alleged China-Japan alliance as represented by the *N.-C. Daily News*, says:—"The extraordinary views first propounded by the *N. C. Daily News* in its original article on this subject, were capped by the *Mercury*, and the astute Editor of the *Mail* has thus been furnished with an argument which he will cling to tenaciously whatever else may be penned. Depicted as the *Mail* here depicts it, the story assumes fantastic proportions which make 'canard' rather a soft name for it. We cannot but repeat our regrets that the Shanghai papers should have made the rapprochement of China and Japan ridiculous by their hasty misconception of its object."

The turn-over of the Nankai Railway to the middle of this month was 14,392 *yen*—36 *yen* 95 *sen* per day, on an average, per mile. The turnover of the Hoshi Railway for the same period was 13,454 *yen*.

THE BOOK-SHELF.

Grammaire Japonaise, par M. CYPRIEN BALET.

M. CYPRIEN BALET has published a "Grammaire Japonaise." It is some time since any book of the kind was given to the world. A great many people have thought that they had a mission to help students of one of the most difficult languages spoken to-day, and all have contributed something, great or small, to the elucidation of the subject; but after Messrs. Aston and Chamberlain had said their say, it seemed probable that, in the matter of grammars at any rate, there would be no addition to the list. Nor can we honestly say that the contents of M. Balet's work entitle it to be called a new source of light. Perhaps the fairest description of it is that it contains a clear and well marshalled statement in the French language of the rules and principles of Japanese grammar as already enunciated by British and American scholars. Indeed we doubt whether that may not be undue praise, for in some of the crucial perplexities of Japanese speech, as the relative pronoun, the use of *wa* and *ga*, the reflective particles, and so on, we do not find M. Balet either as full or as accurate as Mr. Chamberlain. For example, we have never heard a Japanese use such a phrase a *Kō-en no deguchi ni go aisatsu wo nasutta megane wo kakete ita hito wa dare deshita ka*, and as an illustration of the use of relative pronouns, we certainly should not say that *teishaba ye chaku shimashita no wa hachiji deshita* should be translated *l'heure à laquelle je suis arrivé à la gare c'etait huit heures*. Then, again, it is emphatically a feature in the construction of comparative sentences that the subject which is included in the comparative or superlative idea should be marked by *ga*, and the subject which is excluded, by *wa*. That is a corollary of the logical proposition which will be found so useful by foreigners in speaking Japanese, namely, that a negative verb excludes its predicate. But M. Balet's first example of a "superlative" sentence is *watakushi no me de wa kochi wa yosa-sō na no desu*. The idiom is not wrong, of course. But the sentence as it stands is by no means the simple superlative that M. Balet represents it to be. Indeed, we fail to see that it is necessarily a superlative at all. Be that as it may, however, the point we want to make is that when a Japanese says *watakushi no me de wa kochi wa yosa-sō na no desu*, he conveys the ideas, first, that some one else has made a different selection, or that some opposition to his choice exists; and secondly, that the photograph he indicates requires to be marked with special emphasis. He might also use the phrase deprecatingly, as "In my view, indeed, this is the best"—*i.e.* though I do not wish to assert my opinion. But if he desired to reply simply to the query, *Kono shashin no uchi de dochiga yoi*, his words would be *watakushi no me de kochi ga yosa-sō, &c.*" The force of the two *wa* is quite ignored in M. Balet's rendering. Altogether the employment of *wa* does not seem to be as familiar to him as that of many other parts of speech which he treats in an able manner, for although he notes the terminal use of *wa* as an emphasizer, he does not explain that its employment in that sense is limited to women's language. However, we do not by any means desire to suggest that a fault-finding mood is inspired by perusing the *Grammaire Japonaise*. On the contrary, the book has many excellencies, and we can not doubt that for Frenchmen it will serve a thoroughly useful purpose, for it certainly stands on a far higher level than any Japanese grammar hitherto compiled in the French language. We do not think, however, that it marks any advance upon the works of Aston and Chamberlain.

War to the Knife, or *Tangata Maori*, by ROLF BOLDREWOOD; London, Macmillan & Co.; Yokohama, Messrs Kelly and Walsh. Ltd.

THIS is a stirring story of the second Maori War, told in Rolf Boldrewood's best vein, the vein that he worked to such advantage in *Robbery under Arms*, and which seemed, in his more recent works, to have become prematurely exhausted. Rolf Boldrewood is a most painstaking novelist, though his literary style is anything but impeccable. His books contain about the truest pictures of life as lived by Anglo-Saxons beneath the Southern Cross, to be found anywhere. In the volume under review the author leaves his well-loved New South Wales for "the most magnificent appanage of Britain in the Pacific—New Zealand," but though in the course of the narrative he has to take his readers among the wonders of the Rotomahana district, with its pink and white terraces (since destroyed), its mud volcanoes and boiling lakes, he never departs from his preternaturally sober, nay almost bald and unassuming, style of writing, despite the great temptation there must have been to indulge in "purple patches."

"War to the Knife" is chock-full of information about New Zealand, but the book is seldom dull or pedagogic. The hero is Sir Roland Massinger, the descendant of a long line of county magnates in Herefordshire, who, because a certain young lady refuses the offer of his hand, sells his ancestral home and estates and departs for New Zealand, there to eat out his sorrow amid totally new surroundings. He arrives at Auckland in time to take a very active part in the Maori War of 1860-3. But before this actually breaks out he meets the beautiful daughter of an English pioneer by a Maori chieftainess, and a charming love idyll developes which carries one nearly to the end of the book when, in order that the great English lady before mentioned—(who had reconsidered her decision in the rolling years and come out to New Zealand, too),—may find the desire of love fulfilled and Sir Roland can return to his ancient place in England with her—in order, in fact, that everything may end happily as things always do in Rolf Boldrewood's romances, poor Erena Mannering (that is the charming Maori maiden's name) is shot defending her lover from the treacherous bullet of a rebel Maori. The book is worth reading, and to New Zealand *pakehas* should prove very absorbing.

The Japan mail, which reached London on Aug. 22nd went through in very quick time. Leaving Yokohama per *Empress* on July 28th a good run was made to Vancouver, whence the mail went on by the new East bound express, reaching New York in time to catch the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*. This steamer crossed the Atlantic at an average speed of 22.51 knots per hour, and enabled the mails to reach London in the very fast time of under 25 days from Yokohama, and 28 days from Shanghai.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The strikers among the employés of the Kinshiu Railway were originally reported as "missing," but subsequent inquiries revealed the fact that they had assembled at a place called Osato and were indulging in a carouse. It was apprehended that under the influence of drink they might resort to violence, but the fear was not verified by events. The origin of the strike seems to be a simple question of the dismissal of some men who had objected to be transferred from one section of the Company's lines to another. It is probable, therefore, that the affair will be arranged without great difficulty. It furnishes, however, another example of the sentimental side of Japanese character. In Europe and America strikes take place because men think that they are insufficiently paid or overworked, but it is not easy to induce a number of mechanics to imperil their means of subsistence merely because one or two of their comrades are supposed to have suffered injustice.

The prosperous condition of the Yokohama silk market this season is illustrated by the following figures, which we take from the columns of the *Jimmin* :—

	1899. bales.	1889. bales.
In stock at the beginning of the season	1 076	7.351
Arrived from the provinces...	53 311	37.328.5
Sold to foreign firms	36.492	17,810.5
Exported by Japanese firms.	10.665	3,847
Returned to the provinces ...	3,595	2,767
Now in stock	14,635	20,255

It is further to be noted that of the 13,635 bales now in stock, 7,000 are already bespoken, so that the quantity actually for sale does not exceed six or seven thousand bales. On the average, prices have ruled 20 to 25 per cent. higher than last year.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has an interesting article on the prospects of agricultural industry in Japan. What with the temptations offered by emigration and the comparatively high wages obtainable in factories, agricultural labourers are being gradually drawn away from the provinces, and the *Jiji* thinks that the time is not very far distant when the effects of this transfer will become visible in the yearly production of rice. Already complaints of the scarcity of farm-hands are heard from the prefectures of Wakayama, Hiroshima, and Yamaguchi, whence emigrants are chiefly drawn. The subject is not new: it was discussed in the columns of the *Jiji* itself some years ago. But it is always interesting, for Japan's metamorphosis from an agricultural into a manufacturing nation involves a sacrifice that the people will find very hard to make. Rice cultivation demands an exceptional amount of very painful toil, and men will assuredly turn from it if they can find any pleasanter means of subsistence. There is, of course, a possibility, though at present no apparent probability, that labour-saving machines may be invented in the field of rice culture. But failing something of that kind, the invitation of the factories and the demand for Japanese labour in foreign countries, seem destined to steadily reduce the rice-growing population.

There is some talk about the Masampo question. Russia is said to have protested because a large portion of the area applied for by her for the purposes of a settlement has been sold to Japanese subjects, and the Korean Government is said to have replied that the land was the property of the people, who had the right to dispose of it as they pleased.

The fourth of the first-class armoured cruisers which are to be built according to the Japanese post-bellum programme, is now under construction in the yard of Messrs. Vickers, Maxim and Company. She will apparently be the finest cruiser in the world. Her dimensions are:—length 400 feet; beam 76 feet (an exceptional figure); draught 27 ft. 3 in.; displacement 15,000 tons. Her horse-power is to be 15,000 and the contractors have undertaken that she shall have a speed of 28 knots. She will carry four 12-inch guns, 40 feet long, of great armour piercing power, and fourteen 6-inch quick-firers, in her principal armament, and she will be able to fire 11,200 lbs. of metal per minute, or 400 rounds from her quick-firers.

Viscount Aoki delivered a lecture in the rooms of the Department of Education on the 21st instant to the principals of the commercial schools thoughout the empire, who are now assembled in the capital. His Excellency laid great stress on commercial morality and the necessity of educating a liberal spirit among the trading classes. The published reports of the lecture are very meagre.

The Tokyo Municipality commenced its scheme of city improvement in the year 1888, and since that time it has expended a sum of 2,838,327 *yen*. This money has been obtained from a special tax, which, as explained by us in a previous issue, is 40 per cent. of the Prefectural Taxes, and from rents paid for river-banks' use (*Kashichi-shuniu*). The two sources of revenue do not yield more than five hundred thousand *yen* yearly, which is found quite inadequate for carrying out schemes in the populous business-quarters of the city, land there being so expensive that the Municipality can not acquire it for the purpose of straightening roads or widening streets. Nearly all the work of that kind hitherto accomplished has been in the suburbs or comparatively poor parts of the city, and even when operating in those districts the Municipal Authorities have often been obliged to adopt methods of an arbitrary character which have rendered the word *shiku kaisei* (street improvement) exceedingly unpopular. Meanwhile the building of street railways and the construction of a harbour are in the immediate future, and they will of course involve considerable changes in the relative importance of the various quarters of the city. Looking at all these facts the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* concludes that the Tokyo Municipality must radically remodel its programme, but upon what basis our contemporary does not say.

The *Tokyo Asahi* advocates the establishment of an Oriental Commercial School, where lads could receive training in the Chinese and Russian languages, and in everything that concerns the trade between China, Russia, and Japan. In 1891, or 1892, Mr. Arao started in Shanghai a species of commercial educational establishment called the China and Japan Mart. It lasted for three years only, but some of its students rendered splendid service in the war of 1894-5. There are plenty of institutions for teaching French and English, but, looking to the future of the Far East, the *Asahi* thinks that the Russian and Chinese language are of vital importance to Japanese students.

There are rumours of uneasiness among the employés of the Japan Railway Company. Recently the managers effected some sweeping changes in the up-keep bureau (*hozen-ka*) and the rolling-stock bureau. A number of dismissals took place, and the usual discontent resulted. The dismissed men have been watching their opportunity, it is said, to foment disturbance, and unless vigorous precautions are adopted, a strike is not unlikely to occur.

The Korean Court has adopted foreign uniforms. So far as we can judge from the description and sketches in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a hybrid costume has been devised, the head-piece being a cuirassier's helmet, the coat an English staff tunic, and the epaulettes naval. We daresay that it is all very fine and gorgeous.

Statistics just published put the Aino population of Ezo at 17,573; namely, 8,560 men and 9,010 women. The race is evidently dying out rapidly. The distribution among the various provinces is as follows:—

Ishikari	958
Shiribeshi	659
Oshima	217
Iburi	3,902
Hitake	6,333
Tokachi	1,660
Kushiro	1,604
Nemuro	438
Chishima	555
Kitami	981
Teshiwo	266
Total	17,573

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a picture of the thirty-year pattern Arisaka carbine for the cavalry. We need scarcely say that no technical details of any value are given. The magazine holds 5 cartridges, which, it is claimed, can be inserted by one motion. The effective range of the Arisaka infantry rifle is said to be 2,000 metres, and that of the carbine 1,500 metres, which figures are 500 metres greater in each case than the corresponding distances for the Murata weapon.

The Imperial Household Department owns quite a number of Detached Palaces (*Rikiu*), Imperial Places of Sojourn (*Goyō-tei*) and Garden (*Go-yen*), as shown in the following list, which we take from the columns of a Tokyo contemporary :—

DETACHED PALACES.

Four in Tokyo, namely, those of Akasaka, Shiba, Hama, and Awoyama. Three in Kyoto, those of Nijo, Katsura, and Shogaku-in; and one in Hakone.

IMPERIAL PLACES OF SOJOURN.

Three in Kanagawa Prefecture, namely, at Hayama, Kamakura, and Miyanoshita; one at Numazu; two at Nikko; one at Ikao; and three in Tokyo, namely, at Takanawa, at Takanawa Minami-machi, and at Azabu.

IMPERIAL GARDENS.

Two in Tokyo, namely, at Fukiage and at Shinjuku (the *Shokubutsu-yen*.)

The elections for members of the Local Assemblies seem to be attended with some disturbance. Fukushima Prefecture especially has been the scene of considerable friction, and eleven leading men have been arrested, including Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, a member of the Diet, the former President of the Prefectural Assembly, and

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the Mayor of the town. All these gentlemen are Progressists; Mr. Suzuki, indeed, is one of the Managers of the Progressist Party. Naturally people infer that Mr. Yamada, the Governor, is showing partiality to the Liberals. From Shizuoka also come reports that undue interference is being exercised by the Local Authorities on behalf of the Liberals and Imperialists. Shizuoka has been a source of complaint among the Progressists for some time. They claimed that the late Governor, Mr. Sato, showed unpardonable political bias in his dealings, and they appear to think that the present chief of police is little better. We must say that Progressists and Liberals alike seem blameworthy in this matter. They have never attempted to delimit the proper spheres of political interference. They began by making the Presidentship of the Lower House a Party post, and they are now doing their best to divide local politics on lines of party cleavage. Moreover, they both forced their candidates into the positions of Prefectural Governors. How, then, can they possibly expect that the consequences of this confusion will never make themselves apparent? It is futile to blame the Central Government for results which became inevitable from the moment when the chief offices in the provinces were placed on the list of party prizes.

The Japanese cruiser *Izumo* was launched on the 19th instant at Elswick. Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office in the Rosebery Cabinet, was present at the ceremony, and made a speech in which he spoke of Japan and England as being part and parcel of each other in the Far East. The Japanese probably understand by this time that oratory in Europe and America often soars into regions very far removed from sober facts.

Professor Tsuboi, of the Imperial University, has put together the ethnographical exhibit for the French Exhibition. It is said to constitute an excellent object lesson for any one desiring to study the primeval inhabitants of these islands, as well as the pre-historic colonists. The seismological exhibit consists entirely of instruments invented by Japanese, or, any rate, so greatly improved by them as to amount to new inventions. There have been 220 big earthquakes in Japan during historic times, and an infinite number of small ones. Seismology has plenty of materials to work with, but does not make immense progress.

The *Speaker*, alluding to the consummation of Treaty Revision, says:—"The Englishman in South America is tried by the courts of the Spanish republics, sometimes composed of a mixed race, with much less sense of fairness and respect for law than the Japanese. It was an anomaly that Guatemala and Nicaragua should be allowed to exercise full sovereignty while Japan was still hampered by the old treaties. . . . The diplomatist especially will be glad to be rid of powers which caused frequent friction, and will feel that a Japanese alliance will become more possible when extra-territoriality has been finally abolished. But the trader, being a blunt man of limited view, will ask what are the more immediate and practical advantages. . . . The Japanese are very easy to teach, very moderate in their wants, and clever at handicrafts. They have not the currency advantages which have given an artificial stimulus to the Shanghai mills; but labour is cheap and good, while the climate does not render European superintendence extravagantly dear. It may be that Englishmen will have a larger share in Japanese mills under Japanese rule than they have in the mills of Bombay under English law."

Professor Ladd, having completed his course of lectures before the Educational Society, commenced a second course at the Imperial University on the 25th instant, and will lecture there daily from 4 to 6 p.m. until the 7th of October, delivering ten lectures in all. The subjects are (1) Psychology as a Science; (2) Psychology as the Philosophy of Mind; (3) The Conception of Mind; (4) The Reality of the Mind; (5) Identity of the Mind; (6) The Unity of the Mind; (7) Relations of Body and Mind; (8) Relations of Body and Mind (continued); (9) Psychological Monism and Dualism; and (10) The Place of Man's Mind in Nature.

There is a good deal of complaint about the course pursued by the American Authorities in the Philippines in the recent arrest of Japanese subjects on suspicion of being engaged in supplying arms and ammunition to the insurgents. A Mr. Toyoka is particularly emphatic in his assertions. He declares that though provided with a passport from the Japanese Government and with all the requisite documents from the Japanese Consul in Manila, he was suddenly arrested when about to sail by the s.s. *Diamonte* (?); that he was not shown any warrant or told what was charged against him; that on inquiring about the charge, he received blows for answer; that his written appeal to his Consul was unaccountably delayed *en route*, and that, finally, he suffered three days' imprisonment without having committed any fault of any kind. It is necessary to hear the other side of this story before forming any definite opinion.

It appears that Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, M.P., whose arrest in Fukushima Prefecture in connexion with the elections for the Local Assembly is attracting much comment, was guilty of an offence against the law which forbids the entertaining of electors with food or wine—a harsh and injudicious law, we venture to think. It would be nearly as rational to enact that merchants must not have suburban villas for dining and wining persons whose custom or cöoperation they wish to secure. If an elector is ready to sell his vote for a mess of pottage, we should let him sell it. There is no need to create a fictitious value for the article by means of legislation.

Mr. Sone, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is reported to have met with an accident. While throwing a net in the sea at Enoshima, he over-balanced himself, and would have fallen from the boat had he not grasped the gunwale strongly. There happened to be a nail at the place he seized, and he tore his hand badly.

A petty officer of H.M.S. *Algerine* has has the honour of figuring in Tokyo newspapers. He is said to have entered a shop in Yokohama and purchased a Kagaware tea-pot, which he would have carried away without disbursing the price had not the shop-owner interfered. An altercation ensued, with the result that the petty officer and a companion "strewed the place" with the shop-keeper and with sundry fragments of porcelain. The two naval men then walked off composedly, but were subsequently arrested and conducted to the police station, where, however, they obtained their release on asking to be allowed to settle the matter privately, the shop-keeper consenting.

In the case of the *America Maru* the Court of Inquiry has decided that as the presence of gas in one of the bunkers was known before the vessel left Yokohama, the captain took an unwarrantable risk in putting to sea without having previously adopted measures to avert all danger of fire. His certificate was therefore suspended for three months, and the chief-engineer was reprimanded. An appeal has been lodged against this decision. The vessel left for San Francisco on Wednesday, shortly before noon.

It appears that the Mitsui family have gradually bought up the shares of the Tanko Railway Company until the number in their possession totals 60,000. The market value of these shares at present being 106 *yen* for old shares and 87 *yen* for new, the holding of the Mitsui represents 5,790,000 *yen*, supposing the shares to be one-half old and one-half new. It is evident that the millionaire firm contemplates obtaining the complete control of the Tanko concern, a most valuable property. The result would probably be a distinct gain, for under the Mitsui the organization and management of the enterprise would certainly be excellent. Nevertheless the *Mainichi*, which seems to have an instinctive dread of everything gigantic, writes about this contingency in a mysteriously alarmist strain.

Princess Hide, elder sister of Prince Kuji, was married on the 26th instant to Viscount Higashi-zono. Count and Countess Sasaki acted as *baishaku*, and the wedding was in strict accordance with old-time canons.

It is announced that from October 1st certain changes will be made in the colours of post-cards. Specimens of the new cards may be seen at any of the post-offices.

It is reported that the Philippine refugees now in Yokohama have been in collision with Japanese adventurers of Osaka, and that some scheme is on foot. We do not see what these people could effect, but the *Asahi* says that the police are on their tracks.

Several forgeries having of late been effected by falsifying the figures on cheques, the Yokohama Specie Bank applied to the *Kokubunsha* (printing office) in Tokyo, asking whether some method of printing could not be devised such as would defy the ink-eradicator used by the forgers. The *Kokubunsha* experts are said to have succeeded, after several experiments, in finding an ink completely safe against such frauds.

Rear-Admiral H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito has been appointed Vice-Admiral; and Captains Kamimura and Ijuin have been raised to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

Japan seems likely to have a very ample provision of tobacco this year. The fol-

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lowing figures are given by the *Shogyo Shimpo* :—

	1899.	1898	Difference.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Home Production...	102,229,500	69,541,666	+32,687,834
Imported Tobacco..	21,649,041	41,084,392	−19,435,351
	123,878,541	110,626,058	+13,282,483

The imports for the current year are for the first eight months only, but even if no tobacco comes from abroad during the last four months, it appears that the supply in the Japanese market will be 13¼ million lbs. greater than last year's supply, supposing the estimate of the season's yield to be correct. The fact is that the crop is expected to be 47 per cent. better than it was last year. The figures given in the table represent the quantities actually available for consumption. The exact figures are :—

Gross Production.....	113,588,333 lbs.
Loss in drying, &c., 10 per cent...	11,358,833 lbs.
Net Production.....	102,229,500 lbs.

The area under cultivation is 101,673 acres, so that the net production is about 1,000 lbs. per acre.

At 9 p.m. on the 26th instant, a small steamer, called the *Misho Maru, en route* for Misho-mura from Uwajima, ran aground while entering the former port, and became a wreck. Twenty-three passengers are supposed to have been lost.

It is alleged that the Korean Government, at the instigation of Russia, has ordered the Japanese to quit Ulneung Island. This island, which is situated in the neighbourhood of Fusan, abounds with excellent timber, and several Japanese have been residing there for years, doing a profitable business in lumber. The story is that Russia, desirous of getting possession of the island in order to use the timber for ship-building purposes, applied for a lease of it, promising to plant trees regularly in the place of those cut down. The Korean Government was willing to grant the lease, but Russia then pointed out that if the Japanese were allowed to fell timber indiscriminately, the island would soon become deforested, and urged that the only effective plan would be to grant to her, Russia, exclusive rights in the island for a term of years, requiring the Japanese to take their departure. In spite of remonstrances from Japan, Korea consented to adopt that course. The story sounds apocryphal, but we give it as it reaches us.

It is stated that the production of gold dust in Korea averages 1½ million *yen* annually. Hitherto this product has passed through the hands of Chinese merchants only on its way to the markets of the outer world, but the Japanese are now endeavouring, with some appearance of success, to obtain a share in the business. Since April two or three Japanese traders residing in Söul have managed, with the assistance of the First Bank, to purchase about three hundred thousand *yen* worth of the dust.

The *Asahi* publishes a statement that, owing to low water in the Nile this year, the cotton crop in Egypt is inferior, and purchasers for the Manchester market have been buying up the staple in large quantities. We do not find, however, that foreign authorities regard the outlook in the cotton trade with as much uneasiness as Japanese journalists suggest. *Bradstreet's*, in its issue of Sept. 2nd, has this paragraph about the visible supply of cotton :—"Following are the aggregate figures of the world's visible supply of cotton for the week ending last night, with comparisons, as compiled for the New Orleans Cotton Exchange by Mr. Henry G. Hester, secretary, to whom we are indebted for this compilation :—

	Week ending— Sept. 1, 1899.	Aug. 25, 1899.	Sept. 1 1898.	Same week. 1895.
America	1,972,945	2 003,963	1.434.477	769.561
Other kinds.	135,000	192,000	611,000	570.200
Totals	2,107,945	2,195,963	2,045,477	1,339,761

The total crop of the season just closed is given by Mr. Hester at 11,274,840 bales, against 11,199.994 bales in 1897-98 and 8,757,964 bales in 1896-97."

Prince Henry of Prussia can not be said to have been very fortunate in his Japanese experiences. His first visit to this country was marred by a very unpleasant incident, and now, just as his second visit approaches its termination, the *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes a letter from a Mr. Mochizuki which tells an unpleasant story. The Prince, after ascending Komagatake, is said to have passed the night at an inn called Yamaka. The party numbered thirty, and on arriving at the inn they asked what the charge would be. The landlord replied that it would be one *yen* per head, but the Prince peremptorily declared that such a charge was extortionate; that foreigners must not be required to pay more than Japanese, and 20 *yen* would be ample. The landlord bowed to that decision, comforted by the thought that, as his visitor was a Prince, there would be a handsome *chadai*. But the following morning the twenty *yen* only was handed to him—"thrown to him," is the expression used—and the Prince and his suite took their departure. Mr. Mochizuki says that the landlord counts it a bitter experience, for his mats were burned in several places by cigarette-stumps, and his verandahs showed the indelible marks of heavy boots. The *Mainichi* adds a note to the effect that Japanese inn-keepers must look out for themselves when foreigners lodge at their hostelries. It is to be hoped that the story will be emphatically contradicted. We do not believe it for a moment, but Japanese readers of the *Mainichi* will not be so sceptical.

It is no doubt true that Oriental countries generally succeed in purchasing vessels which have been cast off by European and American companies, the result being that the steamers employed on services in the East are greatly inferior to those plying in the West. The *Nichi Nichi* writes strongly on the subject. It notes that on the Hamburg-America line there are now plying only two steamers older than 1886, and that the fleet of the North German Lloyd includes only two such vessels. Since 1886 the former company has sold or broken up 32 steamers and procured 72 new ones, and the corresponding figures for the latter company are 26 and 52. Such records contrast unpleasantly with Japan's condition. The *Nichi Nichi* has not, apparently, made any calculations in Japan's case, but we have been sufficiently curious to do so, and we find that this country's steamship fleet comprises 176 vessels dating from years prior to 1886. Such veterans as the *Hokkaido* (1857), the *Niigata* (1855), the *Raiden Maru* (1850) and the *Takasago Maru* (1859) should have earned a rest by this time. The *Nichi Nichi* suggests that the Government should make some enactment on the subject, but we doubt whether that would not be premature. Japan must go slow. When conditions arise justifying a large expenditure on fine steamships, the vessels will be provided without any legislation on the subject.

The result of the elections for members of the Local Assemblies seems to have been very favourable for the Liberals up to the present time. The returns for the three Urban Prefectures and for thirty-four out of the forty-two Rural Prefectures are as follow :—

Liberals.....	617
Progressists	429
Imperialists	100
Independents	177

The Progressists are greatly in the minority as compared with the Liberals, and their position is still more deplorable *vis-à-vis* the Liberals and the Imperialists combined. But we are glad to see that they are not dead, nor even moribund.

The course of trade between Japan and the United States has always been a matter of much interest. Some years ago, Mr. Hubbard, the American Representative in Tokyo, remarked to Count Mutsu that the trade was decidedly one-sided, for, whereas the United States bought a great deal from Japan, the Japanese purchased very little from the States. Things have changed very materially, however, as the *Kokumin* justly remarks, and as the following figures show :—

	Exports from Japan to the United States.	Imports from the United States to Japan.
1879.....	10 million *yen*.	3 million *yen*.
1894.....	43 " "	10 " "
1898.....	47 " "	40 " "

Something very like equilibrium has now been reached, and, whereas Japanese imports from the States show a vigorous upward tendency, one of Japan's principal staples of export to the States, tea, seems to have entered the declining grade.

Siam, according to Tokyo journals, has decided to adopt the gold standard, and is disposed to take the Japanese system for model. She has asked Japan to supply her with a financial adviser, and Count Matsukata has received the request favourably.

It is stated that Viscount Aoki has made arrangements for the publication of Foreign Office Blue Books (*gaimu kōsho*) from next year. These are luxuries with which Japan has hitherto dispensed. Except the compilation submitted to the Diet after the war with China, there has been nothing of the kind. We wish that Viscount Aoki would add a French or English translation of the books.

Here is a paragraph of interest which we take from the London *Daily Mail* :—"The chairman of the Midland Railway Company was able yesterday (11th Aug.) to make the highly satisfactory announcement that the American engines which were purchased by that company do not compare at all well with British-made locomotives. As we have often had to draw attention to the inroads which the United States are making upon our trade, it affords us pleasure to give prominence

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to this evidence. This is probably the first occasion on which American engines have been fairly tested against British ones upon a high-class road, and the world, we hope, will note the result."

The question why political corruption is greater in the United States than in England has led to some discussion, from which we extract the following paragraph—appearing in the Toronto *Saturday Night* and quoted by the *Literary Digest*—because it has much interest for Japanese readers as well as for Anglo-Saxon :—

"The principal cause of political corruption is that, this being a new country, our governments have so much—belonging to the public, of course—to give away in exchange for political influence, such as land, mines, railway franchises, contracts for public works, etc. In England there is nothing of the kind going. The land and all pertaining to it went centuries ago to the political heeler of the period, who was generally a lord or a baron, who, instead of rallying the voters or throwing the influence of a big corporation into the scale, took the field with his vassals and dependents whenever the opposition made itself troublesome. If the opposition succeeded he became a traitor and lost his head, but if the government was sustained his loyalty gave him a pull when it came to division of the spoils. Possibly he may have been corrupt and the system open to criticism; be that as it may, the descendants of those who grabbed about all there was worth grabbing in England—and who hold much of it yet—are the British aristocracy who set the pace and give English politics the tone of honour and integrity we so much admire. The point is that in an old and finished country, all the stealing in the way of distribution of natural opportunities and special privileges has been done, and one great source of political scandal removed. Again, there is nothing in British politics in the way of any sort of personal advantage for the mass of workers. The high offices are the special perquisites of a class and go by social rather than political favour; the smaller ones, which the scions of the aristocracy and the plutocracy don't want, are filled according to civil service rules. Here there is nobody so poor, so ignorant, or so uninfluential that he may not hope, by identifying himself with a political party and diligently hustling, or pretending to hustle, at election times, to get something, if it is only a temporary job as messenger or the chance to rent his house for a polling-booth. In England the great mass of the people know that they have nothing to expect from any party, however hard they work for it. Things are on altogether a different basis, simply because the country is older. The ruling classes had ancestors who did all the stealing necessary to enable them to live in comfort and respectability. In this new, only partially exploited land, those who want to rise to wealth and eminence have to take a hand in the grab game themselves. English institutions, purity of elections, and civil service examinations that are other than a farce, will come in all right when there is nothing left to steal."

It will be observed that this does not account for the comparative absence of political corruption in Canada, Australia, British India, and so on. The explanation of the writer in the *Saturday Night* can not possibly apply to them.

The worship of the dead seems likely to find vogue in some Christian communities. An extract from a sermon on "Spirit Communion," delivered by Dr. Parker at the City Temple, London, is unequivocal :—

A friend came to me on Thursday morning broken-hearted, and said concerning his last ascended one: "I feel as if I must pray to her." Said I, "Why not? I pray to mine every day." I never come to the work without asking her to come with me, and help me in the strength of God's grace to do it. And she does come. I would not have any cruel knife cutting the filaments that bind the world and the separated lives of time and space. This is only the body-world, the flesh-world, the unreal world; it is the other world that is real. I never come to this place without her coming with me. Why should not you pray to your dear one? I always say to mine: "If you are permitted to come close to us while we are yet in the body, just bring some sweet flower, some message that may be whispered to the soul; I shall know it, have no fear of that; come!" I do not recognize the atheism of cutting the life to pieces. I continue everything my wife did; her weekly offerings are paid every Sunday morning and every Sunday evening, and all her subscriptions, and all the old people that hung upon her in her visible lifetime are recognized and remembered. I could not consent to have the house pulled to pieces in this ruthless way, everying being taken down, cut up, abolished, and the whole absolutely obliterated and forgotten. That cannot be the meaning of the Divine love. So I encouraged my friend to pray to his wife, and to pray to God to ask her to come to his help. She will be more to him than twelve legions of unknown angels.

The Formosa Railway Company having handed over all its possessions to the Governor-General's office, has received in return a sum of 290,000 *yen*, which will doubtless be divided among the shareholders, the affairs of the Company being then finally wound up.

On preparing its budget for next year the Tokyo Municipality finds, according to rumour, that its expenditure will be 200,000 *yen* greater than last year's figure; but as the present taxes do not provide any corresponding increase of income, it is not improbable that some new form of business tax will be devised.

A despatch from Mr. Shimizu, Japanese Consul at Vancouver, dated Sept. 4th, says that the Northern Pacific S. S. Company's vessels *Victoria, Tacoma* and *Glenogle* have been chartered by the United States Government for the transport of troops and munitions of war to the Philippines. The *Victoria* and the *Tacoma* have already been placed at the Government's disposal, and the *Glenogle*, which entered Tacoma harbour at the beginning of the month, will take up her new duties as soon as she has discharged her cargo. That means, we presume, that the Northern Pacific service will be temporarily suspended.

THE N.Y.K. SUBSIDY.

Next year concludes the period for which the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's annual subsidy of 880,000 *yen* was originally granted, and there is a good deal of talk about the course that should be pursued hereafter in the matter. No one seems to doubt the propriety or necessity of continuing the subsidy in some form or other, but an impression is evidently gaining ground that, instead of paying a lump sum, the Treasury should grant an allowance for each of the Company's services. A lump sum, representing a percentage of the Company's capital, is an unintelligent kind of allowance. It may be too much or it may be too little. Such a subsidy, the *Jiji Shimpo* thinks, would never have been granted under ordinary circumstances. But the circumstances, under which the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was organized were not at all ordinary, and the Government had practically no course except that of a payment based on the capital of the two companies which were combined to form the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. It is presumed that the opportunity will now be taken to make a more rational arrangement, whether the result be favourable or unfavourable to the Company.

One point in connexion with this subsidy does not appear to have attracted any attention. It is the difference between the gold value of the subsidy now and its value in 1885, when the Treasury fixed the amount. The difference is very large, fully fifty per cent., and it is represented, partially at any rate, by a general appreciation of the prices of the commodities required for carrying on the Company's services.

THE MILLER MURDER.

Miller has confessed his crime. He says that after killing with a hammer the man who had assaulted him in the bar of the Rising Sun saloon, he dropped the hammer, and Suye, laying down the lamp she was carrying, took up the hammer and made for the door. Imagining that she was going to give information, he intercepted her, and sent her and the maid-servant upstairs, bidding them go to bed. He then locked the door, and helped himself to whiskey. While he was drinking, the two women came down again and tried to get in, but finding the door locked, retired once more up-stairs. Presently Miller himself would have gone upstairs, but the maid-servant prevented him, and tried to push him down. He then struck her on the head with a screw-wrench that he had in his hand. The woman fell, and Suye, whom he had no intention of injuring, began to scream, calling him a murderer and crying for the police. He saw that there was nothing for it but to kill her, and he did so with the screw wrench. He then took off his shirt, wrapped the wrench in it, and putting the bundle under his coat, went in the direction of the Grand Hotel, where he threw the wrench into the creek, and disposed of his shirt in the same way, having first trampled it in the mud. After that he lost consciousness, and when he recovered his senses the day had dawned, and people were beginning to pass to and fro. He therefore hastened to the Hatoba, with the hope of escaping in a boat, but the Customs Officials being already at their posts, he had to abandon that idea. Proceeding to Curtis' saloon, he made a change of clothes, his idea being to fly at once, but sleep over-came him, and when he awoke the police had come to arrest him.

The prisoner Miller was brought to Yokohama early on Thursday morning, guarded by a strong police escort. Judge Takigawa, Procurator Hiranuma, Mr. Kitanaga, Clerk of the Court, and Mr. Kobayashi Beika, the interpreter, travelled from Tokyo by a later train, and visited the scene of the murder. Prisoner was then asked to show where he went after leaving the saloon on the morning of the crime. He led the party to the creek, and pointed out the spot near which he threw his clothes into the creek. He said he trampled them in the mud and tore them up, so as to hide the evidences of the crime, and then walked further up the creek-side carrying the monkey wrench used in the murder. He remarked that he intended to employ this weapon again if a policeman or other person had attempted to interfere with him. There was an enormous crowd gathered along the creek-side all the morning and part of the afternoon, and the operation of dragging for the wrench and clothes were watched with keen interest by the Japanese, who elbowed each other to obtain a glimpse of the prisoner. The articles sought after were eventually recovered.

A somewhat grimesome story is told of a Jewish shopkeeper, named Samuel Levenson, living in Brooklyn. A member of a German benevolent society, he was entitled to a $200 interment at death. Recently, however, he lost one of his legs and the whim took him to foreclose his rights to the extent of the cost of burying the deceased limb. He compelled the society, therefore, to grant his leg a child's funeral, costing $50. The limb was accordingly embalmed and placed in a child's coffin, and the usual burial rites were performed at the cemetery, where, moreover, a numerous and sympathetic throng of mourners were in attendance.

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THE YOKOHAMA WATER WORKS.

WHEN the Yokohama water works were planned, the engineer-in-chief, the late Major-General PALMER, was instructed to base his calculation on a maximum population of seventy thousand people. Thus instructed he drew up his project. It provided for a supply of two million gallons of water daily, allowed 18 gallons per head for ordinary purposes, and the remainder for waste and other contigencies. But the population has grown beyond all expectation. It now numbers nearly two hundred thousand, and the supply of water is, of course, totally inadequate. A disastrous illustration of the fact was furnished on the occasion of the recent fire. The water had to be shut off at Noge hill, in order to keep a supply for the following day, and thus, though the pipes ran right through the burning district and hydrants were everywhere available, the result was even worse than it would have been without any water-works, for no other means of extinction had been provided. The necessity of remedying this state of affairs was recognised some time ago, and, the necessary plans and specifications having been prepared, the permission and assistance of the Central Government were sought. The scheme of expansion involved an outlay of 3,150,000 *yen*, and of that total the Government, with the Diet's consent, agreed to contribute 1,050,000 *yen*, the Yokohama municipality being empowered to raise the rest in the form of a six-per-cent. loan. No time was lost. The first instalment — 400,000 *yen* — was floated last year, and the second instalment, a like amount, is now to be offered to the public. It is expected that the works will be completed by the year 1901, the whole construction period being three years. We may call attention *en passant* to the difference between Yokohama and Tokyo in point of celerity. The Tokyo works were begun seven years ago, and the talk now is that they will be finished in three or four years more! Newspaper apologists plead that already the most important quarters of the city are supplied. That is true, in a sense. They do receive water, but it is unfiltered. What has been done is simply to substitute iron pipes for the old wooden ones. Lack of sand, or of some other essential, renders the filter-beds unserviceable. It is a temporary difficulty, of course, but in the meanwhile the people are drinking impure water—now actually muddy after the recent rains—in the happy conviction that it is all right, being from the water-works. So far is it from being all right that whereas rice boiled with the water in Yokohama is quite fresh 24 hours afterwards, rice boiled with the Tokyo water becomes sour within the day. A microscope is not needed to detect the difference in the number of bacteria. The Tokyo experts made themselves supremely ridiculous with their inspectors of pipes, their callipers, their mirrors, their various and sundry tests. They treated these big iron castings as a dilettante would treat cloisonné enamel or fine lacquer. And after all they enjoy the distinction of being the only engineers in Japan who laid defective pipes. We have never heard that the Yokohama engineers indulged in such foibles. They know what is practically necessary in a pipe and they get it. The Yokohama Municipality, too, has the sense to give full power to competent men. Months are not wasted in controversies among barristers, journalists, and professional orators who know nothing whatever about water works, however skilled they may be in parliamentary tactics and rhetorical devices. So, while Tokyo is likely to have a construction period of ten or eleven years, Yokohama will enjoy an ample supply of pure water the year after next. According to the present plan, the quantity arriving at Noge each day will be 6,400,000 gallons instead of the present two millions. There will then be no shutting off water from hydrants during a fire. The Bluff also is to be supplied. By making an intermediary reservoir at Kawai, an additional head of 160 feet can be obtained, which will be ample to drive a fine stream of water round the whole of the Bluff. A separate main will be laid for this purpose from Kawai, but the return-water from the Bluff will pass to the Yamashta pipes so as to prevent any waste. These details have special interest in connexion with the issue of the second instalment of the loan. It is to be offered to the public at 98, and as the bonds can be registered by foreigners—that is to say, can bear the name of the foreign holder—, they ought to find many purchasers among the community, the security being unimpeachable. We may add that in the matter of water-rates, at any rate, something is gained by passing under Japanese jurisdiction, for instead of having to pay on the basis of house-rent, as has hitherto been the rule for foreigners, the system in force among the Japanese will now be universally applied, to the very considerable advantage of the foreigner's pocket.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY AND THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE Imperial University sends three exhibits to Paris. One is a new kind of seismograph; another, a collection of anthropological relics; and the third, a series of models representing the four great stages of Japanese architecture. The last exhibit will have much interest for the public. The models show the style, first of the Suiko era, secondly of the Fujiwara era, thirdly of the Momoyama era, and fourthly of the Tokugawa era. Japanese civilization received its first radical Chinese modifications during the reign of the Empress SUIKO (595-628). The architecture that came into vogue from that time is well shown in the celebrated *Kondo* (golden chancel) of the temple Horiu-ji in Yamato, founded 1300 years ago by SHOTOKU TAISHI and renovated in the *Genroku* era (1688-1704). This really fine building is specially remarkable for the cloud designs carved on the ends of its beams, for its *svastika*-decorated railings, and for the essentially Grecian entasis of its columns. The University model—and this remark applies to all four specimens—is constructed exactly to scale, and is true in every detail, even the celebrated mural decoration said to have been executed by the priest DONCHO being shown. The Fujiwara epoch, which dates from the removal of the capital to Kyoto in the eighth century to the Gem-pei wars in the twelvth, is represented by the Phœnix Hall (*Howo-do*) of the Byodo-in in Yamashiro Province, which was founded in the year 1051, when GO-REIZEI sat on the Throne and FUJIWARA-NO-YORIMICHI administered the empire. The name *Howo-do* is derived from the fact that the general plan of the building has the shape of a phœnix with outstretched wings. The ceiling is coffered, and the coffers have distemper colouring with mother-of-pearl inlaying. The walls and doors are elaborately painted with religious subjects, and the altar is of aventurine lacquer inlaid with mother-of-pearl. This building is already known to the Western public, as a model of it on a large scale was sent to the Chicago Exhibition and left there permanently in the Art Museum. It is a noble example of interior decoration, and when we remember that it was built in Japan fifteen years before the Norman invasion of England, we begin to realize the plane upon which the civilization of Japan stood in old times. The Momoyama epoch is called after the palace built by HIDEYOSHI on Momoyama near Fushimi, the grandest private edifice ever erected in Japan. HIDEYOSHI assigned it as a residence to his adopted son and heir apparent, HIDETSUGU, but after the latter's treason and enforced suicide in the monastery of Koya, the *Taiko* caused the splendid building to be pulled down. One portion of it alone remains intact to this day: it is the Pavilian of the Flying Clouds (*Hiunkaku*). HIDEYOSHI gave it to the Priests of the Western Hongwan Temple in Kyoto, and they caused it to be removed thither at the close of the sixteenth century. Probably many of our readers have seen this most artistic structure, with its exquisite decorative pictures by the Kano masters of the time. The architecture of the Tokugawa era is well illustrated by a model of the Nijo-no-Rikiu, built by IYEVASU in 1601, and used by the sucessive Tokugawa Shoguns as a palace during their occasional visits to Kyoto. This noble

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edifice combines the massive features of the mediæval feudal castles of Japan with all the grace and grandeur of her best decorative period. It is undoubtedly one of the finest of Japan's heir-looms, for it shows her decorative art at a time when loftiness and breadth of conception had not begun to be vitiated by the excessive elaboration of later times. We trust that the Imperial University will accompany this well-conceived exhibit with a full explanation enabling foreigners to appreciate the progressive civilization shown by the four models. It is certain that the refined and thoroughly artistic Parisians will be charmed with these models.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

As stated in a former Summary, Marquis Itō's recent speeches have been collected and published in book form. They constitute a pleasing contrast to the political claptrap reported at such tedious length by certain newspapers. In a concise and clear manner they describe the political, commercial and industrial situation of Japan to-day, draw attention to her weak points and suggest methods of strengthening them. The speeches are characterised by great sobriety, combined with cheerfulness of tone. They are candid to a degree seldom reached by political orators, most of whom are conscious that the interests of their party forbid anything like plain speaking on certain subjects. A few months ago we gave a short sketch of Marquis Ito's views on the Japanese Constitution and the way it is to be interpreted. The speeches from which the material for our summary was then culled formed Vol I. of the Marquis' Collected Speeches. Vols. II. and III. have since been published. The former of these, consisting of 14 speeches, delivered at various places, is on political parties in Japan and their reform. Many are the evils of party politics touched upon by Marquis Itō. We have only space here for a few of the more glaring. It is most undesirable, says the Marquis, that party questions which concern the central government only should be allowed to divide members of local assemblies and interfere with their administration of local affairs. This during the past few years has constantly occurred, and has been encouraged by members of the Diet, many of whom take delight in seting municipal officers and councillors at loggerheads with each other on party questions. More than this, in the election of local office-holders, political parties interest themselves so as to secure if possible the choice of men who will support their views. Local government to be successful should only concern itself with local questions, and should be carried on calmly and in a business-like manner. This is impossible when partisans attached to rival parties make use of local assemblies as arenas for party conflict.

It is not too much to say that the chief object of constitutional government is not realised in Japan to-day owing to the wild action of political parties. The idea in giving power to the people was to prevent friction between the ruler and the ruled, to insure harmonious action between the Sovereign and his subjects. But as things now are, strife, confusion, and unrest are the fruits that the new system has borne. Government was more easily administered under the old régime.

There is not the slightest doubt that we in the Far East are passing through a crisis and that there is a call for united counsel and united action in this country. His Majesty the Emperor has already expressed great anxiety as to the future results of the political strife and petty animosities that are so prevalent among us. One of our greatest troubles is the general ignorance of the real state of the world's affairs among the people and the consequent idle theorising as to what should or should not be done. This ignorance is specially manifest when foreign affairs are being discussed. . . . . The organisation of political parties in this country is quite wrong. In the first place personal prestige, personal likes and dislikes figure too much and agreement as to principles of government too little. Then parties do not place sufficient confidence in their leaders and do not allow them free action. No political leader in England would consent to be dictated to by his followers as to the course he should take in any given situation. He is chosen as a leader because his party has confidence in his judgment, and this he knows, and brooks no interference. But in Japan no party-leader is left free to act as he pleases in State affairs. Hence it is there is no stability anywhere and nobody leads a party successfully for any length of time. As for our having party-cabinets, as yet there are no signs of it. I cannot say that I hope for such cabinets, but I do not, on the other hand, stand in the way of such Cabinets (*Seitō naikaku wo kitō suru koto de mo naku, mata samatage mo shinai*). As to the teaching of the Constitution in reference to the creation of party-cabinets, I have my own special views, but at present it is quite unreasonable to look for the appearance of any such organisation. There is nothing in the constitution of existing parties that warrants our expecting such an issue. But if there are parties that aspire to this end, let them prepare themselves for it by showing more sense of responsibility in the grave affairs of State than they have hitherto done. One thing it is important to note is, that in all countries where party government exists, no sooner does a party get into power than it places the affairs of State before party interests and party triumphs. When the interests of the party and the interests of the State clash, the former has to give way. On this condition alone are parties allowed to hold the reins of Government in constitutionally governed countries.

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In the *Shakai Zasshi*, Dr. Katō Hiroyuki discusses at some length the position of the *shizoku* in the past and their present circumstances. The term *shizoku*, says Dr. Katō, dates from the beginning of the *Meiji* era. Prior to that, *buke* was the title applied to the military class which fought under the various *daimyō*. It has been customary to regard the ancient *samurai* as traitors to the State because they aided usurpers, but in reality they were the backbone of the nation, and had it not been for them Japan could not have maintained herindependence. As regards the terms which have been applied to this class, they have changed from time to time. In the Ashikaga day there were *Daimyō* (大名) and *Shōmyō* (小名). Those who served them and fought for them were called *ie no ko*, *rōdō* (郎黨), or *gokenin*. In the Tokugawa era these titles were replaced by (陪臣) *baishin*, and *samurai*. As regards the part that the military caste played in former times, they doubtless treated other classes with contempt, but at the same time they were promoters of a refinement of life and manners unknown to the traders and artisans of that age. Long before the *Meiji* era the *daimyō* were nobodies compared to their retainers. The affairs of every *han* were settled by the leading retainers and the *daimyō* were mere puppets. When the progress of events demanded that the whole feudal system should be abolished and that the great barons should hand over their possessions to the central Government and retire into private life on such allowances as should be given them, it was the *samurai* who had to be consulted as to whether this should take place or not. It was they who held the real power, and to them belongs the credit of having patriotically yielded to the exigencies of the situation. Two considerations influenced them. (1) They perceived that their duty to the Emperor required that they should put down all usurpers and restore to him the power to which he had a right. (2) The defence of the country against foreign foes demanded the centralisation of government. This voluntary surrender of arms, property and rights by the whole of the *samurai* of Japan is an event unparallelled in history, and it is true to say could only happen in a country like Japan, where the sentiment of loyalty to the throne and devotion to State interests are quite exceptional. What the sacrifice was to cost the *samurai* they perhaps hardly realised at the time. The allowances granted them in return for the incomes they had received under the old régime were totally inadequate.* They have had in recent times to eke out a living by following all manner of humble callings. It is noticeable that with the exception of those from Kyūshū the members of the diet are almost all *heimin* (plebeians), the inference being that most of the *samurai* do not possess sufficient property to qualify for election. In every walk of life the *shizoku* is being outdone by the plebeian. Through no faults of his own has he become the child of misfortune. He has been sacrificed to the spirit of the age, and one cannot but shed a tear of pity over his fate. It is not a case of the fittest surviving, for what could be finer than the old type of *samurai*. It is all the result of sudden and violent changes which have remodelled every phase of Japanese life. There can be no recurrence to the old state of things. But the historian will never underrate the part played by the *shizoku* in the development of the nation, concludes Dr. Katō.

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In commenting on the recent orders and instructions of the Mombushō in reference to private schools, the *Tenchijin* (No. 21), points out that there is still among the masses of the people a very large amount of anti-foreign sentiment. What

* The *daimyō*, Dr. Kato says, received in government stock one-tenth of the assessed value of these estates, which in may cases amounted to very large sums. But the *samurai* was not treated so liberally.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

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surprises the *Tenchijin* is the support given to this feeling by an important Department of State. It is very difficult to reconcile the action of the Mombushō with the words made use of in the Imperial Recript, says this organ. It is the wish of His Majesty "that subjects and strangers alike may enjoy equal privileges and advantages, and that, every source of dissatisfaction being avoided, relations of peace and amity with all nations may be strengthened and consolidated in perpetuity." Is not the crusade against Mission Schools in direct opposition to the Imperial will? asks the *Tenchijin*.

* * *

In No. 20 of the *Taiyō* Mr. Ukita Kazutami discusses at great length the position occupied by Dr. Katō Hiroyuki in the intellectual life of Japan to-day. Mr. Ukita has evidently studied the writings of Dr. Katō with no little care, and the conclusions he has reached are of considerable interest. Very briefly stated they are as follows:—Among the preachers of the gospel of western civilization in Japan, Mr. Fukuzawa undoubtedly stands first. But his work is well nigh over. We connect him with the past rather than with the present. In Dr. Katō we have a man whose mind is still active, whose pen is in constant use. For gathering up in pregnant sentences the common sense of the world, for thorough acquaintance with prevailing sentiment on all subjects, for the enunciation of views that seem at first to be extreme but afterwards turn out to be moderate, Mr. Fukuzawa has no equal. But in Dr. Katō we have a man of wider reading and deeper thought, a man who, when once he has premises, will draw from them all the conclusions that an ingenious mind can suggest. He is universally respected in the learned world and his opinions exercise a wide influence over his fellow-countrymen. Dr. Katō's gospel is evolution, natural selection—the survival of the fittest. All his books, magazine writing, and speeches have had as their object the elucidation of these subjects. Dr. Katō differs from so many other writers on the same topics in earnestness of tone and in possessing a strong desire to establish connections between the various parts of a complicated system and show the relation of divers principles to each other. He is such an enthusiastic monist that were it possible he would, with Heraclitus, resolve all matter and all mind into the one element of fire. There is one topic, however, connected with the evolution of material things which he has not as yet made clear; that is, the manner in which the law of the survival of the fittest works in inanimate creation.

It was 17 years ago that Dr. Katō first began to apply the doctrine of evolution to Japanese political and social life, when there appeared his well-known work, the *Jinken Shinsetsu* (A New Theory on Man's Rights). At first Dr. Katō was a believer in the doctrine of divine or natural rights, as were most writers in Europe during the first half of the present century. But later he saw that this notion could no longer be entertained by the consistent evolutionist. . . . . The *Jinken Shinsetsu* marked an era in the development of public opinion in Japan on the subject of popular rights. In many respects the circumstances under which it was published resembled those that led Hobbes to give to the world his *Leviathan*. Dr. Katō began to fear the effects of the doctrine of the equal rights of man which he and other writers had so loudly proclaimed. He feared that revolution would be the result of the pushing of this theory to its logical issue, and he regards revolutions as essentially involving breaches of moral law and fraught with infinite harm. The *Jinken Shinsetsu*, about whose publication there have been so many rumours hinting at official suggestion, cannot be regarded as other than a compromise. There are those who assert that it is a surrender of the citadel hitherto stoutly defended by Dr. Katō. But in reality the object of the author was to guard the doctrine of popular rights from the abuses to which it might be put. The book contains a large amount of valuable information and not a few chapters that are full of suggestive thought. Some of Dr. Katō's "generalisations show how closely he has studied human nature. "Despotism," he says, "is a characteristic that clings to all forms of government. If there is no despotism there is no government. In England and America the majority are despotic and oppress the minority." The publication of the *Jinken Shinsetsu* called forth a storm of opposition from the stalwart advocates of popular rights. . . . In my opinion, says Mr. Ukita, Dr. Katō's apprehensions about the evil effect of revolutions and his refusal to allow the evolution of ideas to go on to their logical limits constitute a weak point in his system and are entirely out of harmony with his position as a moralist. In ethics he rejects intuitionalism and proclaims himself an experientialist and a utilitarian. According to the theory which Dr. Katō has adopted in ethics, evolution should be allowed a free hand and development should have no checks. But when we turn to the application of Dr. Katō's philosophy to politics, we find him falling back on the doctrine that there are limits to be placed on free natural development, that there are notions which may be pronounced inherent that we cannot afford to ignore. Is not this a species of intuitionalism? Is there not a discrepancy between Dr. Katō's views as a moralist and his views as a philosoplier? asks Mr. Ukita.

* * *

The *Rikugō Zasshi* (No. 487) writes in terms of disapproval of the speech, delivered in London before the Japan Society, by Prince Konoe, the President of the House of Peers. The tone of the speech was too humble to please the *Rikugō Zasshi*. Before foreigners, says this organ, it is undesirable for Japanese to speak in self-depreciatory terms. Foreigners are apt to rate us at our own estimate. The language used might be suitable in other places and on other occasions, but uttered in the greatest city of the world by a leading representative of the Japanese people, it was certainly calculated to convey a wrong impression. Prince Konoye is by no means the only transgressor in this matter, continues the *Rikugō*. Many of our leading men who, when in their own country surrounded by their own nationals have been quite anti-foreign, when brought into contact in Europe or America with the wealth and pomp of western civilisation, have undergone a transformation. The lion has suddenly become a lamb in the presence of what is deemed superior force. Some of these men become bold again after their return from the west and assume an anti-foreign attitude. Prince Konoe is certainly not one of these, but we shall watch with some interest, says the *Rikugō*, the course that the Prince takes in public affairs connected with foreigners.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* is of the same opinion in reference to the speech. It is to be regretted, says this organ, that more forethought was not given to the address. Delivered in Japan as an incentive to increased effort, it would have answered well, but *vis-à-vis* the subjects of other countries the tone adopted must be one of equality. The speech was certainly undiplomatic.

This is not the place for discussing the subject, but we think there is an enormous deal to be said in favour of the tone of Prince Konoe's speech, and the London newspaper comments certainly showed that the impression it created in England was quite the opposite to that apprehended by the two journals quoted above.

* * *

In No. 195 of the *Eiseikai Zasshi*, Dr. Kanasugi Eigorō publishes the results of an investigation he has made concerning the effects of consanguineous marriages in Japan. Among 226 deaf and dumb patients in the Mō-a Gakkō(Bind and Mute School) there were 50 born in consanguineous wedlock. The relationship of the parents was as follows:—Uncles and nieces, 2 cases; first cousins, 33 cases. second cousins, 13 cases; more distantly related cases, 2; Further investigation of 184 deaf and dumb cases at the Tokyō Ji-bi-in-kō-ka Byō-in (Hospital for Nose, Ear, and Throat Complaints) showed that the parents of 35 were related to each other by blood. There were 3 uncles and nieces, 24 first-cousins, 4 second-cousins and 4 more distantly related cases. A man called Nakagawa, it is stated by Dr. Kanasugi, married his niece, and despite the fact that their ages were suited to each other, out of four children born of the union 3 were deaf and dumb. In another case cited by Dr. Kanasugi the result of an intermarriage between a man and his niece was one child with hopelessly defective eyesight, one deaf and dumb, and a third that was an idiot. Dr. Kanasugi originally contributed the statistics, given in an epitomised form in the *Eisei-Kai Zasshi*, to the Hōgaku-Kenkyū-Kai connected with the Imperial University. * * *

Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi's sixty-second birthday is next year to be celebrated by the publication of a book called *Seizen* Sensei roku jū nen Shi* (A History of Sixty Years of Mr. Shibusawa's Life), which has been already compiled and is for sale at 1 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy. It consists of 2 vols., covering some 2,000 pages, and gives an account of the development of commerce and industry in Japan during the *Meiji* era, and is full of information on Japanese finance, the share market, and kindred subjects.

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The *Tetsugaku Zasshi* comments on the arrival from Europe of Mr. Tokiwai Tsurumatsu, who for the past fourteen years has been studying Sanscrit and other subjects in various parts of Europe. There are now in Japan in Bud-

* Mr. Shibusawa's *nom de plume*.

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dhist ranks three very eminent Sanscrit scholars, Doctors Nanjō and Takakusu being the two others. It is to be expected, says the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, that new light will be thrown on Hindu philosophy and on Japanese Buddhism by the labours of these highly trained specialists.

* * *

In a very large number of schools throughout the country special instructions have been given to the pupils as to their behaviour towards foreigners. From various sources we have culled the following orders bearing on special points, which we state as briefly as possible (1) Never call after foreigners passing along the streets or roads. (2) When foreigners make inquiries, answer them politely. If unable to make them understand, inform the police of the fact. (3) Never accept a present from a foreigner when there is no reason for his giving it, and never charge him anything above what is proper. (4) Do not crowd around a shop when a foreigner is making purchases, thereby causing him much annoyance. The continuance of this practice disgraces us as a nation. (5) Since all human beings are brothers and sisters, there is no reason for fearing foreigners. Treat them as equals and act uprightly in all your dealings with them. Be neither servile nor arrogant. (6) Beware of combining against the foreigner and disliking him because he is a foreigner; men are to be judged by their conduct and not by their nationality. (7) As intercourse with foreigners becomes closer and extends over a series of years, there is danger that many Japanese may become enamoured of their ways and customs and forsake the good old customs of their forefathers. Against this danger you must be on your guard. (8) Taking off the hat is the proper way to salute a foreigner. The bending of the body low is not to be commended. (9) When you see a foreigner be sure and cover up naked parts of the body. (10) Hold in high regard the worship of ancestors and treat your relations with warm cordiality, but do not regard a person as your enemy because he or she is a Christian. (11) In going through the world you will often find a knowledge of a foreign tongue absolutely essential. (12) Beware of selling your souls to foreigners and becoming their slaves. Sell them no houses or lands. (13) Aim at not being beaten in your competition with foreigners. Remember that loyalty and filial piety are our most precious national treasures and do nothing to violate them.

Many of the above rules are excellent in tone No. 7, however, which hails from Osaka, is somewhat narrow and prejudiced. The injunction not to sell houses to foreigners is, as the *Jiji Shimpō* points out, absurd and mischievous.

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Under the title of *Hayashi Kōshi no Sekijitsu-dan* (Reminiscences of Minister Hayashi), the *Gwaikō Jihō* gives some interesting particulars bearing on the revision of the treaties, which show that, prior to the fruitless attempts to induce the Powers to act in concert, the Japanese Government had made various efforts to get them to act separately. This is what Baron Hayashi has to say on the subject:—A year before Iwakura visited America, Mr. Mori Arinori, who was Minister at Washington, had ascertained by inquiry that if approached in a proper manner the American Government would readily give its consent to the revision of their treaty with Japan. Iwakura hearing this determined to make the attempt. The Chief Secretary of State was approached and he gave every encouragement to the scheme, but said that in order to effect it Japan would need to be represented by a Minister endowed with special powers. Mr. (now Marquis) Itō was despatched to Japan to obtain the necessary credentials. When it became known in Japan that America was in the mood to respond to the nation's demand, it was argued that it would be advisable to approach other great Powers and if possible get them to act in the same manner. Iwakura was entrusted with this mission. Prior to his arrival in Europe, the various Governments had taken steps to find out how far Japan was prepared for the proposed change. The German Minister in Tōkyō at the time was desirous of making a name by carrying through the German Treaty Revision negotiations himself, and hence he regarded with great disfavour the plan adopted by the Japanese Government, namely the transference of negotiations to Europe and America, and took steps to throw cold water on the scheme. He went to America and in an interview with Iwakura argued that the existence of the favoured nation clause in each of the existing Treaties would prevent the Japanese Government from reaping any benefit from a new treaty made with any single Power; as any privileges granted to such a Power, would be claimed by other Powers as their right under the existing treaties. Hence what would happen would be demands by each new Power for privileges not granted to other Powers, as an incentive to revision. So by the time Japan had finished with the 17 Powers she would have more than exhausted all the concessions she was desirous of making. Nothing could be better for western powers and nothing worse for Japan than the adoption of this method, contended the German Minister. He went on to recommend the calling of a meeting of representatives of the various Powers in Tōkyō and the submission of proposals for revision to this assembly. Alarmed by this argument, after consultation with his colleagues, Iwakura decided to give up the attempt at separate negotiation with each Power. But the Japanese Government found itself in a rather dilicate situation as regards America, Japan having taken the initiative in bringing forward the plan and asking America's consent to its being carried out. To Mr. Itō was entrusted the task of smoothing over the difficulty, and he did so by informing the American Government that it had been decided to ask the Powers to consent to send representatives to a Conference to be held in Paris, for the purpose of discussing the proposals of the Japanese Government *re* Treaty Revision. The American Secretary of State to whom this communication was made observed that the new scheme was bound to end in failure, which proved to be the case.

Baron Hayashi was a member of Iwakura's suite at the time, and as Dr. Ariga remarks, took a keen interest in each of the diplomatic episodes which he describes. This chapter in the history of treaty negotiations is not known to the general public, says the *Gwaikō jihō*.

FAREWELL to Mr. & Mrs. A. C. READ.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

The amateur theatrical entertainment at the Public Hall on Tuesday night was an occasion of mingled pleasure and regret—pleasure in that the performance was most clever and enjoyable and served to show that the community has at least two recruits of considerable histrionic ability, and regret because it was the last appearance on the boards they have so worthily adorned of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Reed, who have done so much during the past many years to amuse and charm the theatre-lovers of Yokohama. As might have been anticipated, the Public Hall was filled to overflowing, and the audience was as enthusiastic as it was numerous. The alterations which have been carried on during the last few weeks allow of a considerable addition to the seating accommodation, but even with this there was little room to spare. The Public Hall, by the way, has been greatly improved by the work that has been undertaken, although the Directors have not considered it advisable to embark on any radical scheme of alteration. The chief feature is the provision of a gallery, which will seat from 100 to 120 people. It is placed at a considerable height from the floor, and does not in any way interfere with the view of those sitting in the body of the hall. By an ingenious arrangement there are no pillars supporting the gallery from the floor; it rests partly on the wall of the main building, and is sustained also by iron supports attached to the roof. Some attempt has been made, by the construction of a new auditorium, to improve the acoustic qualities of the hall, and, though they are still bad enough, we fancy some success has been achieved. The walls are effectively though simply decorated. Mr. P. Sarda has been responsible for the work.

The pieces chosen for representation last night were very happily selected. "The Burglar and the Judge," the *lever de rideau*, is an extravagantly amusing little sketch, and "A Family Failing," in which Mr. and Mrs. Read, we believe, have appeared twice within the past ten years or so, has the double advantage of being funny and picturesque. There is plenty of laughter in it, and the period (that of the Merry Monarch) allows the ladies, to whom the dresses are of paramount interest, the felicity of gazing on gowns of bizarre fashion, velvets and silk hose, wigs and swords, and other accessories which, even if an antiquarian should scorn them as a mere colourable pretence of Restoration patterns, are at any rate sufficiently un Victorian to command the respect of the uncritical.

To follow at length the plot of these airy trifles would be work as useful and satisfying as the dissection of a soap bubble. "The Burglar and Judge" is the story of the midnight experiences of *Mr. Justice Gyves* and a Cockney cracksman with the euphonious name of *Saveloy Joe*. *Sir Geoffrey Gyves* is a "hanging" judge, with very strong views on the need of dealing severely with the criminal classes; he enjoys a summing up in a murder case of all things, and revels in the dramatic delivery of a death sentence. *Saveloy Joe*, on the other hand, has strong views on the iniquity and uselessness of judges, and a more than academic dislike of the penal law. The two have met before the memorable night on which the play opens, and *Saveloy Joe*, as the result of the interview, has had unsurpassed opportunities of studying the prison system of Great Britain. Men so differently constituted could hardly, one would imagine, spend a pleasant hour together, and yet, thanks to Messrs G. G. Brady and L. K. Davis, a very pleasant hour they do spend—pleasant, that is, for the spectators. The Judge surprises the burglar in his dining room, and the burglar, *en revanche*, ends by surprising the judge. Secure from interruption owing to a judicious use of laudanum in the servants' nightcap, he helps himself to the Judge's cigars, drinks his liqueurs, and eats his *paté*

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de foie gras, while, not to allow the hospitality to be too one-sided, he insists on the unfortunate legal luminary smoking a well coloured clay pipe, and drinking from a bottle of gin kept in his trousers pocket, like Bob Sawyer's apple, till it was unpleasantly warm. The climax is reached when the unhappy Judge, rifled even of his false teeth, arrayed in scarlet and ermine over his dressing gown and night garment, is forced to dance barefooted, and to quaver out "The Maiden of Bashful Fifteen." Then *Joe* proceeds to take his seat on an improvised bench, sums up greatly against his lordship, sentences him in due form, and securely lashes him to a chair to wait for morning. The prevailing impression left on the hearer's mind is that burglars are men of warm feeling and sterling virtue, even though their ideas of the rights of property be unorthodox; whereas one feels that a judicial career is, as *Joe* says, a "'orrible calling,' only fit for men of contracted sympathies and swollen vices.

This slight sketch is sufficient to show that the piece might be exceedingly stupid or very amusing according to the ability of the actors. It is very creditable to Messrs. G. G. Brady and L. Kennard Davis that they made it perfectly funny without a suspicion of silliness. Mr. Brady was certainly a capital burglar; his brogue and "business" were alike excellent, and it was evident that he has low comedy powers of no inconsiderable order. Mr. Davis had a more subdued role to play, and one which was perhaps more difficult, as demanding finer touches to render it effective. He achieved, however, a very creditable success; in the earlier part he was a perfect Solon, and in his less dignified appearance in slippers and dressing grown both make up and acting were most laughable. Mr. H. J. Sharp, as *Parkhurst*, the servant, had a small part of which it was impossible to make anything distinctive.

"A Family Failing" was the *pièce de résistance*. The "family" is that of *Sir Sampson Silliman, Bart*, and the "failing" is a fiery impetuosity of temper. *Sir Sampson* (Mr. A. C. Read) feels himself very kindly affected towards one *Sir Folliott Duckworth* (Mr. H. J. Sharp), and insists on the latter marrying his daughter *Clorinda* (Mrs. A. C. Read) *Duckworth* has the bad taste not to be at all anxious for the alliance, but all his protests are unavailing; the hearty, impetuous *Sampson* will hear of no refusal, and presents the backward suitor to his daughter with a flow of recommendation that is impossible to stem. *Duckworth* has his eye on another girl, but, finding himself entangled beyond hope of redemption (for the Baronet talks grimly of running him through in the event of a recantation), abandons himself to his fate. Meanwhile *Clorinda* has, through the novel means of boxing his ears at a ball, secured another lover in *Lord Gawkey* (Mr. L. Kennard Davis) and him she favours before the cold blooded *Duckworth*. *Gawkey* asks *Sir Sampson* for her hand, but is peremptorily refused, as the two men are enemies. Insults pass, swords are drawn, and a duel is in progress when *Clorinda* rushes in. She entreats her father's consent to the match; he refuses; and then the family failing comes out. *Sampson* raves at *Clorinda*; *Clorinda* shrieks at *Sampson*; *Gawkey* roars at both. Finally *Sampson*, to relieve his feelings, smashes some Sevres porcelain; the other two follow suit, and all the china of the house appears to be devoted to destruction.

A *deus ex machina*, in the shape of the Duke of Buckingham, appears to bring the Baronet and the peer together. Buckingham, who has influence with both, makes *Sampson* invite *Gawkey* to dinner. *Sampson* dare not refuse, but offers his hospitality with such an ill grace that there is an insult in every word and action. The dinner scene is certainly most entertaining. It ends in *Sampson* throwing a glass of water in *Gawkey's* face. The latter springs to his feet to avenge the insult, when the door opens, and Buckingham's Secretery appears. To escape His Grace's displeasure *Gawkey* invents a ready lie, for which *Sampson* is so grateful that he declares him his best friend, pooh poohs the idea of a duel with him, and insists on his marrying *Clorinda*. Thus all ends happily.

Mr. Read was certainly most successful as *Sir Sampson Silliman*; indeed, in few of his numerous *rôles* has he been more happy. The choleric Baronet, one moment the heartiest John Bull in the world, and the next boiling over with rage, was capitally represented, and the part served to show how versatile and gifted a comedian Mr. Read is. Mr. Kennard Davis was good as *Lord Gawkey*; Mr. H. J. Sharp had a rather ungrateful *rôle* as *Sir Folliott Duckworth*, and was not quite so happy as in some of his past performances. Mrs. A. C. Read made a charmingly impetuous *Clorinda*. Minor parts of Secretary and Servant were carried out by Mr. E. C. Davis and Mr. G. J. Melhuish. The dresses were very handsome.

An Interesting Presentation.

At the close of the performance, Mr. F. J. Lowder, in the name of the subscribers, presented Mr. and Mrs. Read with a handsome silver punch bowl and seven goblets and an album with the names of the subscribers. Mr. Lowder read the following address, the descriptive portion of which is taken from a paper furnished to the Asiatic Society some years ago by Mr. F. V. Dickins:—

To Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Carter Read,—We, whose names are signed to this address, pray your acceptance of the objects presented with it, as a perennial souvenir of the many friends you are leaving behind you in Japan, and in token of the affectionate regard and esteem in which you are held by them.

Those objects consist of a Punch Bowl and a set of Seven Goblets wrought by Motonobu, one of the most eminent of the workers in metal in Japan of the present day; and the designs upon them are a representation of the Seven Gods of Happiness, in merry mood.

First among them is Ebisu, the Patron of Labour, who thus described himself to the Founder of the Empire of Japan, the renowned and victorious Emperor Jimmu Tenno:—"I am the child of the Progenitors of thy divine predecessors, and I have come to defend thy Majesty. I hold dominion over all the riches of the earth. If I take the fields under my protection, I render them fruitful; if I protect merchandize, I cause trade to flourish; if I protect the sowing of the fields, I give abundant harvests; if I come to the aid of armies in the hour of battle, I give them victory; if I direct the labours of the Court, the Government prospers. I am the god who in his hands, holds all the good things of the world."

Second is Daikoku ten, whose aid soldiers invoke for victory; whom all the priesthood venerate, praying that devout offerings may not fail for the maintenance of the religious community; and whom the people constantly adore, imploring him to grant them every kind of well-being. Addressing the great Buddha himself, he said:—"I will scatter my good works among all living who may be in affliction and misery." On the first days of every cycle, he is to be propitiated by an offering of a hundred black beans, which proceeding is known as the Mystery of Mysteries. He is represented as standing on two rice bags, and holding a mallet in one hand, whilst with the other he grasps a sack which is slung over the left shoulder. The mallet is called the Hammer of Happiness; and each time he gives a blow with it, the wallet is filled with money, or rice, or whatever else may be desired. The days sacred to him are those marked by the cyclic characters of the Rat, which may explain his fondness for that animal.

Thirdly comes Bishamon, so called by reason of the fame of his wealth spreading throughout the world. In his left hand he grasps a spear, and in his right he carries a small Pagoda, in which are kept the sacred relics of Buddha. He wears a cuirass of gold, and his feet are supposed to rest on the shoulders of a woman. He is called the Celestial King of the Northern Region; and it is said that "To such as seek after salvation by the aid of Bishamon, the god, revealing himself, preaches in person the Law of Buddha."

Benzai-Ten comes fourth in this classically divine Heptarchy; and of her it is related that when she and her fifteen children had finished the recitation of the Dhârani, the earth shook six several times, and there was rained down from the sky an infinite quantity of gems belonging to the seven kinds of precious things, that is to say of gold, silver, lapis lazuli, crystal, cornelian, coral, and ruby. She is the goddess of Meritorious Works; and is said to be gifted with a melodious voice. It is also related of her that her progeny at one birth numbered five hundred, all of whom grew up to be resplendent youths, whilst their mother was ranked among the goddesses, and held in extreme veneration.

Hotei is the fifth of these household Lares, and his image is the symbol of loving kindness and joy. His place of honour is on the domestic hearth, and he is represented with an affable and jocund countenance. Though only a Buddhist friar, he is perchance numbered among the Gods of Happiness because of his merry and smiling features, the symmetrical rotundity of his figure, and because the joviality of his disposition attracted the love of all men, and especially of children, by whom he is often represented as being surrounded. His motto is:—"He who is truly wise, knows what is sufficient; and he who is able to be contented is a happy man."

Jurojin is the name of the sixth of the Gods of Happiness. He was transformed into the Southern Star of Long Life, and by him stand a white stork and a crow. Before his transformation he is described as having been an old man, three feet high, with a head that made up half his height; a merry-eyed, long bearded man, who frequented the market-places, and then drew lots and told fortunes, thus contriving to gain a few coins which he spent in drink. Questioned by the Emperor, he replied, "I am fond of wine, and when I am drunk I speak best." The Emperor ordered wine to be brought, and each time the old fellow lifted the cup he gulped down a *koku*, which is about 7½ cubic feet of liquid, and then assuming a majestic deportment, promised that abundance should reign in the dominions of the sovereign, and comfort among his people. He then disappeared to resume his place in the skies as the Star of Long Life.

Last comes Fuku-roku-jiu,—Happiness, Wealth, and Long Life. His images represent an old man, whose companions are a hart, a tortoise, and a stork. The two last named are emblems of longevity, and the King Stag, known in Japanese as Roku, standing at gaze with uplifted foot, recalls the name Fukuroku, which is considered to be a mere appellative, indicating the favours which the god bestows.

Fukuroku is by some replaced by the beauteous goddess who is named Kichijô, or Happy Omen. Twelve Lauds were composed in her honour; and it is said that whosoever shall learn them so as to be able to recite them with religious rites and holy offerings, shall ward off all misery and sin from his life, and shall attain an immense wealth of prosperity and well-being. The Lauds and Salutations of this goddess are, "Harbinger of Happiness; Flower of the Lotus; Splendour of Majesty; Rich in every Good; Fair of Complexion; Renowned and Glorious; Centre of the Flower of the Lotus; Dazzling in Splendour; Bestower of Alms; Bestower of Bread; Gemmeous Splendour; High Harbinger of Good Fortune."

Motonobu himself, consummate artist as he is, has been unequal to the task of limning on the outside of the Cup the features of this glorious and Effulgent Divinity; but it is said that he who shall be privileged to peep over the shoulder of her who will deign to glance into its liquid depths, will therein behold the reflected loveliness of the goddess who inspired the Lauds

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and Salutations which are repeated by all devout adorers at the shrine of her Brightness.

And it is because we desire that you, our friends, may be the recipients in generous measure of all the gifts which these legendary deities are said to have it in their power to bestow, that their familiar features have been selected to animate this Bowl, and as emblematic of the Five Felicities we wish you, Long Life, Wealth, Health, Love of Virtue, and that you may not be called upon to cross the ford until you have attained the fullness and ripeness of a happy old age.

Yokohama, 26th September, 1899.

Mr. READ, in returning thanks, said it would be impossible for him in any poor halting words of his to express how deeply he and Mrs. Read were touched by the kindness shown them that evening, and which they felt they so little deserved. It was true that some twenty years nearly had elapsed since he (Mr. Read) first made his bow before the Yokohama public in the little Gaiety Theatre in Water Street, and his wife had been on the stage in Yokohama for nearly half that time. But whatever they had done had been a labour of love, and it was a great satisfaction to them to know that what efforts they had made for the amusement of the community had been appreciated, and indeed much more than they deserved. Whatever success had been achieved had been due in great measure to the kind and able assistance of various ladies and gentlemen who had assisted them. In this connection he should like to mention two names, and those were those of Mrs. Rice and Mr. Bayne, to whose kindly aid and example on the stage they were indebted in great measure for such knowledge of stage craft as they possessed. After such a lengthened residence in Japan, it was, of course, painful in many ways to leave, but they might believe him that the sorrow of parting had been greatly softened by the kind words Mrs. Read and he had heard that evening. They were glad to know that with such capable artists as Mrs. McWilliams, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Brady the prospects of the Yokohama stage were very well assured in the future. Mrs. Read and himself had had many hard parts to play both on and off the stage during their life in Japan, but one of the hardest they had ever had to study and perform in their lives was to realise that this was their farewell performance, and that they were bidding the community farewell.—(Applause.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PHILLIPPINES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My brother, who is on the staff of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, writes me as follows:—"We are getting ready to move 60,000 men to the Phillipines this winter to crush Aguinaldo, and will crush him, although a majority of our people are not in hearty sympathy with the crushing movement. But just now it is a question of upholding by the flag and forcing recognition of our authority. We can't allow our prestige to be lowered, and therefore we shall go ahead to victory just as Scott went ahead and headed Mexico in a war that was neither just nor justifiable." Now, Mr. Editor, when I read that I must say that at first I felt like laughing and then like swearing—and then—it is nobody's business how I felt. But it does strike me that this whole business is worse than criminal, for it is absurd.

What reason has the great American Republic to bother itself about an insignificant insect like Aguinaldo?

Why move a Krakatoa engine trip hammer to crush a fly, especially when the fly is not yet caught. Let him buzz. Send the black soldiers down to take up Rudyard Kipling's white man's burden, but let them not lift too hard. A corporal's guard around what we are bound to police until there is a stable native government, and a policy of masterly activity until the natives find out that Uncle Sam is the very best friend that they have in the world, and is only there to protect them from the holy mailed fist of other nations. "Prestige?" Didn't Uncle Sam stand off Johnny Bull twice, and he is the only one from whom the old gent will take "sass" to this day. "Stand by the flag?" What business has the flag of the American Republic to be planted anywhere outside of the American continent? Suppose we did grab California with 500 men on horseback; the dons stole it from the friars, who made the desert to blossom for the Indians. Two wrongs don't make one right. "Let him that stole steal no more." It is absurd for a Presbyterian president to send 60,000 white men to slaughter the Roman Catholic natives who are only fighting for the independence of their native land.

The fathers of the republic who fought the war for American independence had a far less just cause than these natives. They are not of our blood, and they are older in their Christianity than we are. Why should we seek to subjugate them?

After we have "crushed Aguinaldo" we shall be forced to hire him to hold the country down, and we shall have to pay the soldiers to do it.

Why not hire him now and put him in command of the American forces, and make the native government pay for the temporary guarding of Manila from bandits?

There is really no necessity for any more fighting. Our object is to establish and protect a native government in the islands; Aguinaldo and the natives wish the same; the whole matter could be settled in half an hour over a box of cigars and a bottle of port by three men, whose names will occur by spontaneous inspiration to every one.

智神和

THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE OF 1900.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly give space in your paper for a few words addressed to all interested in the above Conference? As is doubtless generally known, the expenses of this assembly are to be met from a Guarantee Fund, which Fund is to be raised by a contribution of two *yen* each from all who are in sympathy with the plan. Now that these contributions have begun to come in by postal orders to the undersigned he has one request to make, viz: not to write these orders payable at the General Post Office of Nagoya, but please make them payable at the Kokuicho, Branch R.O. This will save much time and trouble and be greatly appreciated.

Further, although the Conference is not to take place for some twelve months from now, yet a large part of the expense must be met this year. All intending contributors therefore will confer a great favour on the Committee by remitting without delay. Although an encouraging number have responded they only amount to a good beginning. Many seem either to have read that part of the programme with their "blind eye," or else to be waiting till gifts are called for. Please consider this a personal call.

R. E. McALPINE,
Sec. and Treasurer.

Nagoya, Sept. 20th, 1899.

IRVINGISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—No doubt some of your readers in Tokyo and Yokohama have heard, or will hear, the lectures on Christ's Second Coming which have been advertised lately in your columns. To many others among them the subject of Christ's return is of interest.

The words, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good," always important, are especially so in these days. To obey the injunction may be troublesome, but it is the "soul of the diligent,' not the soul of the indolent, the indifferent, the careless, or the superstitious, that is "made fat."

Two opposite errors, either of which is most serious, may be committed by Christians when truth previously unknown to them or unheeded by them is brought home to their consciences to be accepted or refused. On the one hand there may appear the same spirit that moved some of the Pharisees to say, speaking of Christ, "Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him?" Because a doctrine is new to them, men easily fancy it to be new in itself; and because the persons who teach it may not be among those whose authority as teachers is already recognized, a doctrine in itself true may be summarily refused as unworthy of notice, yet the rejecter may be the real loser. On the other hand, suppose a man to be forced by logic, or by conscience, or by both, to acknowledge that he has been living in ignorance of very important truth, which he now for the first time accepts. It is very natural indeed for him to accept, along with the demonstrated truth, other things that his new teachers tell him, the proofs of which are absent or incomplete.

Whichever of these two things happens Satan's purpose to delude the Christian and dishonour Christ may be accomplished.

With regard to the question of the Lord's Second Coming, it is difficult for any one who examines the Scriptures to avoid the conclusion that the Lord intended His followers to live in expectation of His personal return, and that they, at first, did so (see 1 Thess., I.9,10), though He had refused (Acts, I.7) to say *when* he would "restore the kingdom to Israel." But the lapse of centuries and the loss of the first simplicity of faith, whereby men confounded the simple waiting for Christ with watching for all manner of terrible cataclysms (which failed to keep their appointments), brought about a well-nigh universal impression that the early Christians had been misled. The hope of seeing the Lord Jesus without first dying and going to Heaven became, to Christians in general, an unknown thing. The passages of Scripture which speak, plainly enough, of such a hope, were quietly overlooked, or, worse still, were explained away.

About seventy years ago earnest attention began to be given by several groups of Christian people, acting independently, to the real teaching of the Scriptures with regard to Christ's return. To-day considerable numbers in most denominations, though by no means a majority in most, are actually waiting for Christ's coming, or, at any rate, are saying that we ought to do so.

Meanwhile, what has happened? Scarcely had the old truth been re discovered when it was taken up, and, with great energy, proclaimed and perverted. Instead of a "blessed hope" to be cherished in the heart of the believer, the Second Advent became, in the hands of certain teachers, a sort of peg on which to hang various theories, mostly sensational, and to no small extent wicked and mischievous. Notwithstanding the Lord's explicit statement in Acts I.7, above referred to, a certain Mr. William Miller publicly taught, in 1831, that Christ would appear in 1843. Armed with passages of Scripture that had been, among his hearers, generally ignored or else manifestly wrested from their plain meaning, he used truth, as well as error, to carry off some 40,000 people in America into a state of the wildest delusion. It might be thought that a doctrine so utterly discredited, through lapse of time and unfulfilled predictions, as Millerism long ago became, would be quite dead ere this time; but the direct doctrinal descendants of the Millerites are now flourishing. They are known as Seventh Day Adventists, and have lately come to Japan. They hold some truth which most orthodox people at home ignore; and this attaches them to their entire system, which includes some very bad teaching. And so, as a result of the Millerite extravagances, we have on the one hand many thousands of Christians who do not think the Second Advent worthy of their serious personal attention, and, on the other, several thousands who are, for the truth's

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sake as they think, committed to fundamentally unsound doctrine.

Irvingism arose in Great Britain almost simultaneously with Millerism in America. Most of your readers at least those who are likely to read this letter, have access to the Schaff Herzog Encyclopaedia, or some similar work, and can read for themselves an impartial sketch of the Irvingite movement, viewed historically. That the claims and pretensions of the "Catholic Apostolic Church" (for so the Irvingites style themselves) are astonishing, is not, in itself, any proof that they are false. The evidence that they offer may indeed be perplexing to some minds, though by many it would be rejected with contempt. It is well to remember, then, that where the acutest reason might find itself baffled and uncertain, if not convinced, in attempting to thread some of the mazes of deceit prepared by the devil, a conscience tender toward the Person of the Lord Jesus and a simple heart established in a sense of God's grace, may clearly see and quite avoid the snare Can any simple-hearted Christian believe that the *Holy* Spirit would sanction evil-speaking about Christ? Mr. Irving's teaching about the Person of Christ was so shocking as to lead (with other heretical doctrine) to his expulsion from the Scottish Church in 1833. For example, he declared that Christ's nature "bristled with sin like quills upon a porcupine." and that the nature with which the Son of Man was clothed poured forth from the centre of its inmost will streams as black as hell! The Spirit (?) whose utterances have had so much to do with Irvingite "tongues," and "prophecies" and the appointment of Irvingite "apostles," and which the Irvingites call the Holy Spirit, afterwards expressly sanctioned the doctrine, though not the exact language used by Irving.

Much more might be aaid, but this letter is already too long, and what has been written ought surely to suffice to put on their guard any who may find themselves attracted by Irvingism; whether by its ritualism, its easy-going worldliness, its quiet assumption of superiority, the personal amiability of some of its adherents, or even by such truth as it may teach about the Lord's Coming.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully, C. M. B.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

In Osaka the amount of loans granted by the Bank of Japan was only 4,880,000 *yen* on the 19th,—a considerable decrease compared with the beginning of this month, when the figure was 8,790,000 *yen*.

The Central Tea Guild has arranged to send Messrs. Ouchi Tatsusaburo, Nakamura Enichiro, and Nakagawa Koichiro to the Paris Exposition as managers of the Tea House there. Mr. Wada Masahiko and two interpreters will be sent with them.

A German expert is to be employed as adviser on Japanese tobacco cultivation by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The American expert, Mr. Johns, is rather a practical man, but the German will be a scientific student of tobacco culture.

THE decrease of the Hoshu Railway dividend (which is now 7 per cent) was caused by the closing of the Hokoku Coal Mine owing to accident. The Tagawa line alone used to carry 2,600 tons of coal a day, but the average tonnage from the 1st to the 10th inst, was only 1,200 tons a day.

Tokyo barbers are about to form a new corporation. Their number is now about 1,600, and the trade is constantly growing. Any barber who wants to set up trade in Tokyo must pay to the corporation 100 *yen* entrance fee. It is said that these rules are provided in anticipation of foreign barbers coming into Tokyo, as it is proposed to charge the same entrance fee for employes in a foreign shop.

Insurance business on commodities stored at Yokohama is in the lowest state of depression, as transactions are now put through so quickly. Such depression has not been known for the past fifteen years.

The exports and imports for August, according to investigations made by the Finance Department, were as follows:—

Asia.	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Total. Yen.
China...	3,842,643.71	2,358,656.92	6,201,300.63
British India.	504,026.52	5,302,122.95	5,806,149.51
H'kong.	2,705,414.23	751,300.40	3,456,714.63
Asiatic Russia.	248,259.17	565,669.40	813,928.57
Korea...	518,740.81	182,834.70	701,575.51
French India.	5,834.42	224,305.62	230,140.04
Phillippine Islands.	11,952.57	192,908.08	204,860.65
Dutch India.	10,632.49	79,268.07	89,900.56
Siam ...	350.00	20,603.02	20,953.02
Total.	7,847,853.96	9,677,669.16	17,525,523.12

Europe.	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Total. Yen.
Great Britain.	1,222,128.74	4,773,248.96	5,995,377.70
France.	4,769,602.61	601,587.19	5,371,189.80
Germany	303,667.18	1,343,731.29	1,645,898.47
Italy ...	1,337,539.40	36,805.71	1,374,345.11
Belgium	37,691.82	527,090.63	564,782.45
Austria.	104,787.55	127,512.78	232,300.33
Russia..	212,792.64	3,250.54	216,043.18
Switzerland..	18,067.85	186,470.17	240,538.02
Holland	9,437.53	35,101.51	44,599.04
Turkey.	15,026.62	18,871.82	33,898.44
Sweden & Norway	2,079.00	20,805.21	22,884.21
Spain...	200.00	8,171.32	8,371.32
Denmark	3,983.00	269.95	4,252.95
Portugal	—	331.37	331.37
Total .	8,036,503.94	7,683,308.45	15,719,812.39

America	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Totals. Yen.
The US.	6,372,144.03	2,831,732.38	9,204,876.41
British America	333,279.13	14,066.33	347,345.46
Mexico	150.00	22.47	172.47
Total..	6,705,573.16	2,846,821.18	9,552,394.34
Australia	182,015.72	172,873.53	354,889.26
Hawaii	139,126.63	121.47	139,248.10
Egypt.	7,495.35	51,548.27	59,043.62
Other countries	25,606.46	107,366.91	132,973.37
Unknown	7,728.97	24,334.28	32,063.25
Grand Total..	22,951,904.20	20,564,043.25	43,515,947.45

Articles for ship's use are not included in the above table.

Exports by native traders. Yen.	By foreigners. Yen.	Total. Yen.
7,485,418.46	15,466,485.74	22,951,904.20
Imports by natives. Yen.	**By foreigners. Yen.**	**Total. Yen.**
7,868,858.10	12,679,986.16	20,548,844.26
15,354,276.56	28,146,471.90	43,515,947.45

The revenues of the Government railways from the first to the tenth instant were as follows:—

	Yen.
Tokaido	289,706
Hokuriku	21,527
Shinetsu	34,049
O u North	5,105
O u South	3,230
Total	353,617

This shows an increase of 98,759 *yen* as compared with the income for the same period last year.

The coal trade shows signs of reviving Iwaki coal is too bad for export, but good coal is in great demand at Shanghai, Hongkong, &c.

The Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution to be submitted to the meeting of combined Chambers in October to the effect that no foreigner shall be elected a member of a Japanese Chamber of Commerce, as this right should belong exclusiveiy to a Japanese subject.

About 1,000 articles valued at 113,000 *yen* will be sent from Kanagawa Prefecture to the Paris Exposition.

The Japanese exhibits for the Paris exposition will be exhibited at Uyeno Fine Arts Gallery from the 28th to the 30th instant, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

According to investigations made at the end of August the number of Japanese subjects residing at Amoy is 691, of whom 606 are Formosa natives and 85 are Japanese.

So-called winter goods show an increase of 20 per cent. on last year's prices. Silk stuffs are especially high; some of them 30 per cent. dearer than last year.

The state of Japan's foreign trade from January to August this year is shown in the following tables, drawn up from figures obtained by the Finance Department:—

	Commodities. Exports, Yen.	Imports, Yen	Increase or decrease, Yen.
January	17,420,182.35	21,810,618 67	3,609,263 68 E
February	15,591 230.05	20,584,696 44	5,406,533 61 E
March	15 964,846 68	16,529,115 90	564 269.22 I
April	12,511,505.53	14,206,251 72	1,694,746 19 I
May	13,399,166 95	18,161,598 96	4 763,432.01 I
June	13,646,705 57	19 409,726.54	5,753,020 97 I
July	17,827,483 89	18,829,435.80	1 001,951.91 I
August	23,213,919 70	20,564 043.25	2,654,876.45 E
Total	129,089.040 70	132 0 5,787 28	21,067,465 60 I

E signifies excess of exports; I excess of imports.

About a hundred Japanese divers are engaged in the Korean Sea. Their ages are from 17 to 30, and each of them gets monthly wages of from 6 *yen* to 18 *yen*. The most skilful dive as low as 16 fathoms. Their diseases are chiefly intestinal catarrh and cold. Most of them are quite illiterate.

The Central Tea Guild will present a set of gold saké cups to Mr. Tatsugoro Nose in recognition of his services during the agitation against the proposed tea-duties in Canada.

Six hundred boxes of tea were exported on the 25th instant from Nagasaki to Teintsin.

The following subjects will be discussed at the meeting of the combined Chambers of Commerce:—

1. That it is desirable to forward a representation to the Government urging that registered letters should be insured by Post Offices.
2. That no foreigners should be elected members of Commercial Chambers.
3. That Government aid to the N. Y. K. be continued at the expiration of the present term.

Fukui habutaye has risen in price 5 *sen*, though some sellers are standing out for 10 *sen* rise owing to the floods which have caused an interuption of supplies.

Since last year, Japanese life insurance business has fallen into a deep depression. The smaller companies, it is now seen, will be unable to meet the requirements of the revised regulations, and are seeking amalgamation with larger companies.

The income of the Nippon Railway increases steadily. In July the average per day was 20,700 *yen*. In August it rose to 22,000 *yen*, and in September to 24,000 *yen*. The phenomenon is said to be due to the activity in the raw silk trade and the excellent rice-crop prospect.

A Japanese Consul in the United States reports that Japanese tea occupies a very difficult position in the U.S. market, as it is dearer than Chinese or Ceylon tea by 4 or 5 cents per pound. In the States, too, tea is giving way to coffee, which has no tariff barriers against it.

A raw silk merchant in Suwa, Shinano Province, is undertaking to build a new factory at Odawara, Sagami province, by next spring.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Dr. Peter Peterson, the distinguished Sanskrit scholar, is dead.

The usurper Jiminez has been making great progress in San Domingo.

Over 12,000 manufactures in Spain refuse to pay the new taxes, and many land-owners have decided to follow their example.

In a collision on the Sanuki Railway at Hinashi on the 23rd inst., three carriages were damaged and five passengers injured.

The electrical power-house of the Falls and River Railway Company, Niagara has been destroyed by fire. The loss is about $75,000.

The cotton and jute workers' strike at Dundee has assumed serious proportions. Ten mills were closed on Sept. 8th, and 19,000 mill-workers were idle.

Extensive fires were raging on September 11th in the woods near Marseilles and Toulon, at least ten miles of forest being in flames. A number of chateaux were destroyed.

According to news received from Honolulu it is announced authoritatively that the policy of the Hawaiian Government in regard to Japanese immigration is to be more restrictive.

It is stated that when Lord Curzon's new frontier policy is in full working a saving of fourteen and a half lakhs of rupees annually will accrue to the finances of the Government of India.

The state of the tea trade at Yokohama in the first half of this month is shown by the following report made by Mr. Otani:—Tea sent in, 778,000 lbs.; sold, 1,060,100 lbs.; left in stock, 474,100 lbs.

The crew of the American barque *George Stetson*, which was burnt at sea off the Loochoos on the 10th instant, have been landed at Kagoshima by the *Kinshu Maru*. The lost ship was bound to Taku with a cargo of Oregon lumber.

The Pasteur Institute commission, which recently arrived at Oporto to study the epidemic, asserts it is the genuine Indian plague. The commissioners have been treating patients with Pasteur serum, and protest against the inefficacy of the sanitary cordon.

The Anchor liner *City of Rome*, which arrived at New York on Sept. 4th from Glasgow, ran into an iceberg off the banks of Newfoundland during a fog. Owing to the coolness of the ship's officers a panic was prevented, and little damage was done.

The *Manila Times* of the 31st August says:—The gunboat *Helena* again went into dry dock at Cavite this morning to have her shaft repaired, which was damaged on her return from Iloilo. This is the second time the breakdown has occurred.

The Government of the Russian Province of Kieff recently ordered the closing of 30 synagogues and schools at Birdotcheff, which is the centre of the Jewish population of the South West Provinces. Many Jewish candidates have been refused admission to the Warsaw Polytechnic School.

A courier who has arrived at Tripoli reports that the French Mission in the Soudan, headed by M. H. Fourneau and Major M. Lamy, has been annihilated. He says that the mission was attacked by an immense body of the Tuaregs who, after suffering terrible loss, killed all the members of the mission by force of arms.

The *Daily Mail's* correspondent at Cairo wiring on Sept. 7th, says:—"Advices have been received from Berber, on the Nile, near the confluence of the Atbara, that a train returning from Wady Halfa, with soldiers and workmen for the Atbara district, fell into a ravine, owing to the collapse of a viaduct, with the result that 24 were killed and 30 others injured."

The death is announced of John Livingstone, elder brother of David Livingstone, the famous African explorer. Deceased was eighty-nine years of age. He went to Canada in 1820 and lived in Lanark for twenty years, removing thence to Listowel. He maintained an intimate correspondence with his famous brother until the death of the latter.

Two coloured American soldiers have been found guilty by Court-martial in Manila of having outraged three native women—one a woman over 60 years of age, the two others mere girls. Both men were sentenced to death General Otis has cabled to Washington for permission to carry out the sentence at once. Another coloured soldier is on trial for the same offence.

Mr. Harrington, of H.B.M.'s Consulate, who has been transferred to Tamsui as Acting Consul during Mr. Layard's absence, and who will probably afterwards be stationed at Twatutia as Pro-Consul, is to be succeeded at Yokohama by Mr. E. H. Holmes, of the Kobe Consulate. Mr. Holmes's place at Kobe, will probably be filled by Mr. E. L. S. Gordon, of Nagasaki.

Mr. Clarence Greathouse is lying very seriously ill at Söul; he has been ill for a long time and hope of his recovery is said to have been abandoned. Before taking up his residence at Söul, Mr. Greathouse was U.S. Consul-General at Yokohama. As editor of the San Francisco *Examiner* and a pleader in the local courts he was at one time a prominent figure in Californian politics.

The police have discovered an association of Anarchists at San Paolo, 40 miles from Santos, Brazil, and the investigation shows that among others who were chosen by lot is a young girl, Gabriella, who has already started on her voyage, her mission being to dynamite the buildings of the Paris exposition. Several persons have been arrested in connection with the plot, including the editors of Anarchist papers.

The pirates operating on and about the West River are said to number sixty thousand. They are well armed, and the movement savours almost as much of rebellion as of piracy, the pirates edging the local authorities out and proceeding to collect the duties and taxes themselves. It is not an unprecedented state of affairs. In the sixteenth century pirates went so far as to blockade Canton, and it was only with the assistance of the Portuguese that the blockade was raised.

H.M.S. *Centurion*, the flagship of the Commander-in-Chief, is to be relieved on the completion of her present commission by the battleship *Glory*. The *Glory* is rather smaller than the *Victorious* but bigger than the *Centurion*, the displacement of the three ships being 12,950, 14,900, and 10,500 respectively. The armament of the *Glory* is similar to that of the *Victorious* and heavier than the *Centurion's*, consisting of four 12-inch guns, twelve 6 inch quick firers, and eighteen 12-pounder quick-firers, besides lighter guns.

The report of the "Shell" Transport and Trading Co., Limited, made up to December 31, states that the profits for the year were £220,479, out of which £108,000 has been paid and set aside for dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. All preliminary expenses have been written off. £80,174 has been appropriated to provision for depreciation of steamers and installations, including the sum written off in connection with the loss of the steamship *Peclan*, and a balance of £7,027 carried forward to 1899. Mr. Andreas Rickmers, of Bremen, has joined the board.

The two-storied wooden house, No. 162, Bluff, occupied by Mr. A. R. Owen and other gentlemen, was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday morning along with its contents. The fire, which is supposed to have originated in a bath-room, was reported at the fire-station at 10 minutes to 7 o'clock, and in a short time Supt. Morgin was on the spot with his men. Of course hardly any water was available, but that supplied from Mr. Parson's well sufficed to save the servants' quarters. The Police Brigade, as usual, gave ready help. The premises were insured for *yen* 2,000 with the Imperial Insurance Co., Ld.; of which the agents are Messrs. Browne and Co.; and the furniture with the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld., Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., agent.

The following letter has been handed to us for publication:—In behalf of the officers and enlisted men of the 20th Kansas Infantry U.S.V. I desire to express our appreciation of the generous welcome accorded the soldiers returning from Manila on the U. S. Transport *Tartar* by the people of Yokohama. While thanking all the residents who helped to make our sojourn pleasant, we wish to especially thank the ladies and gentlemen of the American Community who were instrumental in the establishment of the Bureau of Information. The zeal displayed by these ladies and gentlemen in furnishing a delightful reading-room, a hospital, and its supplies and the home-like refreshments served, earned and secured a lasting debt in the hearts and minds of all.

WILDER S. METCALF.
Colonel, 20th Kansas Infantry, U.S.V., Commanding the Regiment.

In the course of the debate in the Volksraad on Sept. 8th, President Kruger said he knew the Lord would give a good judgment in the dispute between England and the Transvaal, and that "if Mr. Chamberlain stood before the countenance of God, his own conscience must take knowledge that there was no suzerainty." All depended, the President declared, upon Chamberlain's reply. He (Kruger) had given much away already. He had given his jacket and trousers, and the only thing left was independence. It is said, continued Kruger, that it was the desire of the British to wipe out the defeat at Majuba Hill, but it was the noblest thing England ever did when, after that, she restored the independence of the Transvaal. That was due to Mr. Gladstone, who saw the petitions sent to the Queen were false. "That deed," said Kruger, "is indelibly engraved on the minds of the inhabitants of the Transvaal as the noblest of England's deeds." The President's declaration that if it came to fighting, God would be arbiter, was loudly cheered.

AN AMERICAN ARRESTED FOR FORGERY.

We are informed by the Kaga-cho police of the arrest of a young American named Allan M. Kent on a charge of forgery committed in Jamestown, New York State. The party defrauded is the Union Trust Company of New York, and the sum appropriated considerable, no less than 10,000 gold dollars. Kent, who had several *aliases*, has been staying at the Grand Hotel under the name of John S. Mannering, with a lady who passed as his wife, but whose real name is apparently Miss Vinton, though she has also passed, during a stay at Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, as Mrs. J. S. Morgan. Kent came to Japan at the end of July, and has lived the life of a well-to-do tourist, making Yokohama his head-quarters, but paying visits to places of interest in the locality. Acting on advices from America the Japanese police have been on the track of Kent for some time. A warrant for his arrest was issued on the 22nd inst, and was executed on the 25th, at the Hoshino Hotel, Shoji, near Fujiyama, where the man and woman were staying. Kent was handed over to the Public Procurator on Tuesday, and made a confession of his crime. So far the police do not know what has become of the mass of money of which accused defrauded the company.

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AMERICAN TOPICS.

The official figures of the Treasury bureau of statistics, as quoted by *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, "show that there were imported last year in the United States 1,539,056,750 grains of quinine. As there were practically no exports of this article, this means something like twenty grains for every man, woman, and child in the country. In 1897 the average import price in the United States was a trifle more than sixteen cents an ounce. The statement comes from Washington, also, that during the last year, or thereabouts, more than 125,000,000 grains of quinine have been consumed by American soldiers suffering from various types of Southern fevers. In some instance men who were in the hospitals in Cuba and Puerto Rico were dosed regularly with three hundred grains a week. Hardly an individual, it is said, failed to take the drug during some period of his active service, either as a curative or a preventive. Furthermore, the claim has gained credence that Americans consume one-third of the quinine of the world."

Children in the Hawaiian Islands have raised $10,000 with which to inaugurate mission work on the Island of Mindanao, in the Philippines.

The latest scandal in New York is the Ramapo water "steal." Some weeks ago the city's board of public improvements was discovered in the act of making a contract with the Ramapo water company, by which New York would have had to pay $5,000,000 a year for forty years. The comptroller opposed the scheme, and the newspapers have probably killed it by searching exposure. The company has no discoverable assets except speculative options, but being composed of prominent Republicans, and their benefactors being the Tammany board, it is naturally surmised that the leaders of the two parties are concerned in the affair.

The Venezuela Commission is apparently forgotten. R. P. Porter said he dropped in one day to see the commission at work. He took considerable trouble to get a ticket, and though some of the most distinguished men in the world were connected with the commission, which numbers more than a dozen, the audience consisted of eight persons. On leaving he met General Grosvenor and Beriah Wilkins. They asked if they could possibly get tickets. Mr. Porter answered they might, perhaps, get in without, and they said afterwards the doorkeeper seemed delighted to see them. The English have lost interest in the commission; the Americans seem to care nothing about it, and there are no Venezuelans in Paris.—London Correspondent of the *Globe-Democrat*.

Although the price of *Harper's Magazine* has been reduced from 35 to 25 cents, its first issue under the new plan shows that the quantity of reading matter has not been curtailed, nor has its quality. This popular periodical is nearing the half-century mark of its existence, and, judging from its success in the past the years that are to come will be as fruitful in the way of achieved results, if not more so, than those years have been.

The condition of the national banks the country over is more prosperous than it has ever been before, remarks *Bradstreets*, especially in the west and south. This favourable condition of the banks is mainly due, Comptroller Dawes says, to good crops, which have resulted in the liquidation of many farm debts. A nearby view has led the Comptroller to the opinion that Congress will at the next session pass the bill, now in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee, which embodies the President's recommendation relative to a gold reserve fund. Under this bill from $125,000,000 to $150,000,000 will be set aside as a fund for the redemption of greenbacks. In his view the legislation proposed will put the currency of the country on a gold basis. He combats the idea that it will bring about contraction of the currency or that it amounts simply to a retirement of green-backs, as some of its critics have insisted, for the reason that for every greenback turned into the Treasury an equivalent in gold will be issued and put in circulation. It is perhaps a little early to hazard predictions about what will be done by Congress next winter or spring. The coming year is a presidential one, and there is likely to be a good deal more manœuvring for position than substantive legislative work by the Solons at the national capital.

The Philadelphia *Record* observes that although the iron and steel industry is at present absorbing all attention, the growth of the silk industry in Pennsylvania should not be permitted to drop out of sight. For instance, it says that central Pennsylvania was formerly known principally as an iron-producing region, but of late years the character of its industries has changed greatly, and many of the towns in the eastern part of state have ceased to reap any benefit from the iron trade, and flourishing silk-manufacturing industries have sprung up. The town of Emaus, which formerly depended wholly upon the iron furnaces, now has a silk mill employing several hundreds. The Lock Ridge furnaces, located at Alburtis, have passed into the decline of old age, but a fine silk mill has grown up in this place. Easton and Allentown both have silk mills, and, in fact, all along the Lehigh valley the change is apparent to any one who may revisit these localities after an absence of several years.

The Treasury Department of Mexico has issued a statement of the imports and exports of Mexico for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, as compared with the preceding year. It is as follows:—

Imports in 1899	$50,869,194
Imports in 1898	43,603,492
Increase	$7,265,720
Exports in 1899	$138,478,137
Exports in 1898	128,972,149
Increase	$9,505,388

The above figures indicate that the country is steadily developing her natural resources, the character of the imports being mostly material and machinery necessary in the establishment of manufacturing concerns and the operation of mines.

Of the 294 railroad companies in the United States that have been granted two years' additional time in which to perfect their equipment, 31 roads were merged in other companies and one road failed to make return. This leaves 262 roads that reported an aggregate of 1,251,415 freight cars and 34,787 locomotives owned June 1, 1899. Of the freight cars during the six months ending June 1 113,233 were reported as having been equipped with automatic couplers and 79,554 with train brakes, which brings the total so equipped up to 1,040,047, or 85 per cent. of the freight cars equipped with automatic couplers and 698,719, or 56 per cent., equipped with train brakes. Of the 34,787 locomotives owned on June 1 32,426, or 93 per cent., are equipped with driving-wheel brakes.

On August 17th, the War Department issued an order for the recruiting of ten regiments of volunteers for service in the Philippines. The ten regiments called for on July 5 have been filled. The latest call will add 13,090 men to the enlisted strength of the army, thus increasing it to 95,045 men. The total number of volunteer called into service is 30,170 men, being only 4,920 men short of the total authorized volunteer establishment of 35,000. The action of the War Department is, of course, approved by the "expansionist" press of the States, and even those who oppose the Administration's policy in the Philippines, believe that the war should be conducted with vigour if at all.

It is estimated that the recent smelters' strike in Colorado resulted in a loss of $10,000,000, divided among the smelters themselves, their employees, miners, coke burners, rock breakers in the limestone quarries and the railroad lines.

United States Consul Halstead, stationed at Birmingham, has written a letter to the State Department in which he reports that many persons in England believe "that to those engaged in wheat-cornering operations in the United States we owe the competitive opening up of vast areas of wheat land in Russia, India, South America, and Egypt." The present corner in copper, which has caused prices to go nearly sky high, he says, may result in injury to the copper-mining interests in the United States parallel to the loss caused to America by the corners in wheat.

President M'Kinley, in a short speech at the Catholic Summer School at Plattsburg, N.Y., said:—Our patriotism is neither sectional nor sectarian. We may differ in our political and religious beliefs, but we are united for country. Loyalty to the government is our national creed. We follow, all of us, one flag. It symbolizes our purposes and our aspirations; it represents what we believe and what we mean to maintain, and whereever it floats it is the flag of the free, the hope of the oppressed, and whereever it is assailed, at any sacrifice, it will be carried to a triumphant peace. This flag now floats from the homes of millions; even from our places of worship it is seen, from our schoolhouses, from the shops and the factories, from the mining towns, and it waves from the camp of the pioneer, on the distant outpost, and on the lumberman's hut in the dense forest. It is found in the home of the humblest toiler, and what it represents is dear to his heart. Rebellion may delay, but it can never defeat, its blessed mission of liberty and humanity.

ORIENTALS IN HAWAII.

According to the *San Francisco Call* the arrivals of immigrants at Honolulu during the eleven months ending June 30 were:—

Chinese—Men, 2348; women, 26; children, 158, or a total of 2,767.

Japanese—Men, 10,276; women 2,626; children, 316, or a total of 13,218.

Portuguese—Men, 34; women, 18; children, 23, or a total of 75.

All other races—Men, 2744; women, 1604; children, 476, or a total of 4824. Grand total—men, 15,402; women, 4509; children, 973, or a grand total 20,884.

The departures during the same period were:—

Chinese—Men, 976; women, 57; children, 75, or a total of 1108.

Japanese—Men, 1432; women, 299; children, 207, or a total of 1938.

Portuguese—Men, 14; women, 9; children, 31, or a total of 54.

All others—Men, 1782; women, 969; children, 323, or a total of 6174.

It will be seen, therefore, that in eleven months there was an increase in the population of 14,710.—of Chinese, 1659; Japanese, 11,280, and of the white races, including the Portuguese, only 1771 as against 12,939 Asiatics.

Of the 2767 Chinese arriving 40 per cent. left the country; of the 13,128 Japanese only 14.7 per cent. left, and of the 4828 of other races 63.7 per cent left. The total departures were 29.6 per cent of the total arrivals.

Of the 14,710 persons remaining to increase the population and to become Americans the percentage of Chinese was 11.3, of Japanese 76.7, of Portuguese 0.1, and of all others 11.9.

The proportion of women to each 100 men was 11 Chinese, 26 Japanese, 53 Portuguese—and 59 for all other races. That alone is a calamity, remembering the already very large preponderance of men over women.

The chief officials of the Kashu Spinning Factory have agreed to amalgamate with the Kanegafuchi Factory. The capital is half a million *yen* and the number of spindles 10,300.

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CHINA NOTES.

On the 18th September, the *North China Daily News* published the following Peking telegram, dated Sept. 17th :—

The Empress Dowager will move into Yungho Palace to-morrow, being the day before the Mid Autumn Festival. The Palace has been strengthened and armed. The Emperor goes also. The Factions are quiet but expectant as if something were expected to happen through the removal to Yungho Palace. The Emperor may not be deposed, as Jung Lu opposes his deposition. All the Princes, Nobles, and Bannermen are on Prince Ching's side and desire the Emperor's deposition.

Commenting on this news, our contemporary said —The Yungho Palace has been under repair and reconstruction for the past four months and is said to be very strong in its defensive works. There are said to be 3,000 extra Mauser repeating rifles and ammunition as well as a number of machine guns supplied by Jung Lu, which were placed there for emergencies about three weeks ago. It is also stated that the Empress Dowager intends the Yungho Palace to be a sort of retreat for herself should the enmity between Jung Lu, her nephew, and Prince Ching show signs of coming to a head.

The *North China Daily News* prints the following account of the *Suevia-Kiangpak* collision :—

We are informed that the steamer *Kiangpak* which collided with the *Suevia* on the 7th instant left Hankow on the 30th ultimo laden with a full general cargo for Swatow. At 10 a.m., on the 6th instant, the Lamock Light being sighted, the engines were slowed, as the captain did not intend to enter the port before daylight. At 2.20 a.m. on the 7th the light bore about N.W. some 5½ miles distant, when the ship's course was altered to west, the engines still at half-speed. Twenty minutes afterwards a steamer's mast-head light was observed about four points on the port bow, the look-out man reporting same. The Captain then came on deck and took charge. Five minutes later the steamer's starboard light was observed bearing about three points on the port bow. As the vessel was still drawing nearer, an examination of the *Kiangpak's* regulation lights was made and they were found to be burning brightly. The *Suevia's* starboard light still being visible on the port bow and in close proximity the whistle was blown and the engines stopped and reversed, the telegraph being put at full speed astern. The helm was put hard-a-port in order, if possible, to prevent a collision, but two minutes later the *Suevia* struck the *Kiangpak* a terrific blow on the port bow. The former vessel is alleged neither to have stopped nor slowed down, and after the accident proceeded on her course without making any enquiries. The *Kiangpak* stopped until 3 30, and as there were no signals from the vessel, and the ship was making water, a course was shaped for Swatow where she arrived at 8 30.

Mr. Archibald Little, during his run through Canada, met Kang Yu wei and had an interview with him which is printed in the columns of our Shanghai contemporary. The impression generally made upon Mr. Little was that Kang is simply residing peaceably in Canada awaiting events, and that the Reform party must prevail in the long run, unless suppressed by some reactionary foreign Power. Kang was living in a bare upper storey of a Canadian frame-house, with no furniture beyond a trestle bed and a rough pine table, with a couple of chairs; his table was filled with Chinese books and he is himself busy writing. He presented Mr. Little with his work on reform (in three printed volumes in Chinese), a work which shows an exceptional acquaintance with the history and politics of the West. "In short, Kang," said Mr. Little, "is the best-informed Chinese I have ever met."

The *Hupao's* Tientsin correspondent states that Chang Yen-mao, Vice Director-General of Northern Railways, is now engaged in borrowing money to construct a short railway from Peking to Kalgan, and it is believed that an English syndicate will undertake the job. This railway is evidently the Chinese answer to the Russian scheme of building a branch line to connect the Manchurian railway with Peking.

BASEBALL.

Yokohama v. Tokyo.

The game of baseball on Saturday between the Yokohama Baseball Team and a Japanese team from Tokyo resulted in a victory for Yokohama by a score of 11 to 6. The game was close and furnished excitement for a large audience, who liberally applauded all good play. Not being familiar with the names of the players comprising the Tokyo team it is impossible to give a minute account of the game.

Cameron did the pitching for Yokohama for five innings, and Blake pitched the last four; both men did splendid work and the Japanese could do nothing with their curves; the former was rather wild at times. Every member of the Yokohama team played well and battled hard, three home runs being made. Briggs covered second for Yokohama, and his playing was one of the features of the game; also making his presence in the game known in a most forcible manner by hitting out a home run the first time he came to the bat.

The Japanese played the game from beginning to end in splendid style, their fielding was almost perfect, and the battery work was A 1.—Their pitcher had good curves and more than one of the Yokohama batsmen hit the air, three consecutive times in the vain attempt to connect with the ball. The Japanese were unfortunate in not being able to hit Cameron and Blake at opportune times, both men keeping their hits well scattered, while Yokohama hit the ball hard and at times when most needed.

Of Ellis, it is needless to say he caught his usual good game, while Thompson on first, Johne at third, and Merriman, McChesney and Read, looked after their positions in a professional manner.

Mr. Putnam acted as umpire, giving general satisfaction, and Mr. Mendelson presided at the scoring box :—

Y. C. AND A. C.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Ellis, c.	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0...	3
Thomson, 1 b...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0...	1
Blake, s.s.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	1
Briggs, 2 b.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0...	2
McChesney, l.f.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Merriman, r.f..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Cameron, p.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1...	2
Read, c.f.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Johne, 3b.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0...	2
	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	3	1...11	

TOKYO.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Hasegawa, 1 b.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0...	1
Kanayama, r.f..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	1
Koi, p.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0...	1
Uyeno, c.f.	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0...	2
Furuhashi, 2 b..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Kataoka, 3 b....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Osaki, s.s.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Horiuchi, c.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0...	0
Nagahama, l.f..	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0...	1
	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	0...	6

INNINGS.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Yokohama	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	3	1—11
Tokyo	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0— 6

YACHT RACES.

The Yokohama Yacht Club had a full programme on Saturday, there being races for all four classes. The wind was light and what there was of it came from the N.E. The sea outside the breakwater was still a little choppy from the gale. The 39-raters raced over a course round the Lightship and the Widow Buoy, and the result was an easy win for *Kingfisher*, *Spray* just snatching second place from *Haidee*. Times were as follows :—

	Start.	Lightship.	Har. Eq.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Haidee	2.6 15	4.27 10	4 44.15
Kingfisher	2 5 30	4 18.30	4 35 17
Spray	2.5 32	4.27 50	4 44 00
	Finish.	Allow.	C. C. T.
Haidee	4 56 49	—	4.56 49
Kingfisher	4.47 35	—	4.47.35
Spray	4.56 46	6 30	4 50 16

Prizes : 1st and 2 record points, *Kingfisher*; 2nd and 1 record point, *Spray*.

The race for the cruising class attracted a full entry. *Molly Bawn*, with her handicap, had no difficulty in winning, *Daimyo* being second, and *Svanhild* but two seconds behind. Details :—

	Start.	Lightship.	Tsurumi.
Daimyo	2 20.20	3 44 40	4 07.30
Svanhild	2.20 45	3 44 50	4.07.55
Molly Bawn	2.20.18	3.42.00	4 05 30
Surprise	2.21 15	4 00 00	4.32.00
Ronin	2.20 45	4 05 50	gave up
	Har. Eq.	Finish.	Allow.	C. Arb.
Daimyo	4 51 00	5 02.20	—	5.02 20
Svanhild	4 50 07	5 02 22	—	5.02.22
Molly Bawn	4 48 40	5 01.06	9 0	4 52 06
Surprise	not timed	not timed	14 0	—
Ronin	—	—	25 0	—

Prizes : 1st, *Molly Bawn*; 2nd, *Daimyo*.

The 17 raters' race was an easy thing for *Eclair*, *Oscar* being three minutes behind, with *Devonia* third. A protest was lodged against *Oscar* by the *Devonia* skipper. Times :—

	Start.	Man. Bluff.	B. W.	Lightship.
Eclair	2 20.15	3 18 20	3 27 43	3 48.10
Wettinge	2.31 00	3 21.10	3 30 00	3 57 15
Coogee	2 30 40	3 21.35	3 31.30	4 00 35
Bonito	2 30 35	3 20 40	3 30 00	3 56 55
Devonia	2 31.00	3 20.42	3 30.00	3 55 25
Oscar	2 30 45	3 20 30	3 30.00	3 53.30
	Har. Eq.	Finish.	Allow.	C. T.
Eclair	4 07 08	4 19 20	—	
Wettinge	4 21.00	4.34.22	—	
Coogee	4 23 00	4 35 25	—	
Bonito	4 18.09	4 30.34	1 31	
Devonia	4 17 55	4 30 30	1 31	
Oscar	4 15 35	4.27 59	—	
	C. C. T.	All. Arb.	C. Arb.	
Eclair	4.19 20	—	4 19.20	
Wettinge	4 34.22	—	4.34 22	
Coogee	4.35 25	4 00	4 31.25	
Bonito	4 29 03	5 30	4 25 04	
Devonia	4 28 59	5 30	4 25.00	
Oscar	4 27 59	5 30	4.22.29	

1st and 2 record points, *Eclair*; 2nd and 1 record point, *Oscar*.

The 12-raters started at 2.45 p.m. and finished as under :—

	Finish.		Finish.
Nita	3.49 30	*Titania*	3.41.30
Lorna Doone	3.50 50	*Dora*	3.45 55
Shamrock	3 47 00	*Thistle*	3.55 45

Prizes : 1st, *Titania*; 2nd, *Dora*; 3rd, *Shamrock*. *Titania* had a very easy thing. *Thistle's* chances were spoiled by a centre-board going wrong.

MARINE COURTS OF INQUIRY.

The "America Maru" Fire.

Judgment was given on Tuesday afternoon in the Tokyo Marine Court of Enquiry, held in the Teishinsha Building, in the case of the *America Maru*, of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, which recently put back to Yokohama with a bunker on fire. The Court found Captain Cope guilty of neglect of duty for giving assurances to the Yokohama Harbour Office and to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha as to the safety of the steamer, in spite of the fact that the emission of gas from the coal bunker had been noticed, and in putting to sea regardless of the fact. The Court suspended Capt. Cope's certificate for three months. Mr. Seaver, Chief Engineer, was exonerated, with a warning to take precautions in the future. Captain Cope gave notice of appeal.

Stranding of the "Yeijo Maru."

The N.Y.K. steamer *Yeijo Maru*, Captain Anderson, stranded in the Inland Sea on the night of August 29 h on her way to Kobe from Onomichi. From the recital of the facts laid down in the judgment, it appears that prior to the stranding, Captain C. A. Andersen was relieved by Mr. W. G. Martin, the first officer, in his watch. The former went into the chart-room and fell asleep. Mr. Martin, despite his insufficient know-

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ledge of the coast, steered the ship according to the orders given by the Captain, and the stranding occurred. The Court found that both Captain Anderson and Mr. Martin neglected their duties, and in the case of the former ordered his certificate to be suspended for five months and the Chief Officer's for three months. Both have appealed.

Stranding of the "Argyll."

Lieut. Amherst C. H. Pearson, of the British cruiser *Iphigenia*, presided over a Naval Court on Monday, with reference to the circumstances attending the stranding of the steamship *Argyll* at Kobe a few weeks ago. After deliberating for three hours and a half the Court exonerated Captain Thompson from all blame, but suspended the Chief Officer's certificate as master for three months, recommending that during the interval a certificate of lower grade be granted to him.

The *Kobe Herald* says the points of the finding were:—Captain Thompson exonerated from all blame.

Hugh Wilson, mate, to blame for the stranding of the ship in that he did not veer cable on finding bad weather setting in, or when the ship commenced to drag.

Also of opinion that the engines were available for use before the grounding and should have been used.

The Court is of opinion that it would be a great advantage for the shipping generally in the harbour if the weather signals were shown in a more conspicuous manner.

CHINA ASSOCIATION ON ENGLAND'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE IN THE YANGTSZE VALLEY.

The following letter from the Hongkong Branch of the China Association to the parent Association in London is published with the local Branch's report for 1898-99:—

Hongkong, May 23rd, 1899.

The Hon. Sec., China Association, London.

Sir,—My Committee desire to call your attention to one aspect of the present position in China to which no consideration has as yet, so far as the members of this Branch are aware, been given, but which is nevertheless of importance in connection with the policy of spheres of influence recently adopted by our Government and embodied in the Anglo-Russian Convention just concluded.

2.—The Association's letter to Lord Salisbury of July last year, and your communication to the *Times* of the 14th April, in which you embody some pregnant extracts from that letter, emphasise the very different positions taken up by Russia and Germany in Manchuria and Shantung, and by Great Britain in the Yangtsze Valley.

Russia and Germany, claiming spheres of influence in these portions of China respectively, are making that influence effective. They are excluding all interference within these regions by any other Powers. They are monopolising or claiming the right to monopolise all railway, mining, and special commercial privileges within their boundaries. They have at hand sufficient force to make their claims respected, and they have no hesitation in applying that force when need be to put down all opposition and prevent any disobedience.

England, in the Yangtsze Valley, which can hardly be said to have any definite understanding with China as to her so-called sphere of influence, has, as the German Minister so clearly pointed out to Lord Salisbury the other day, taken no steps whatever to give effect to such understanding as she may have with the Chinese Government, and has permitted, as you have so well pointed out, her sphere of influence to be invaded by the Russo-Franco-Belgian combination to whom the construction of the Peking Hankow Railway has been ceded.

3.—In a country like China, so hostile to foreigners and to foreign ways, broken up into so many semi-independent governments, with the Central power so weak, troubles and disturbances of all kinds may arise at any moment and from many sources, and attacks may be made on the persons and properties of foreigners engaged about this railway and on the railway itself during its construction. Such attacks, such disturbance, will give rise to claims for redress, to demands for more effective protection, to requests for compensation. The central government is too weak to give either defence or protection. The provincial government will do nothing except under compulsion. The Foreign States whose subjects have been attacked and whose rights and properties have been interfered with will, if no other means are available, speedily send their own forces to protect their subjects and compel attention to their rights. If once Russian, or German, or French forces are moved into the interior of China for such purposes, they will remain there and be justified in remaining there, for the weakness and inability of the Chinese Government to control its own Viceroys and its own subjects is becoming greater and more marked every day. China is fast disintegrating.

4.—What is the only remedy? Great Britain must be prepared, within her so-called sphere of influence, to coerce the Chinese Government and its officers, and to afford adequate protection, within that sphere, to all foreigners and foreign enterprises and property there. Only by so doing can she claim or exercise the right to exclude foreign flags and the armed forces of foreign nations, and maintain her sphere of influence untouched. No foreign power will allow her subjects to be murdered and their properties destroyed without interfering for their protection. The danger is that they will seek to interfere and to introduce troops and gunboats on the very slightest pretext or on no pretext at all. If Great Britain claims a sphere of influence in China and hopes to have that sphere recognised and respected by other powers, our Government must make up its mind that that influence must be made effective within that sphere for the protection of life and property; not merely of her own subjects but of the subjects of all foreign Powers.

5.—And this brings me to my point. My Committee want to call your attention to the fact, and to press it upon you, that there is no military force available in or near China by which our Government can make its power and influence in China effective. Gunboats can only operate on main rivers, and there are only four gunboats on the station really effective for up-river work. No large body of men can be safely detached from the fleet more than a few days. Weihaiwei has only, if one may put it so, a corporal's guard for its own defence. The garrison in Hongkong is barely sufficient, if sufficient, for the defence of the Colony, and no body of men, however small, can be prudently detached for operations at a greater distance than 21 or 48 hours or for any length of time. Recent operations in connection with the taking possession of our new territory has shown that clearly. To occupy Sam Chun and Kowloon eighteen hundred men were moved over to the mainland, leaving a very slender garrison in Hongkong. The Volunteers were turned out and utilized at Kowloon and 300 men had to be borrowed from the fleet.

6.—The disintegration of China is proceeding rapidly. The central power is weakening daily. Rebellions are springing up or are threatened in nearly every province. All the elements of unrest and disturbance are being let loose. Any of the open ports may need assistance at any moment, and there is no movable column of troops available anywhere to send to their protection. The interior is full of foreigners prospecting in all directions and liable at any moment to be attacked. If there is a call for protection from our own subjects, they must be protected. If the subjects of other Powers are plundered and murdered, or in danger, especially within our sphere of influence, the Yangtsze Valley, they must be protected or avenged by us and by our forces, or their own country will send armed men to do so. If that happens, our influence is gone.

7.—There should be in Hongkong, not necessarily forming part of the garrison proper, but under the command of the General and subject to the requisition of our Minister at Peking, a small but complete force of all arms, mobile in all respects, ready to answer any call, whether from Wuchow or from Hankow. Fifteen hundred men is probably the smallest number that would be fully effective for the purposes in view. Two thousand five hundred would be ample, and they might all be Indian troops, but they must be complete and prepared to take to the field at any time. Our troops here are not capable, for want of proper camp equipage and transport, of any expedition to any distance or for any time. This additional force is required anyhow, for our own protection at the open ports in the event of any rebellion or serious disturbance. It is indispensable if we are to maintain an effective sphere of influence anywhere in China, for we must be prepared to make that influence effective for protection not only of our own people but of all foreigners, or else see Russia or Germany or the French installed within our sphere doing the work we ought to be ready and willing to do.

8.—May we in conclusion beg of you to lay this matter speedily before the Executive of the Association, and before the Foreign Office. To us out here the question seems pressing and important.—I remain, sir, yours obediently,

Jno. J. Francis,
Chairman.

THE DREYFUS JUDGMENT.

A dramatic scene.

Rennes, September 9.

The expected has happened. Dreyfus has been condemned, but though a majority of those in the court room this afternoon fully expected the verdict, they were completely stupefied when it was given, and the silence which prevailed in the room and the way men turned pale and caught their breath were more impressive than any other manifestation could have been. M. Demange sank back in his chair and tears trickled down his cheeks, and M. Labori turned white as a sheet, while all around the court room men looked at each other in silence. As the audience left the court room fully 10 or 15 men were crying and the majority of those walked quietly down the street for some distance, without speaking a word. It was like a funeral procession. Meanwhile a tragedy was being enacted in the little room off the court room, where Dreyfus listened to the reading of the verdict. He had been told the result by his lawyers, and had wept bitterly, but when in the presence of the officials of the court-martial he listened impassively to the sentence. His wife, who was waiting in torture and suspense at her house, bore the news bravely, and, when visiting her husband this afternoon, showed onlookers who were in the streets no sign of her suffering as she walked from her carriage to the prison.

M. Mathieu Dreyfus was not present in court this afternoon, but visited his brother after the verdict had been rendered. He found him perfectly calm and without any manifestation of surprise at the finding of the court. The prisoner simply shrugged his shoulders, uttering an expressive "Ah" as he embraced his brother, and as the latter was preparing to leave, said, "Console my wife."

The general belief is that Dreyfus will be pardoned, but this will not satisfy his friends, who vehemently declare that they will refuse to accept the verdict and will continue the battle until the judgment is reversed. The verdict, they say, is directed more against the Jews than against Dreyfus, and if allowed to stand will make their existence in France impossible.

M. Labori and M. Demange took the midnight train for Paris. M. Demange and M. Labori will to-morrow sign an application for the revision of the case, although there is no hope that the verdict will be reversed.

Counsel's last words.

M. Demange concluded his address to the Court at 11 35 a.m. "My task is now accomplished. It is for you to do yours. I pray God" exclaimed counsel, lifting his arms towards Heaven, "I pray God that you will restore to our country the concord of which she has so much need." Then, turning to the audience, in which every eye was fixed upon him, M. Demange added: "In conclusion, as to you, whoever you may be, Frenchmen, be you with me or against me, I say to all, we are Frenchmen. Let us then be united in the common sentiment of love of country, love of justice, and love of army."

M. Labori then said that he did not desire to speak. Major Carriere, however, claimed the right to reply.

When the court resumed its session after a brief adjournment the Government commissary began his reply. "Weigh the importance of the two categories of witnesses, those for and those against the prisoner. Weigh their importance and judge, in all the independence of your character and all the strength of soldiers. Proof is everywhere. The hour of supreme decision has sounded. France awaits your judgment. I also wait confidently and fully maintaining the conclusions already announced. I demand the application of article 76 of the Penal Code and article 267 of the Military Code."

The speech of the commisary caused a sensation in court. M. Demange arose to reply with his voice hoarse from fatigue. He said; "The Government commissary, in reminding you of the text of the law, has also reminded us of what we already know, namely, that you are only answerable to your consciences and God for your verdict. This is my last word in the case. I feel that, as men of honour and loyalty, and as military judges, you will never admit as proofs the hypotheses and presumptions advanced here; consequently, my last word is the same I spoke this morning—I have confidence in you because you are soldiers.

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THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRISONER.

Colonel Jouaust, president of the court, asked Dreyfus if he had anything to add. The prisoner replied in a voice choked with emotion declaring that he had only one thing to say, but of that he was perfectly assured. He said: "I affirm before my country and the army that I am innocent. My sole aim has been to save the honour of my name, the name borne by my children. I have suffered five years of the most abominable torture. At last I feel assured that I am about to attain my desire, through your loyalty and justice."

Colonel Jouaust—Have you finished, Dreyfus?

Dreyfus—Yes, president.

JUDGMENT.

The court then retired to deliberate, and the prisoner left the hall never to return as, in accordance with the law, the verdict was rendered in his absence.

The court found Dreyfus guilty, and sentenced him to 10 years' imprisonment.

The text of the judgment is as follows: "To-day, the ninth of September, 1899, the court-martial of the 10th Legion Army Corps, deliberating behind closed doors, the President put the following question: 'Is Alfred Dreyfus, brevet-captain, Fourteenth Regiment of Artillery, probationer on the general staff, guilty of having, in 1894, entered into machinations or held relations with a foreign Power, or one of its agents, to induce it to commit hostility or undertake war against France, or procure it the means therefor, by delivering the notes and documents mentioned in the document called the *bordereau*, according to the decision of the Court of Cassation of June 3rd, 1899?' The votes were taken separately, beginning at the inferior grade and the youngest in the last grade, the president having given his opinion last. The court declared on the question by a majority of five votes to two 'Yes, the accused is guilty.' The majority agree that there are extenuating circumstances in consequence of which and on the request of the commissary of the government, the president again put the question and received the votes. As a result the court condemns, by a majority of five votes to two, Alfred Dreyfus to the punishment of ten years' detention."

STREET SCENES.

The crowd outside greeted the verdict with cheers for the army.

There were exciting scenes in the streets of Rennes to-night. The anti-Dreyfusards broke loose and started a demonstration, which, but for prompt and vigorous measures by the police, would have undoubtedly developed into serious disorders.

The streets leading to the Lycee were filled with crowds of people, waiting news from the court room. The announcement of the prisoner's condemnation was agreeable to a majority of these, and cheers and cries of *Vive l'Armée* were raised. The terrace in front of the Café de la Paix, the leading café in Rennes, was filled with people, taking their afternoon drinks, and when the verdict of the court was announced, the customers rose to their feet and demanded that the string band, which plays on the terrace, should give the "Marseillaise." The band struck up the air, and the crowds, both inside and outside, joined in the national song.

Colonel Jouaust passed by a little later, on foot and in full uniform.

The crowd, with bared heads, cheered him, crying *Vive l'Armée*. Colonel Jouaust, in reply to their cheers, saluted with his hand to his *kepi*.

AN INCIDENT.

As the dinner-hour approached, the streets became empty, but about 8 o'clock the crowd gathered at the Café de la Paix, and in the square beside it and in the adjacent street. Just then an incident occurred at the Hotel Moderne, which is known as the Dreyfus Centre. Two men, notorious anti-Dreyfusards, entered the winter garden inside the hotel and sat down at one of the little marble tables under the palm trees and ordered coffee. At an adjoining table sat La Dame Blanche with a companion, while at other tables were seated Mesdames Bernard, Lazaro, and Forzinetti, with other Dreyfusards. The two new comers at once began to make offensive remarks about Dreyfus and Jews generally. One of them, turning to La Dame Blanche, said: "Oh! these dirty Jews; these dirty Dreyfusards!" La Dame Blanche replied, telling him not to address her. The men, however, persisted, and added personal insults, whereupon La Dame Blanche became greatly excited, and called them "cads" for insulting a woman. The men retorted offensively, and in a moment La Dame Blanche snatched a menu card in a heavy metal frame and threw it at the head of one of her insulters, narrowly missing him. The other diners, seeing the trouble, rose *en masse* and threatened to throw the men out of the garden. In an instant the place became a perfect Babel. Just as the threatened free fight was on the point of breaking out, a detachment of gendarmes arrived, and, after a scene of intense excitement, put the men who had caused the trouble into the street.

This, however, was but the beginning. The men proceeded to the terrace of the Café de la Paix, which was now crowded with anti-Dreyfusards and there gave their own version of the row, and in a few minutes an anti-Dreyfusard demonstration was in full swing. The people sitting at tables rose with shouts of "Down with the Jews." Finally, one man waved his hat, and shouted: "Let us march to the Hotel Moderne." Two Englishmen, who were sitting in the café, were recognized as foreigners, and the crowd then hustled them out. At this moment the cry, "Police," was raised, and an instant later a strong body of gendarmes and police, headed by detectives, rushed into the café and cleared every one out. At the same time several mounted gendarmes and dragoons, with carbines slung across their backs, came and threw themselves across the road leading to the hotel.

Other detachments of cavalry cordoned all approaches to the café, and gradually closed on the crowd and drove them like cattle across the bridge over the river and into the upper part of the town, which was filled with shouts of *Vive l'Armeè*," and "Down with the Jews." A number of the most noisy of the demonstrators were arrested, and the cavalry, at a quick trot, broke up every group and forced the participants in the demonstration out of the centre of the town, around which was formed a cordon, through which no one was allowed to pass, except he was provided with a pass from the police authorities.

A NOMINAL SENTENCE.

It is reported this evening that, as Dreyfus has been condemned to 10 years' detention, and as he has already suffered five years' solitary imprisonment, which counts as double the ordinary detention, he will be released at the end of a fortnight.

In the meanwhile, unless the President of the Republic pardons him, which many think certain as being the only solution of the present situation, Dreyfus will have to be degraded here again within eight days.

PARIS REJOICES.

Paris, September 9.

The boulevards were crowded early to-day, but there were no serious disturbances. The news of the sentence was received with joy, and it was impossible to hear opinions friendly to Dreyfus.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN GERMANY.

Berlin, August 26.

The political situation this week has been highly interesting. The unexampled defeat of the Government in the Diet, which, after his emphatic utterance at Dortmund, was a personal defeat for Emperor William, has engrossed attention to the exclusion of almost everything else. The fact that the blow was dealt by the Conservatives, a party which has been favored and nursed for generations at the expense of every other party, made the event all the more sensational. The absence of His Majesty complicated the situation for the Cabinet, and, the Emperor not having expected the rejection of the canal bill, no provision was made as to what steps the Government would take in such an event. After the final vote, both Prince Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, and Dr. von Miquel, vice-president of the Council of Ministers and Prussian Minister of Finance, not having any instructions, neither the Cabinet nor the Government press knew what to say or do. For several days political chaos reigned, even the opposition press being at a loss.

Detailed reports had been wired to the Emperor, and every member of the Cabinet participated in the debates, and His Majesty wrote and wired brief replies, in which it was apparent he felt a keen sense of personal outrage and meant to deal punishment to the worst blunderers and offenders. That, however, was insufficient to let the Cabinet see their way clear how to shape their actions. It was only on Wednesday that the nation and the Cabinet began to know precisely how the Emperor stood and what were his intentions regarding the unprecedented situation, nothing like this defeat having been met since the establishment of the Diet, fifty years ago.

Prince Hohenlohe, although he has agreed to remain, is heartily tired of office and cannot well bear the burdens much longer. A most interesting feature of the situation was the attitude of the Conservatives. Out of revenge on Baron von Derhorst, the Conservative Diet resolved not to pass any bills of which he was the author or advocate. This regular boycott has thus far been carried out. It intensely amuses the *Vorwarts*, which first recorded the fact that the election reform bill had been shelved for the same reason.

The present session of the Diet will soon close, probably by the end of next week, after the most pressing business has been disposed of. The language of the Conservative and Agrarian papers is even more extraordinary. One of the main organs of the Agrarians proclaimed that it was high time the Emperor learned that he was "no longer, at the end of the nineteenth century, an absolute ruler over vassals, but the leader of a free nation."

Wednesday's and Thursday's crown councils furnished a little light on the situation. It appeared that Emperor William, after mature reflection, had concluded not to dissolve the Diet and not to accept the resignation of the Cabinet. It was represented to His Majesty that the elections might not result in a majority for the canal project, while the dismissal of the Cabinet and the formation of a new one would present at this juncture new and almost insurmountable difficulties.

The proposed partial reorganization of the Cabinet, relieving it of some of its inefficient members, like Baron von der Ecke and Baron von der Horst, the Minister of the Interior, has been postponed to quieter times, His Majesty meanwhile disciplining some of the most refractory officials, who, as delegates, voted and agitated against the canal bill. Having resolved on this, the present outcome of the crisis amounts to next to nothing. The Emperor and the Cabinet will continue to govern with the same party which brought on the crisis.

This is all the more peculiar after the wild threats launched in the entire press by the members of the Government against the Conservatives and their leaders. These threats appeared for several days in such Government organs as the *Allegemaine Zeitung*. *Politische Correspondent*, *Meusten Nachrichten*, *Hamburger Correspondent* and others. The crisis is so serious, however, that every member of the Cabinet has been recalled to Berlin. Prince Hohenlohe even abandoned his usual summer trip to Austria, and will remain in this city for some time.

The wildest rumors and statements pervaded the papers during the first half of the week. The entire Liberal press indulged in the hope of a radical change in the political system of Prussia, the submerging of the Conservative and Agrarian elements and the coming to the front of the Liberals and industrial interests of the country. It was the premature and injudicious publication of their hopes which startled the Emperor and made him retrace his steps to the Conservative camp. The correspondent hears from a reliable source that Prince Hohenlohe insisted on the dissolution of the Diet and the resignation of the Cabinet, while Dr. von Miquel viewed the situation in the light finally adopted by the Emperor.

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, the old-time organ of the Prussian Conservatives, threatened that if the Government meant a change of attitude towards the Conservatives the latter would revise their attitude towards the Government not only in the Diet, but also in the Reichstag. The *Kreuz Zeitung* also roundly abused Prince Hohenlohe, saying he was no friend of the Conservatives and Agrarians, and terming his remarks in the Diet as "most outrageous words."

The *Deutsche Tages Zeitung* and all the other leading Conservative and Agrarian organs have had daily defiant articles, in which it was claimed the monarchy would be lost if it attempted to govern without the Conservative party or against it.

ALLEGED ILL-TREATMENT OF CHRISTIANS IN FORMOSA.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.

The *Formosan* of the 12th inst. publishes the following translation of a letter received from trustworthy parties at Auland, describing an alleged attack which was made by the Japanese police on the Christians there:—

"On September the 2nd in the evening, at the hour for holding service in the Church (about 7 p.m.), a house took fire in the neighbourhood. The preacher, Lim In Leng, immediately sent five of the Christians to help put out the fire (there are in the village not more than, say, twelve Christians all told, including five women, one blind man, and children). When the fire was extinguished these five men returned to the Chapel. They has just finished singing a hymn and were engaged in prayer, when suddenly three Japanese policemen entered the building, snatched the

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Bible out of the preacher's hands, threw it on the floor, and, with a bamboo which they had in their hands, commenced beating about right and left, upset the preacher's desk that was on the platform, and said it was because they didn't go to put out the fire. The next day the preacher went to the Kenchatsu to complain, and asked him to send for the neighbours who were not Christians to testify whether they, the Christians, went to help put out the fire or not, but no redress was obtainable. He was told to hold his tongue and go about his business."

We have made inquiries into this case, continues the *Formosan*, and have every reason to believe that the facts are as stated in the above letter. It goes without saying that nothing could be more unjust or less calculated to inspire respect for the Japanese officials. No wonder there are rebels if this is the way the people are treated. We feel sure, however, such treatment is against the wishes of his Majesty the Emperor, and against the wishes of the most excellent Viceroy who rules over this island, and we publicly bring the matter to His Excellency's notice in our columns in the hope and confidence that he will take steps to punish the rascals who under cover of their official positions, presumed to behave in such a glaringly brutal and disgraceful manner. Such treatment in Chinese days was received only at the hands of the "howling mob"; never at the hands of any official.

Nor is this an isolated case, we are sorry to say for the preacher of the Christian church at Kelung and his wife were beaten by a Japanese quite recently without the slightest justification, and when they made complaint to the police about the treatment they had received, as was their right and duty, they were told to be silent and go about their business. It was on the occasion of the last typhoon. The Japanese living next to the church had built his house abutting over the church, and the typhoon blew doors, windows, etc., into the churchyard right against the church door. The preacher gathered the pieces together and put them all in one place just outside the door of the church, when the Japanese appeared on the scene and beat both the preacher and his wife, saying they meant to steal the stuff. It would, no doubt, have been a very serious thing for the preacher and his wife had not a Japanese Christian who lives opposite the church come to the rescue of the unfortunate couple.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS.

Shanghai, Sept. 22.

The Afrikander members of the Cape Parliament have telegraphed to President Kruger urging him to do his utmost, short of sacrificing the Transvaal's independence, to avert war.

Shanghai, Sept. 23.

At a meeting of the Orange Free State Raad President Steyn virtually accused Great Britain of a breach of faith. He said that he was disinclined to advise the Transvaal to accept the latest demands of England, and that the Free State was bound by treaty to assist the Transvaal.

The Cabinet Council in London has resulted in the sending of a despatch regretting the Transvaal's rejection of the offer of the British Government, which will now proceed to formulate proposals of its own for the settlement of the complication. These proposals will be considered at a Cabinet Council on the 27th instant.

Shanghai, Sept. 25.

The War Office is preparing to raise the force in South Africa to fifty thousand men.

The feeling of uneasiness is increasing in Johannesburg. Merchants are barricading their premises. Eleven hundred left in the last 48 hours for Durban.

An attempt has been made to hold a widely advertised meeting in Tratalgar Square for the purpose of protesting against going to war with the Transvaal, but thousands assembled waving Union Jacks, singing the National Anthem, cheering Chamberlain and hissing Kruger.

Shanghai, Sept. 26.

Business in the Rand is almost at a standstill. It is expected that the mines will be closed at the end of the month.

The Times' Capetown correspondent says that the Boers are assuming an aggressive attitude at Charlestown and on the Natal border.

Shanghai, Sept. 27.

Mr. Chamberlain's despatch, dated 22nd September, says that Her Majesty's Government is compelled to absolutely deny and repudiate the assertion of the Transvaal that it is an independent Sovereign State. The despatch adds that the Transvaal must have known before hand that the conditions as to non-interference and suzerainty attached to the franchise proposals were totally inadmissible.

Shanghai, Sept. 28.

Three thousand five hundred British troops are encamped at Dundee in Natal. Two regiments have arrived at Ladysmith. A detachment of the Balloon Section of the Royal Engineers sails for Africa on Saturday, 30th Sept. Another fourteen hundred troops, comprising two hundred officers, will sail by the *Braemar Castle* next week for the Cape. Great Britain has arranged for the shipment of three thousand mules from New Orleans for South Africa in October.

DREYFUS.

Shanghai, Sept. 23.

Dreyfus is staying with his relatives at Carpentras. General de Gallifet has issued an order declaring the Dreyfus incident closed, and urging that it be forgotten by the Army.

THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Shanghai, Sept. 25.

It is stated that the Washington Government has instructed General Otis to admit the Chinese into the Philippines, and has intimated that Otis exceeded his authority in excluding them.

EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA.

Shanghai, Sept. 27.

An earthquake attended by land-slips has occurred at Darjeeling. Upwards of 200 lives have been lost, including several Europeans, and immense damage has been done.

THE SOUDAN.

The Sirdar is preparing to attack the Khalifa, who is established near Jebel-gedir.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

DREYFUS VISITS HIS FAMILY.

Saigon, Sept. 22.

Dreyfus has set out for Carpentras, in the south of France, where he will visit his relatives.

GENERAL DE GALLIFET AND THE FRENCH ARMY.

General de Gallifet, Minister of War, has issued a general order calling upon the Army to bow to the decree of pardon for Dreyfus and to forget the past.

DEATH OF GENERAL BRAULT.

Saigon, Sept. 24.

General Brault, Chief of the General Staff, is dead.

GENERAL BRAULT'S SUCCESSOR.

Saigon, Sept. 27.

The late General Brault, chief of the General Head-Quarter staff, has been succeeded by General Delarme.

THE AFRICAN COLONIAL CONFERENCE.

The Conference of the West African Colonies is now studying the question of budgetary equilibrium, and will next take up the problem of the delimitation of the Soudan.

(From the "China Mail.")

DEATH OF LI HAN-CHANG.

Shanghai, Sept. 15, 4.31 p.m.

The death is announced from Hofei, in the Province of Anhui, of Li Han-chang, the brother of the more famous Li Hung-chang, and Tan's predecessor in the Viceroyship of the Kwang Provinces.

QUARANTINE EXTRAORDINARY AT SINGAPORE.

Singapore, Sept. 15, 11.5 a.m.

The China Mutual Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Chingwo*, (Captain Harris), which arrived here with 500 Chinese coolies on board, has been ordered to leave the waters of the Colony within twenty-four hours for having contravened the quarantine regulations of the port by touching at Hongkong on the voyage from Amoy.

She is now at sea, and it is expected here that she will return to Amoy with her human freight.

PATRIOTIC OFFER BY HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

(From the "China Gazette.")

Hongkong, Sept. 20.

Over fifty of the Hongkong Volunteers have offered their services to the Government in the event of war in the Transvaal.

Two firms have similarly offered in the event of the Volunteers' offer being accepted to provide them with Maxim guns and to bear the cost of transporting them to South Africa.

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 438.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K 3	1—K takes R
2—B to Kt 6 ch	2—P to B 4 (must)
3—R to Q 3 mate	
	1—Kt takes R
2—Kt to B 8	2—Any
3—Kt to K 6 mate	
	1—Any other
2—R to B 3 ch	2—K takes R
3—P to K 3 mate	

Correct solution received from East Anglia, Voila, L.M.A. and Marco.

East Anglia writes:—As the conclusion of the End-game by Stepanow in your last week's issue is not at all apparent, I enclose solution:—

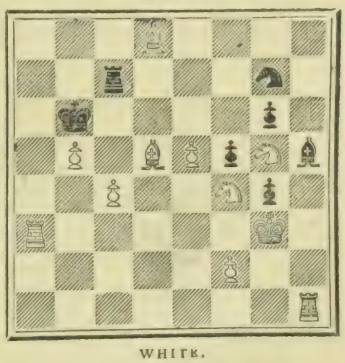
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R takes P ch	1—K to R sq
2—R to Kt 8 dble. ch!!	2—K takes R
3—R to Kt sq ch	3—Q to Kt 4
4—R takes Q mate	

This is the correct solution.

PROBLEM No. 441.

By A. Napoleon.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

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FROM THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

Game No. 553.

FINE SAMPLE OF "MODERN CHESS."

In the following game there is nothing brilliant, but there is the best kind of careful, thoughtful play. When fourteen moves have been made the game seemed even, or, if there be any advantage, most folks would give it to White, for in an end-game a Knight is stronger than a single Bishop. Look at the position when White makes his 15th move! We are quite sure that M. Cohn believed that he had a draw. Then, notice Lasker's wonderful skill: he doesn't make any blunders, and he takes advantage of every slip of his opponent. White's first slip was his 17th move. He should have played P to K B 4, following it with Q R to Q sq. This would have stopped the advance of Black's K Kt P. One of the best moves in the game is Black's 22d, as the sequel shows. White's 24th, while not a blunder, was an oversight, and Black takes immediate advantage of it, winning a Pawn.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Cohn. Black—Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	26 R R6	B B3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	27 K Kt2	R K4
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	28 R K2	B Kt2
4 P Q3	P Q3	29 R R5	K B3
5 Kt B3	B Q2	30 P B3	P B4
6 Castles	P KKt3	31 Kt Kt5	PxPch
7 B Kt5	P KR3	32 KxP	K Kt3
8 BxKKt	QxB	33 R R3	P Q4
9 P Q4	B Kt2	34 K Kt4	PxP
10 PxP	Kt xP	35 Kt Q6	R KB q
11 KtxKt	QxKt	36 R(K3) K3	R B5ch
12 BxB ch	KxB	37 K Kt3	B B q
13 Q Kt4ch	Q K3	38 Kt B4	R Q4
14 QxQch	PxQ	39 Kt Kt6	K B4
15 Kt K2	KR KB sq	40 KtxR	PxKt
16 P QB3	P QR4	41 K Kt2	P Q5
17 QR Q q	P KKt4	42 R R3	P Q6
18 R Q3	P R5	43 R KB2	P B5
19 P QR3	R R4	44 K B q	P K6
20 KR Q q	P R4	45 R(B2) B3	K K5
21 R(Q q) Q2	R QB4	46 RxRch	PxR
22 R B3	R KKt sq	47 R R8	B K2
23 Kt Q4	K K2	48 R K8	K B6
24 P KKt4	B K4	49 R KR8	P Q7
25 R R3	PxP	50 Resigns	

Game No. 554.

THE FRENCHMAN OUTWITS THE BRITISHER.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowski. Black—Blackburne.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	25 Kt QB sq	Kt B2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	26 Kt B sq	P Kt5
3 B Kt5	P QR3	27 Kt Q2	Kt Kt3
4 B R4	P Q3	28 PxP	Kt Kt4(d)
5 Castles	B Q2	29 Kt B3	QxP
6 P B3	P KKt3	30 Q K2(e)	Q K3
7 P Q4	B K2	31 P Kt5(f)	B B3
8 PxP	PxP	32 R Q5	Kt B2
9 B KKt5	P B3(g)	33 Q Q3	B K2
10 B K3	Q K2	34 P B4	R KKt sq
11 P QKt4	R Q q	35 P B5(g)	PxP
12 QKt Q2	Q B2	36 Kt Kt3	Kt B sq
13 Q K2	RKt K2	37 BxP	Q Kt5
14 R K13(b)	B K3	38 Q K2	R Q3
15 BxB	QxB	39 BxB	PxB
16 Kt Kt3	P K 3(c)	40 P Kt6	Kt Q2
17 QxP	Castles	41 P Kt7	R Kt sq
18 QR Q q	P R3	42 R Kt5	Kt Q q
19 RxR	KtxR	43 Q B4	Kt K3
20 KKt Q2	P KB4	44 P KR3	Q Kt sq
21 P B3	K R2	45 Q Q5	Kt B3
22 R Q q	P B5	46 QxQP	KtxP
23 B B2	P KKt4	47 Q Q3	Resigns
24 Q B4	Q B q		

Notes from *The Field*, London.

(a) Showing the weakness of the King's Fianchetto defence. The compulsory advance of this P is weakening.

(b) Janowski developed with a clear judgment of the weak points in Black's defense. The text-move forces the 14 h and 15th moves, and then White threatens with 16—Kt to K 3 to post this Kt on B 5.

(c) Compulsory. The loss of a P is the lesser evil. If he allows Kt to B 5, he could not dislodge it, and would have to defend the Q Kt P with either Q or R. Both suicidal.

(d) Blackburne's attack is highly ingenious and planned with a master hand. It required all of Janowski's skill to withstand it.

(e) Obviously Kt takes Kt ch would be followed by P takes Kt, threatening P to B 6 and Kt to B 5 with winning advantage.

(f) Preparatory to R to Q 5.

(g) White is now perfectly secure, and resumes the attack. The remainder requires no further comment, except a recommendation to study the correct and elegant way in which White winds up the game.

Game No. 555.

THE TWO VETERANS.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

White—Steinitz. Black—Blackburne.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	17 KR Q q	Kt Q2
2 P QB4	PxP	18 B KK3	Q Kt B3
3 P K4	P K4	19 B Q3	P K5
4 P Q5	Kt KB3	20 B Kt sq	Kt R4
5 Kt QB3	B QB4	21 Q Kt5	KtxBP
6 BxB	Kt Kt5	22 BxKt	BxKt
7 Kt R3	P B4	23 Q B sq	BxBch
8 B KKt5	Q Q3	24 KxB	B Kt5
9 PxP	BxP	25 K Q4	Kt B3
10 Castles	Q KKt3	26 P Q6	Q R4ch
11 Kt Kt5	B Q3	27 K Kt sq	B K7
12 B R4	P KR3	28 P Q7	Kt Kt5
13 R B sq	Kt Q2	29 P Q8(Q)ch	RxQ
14 Q K2	Castles	30 RxRch	K B2
15 KtxBP	Kt K3	31 R B7ch	K K3
16 KtxR	RxKt	32 Resigns	

THE LONDON TOURNEY PLAYERS.

The Birmingham *Weekly Mercury* "sizes up" the players of the London Tourney as follows:

"Lasker has fulfilled expectations and showed himself head and shoulders above every other competitor ..... Janowski threw away second prize through sheer inconsiderateness.....Pillsbury has not done himself justice. Instead of going into training, he was playing blindfold games and giving fatiguing performances..... Maroczy is a fine player, who has done quite as well as he deserved ..... Schlechter has done well.....We have always expected more from Schlechter than he has performed.....Of Blackburne we need say nothing save that he is a great player who is growing old.....Tschigorin has unaccountable lapses, and, like Janowski, is apt to be careless.....Showalter has done fairly well, but he is unequal, and is not at his best in long tournaments.....Steinitz has fallen much below his ancient form, but as no man may preserve his youth forever, he must be content to give way by reason of advancing age. He is sixty-four, and no living man, nor any man that ever lived, has carried off so many victories. We admire his pluck, and we sympathize with his decline, which, after all may be only temporary..... Of 'young' Bird, it is enough to say that he is still sixty-nine, and will probably remain at that interesting age for another decade or two. We hope so, for Birds of such a feather are scarce, and are growing scarcer day by day. With another temperament, Bird might have made more mark on the sands of time. But he so bubbles over with fight that he throws away chances through sheer impetuosity."

END GAME.

Said to be one of the finest endings on record. The White forces were conducted by Lieut. Sørensen, of the Swedish army, and the Black by Herr Wagner.

BLACK.



WHITE.

1 QR K q	Q xQR(a)	5 R B7ch	K R3
2 Q K8 ch	Kt xQ	6 R B6ch	K Kt2
3 P xK(Q)ch	K xQ	7 R K6 ch	K B q
4 K K7 dbl ch	K Kt2	8 R K8 mate.	

(a) Forced, because if Q takes KR, then 2—R to K 8 ch, K takes P; 3—Kt to B 6 dis. ch, Q to Q 4; 4—B takes Q ch, B to K 3; 5—B takes B mate.

NOTES.

This is not the only place where chess has been stagnating, says "Black Bishop" of Hongkong. I learn that the Committee of the Singapore Chess Club have decided to abandon the proposed Championship Tourney, at least for the present, on account of the insufficiency of the entries. The Silver Knight that forms the Club's trophy remains for the present with Mr. P. A. Reutens, whose property it will become on his winning it three times successively. It is to be hoped that he will soon have the second opportunity that now is postponed. Meanwhile, Colonel The O'German has challenged Mr. Danenberg to defend the Hongkong cup.

Messrs. Lasker and Janowski are still carrying on negotiations for their match, to be played some time in the sweet by-and-by, on some beautiful shore, where there happens to be a chess club willing to pay high enough for the honour of having the match contested on its premises or under its auspices. It is a fine opportunity for any club, having capital idle, waiting for profitable investment.—*Hereford Evening Times.*

The midsummer meeting of the New York Chess Association was held in the United States Hotel, Saratoga Springs, New York, during the week August 23 to September 2. The features of interest were to be the Inter-State Match, the *Staats-Zeitung* Trophy contest, and class tournaments for the Fransworth and Wright cups. The Manhattan Chess-Club has been successful four times in getting the *Staats Zeitung* cup, and expects to win this time; but America has now a newly created Chess-master, Mr. Frank J. Marshall, of Brooklyn, who will represent the Brooklyn Chess-Club in this contest. The Inter-State Match will be the star feature of the meeting, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania being represented by teams of seven players each. Prizes of $50, $40, $30, $20, $10 are offered for the best, next best, etc., individual scores.

The London *Times*, commenting upon the "sneers" we sometimes hear by those who affect a lordly position over the "*mere* problem-student," says, concerning problem-solving: "As a matter of fact the ordinary player misses many of the beauties and delights of Chess by declining to devote himself to study and analysis. Much so-called Chess is mere skittling and wood-shifting."

Mr. Walter Pulitzer, who has achieved a reputation as a composer of two-move problems of the prevalent fashion, and is the author of *Chess Harmonies*, has recently aired his views on problem tourneys in general and English critics in particular. In English tourneys he volunteers the statement that native composers are always chief prize winners, and he cannot forget that one of his poorest two-movers won first prize in an English contest. He has every reason to hold the English problemist and problem editor in the highest respect and admiration, but if they would only select problem judges of some other nationality, when it comes to making the awards, he thinks his admiration would increase!

In the course of a popular sketch on chess as a hobby, *Pearson's Weekly* attributes varieties in style to the characteristics of the race from which the players spring. The Germans play a solid, thoughtful, stonewall sort of game. Hungarian players, who are plentiful in London just now, give a beautiful and romantic display. The Scotch play cautiously, the Irish badly and the French unevenly. Were English people to devote themselves to chess seriously they would be unsurpassed, for the qualities of caution and enterprise, so conspicuous in the English character, are just those which tell in chess.

Lasker has been to see a phrenologist, according to *The Pall Mall Gazette*. The phrenologist didn't know that the young man whom he was examining was the Chess-Champion of the World. He said that Lasker was "fairly constructive, able to organize quickly, does not always concentrate his mind, distributes his attention, is versatile, calculation good, organ of concentration not large enough to give him persistency in any particular pursuit." He capped the climax by saying:—"He might play Chess a little, but I should say Cricket was his specialty."

At the recent Women's Congress a too voluble French delegate, who had resisted several gentle hints to cut short her address, was at last ordered to sit down by Lady Aberdeen. This decisive closure was effective, but it excited the hot indignation of the speaker, who, plumping herself violently down in her chair, exclaimed audibly, *Mon dieu! C'est un autre Fashoda!*

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BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Sept. 22nd :—

	Dr. Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,896,675
Amount of convertible notes issued...	207,921,493
Government deposits	39,486,615
General deposits	3,911,860
Exchange liability	550,931
Total	296,777,575

Cr.	
Discount notes	41,963,613
Foreign discount notes	9,900,017
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	65,853,692
Exchange liability	772,178
Government bonds	49,657,340
Property...	1,930,745
Bullion and Specie	104,699,987
Total	296,777,575

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	207,706,552
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	102,569,091
Silver	—
Total	102,569,091
Securities :—	
Government bonds	33,526,988
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,922,546
Commercial notes	37,677,927
Total	105,137,461

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	685,632
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	160,899
Government deposits	294,489	—
General deposits	—	2,199,901

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 1	Su. Oct. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 2	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Tonkin 3	Th. Oct. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan 4	Th. Oct. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Oct. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Oct. 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Oct. 18
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Oct. 19
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	M. Oct. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Oct. 25

1 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 27th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 27th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Oct. 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Tu. Oct. 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Oct. 4
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 4
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Oct. 6
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	W. Oct. 11
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Oct. 14
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Oct. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Oct. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 23
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Oct. 27

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 2,875, Evans, 22nd September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 19th September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, Jaeger, 23rd September,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 14th Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 23rd Sept.,—Otaru via ports, 18th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 24th September,—Seattle, Washington, 6th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 24th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, 16th Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 24th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 24th September,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dr. Hans Jurg Kiaer, Norwegian steamer, 691, H Lersbryggen, 24th September,—Cebu, Sugar.—J. Puig.

Nero, U.S. Cable steamer, 1,880, Captain Hodges, 24th September,—Guam.—U.S. Navy Department.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 24th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 25th Sept.,—Hakodate, 23rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, H. Kirchner, 25th Sept.,—Hongkong, 19th Sept., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, G. C. Talbot, 25th Sept.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 24th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 25th September,—Kobe, 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, G. Oda, 25th Sept.,—Yokkaichi 24th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1 871, J. Dwyer, 25th September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 24th September, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th September,—Vancouver, B C., 12th Sept., Mails and General.—C P R. Co.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 26th September,—Otaru via ports, 21st Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 26th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 25th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, A. Christiagen, 27th September,—Kobe, 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 27th Sept.,—Nagasaki, 24th September, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 27th September,—Otaru via ports, 22nd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 2,875, Evans, 27th September,—Uraga Dock, 27th Sept., General —W. M Strachan & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Nakajima, 28th Sept.,—Sakata, 25th September,, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 28th September,—Kode, 26th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 28th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 27th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Thos. W. Gregory, 28th September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 27th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 22nd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 22nd September,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O S.S. Co.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,748, W. Thompson, 23rd September,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 24th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 23rd September,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 24th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 22nd Sept.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 24th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Warren, U.S. Army Transport, 2,926, F. W. Hart, 25th September,—Manila via Nagasaki, Troops.—Browne & Co.

Tartar, U.S. Army Transport, 2,768, H. Pybus, 25th September,—San Francisco, Troops.—U.S. Government.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 25th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Jerome, British steamer, 1,845, R. F. Reid, 25th September,—Hakodate, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 25th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 2,875, Evans, 26th September,—Uraga Docks, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 26th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 26th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 26th Sept.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Moji, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,259, W. H. Cope, 27th Sept.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, C. Sellier, 27th Sept., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 27th September,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,522, Jaeger, 27th Sept.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Etna, Italian cruiser, 4,000, Capt. Giovello, 27th September,—Kobe.

Elba, Italian cruiser, 3,100, Captain Cecconi, 27th September,—Kobe.

Algerine (6), British sloop, 1,050, Lt.-Com. C. N. Grafton, 27th September,—Kobe.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 27th September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 28th September,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 28th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, from Seattle, Wash. :—Mr. A. Monad in cabin; Mr. H. Stilwell, Mr. C. Danforth, and Mr. W. Eufiel in second class, and 72 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. F. Howard, and Mr. A. H. Massey, in cabin; 21 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. Oman, Mr. C. E. Pierce, Mr. A. Loureiro, and Mr. W. B. Vandeslip, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Prideaux, Mrs. M. S. Arratoon, and Mr. Wo Chun Yick, in second class.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong :—Mr. L. Snidter, in cabin; Mr. T. Mery, Mr. C. S. Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Park, and Chinese, in second class.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B C. :—Mr. A. Arnoux, Mr. W. And, Mr. H. E A. Austin, Mr. N. Ariga, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. H. W Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Balch, Mr. B. F. Barge, Mr. J. Barnes, Mr. A. D. Bissell, Mr. and Mrs. Beattie and three children, Mrs. Bigelow, Miss Brunston, Hon. B. Bathurst, Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Boyd, Mrs. Buxton and three children, Mr. V. Cobianchi, Mr. H. Cactani, Mr. and Mrs. Cusby, Miss Coleman, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. W. H. Coleman, Miss L. A. Clarke, Miss Chandler, Miss Coles, Miss Cooper, Mr. F. W. Dusel, Mr. J. C. Dusel, Mrs. Desster, Miss Deds, Mrs. A. L. Davis, Miss Ferguson, Rev. W. Fiske, Mr. and Mrs. Gruerhager, Mr. F. L. Guthrie, Mr. W. E. Harris, Miss K. D. Hamilton, Miss Henry, Rev. T. C. Hood, Miss Hyde, Dr. G. W. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss Hamlin, Miss R. A. Hobby,

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Dr. Holvodt, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Jerauld, 3 children and nurse, Rev. R. C. Jones and wife, Mr. O. H. Knight, Mr. A. C. Knight, Miss Kellar, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. H. H. Lindle and 3 children, Miss Lansing, Mr. C. Ley Kum, Mr. J. S. Lee, Mr. R W. Layton and wife, Mr. C. Modighani, Mr. C. Maitie, Miss Morrison, Rev. J. A. and Mrs. McKee, Mr. Jno. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. McCauley, Miss B. S. Oblinger, Mr. G. Pollovio, Mrs. W. T. Payne, Miss Payne, Mr. Pelly, Mr. E. C. Potter, Rev. G. S. and Patton, Miss Russell, Miss Riech, Mr. and Mrs. B. Rittie and two children, Mrs. Hamilton Sharp, Mr. E. H. Sharp, Dr. and Mrs. C. O. Stumpf, Mrs. G. A. Salt, Mr. and Mrs. R. Seel, Miss E. C. Shaw, Capt. Sohamote, Mr. H. T. Safford, Mr. E. Soper. Miss A. C. Twinning, Mrs. G. I.. Thompson, Miss Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Tayleur, Dr. W. B. and Mrs. Toy, Rev. G. W. and Mrs. Verity, A. B. Wharton, Miss Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. J. Webb, Mr. C. E. Webb, Mr. H. K. Webb, Mr. J. B. Warfield, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. F. Weber, Rev. J. E. Walker, and Miss N. Zuemer, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. P. O'Neil, Dr. Gelpke, Major Duerr, Mr. O. Shauffenhauer, Miss Boorman, and Mr. K. Okamoto, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. H. Benedict, Mr. James H. Love, Mr. H. M. Martin, Dr. H. D. Wilson, Miss Virginia Cranna, Col. J. W. Pope, U.S.A., Mr. Lai Tai Wing, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Wash, Miss Mary Bash, Miss C. Bash, Mr. T. J. Bourne, Mr. H. W. Lea, and Mr. B. M. Stiebel, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. E. C. Miller, Mr. C. V. Ladds, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. N. O. Byers, Mr. A. A. Montague, Mr. A. W. Crombie, Mrs. A. W. Cromie, Mrs. Renjes, Miss Renjes, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Haywood, and two children, Mr. J. M. Watson, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Mr. R. de Solis, Mr. H. G. Miller, Mr. G. W. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. D. Muir, Rev. G. Reid, and infant, Mr. R. E. H. Pollak, Mr. F. Vogt, Mrs. Geo. T. Bowman, Mrs. I. M. L. Truitt, Mrs. T. R. Riness, Mr. W. C. Watson, Mr. H. Price, Dr. and Mrs. O. Schol, Miss Lena Stanley, Mr. and Mrs. M. Adler, Mr. Wm. Thornton, Mr. E. H. Matts, Mr. and Mrs. A. McLeod, Mrs. G. W. Conner, child, and amah, Mr. P. R. Endicott, and two children, Mr. Jas. R. Morse, Mrs. S. P. Mobley, Miss Lewers, Miss McIntosh, Miss Annie Dowd, and servant, and Mrs. G. J. Melhuish, two children, and amah in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sado Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. T. F. Cruickshank, Miss Cruickshank, Mrs. Bloxham, Miss Bloxham, Mr. J. H. Ranjes, Mr. Richard Boyes, Mr. Wm. Sobroth, Mr. P. Jacquard, Mrs. Taru Matsuo, Miss Rosie Vivanti, Mrs. W. Church and child, Capt. C. Olsen, and Capt. J. Ferguson, in cabin; Mr. J. R. Williams, and Mr. H. W. Soppet, in second class.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. C. T. Rundell, Rev. H. A. Kemp, Mr. G. H. Purcell, Mr. J. Graeffe, Mrs. Elmer, infant and amah, Mr. H. Ernest Wood, Mr. E. C. Johnston, Miss Hannen, Sir Nicholas Hannen, Mrs. D. MacHaffee and child, Miss Cunliffe, Mr. T. W. Chang, Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. G. P. Perl, Mr. M. Raspe, Mr. E. Kellman, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mrs. Seldons Murse, Rev. Barclay Buxton and native servant, Mr. O Mordhurst, Mrs. Mordhurst and maid, Major and Mrs Whitty, 2 children and native servant, Mr. Taylor, Mr. E. P. Wickham, Mrs. Wickham and child, Mr. O. Odish, Mr. and Mrs. Craddock, 2 children and native servant, Major and Mrs. W. Griffin, Mr. C. Stevens, Mr. John Hazen, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Mrs. Oblinger, and Mrs. Maitland, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Laos*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. S. Hadley, Mr. F. W. Stapleton, Mr. E. C. Fox, Mr. J. H. Longford, Mr. R. Putinez, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Lewis, Mrs. H. Russel, 2 children and amah, Mrs. Neville, Mrs. J. Samson, Miss Campbell, Mrs. F. Nicolas, Mrs. Vera Doshe, Mr. and Mrs. F. O Seaton, Mr. J. Marfoncels, Col. Browne, Mr. Manzi F. Alfonso, Mr. E. L. Mondon and boy, Mr. L. Gretschel, Mr. C. B. Kohlar, Mr. F. Strange, Mr. V. Gielen, Mr. S. Ybarra, Mr. M. Pouce, Mr. Raoult Desfongchamps, Mr. T. Tanimoto, Mr. T. Futaki, Mr. W. Takano, Mr. Kitajima, Mr. J. Shibuya, and Mr. Tilaomull Belaomull, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. and Mrs A. W. Bash, Miss C. Bash, Miss Mary Bash, Mrs. Sarah Beers, Mr. J. H. Benedict, Mr. L. A. Blumberg, Mr. T. J. Bourne, Miss Virginia Cranna, Mr. W. C. Cone, Mrs. E. H. Conger, Mr. Harry De Gray, Mr. and Mrs. F. Deardorf, Mr. W. S. Hawkshaw, Mr. Thos. Davis, Mr. Geo. Fredericks, Lieut. G. E. Gelm, U.S.N., Mrs. G. E. Gelm, Mr. Chas. Hardy, Dr. F. A. Hardy, Mr. T. Ikeda, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. Jas. H. Love, Mr. N. H. Martin, Miss Margaret Moore, Mr. Victor Marsh, Col. J. W. Pope, Miss Pierce, Mr. E. M. Stiebel, Dr. E. A. Seale, Mr. R. Sano, Mr. Wm. M. Smart, Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Slocum, Major G. B. Urmston, Mr. Lai Tai Wing, Dr. N. D. Wilson, and Mr. C. Voerger, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, from London and Antwerp:—Mr. E. L. James, Mr. A. Benn, Mrs. Benn, Miss Muriel Benn, Mr. G. Westberg, Mr. W. Austen, Mr. Saikichi Ogeki, Mr. Hatasu Satsuta, Mr. Taiyo Hojo, and Miss Helen Braybrookes in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain W. Finch, reports:—Left Hongkong on September 16th, via Amoy on the 17th, Shanghai on the 21st, Nagasaki on the 24th, Kobe on the 25th, and arrived Yokohama on the 26th September. Weather: from Kobe to Yokohama experienced fresh to strong N. E. gale with heavy rain and rough confused sea.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

For yarns there is at present no large enquiry, though prospects are good. The high prices asked check demand for grey shirtings. Other lines dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 34½ yds. 45 inches	3.10 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards 11 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28
WOOLLENS.	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS. PER PICUL.

Nos. 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38.42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	42 00 to 43 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	46.00 to 49 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	86.00 to 88.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	110.00 to 112..0
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	82.00 to 86.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	96.00 to 102.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	126 00 to 135.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$20.00
Indian Broach	19 00 to 19.25
Chinese	22.25 to 22 50

METALS.

There is not much change to note. Little new business is doing, and prices remain as last quoted.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5 70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails assorted	7 00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅛ to ⅜ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm at last quoted rates.

American	$1 70 to 2 75
Russian	2 60 to 2.65
Langhai	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is firm at last quoted rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5 to to 5 90
Brown Manila	5.25 to 6.75
Brown Taikong	4.30 to 4 50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.70
White Java and Penang	6 70 to 8 40
White Refined	7 70 to 9 40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Some enquiry and some business doing. Quotations nominally unchanged, but sellers wish to be moving and would accept some reduction to clear a portion of their stocks.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	$1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1180 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1145
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1020 to 1030
Re reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1065
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

A strong demand continues at advancing prices. There appears to be more buyers than sellers at the moment, and the assortment on offer is poor. Supplies come in slowly from the country.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$100 to 105
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Business continues steady, but a large stock still remains to be operated upon. It is chiefly of the lower grades. Quotations are practically unaltered.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 32
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 28.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and China sterling quotation $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ lower have not changed local rates, though firmer on China.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 1/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞
On Germany—Bank sight	208⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	213⅛
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 % dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4⅜% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76⅛
— Private 10 days' sight	77
On India—Bank sight	151⅛
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	27

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 28.

Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 190. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 235. Club Hotels—a few shares can be had at *yen* 85. Langfeldts are offering at par. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 9.50. North and Raes are wanted at *yen* 215. Helms—a considerable number of shares have again changed hands at par.

Debentures—Breweries are wanted at *yen* 110, Y. U. Clubs at *yen* 108, Oriental Hotels are offering at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $50	225 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	190 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $100	235 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $100	85 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $100	225 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., *yen* 100	Nominal

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North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9 50 S
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	100 S
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa & S.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld. $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., $50	65 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N

Reserve Fund —1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2. *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,208.44; 4. *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,218.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 28.

Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 225. Laundries can be had at *yen* 65. Langfeldts are obtainable at par. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 235 Japan Breweries—a few shares are obtainable at *yen* 190.

Y.U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108.

YEN.

Yokohama E & I. Works ...225 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....235 Sellers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sellers.

Tokyo, September 28.

Redemption Loan Bonds	96.90
War Loan Bonds	96.90
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	404.80
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	63.20
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	267.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	68.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	68 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104.20
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	27.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	73.80
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	25.30
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	83 00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	60.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	48.30
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	66.70
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	51.70
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	107.50
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28	87.80
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	93 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	47 50
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	28 00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	46.80
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	25 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	10 00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	23 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	220 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	182.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	72.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	23.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10	8.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	29.00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21 50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	12 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	33 50
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	14.50

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"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 7TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

On Oct. 2nd, at No. 70, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of J. C. NICHOLSON, of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

On September 18th, at the Kakchioh Chapel, Swatow, ALICE, third daughter of James Winstanley, Esq., Yokohama, to HY. M. THOMPSON, of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs Service.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE plague is increasing at Oporto.

IT is announced in Madrid that Senhor Silvela has formed a Cabinet.

THE annual meeting of the Japan Foreign Auxiliary of the W.C.T.U., is fully reported in this issue.

MORE than 600 Government forests are notified as for sale.

THE Hakodate Telephone Exchange will be opened on the 1st Oct.

THE autumn regatta of the Yokohama Rowing Club takes place this afternoon.

THE Crown Prince is to make an extended tour in the southern provinces of the Empire.

THE French Minister of Marine has signed an order for the construction of four submarine vessels.

MR. ARAKI, the Director of the Dojima Exchange, tendered his resignation on the 28th ult.

THE Transvaal war seems now only a question of days: the Boers are all armed and eager for the fray.

THE Tokyo Bankers' Club will be opened on Nov. 1st. The general meeting of promoters was held on the 5th Oct.

COUNT OKI'S funeral on Monday was a very imposing affair, nearly all the principal officials in the capital attending.

THE first race in the contest for the America Cup was declared off in consequence of neither boat finishing within the time limit.

IT is said that about seven-tenths of the *habutaye* sent in to Yokohama on contract is being returned as below sample quality.

THE fine weather which ushered in the week was broken on Thursday, when rain fell heavily all day, and continued all Friday too.

THE number of Japanese now residing in New South Wales, Australia, is 67: men 54, women 13. These statistics were compiled on June 30th.

THE steamer *Yedo Maru*, belonging to Mr. Hiromi Nisaburo, of Osaka, went ashore at Sabajima on Oct. 2nd. She was floated at once.

A SMALL company of Yokohama amateurs gave two short plays in Kobe on Saturday, when Mr. and MRS. A. C. Read bade farewell to Japan.

MR. TAGUCHI, M.P. has been elected President of the Committee of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce on the subject of Government aid to the N. Y. K.

MR. B. KURE will be despatched to Paris as the supervisor of the tea house at the Exposition. He is the director of the Formosa Tea Trade Association.

THE Tea trade in Kobe is almost at a standstill. Transactions have shown a continual decrease since the middle of the month and on some days no business was done.

THE Yokohama tea trade is almost at a standstill. Prices have a tendency to rise. Rates of foreign traders are one *yen* cheaper than those of the native merchants.

THAT the winter season is approaching is apparent by the announcement of the business meetings of the Choral Society, the Yokohama Literary Society, and the Chess Club.

THE Kanegafuchi spinning factory, which has already amalgamated with the Shanghai and Koshu factories, is about to absorb one or two others. Three factories, the Miike, Kurume and Kumamoto, will be soon merged into the Kyushu Boseki Kaisha. Several other amalgamations are talked of.

THE Glasgow International Exposition to be held in 1901 was the subject of discussion at the high officials' meeting of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the 5th Oct.

THE proposal to increase the capital of the Tokyo Stock Exchange from 250,000 *yen* to 500,000 *yen* has been withdrawn. The brokers are advocating a scheme of reform for the Exchange.

THE examination of the French Royalists charged with conspiring against the safety of the State, has been adjourned by the High Court of France in compliance with the request of the advocates employed in the case.

AT a dinner given by the Chinese Association to Sir Claude Macdonald, the latter made a speech taking a hopeful view of British prospects in China, where, he said, Great Britain more than held her own.

SINCE gold deposits were discovered in and about Esashi, and Kitami in Hokkaido, many speculators have purchased large lots of land from the Government. Mr. Tetsunosuke Tomita is among the purchasers.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Finance Department, the metal currency at the end of August was 90,329,274 *yen*, of which gold amounted to 20,537,306 *yen*, silver to 52,260,719 *yen*, and copper to 17,531,188 *yen*.

THE Rice Transport Companies' Corporation have presented a representation to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce to the effect that Government aid to the N. Y. K. ought to be continued after the expiration of the term of the present subsidy.

THERE is an effectual remedy in Tokyo against railway strikes. It is called the railway regiment, (*tetsudo daitai*) and every railway in the vicinity of the Capital subscribes to it. The "regiment" is always ready to supply deficiencies in labour caused by strikes.

THE foreign trade of Yokohama during Sept. was as follows:—

	Yen.
Exports	9,592,168
Imports	3,081,439

The exports thus exceeded imports by 6,510,729 *yen*.

THE whole proprietory rights of the Formosa Railway Company have been transferred from the company to the Governor General. Mr. Kawamura received the price fixed of 283 300 *yen*, and transmitted it to the company. A general meeting of the promoters will be held shortly.

A HISTORY of Japanese mines in French is being prepared for the Paris Exposition by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is a book of more than 600 pages, and 2 foundries and 63 mines are described. The specimens of Japanese mineral products to be exhibited have now been collected by the Mining Bureau. There are 128 in all.

MR. BALFOUR, speaking at Dundee, said that the British Government had striven for a peaceful solution of the Transvaal difficulty, and that, if it failed, the fault would rest with others. They had not abandoned all hope. It had seemed that a satisfactory point was about to be reached when the Transvaal had refused to yield, and Great Britain could not and would not give way, inasmuch as her interests in South African civilization and her honour made that impossible.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Friday Oct. 2.

It seems to us that the last despatch of the Transvaal is the most hopeless document hitherto issued by the Boers, except, perhaps, the despatch in which they virtually repudiated Great Britain's suzerainty. To fall back upon generalities at this eleventh hour, and talk about adhering strictly to a Convention whose flagrant violation is precisely the grievance for which England has been seeking redress all this while, is obvious persiflage. The Boers appear to obey the dictates of a somewhat low kind of cunning. Having flouted England to the top of their bent and tried her patience almost beyond endurance, they now seek to rehabilitate themselves in the eyes of the world by empty platitudes. It is a species of insolence which will not improve the situation. But, indeed, nothing short of unconditional surrender on the part of the Transvaal could avert war now. The dispute has passed the limits of compromise.

A private telegram from London, dated September 30th, says that England's ultimatum is to be sent during the current week, and that as there is no chance of the Boers' yielding, war is inevitable. Both sides are preparing vigorously.

Friday Oct. 6.

The Boers have opened the campaign by an act of highway robbery. They have seized half a million of gold which was in transit to the Cape. Perhaps they have only "requisitioned" the treasure, but that is not the impression conveyed by the telegram.

The positions and numbers of the Boer forces thus far reported by telegraph are :—

Joubert and his staff at Volksrust with	4,500 men
Force mustered at Vryheid near Mafeking	2,000 men
Force occupying Sandspruit	5,000 men
Force occupying Muller's Farm	4,000 men
Total	15,500 men

It appears also that the Free State troops are joining the concentration on the eastern frontier, as a body of them has occupied a pass near Newcastle. The Free State's artillery, however, is reported to be moving in the direction of Kimberley, a course which carries it away westward, quite out of the region where the campaign will evidently commence.

The question now is, do the Boers and their allies intend to intrench themselves for the protection of the frontier, or will they advance into Natal? The former seems the more probable programme. Their want of military training and discipline, as well as of a duly organized commissariat, would tell seriously against them if they attempt to carry the campaign into the enemy's territory, whereas, by concentrating on the border and throwing up defensive works, they cannot only create a most formidable position, but also acquire a certain amount of training in the interval of waiting, and avoid most of the difficulties connected with obtaining supplies. If they decide to await the attack of the British forces, a considerable time must elapse before any decisive engagement takes place, for it will be necessary to march at least twenty thousand men to the attack of an entrenched position held by twenty thousand, which latter number the combined forces of the two states will surely be able to muster. It is, indeed, quite possible that thirty thousand Boers and Free-Staters will be massed on the frontier before the British advance to the attack, and in that case the fight may be one of the bloodiest and most stubbornly fought for many years. There is one comment to be made, however. A frontier is not simply a position which can be easily entrenched. It is a long line every accessible point of which has to be guarded. We do not know at how many places the eastern frontier of the Transvaal may be passable for troops, but there must be at least three or four routes, and the defenders will have to watch them all. Therein lies their weakness. Besides, the fortification of a long line of ground for defensive purposes is a task demanding great engineering skill, and, if there is a mistake, it will be found out.

TELEGRAMS.

It is interesting to see the efforts that are made to befool the community of Yokohama in the matter of telegrams. Not only are people promised prompt intelligence from the seat of the impending war if they put their hands into their pockets with sufficient liberality, but they are also told that "every additional subscriber gives assistance to break up the telegram monopoly which has hitherto prevailed." This method of exploiting simple folks would be comical were it not so grossly unscrupulous. The so-called "monopoly" is a combination of newspapers each of which pays a handsome sum in order to obtain a full service of telegrams without subjecting its readers to any extra charge whatever. The newspaper which is now attempting to make capital out of this bogey of a monopoly was invited to join the combination at the outset. It declined on the explicit ground that it intended to continue appropriating its contemporaries' telegrams as it had always done. Then, after a time, it had the exquisite assurance to come forward and declare that it would be kind enough to procure a special service for its readers if they put up the greater part of the money. Its pretence was that the telegrams of the Syndicate of newspapers were held over until the morning after their receipt. That was a falsehood. The Syndicate's telegrams are given to the public as soon as possible. They arrive, in the great majority of cases, between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m., and if they were of sufficient importance they would be issued that same night, though such a course is scarcely ever pursued by morning newspapers. Most assuredly a telegram arriving after 7 p.m. at the office of the very journal engaged in this attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the public, would not be published by it until the next morning. There are not many communities who would provide a special fund in order to enable a service of telegrams to be obtained by one particular newspaper which has been engaged stealing the telegrams of other journals for years, and which refused to join the syndicate formed by its contemporaries in the interests of the public because it preferred to continue its costless career of theft.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held an extraordinary meeting at 6 p.m. on the 4th instant, the President, Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, in the chair. Various propositions were discussed and decided, the most important of them being :—(1) That a new Chamber of Commerce be erected at a cost of 209,010 *yen*. (2) That a measure relating to the amendment of the Law of Election for the House of Representatives should be submitted to the United Chambers of Commerce in session. (3) That a measure for allowing foreigners to engage in mining enterprise and own real estate in Japan should be submitted to the United Chambers of Commerce in session.

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE IN TOKYO.

There is, as the *Jiji Shimpo* truly remarks, something like an epidemic of murder in Tokyo at present. On the 14th of September, three persons were killed at Mita ; on the 15th of the same month, two were murdered at Honjo ; on the 20th, a woman was killed at Yotsuya ; on the 27th there was a triple murder at Kanda, and on the 28th, an old man was slaughtered at Hanakawado (Asakusa)—five instances in a fortnight and ten victims. In two of these cases the murderers committed suicide, but in the remaining three they effected their escape and are still at large, a fact which does not redound to the credit of the police. The *Jiji* asserts that the police have no sufficient incentive to search out and arrest desperate characters. A constable can not hope to obtain a larger reward than 10 *yen* whatever courage and address he shows in such a matter, for that is the limit of official consideration, and the regulations strictly forbid any gratuities from private individuals.

SHOOTING LICENSES.

We were writing under a misapprehension the other day when we stated that the shooting license fee for foreigners would henceforth be but one *yen*. The following official notice has been handed to us by the police with the request that it be published :—

"According to the Shooting Regulations there are three classes of licenses—the 1st class for applicants having an annual income of *yen* 1,000 and above ; the 2nd class for those having an income of *yen* 300 and less than *yen* 1,000, and the 3rd class for persons enjoying an income of less than *yen* 300.

The fee for 1st class licenses is *yen* 10 ; that for the 2nd class, *yen* 3, and that for the 3rd class, *yen* 1.

"As foreigners will pay income tax only from the next financial year, viz., from the 1st April next, they must state on the application for license their approximate income."

This instruction has been issued to the police by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Compared with January, the number of factories has decreased by 5 ; the capitals decreased by 544 950 *yen* ; the paid up capitals by 388,130 *yen*, the fixed capitals by 1,431,325 *yen* ; the factory loans by 1,475,731 *yen* ; and the reserve funds by 8 347,599 *yen*.

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AN INVESTIGATION OF CHINESE AFFAIRS.

A Tokyo newspaper, commenting recently on the influence of political parties in Japan, expressed the opinion that the Oriental Society (*Toho Kyokai*) was the most flourishing association of the time. The society certainly numbers many influential men among its members, but the public has hitherto been disposed to regard it as a somewhat conservative body, perhaps because its President is Count Soyejima. Marquis Kuroda is Vice-President, by recent election, and a good deal of attention has been attracted by the fact that, at the instance of Mr. Fukumoto, editor of the *Nippon*, to whom, on his return from France, the Society has just given a brilliant welcome, a committee has been appointed to investigate everything relating to China. It is a "tall order" and the steps formulated in the resolution for organizing the committee are so vague that we are quite at a loss to understand how the proposed object is to be attained. There seems to us to be only one really practical and effective way of proceeding. It is to select—if such a thing be possible—several intelligent men possessing a sound knowledge of industrial and commercial subjects, and a good working acquaintance with the Chinese language, and to send them to travel north and south and east and west in the big empire, under instructions to compile careful reports on special subjects and to record generally everything coming under their notice. The trouble about almost all information obtained concerning foreign nations and their affairs, is that the men who collect it do so, not as a business, but in the intervals of their regular business. Even a Consul, who is expected to compile reports, can not make the work his sole duty. It is only one of his many duties, and the time he devotes to it is necessarily very limited. If an intelligent man had full leisure to conduct inquiries and make investigations, moving about from place to place, and stopping at each for just as long or as short a period as he found expedient, there can be no doubt that the result of his labours would be extremely valuable. Japan has been examined in that manner by a few persons. Rein was one of them. Sent out here by the Prussian Ministry of Commerce, he devoted two years to the task of inquiry and investigation, and the result was a monumental work which at once took its place as *the* book on Japan. Mr. Consul Brenan was another, though on a more limited scale. He had only a few months for his work. But he had nothing else to do, and when a man is well equipped for his task, four or five months of steady toil will accomplish wonders. To that we owe Mr. Brenan's report; the best thing of its kind that exists about Japan. Mr. Basil Hall Chamberlain is also an investigator with uninterrupted leisure for any purpose which takes his fancy. Few men, even with Mr. Chamberlain's opportunities, could accomplish what he has accomplished, but assuredly not even Mr. Chamberlain could have accomplished it without Mr. Chamberlain's opportunities. If the Oriental Society is really in earnest, its programme is plain enough. Let it put up a hundred thousand *yen*, and send ten chosen experts to spend two years in different parts of China for the purpose of collecting information. The result, we venture to say, would amply repay the outlay.

GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE.

Undoubtedly a notable change has come over the Japanese people, or at any rate, the political section of the people. When the diet assembled for the first time, there was a "Government party;" a small party, it is true, but still a body of men who did not consider it a disgrace to lend their support to officialdom. Then, by degrees, the fight between the advocates of party cabinets and the so-called clan statsemen grew hotter and hotter. Neither side could claim the victory, but such bitterness did the Opposition impart to the struggle that to be called a "Govment supporter" became a very evil thing for a politician, and when a man rose in his place in the House, and denounced his adversaries as *Seifu-to* (Government party), he was understood to have employed a damning epithet which they, in turn, took care to repudiate. It certainly seemed a strange thing that the statesmen who had made modern Japan and had established, according to the view of onlookers, a solid claim to her gratitude, should be relegated to such a position that mere association with them constituted a disgrace. The fact was often commented on by us at the time. We regarded it as a singularly bad omen, for assuredly if the politicians of this country showed so little capacity for distinguishing between party ambition and national interests, it did not seem that there would be much encouragement for statesmanship in the future. However, we never regarded such a state of affairs as more than a transiently delirious mood, and it is satisfactory now to observe that a radical change has occurred. In the just-concluded elections for members of Local Assemblies, one of the principal reasons assigned for the success of the Liberals is their association with the Government. It is no longer a disgrace, then, for a party to be called *Seifu-to*. On the contrary, it is a source of prestige and popularity.

NOTES OF CLOSED BANKS.

The *Official Gazette* contains a warning with reference to notes issued by the following National Banks, which were closed some years ago:—The 126th of Osaka; the 108th of Sukagawa; the 26th of Osaka; and the 33rd of Tokyo. In 1894, the Finance Department issued a Notification declaring that the paper of these banks must be presented for exchange by the 31st of December, 1899, after which date the Government would no longer hold itself responsible for their payment. The public is therefore recommended to give attention to the matter during the three remaining months of grace. It appears that notes of these banks to the value of 8,329 *yen* are still unredeemed, and there is a probability that they may be mixed in parcels of notes issued by the other National Banks, of which 1,078,111 *yen* are still in the market. The latter notes lose their currency after the end of this year, but will remain redeemable for five years subsequently.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* renews its assaults upon Viscount Aoki, but this time with such obvious unreason that the attack is quite grotesque. Russia, according to our contemporary, has managed to obtain from the Korean Government at Fusan a concession of land which had been destined for the terminus of the Söul-Fusan line. It is not suggested that there has been the slighest question about the matter, nor does the *Yomiuri* attempt to explain how the thing was managed. It simply prefers the charge, without pausing for a moment to consider that in doing so it insults both Russia and Korea; Russia by accusing her of using pressure to obtain possession of another's belongings; Korea by representing her as having deliberately alienated property which she had already allotted to Japan. The story is plainly a canard. If Japan has any clear title to the land in question, Russia will readily recognise that title, even if Korea—which is most improbable—has ignored it. Then the *Yomiuri* takes up the subject of Ulneung Island, and asks its readers to believe that the acquisition of the place by Russia must be laid at the door of the present Minister of Foreign Affairs. Does the *Yomiuri* believe anything of the kind itself? We are bound to suppose that it does, but the supposition is extremely difficult seeing that full particulars about the Ulneung affair have been published, and that every ordinarily well-informed person now knows that the island was leased to Russia three years ago. To what class of readers, we wonder, does the *Yomiuri* address itself.

THE QUESTION OF EDUCATION AND CHRISTIANITY.

Monday, Oct. 2.

The principals of the eight great Christian Schools of Japan are to have an interview with the Minister of State for Education to-day. It may be mentioned that the Schools are the Azabu Chiū-gakko, the Aoyama Gaku-in, the Shirokane Meiji-gaku, the Tsukiji Rikkyo-gakko, the Tsukiji Rikkyo-chu-gakko, the Kyoto Doshisha, the Nagoya Eiwa-gakko, and the Sendai Tohoku-gakko. We gather that the purpose of the interview is to urge the advisability of making a special regulation with regard to the status of Christian schools. The Deputation will frankly admit that it would be an abuse of authority to include teaching of a particular form of religion in the curricula of schools at which attendance is, in a sense, compulsory, and which are supported by enforced contributions from men of all classes and creeds. But it will insist that a school openly founded on the Christian faith and publicly conducted in accordance with Christian principles must be supposed not to obtain the attendance of any students except those having Christian proclivities. Hence when the State legislatively imposes serious public disabilities upon the latter class of school as compared with the former, the principle of freedom of conscience is plainly violated. This is one of the most important problems with which Japan has had to deal since she began her modern career. If we know anything of foreign opinion, her methods of dealing with it will materially affect her reputation in Europe and America.

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FOREIGNERS AND MINING ENTERPRISE IN JAPAN.

The *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Keizai Zasshi* publish long articles strongly advocating the granting of mining concessions to foreigners in Japan. Both articles are devoted chiefly to combatting the objections raised in conservative quarters to this proposal. The line taken by the two Tokyo journals is that everything tending to develop the resources of Japan is so much positive gain. They argue that the Japanese people are not wanting in ability or shrewdness, and that whatever foreigners have to teach would be speedily learned and turned to account by the people of the country. Concerning the apprehension that the possession of the country's coal-mines by foreigners might prove very inconvenient in time of war, the *Jiji* justly points out that such an argument ignores the fact of Japan's independence. Where the safety of the State is in question, it is altogether within her competence to adopt any measures for her own protection. The *Keizai Zasshi* also calls attention to the fact that the mines of Japan are the property of the State, and that the proposal does not contemplate their alienation. In effect, they would be merely farmed to foreigners. These two publications being among the most influential in Japan, it is permissible to hope that their liberalism may ultimately leaven the conservative mass.

THE DOJIMA EXCHANGE AFFAIR.

Saturday, Sept. 30.

The Japanese newspapers contain various reports of irregularities supposed to have been practised at the Dojima Rice Exchange. Quite recently there has been an attempt to corner rice. Large purchases were effected, and as some of those engaged in the transaction were men of comparatively small means, there began to be some surprise about the source from which they obtained money. It is not necessary, of course, that the whole of the sum involved in such transactions should be put up But the law requires that both buyers and sellers shall lodge a certain percentage at the Exchange by way of security. In this case the amount thus lodged aggregated over two million *yen*, and the trouble is that the managers of the Exchange are believed to have been in collusion with the buyers so that nearly seven hundred thousand *yen* of the money deposited by the sellers was employed for buying purposes. That appears to be the story in a nut-shell, but it must be confessed that the various accounts differ more or less, and that the details are somewhat obscure. A great many banks have been assisting the buyers, and it is believed that some of the smaller establishments have lent money on promissory notes without taking the rice as security. The affair is creating a great commotion.

Monday, Oct. 2.

It is difficult to ascertain clearly what has happened in connexion with the Dojima Rice Exchange. The whole of the Tokyo press, with one exception, now assert that the trouble has been settled. The various accounts differ slightly as to details, but agree upon the main fact that there has been no chicanery, and that the money supposed to have been misappropriated has been in its proper place all the while. The Director of the Exchange decided that, in view of the rumoured complications, both buyers and sellers must convert the transaction into a *bonâ fide* affair before the end of September, the buyers putting up the bargain money and the sellers producing the rice. It was confidently expected by the sellers that this decision would defeat the other side, but Mr. Mizutani, the principal buyer, obtained from Tokyo a sum—variously stated at from five hundred thousand to eight hundred thousand *yen*—said to have been furnished by the Mitsu Bishi through the Tanaka Bank, and the consternation was now transferred to the sellers, who did not have their rice ready. Whatever may be the measure of truth in these accounts, they all go to show that there not has been any misappropriation of funds.

The *Jiji Shimpo* alone adheres to the theory of misappropriation. It says that Mr. Matsutani originally obtained a sum of six hundred thousand *yen* from the Third Bank on a promissory note backed by two small banks; that he used the proceeds in a rice speculation, and that, being unable to meet the note when it fell due, he induced Mr. Nasu, a Director of the Exchange, to provide funds from the Exchange's assets. If that he so, it simply means that Mr. Mizutani, instead of lodging the sum in cash as required by law when transactions are effected on "change" persuaded Mr. Nasu to accept his promissory note instead, and everything will now turn on the quality of the paper. We do not profess to discriminate between the different accounts.

Thursday, Oct. 5.

The Dojima Rice Exchange Affair has been settled after a fashion. The facts now seem to be that Mr. Mizutani drew a bill on the Okayama Bank which the Bank endorsed, and passed on to the Exchange, the latter handing it to the Third Bank. The bill was for 690,000 *yen*. The Third Bank cashed it and the money was then lodged with the Exchange for the purposes of the rice transactions. Before the note fell due, the manager of the Okayama Bank had been removed, and when the note was presented for payment, the Okayama Bank refused to honour it. Thereupon the Third Bank had recourse to the other endorser, the Exchange, and as funds belonging to the Exchange were in the Bank's custody, the latter experienced no difficulty in protecting itself. The matter now lay between the Exchange and the Okayama Bank. At first the Bank showed a disposition to repudiate the note, as the manager, Mr. Tsugita, whose signature it bore, had been dismissed for his part in the transaction. But ultimately the directors in conclave decided that as the note was written on the Bank's paper and signed by the Bank's duly authorized manager, it must be honoured. Meanwhile all the rice transactions, of which this bill constituted a feature, have been cancelled by mutual agreement, and it would therefore seem that no one will lose anything, nor will there be any criminal proceedings. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* refers to the whole transaction in terms of the strongest condemnation, and insists that the Dojima Exchange should be closed at once by order of the Government.

THE PHILIPPINES.

A Japanese who arrived at Kobe on the 26th ult. in the N. Y. K. S. S. *Yawata Maru* says that, although the nominal strength of the United States forces in the Phillippines is about thirty thousand, a considerable number are unfit for service owing to illness. Those that are still effective, however, have acquired familiarity with the country and people, and are doubtless excellent men. Operations in the field are now suspended, owing to the rainy season, and the campaign can not be re-opened until November 1st, after which the Americans hope to finish it within three months, though onlookers question the accuracy of that estimate. This traveller, who has been interviewed by a representative of the *Osaka Asahi*, expresses some very strong opinions about the conduct of the American soldiers, whom he accuses of great roughness, violence, and arbitrary conduct with the view of exhorting money. He adds that the Filipinos regard the Japanese as brothers, but are bitterly hostile to the Americans, and that the latter have consequently conceived a dislike for the Japanese, and are disposed to misconstrue their acts. His final estimate is that even though the subjugation of the Filipinos by force be accomplished, the task of governing them peacefully will prove very difficult. It seems to us that all these things might have been said by any captious critic, without his taking the trouble to collect information *in loco*.

THE PRICE OF COMMODITIES.

The *Keizai Zasshi* has compiled some interesting tables showing the gradual appreciation of commodities and the volume of paper currency in circulation during the past five years:—

AMOUNTS OF CONVERTIBLE NOTES ISSUED AND ACTUALLY IN CIRCULATION.

	Amount issued. Yen	Amount held by Bank of Japan. Yen	Amount actually in circulation. Yen
1895 June ...	143,083,663	9.645.471	133,438,192
1895 Dec. ...	180.336,815	10,414 549	169.922,266
1896 June ...	171,694,859	10 450,260	161,244 619
1896 Dec. ...	198,313.896	7,205.460	191,108,436
1897 June ...	195'302,669	726,186	194.576,483
1897 Dec. ...	226,229,058	2,383.418	223,845.640
1898 June ...	180,019,930	423,883	179.596,047
1898 Dec. ...	197.399,901	1,961,880	195 438.021
1899 Jan. ...	189,051.702	2,928,171	186,123.531
1899 Feb. ...	181,218,176	1.135 847	180,082,329
1899 Mar....	186.994.792	7,225 010	179.769,782
1899 April...	181,844 729	19.256,754	102,587,975
1899 May ...	174,282,895	5 770,897	168,511,598
1899 June ...	192 592,361	4,920,207	187 652,154
1899 July ...	209,790.658	19.967,608	189,823,050
1899 Aug....	216,151,999	27,442,250	188.709,749

TABLE SHOWING THE RISE IN THE PRICE OF COMMODITIES.

(The number of articles taken for purposes of calculation is 40, rice being excluded. The average price of these articles in 1887 is taken as 100).

	'93.	'94.	'95.	'96.	'97.	'98.	'99.
January ...	120	123	133	140	146	170	160
February ...	118	123	133	142	147	173	164
March	118	126	136	140	152	176	168
April	121	125	135	142	161	179	167
May	116	123	133	143	161	177	167
June	115	121	132	147	159	174	164
July	117	126	131	143	159	168	165
August	119	127	133	144	160	166	166
September ..	120	128	135	148	163	166	—
October.....	121	131	138	150	173	167	—
November ..	123	131	138	152	174	165	—
December...	123	132	140	153	172	161	—
Average..	119	126	135	145	161	170	—

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CARTOONS.

A picture appeals to many intelligences where an essay would be fruitless. The cartoonist is a great power, now-a-days. He holds, with the smart paragraphist, the *entrée* to public opinion. We suspect that the *Jiji's* cartoon about the Ulneung-Island incident will create a stronger impression than all the indignant comments of sensational writers. Russia, represented by a man in uniform, is cutting down a monster tree with a colossal saw, and at the same time blowing from his mouth a gale of wind by which a little decrepit Japanese with a miniature saw, disordered raiment, and a face among whose terrified lineaments a likeness to Viscount Aoki can be detected, is flying before the storm. Now the Russians made their application to Korea for a lease of Ulneung Island when the Ito Cabinet was in power and Marquis Saionji held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. That was in 1896. The application was granted by Korea in 1897, and the fact was reported to Tokyo by Mr. Hara, Japan's Representative in Söul, Count Okuma being then Minister of Foreign Affairs. But the Russians are giving effect to the concession for the first time at present, and during their period of waiting Japanese from Aki and Tsushima continued to fell timber on Ulneung as of old. Viscount Aoki, therefore, has nothing to do with the matter—not nearly as much as the *Jiji Shimpo's* cartoonist. One newspaper, the Tokyo *Asahi*, while correctly narrating these facts, suggests that the only recourse for Japan is to insist on obtaining a similar concession from Korea. We live in delightful times. Once set the ball of aggression rolling, and it becomes a point of honour and morality with every Power to give it an onward kick.

Another of the *Jiji's* cartoons refers to the splendid state of the Tokyo streets at present. Ever since the process commenced of tearing up the roads to lay down water-pipes—and it is about 7 years ago—Tokyo may be said to have been wallowing in mud. This suggests a motive to our contemporary's artist. He shows a tram mounted on elevated rails and drawn by horses swimming. On a hillock hard by sit the workmen who ought to be mending the streets. They are engaged in an occupation very familiar to Japanese—smoking.

LAW SUITS.

Two law suits now before the Tokyo Courts are attracting some attention. The first is an action laid by Mr. Kobayashi Tojiro, representative of the Foreign Liquors Joint Stock Company in Tokyo, and the heads of six other firms engaged in the wine trade, against the Minister of State for Home Affairs and the Head of the Sanitary Bureau. The plaintiffs claim that owing to statements published in the *Official Gazette*, some months ago, with reference to analyses of Japanese-made wine, they have suffered a loss of 28,700 *yen*, and they sue for recovery of that amount. Counsel for the defendants has raised a question as to whether such matter comes within the jurisdiction of the Tokyo Local Court, and a judgment upon that demurrer will be delivered on the 6th instant.

The other case is an action brought by Mr. Yamada Sakura and several others against the well known Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, of the Yasuda Bank. The plaintiffs allege that Mr. Yasuda agreed to purchase from them the Hokkaido Kushiro Railway, the line being required by him in connexion with his sulphur mine at Kushiro. The agreement was not implemented, however, and they demand compensation to the extent of three hundred thousand *yen*.

THE KOBE CHINESE SCHOOL.

The report that a Chinese School was about to be built in Kobe at a cost of 2,200 *yen*, appears to minimize the facts. It now appears that the project of founding such an institution was started a considerable time ago by Mr. Leung, the chief promoter of the Yokohama *Daido Gakko*, who received substantial encouragement from Count Okuma. Subscriptions were sought in Canton, and a sum of ten thousand *yen* was subscribed. A site measuring 252 *tsubo* has been obtained in Kobe, and a building is now in progress which is expected to cost about 7,200 *yen*. It will be a two-storeyed edifice with accommodation for boarders, as the projectors, though they do not look for anything more than day-scholars at the outset, hope to extend their programme largely at a subsequent date. The school will probably open early next year with an attendance of about one hundred students. If time were long enough these various measures—Chinese studying in Japan at Japanese institutions and special schools founded in Japan for Chinese students—might produce a sensible effect on the Chinese nation. But the task is huge, the means are small, and the tide which threatens to sweep away the old landmarks will not wait.

INCOMINGS AND OUTGOINGS IN AUGUST.

An interesting table is published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* showing the money withdrawn from circulation during the present month of October, and the money restored to the market :—

MONEY WITHDRAWN.

	Yen.
Second period payments of *Sake* Tax	12,053,706
First instalment on new shares of the Sanyo Railway Company	1,560,000
Fifth instalment on Kitahama Bank Shares	300,000
Payment on Fushimi Spinning Company's Shares	50,000
Payment on debentures of the Osaka Beer Company	150,000
Payment on debentures of the Fine-yarn Spinning Company	300,000
First instalment of Yamanashi Prefecture Loan	28 350
Payment of Kyoto City Loan	105,000
First payment of Tokyo City Loan	200,000
Payment of Osaka Harbour-Works Loan	950,000
Payment of Industrial Bank Bonds	100,000
Total	15,797,056

MONEY RETURNED TO MARKET.

	Yen.
Dividends of various Railway Companies	2,798,188
Interest on Debentures of the Kiushiu Railway	37,500
Repayment of Hankaku Railway Loan	1,000,000
Total	3,835,088

Hence the sum actually withdrawn from the market is 11,961,968 *yen*.

THE AMOY AFFAIR.

It is stated on good authority that the conditions to which the Chinese Government has agreed in connexion with the Amoy outrage are five; namely:—(1) That the area of the Japanese Settlement shall not be less than fifty thousand *tsubo*. (2) That the Settlement land shall be leased to the Japanese in perpetuity. (3) That from twelve to fifteen of the leaders of the riot shall be severely punished, as an example to all similar disturbers of the peace. (4) That a sum of five thousand taels shall be paid by way of compensation for the damage done by the rioters and to re-imburse Japan's expenses in sending a cruiser to Amoy. (5) That the new Settlement shall be exclusively Japanese. The Peking Government has duly conveyed these conditions to the Local Authorities at Amoy. Japan certainly has not asked for anything exorbitant, considering that the attack was made upon her Consul in the discharge of a duty which he had been invited by the Chinese to fulfil.

THE GRAND HOTEL AND ITS EMPLOYÉS.

The Manager of the Grand Hotel has inserted in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* an advertisement of an interesting character. It appears that the system of squeezing has passed the limits of patience at the Hotel. Guides, servants, and *jinrikisha*-men all exact commissions from shops at which the Hotel's guests make purchases, and, the abuse having become intolerable, the manager now invites the suffering store-keepers to come forward and lodge information. He promises that their interests shall not be compromised and that everything shall be kept secret. Every one must sympathise most heartily with the manager and wish him success, but we wonder what he means to do supposing that information is furnished to him. Will he dismiss the offending servant, or deny the *entrée* of the Hotel to the implicated guide or *jinrikisha*-man? A futile proceeding, we fear. It may be taken for granted that this system of squeezing is practised by the whole Japanese staff and connexions of the establishment. Every one who has lived in Japan for twenty or thirty years knows that foreigners never have "mixed" domestics in this country. The good and the bad will not live together. Nothing is more impossible. One must expect to have all good or all bad. If the Manager of the Grand Hotel has assured himself of the existence of malpractices such as warrant an advertisement in the *Jiji Shimpo*, there must be many bad servants, guides, and *jinrikisha*-men associated with the Hotel, and, if there are many bad, we may safely assert that all are bad. Any attempt to sift the sheep from the goats by means of information obtained from store-keepers will be a total failure. The remedy does not rest with the Hotel. It rests with the store-keepers. Nothing can possibly save the situation except a combination on their part. Not one of them will answer the advertisement in the *Jiji Shimpo*. Not one of them will tender the desired information, whatever promises of secrecy and circumspection be given. It would mean his ostracism from the custom of the Hotel's guests. So long as

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the store-keepers consent to pay commissions, so long will the guides, servants, and *jinrikisha*-men exact them. If one store-keeper steps out of the ring, he will not only find that the guides conduct no foreigners to his store, but he will also find that the guests of the Hotel—and of every Hotel in Yokohama, for all are in the swim—are warned against him, and moreover, that if he manages to sell any goods and does not obtain payment for them before delivery at the Hotel, his chances of obtaining payment at all will be infinitesimally small. Most desirable is it that some means should be devised for rescuing the foreigner from the clutches of these harpies, but Japan will be the sufferer in the long run, and the remedy lies with the Japanese.

"UITLANDER."

The low price obtained for the Phœnix Saw Mill is attributed by "Uitlander," a correspondent of a local contemporary, to "the impossibility of any foreigner being able to obtain what he would consider a sufficiently secure title to enable him to hold the property." "Uitlander" adds that "the whole question of the terms on which a foreigner can hold property is so uncertain and vague that very few are likely to invest their money in ventures of this kind." We presume that "Uitlander" is one of the typical Englishmen who regard the law as a thing entirely beyond the comprehension of ordinary individuals, and capable of interpretation by trained experts only. It is not surprising that such an idea should exist in Great Britain, for statute law is indeed a perplexing maze. But where the laws are codified in clear language, as is the case in Japan, it would be at once wiser and more sensible to examine them instead of inveighing against obscurity which does not exist. The uncertainty and vagueness of which "Uitlander" complains would never have been felt but for persistent ventilation of confused and erroneous views by certain local English journals—one in Kobe and two in Yokohama—, which, in spite of the clearest proof, refused to believe that it would be possible for foreigners to obtain, under the Revised Treaties, a tenure of land for a lengthy term of years. The Kobe journal especially made itself conspicuous by unceasing attempts to demonstrate that a twenty years' lease would be the only lawful form of tenure, and that the right called "superficies" was a snare and a delusion, while one of the Yokohama journals carried silliness to the length of suggesting that a superficies, being, as its name implies, a right to the surface only of the ground, would not warrant a man in digging foundations below the surface for a building? These journals have all dropped the subject now. They are as silent about it as the grave. And well they may be, for since July 17th several foreigners have purchased superficies for terms, not of twenty years or thirty years, but hundreds of years. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." These newly acquired rights have been duly registered without the least hesitation on the part of the authorities. But men like "Uitlander" do not appear to have become acquainted with the fact. They still labour under the hallucination created by the journalistic articles to which we have referred. So far as the Phœnix Saw Mill was concerned, any foreigner purchasing it could have obtained tenure of the land for 999 years, and could have become absolute owner of the buildings. We take leave to doubt *in toto* whether the question of title had anything to do with the price obtained. Our opinion of the foreign investor's shrewdness is much too high to be reconciled with the hypothesis that he would allow a profitable opportunity to escape him rather than take the trouble to inform himself authoritatively about the means of utilizing it.

COUNT OKI'S FUNERAL.

Count Oki's body was put into the coffin on the 27th instant. There were two caskets, the inner packed with quick lime, the outer with powdered charcoal. The grave at Aoyama is lined with granite. The funeral took place on Monday, according to the *Shinto* ritual. There was an immense concourse of mourners, nearly all the high officials in Tokyo being present. The Emperor and Empress sent 5,000 *yen* as *saishin-ryo*, and several rolls of silk and bundles of silk wadding, as well as seven stands of flowers.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Art of Advertising: Its theory and practice, fully described by W. STEAD, Jun. London, T. B. Browne, Limited.

THIS well got-up little book is appropriately published by one of the greatest of London advertising firms. It is well and interestingly written, and much of the information is as good reading for the casual reader as it is valuable as a guide to the expert. Mr. Stead makes very bold claims. In his eloquent introductory chapter on "The universality of advertising," he says:—

> There is an impression, widespread, but unfounded, that the art of advertising is an invention of the latter half of the nineteenth century. Nothing could be further from the truth. Advertising has always existed, and must necessarily always exist. Even in the most primitive condition of society the advertiser flourished, although the means he employed were rude, and such as appealed to the imaginations of those in the midst of whom he lived. The scalps with which an Indian chief decorated his person would shock the feelings of a more sensitive age; but it was the most effective means the Red Indian could adopt to advertise his importance to his fellows. As society has become more civilised, advertising has not only become more general, but also more refined. The spirit of the nineteenth century has influenced advertising as it has modified all the conditions of our life. Formerly, advertising was the monopoly of the privileged classes; now it is recognised as being the common privilege of all sections of the community. To look down on advertising as if it were something which may be necessary, but which is at best a disagreeable necessity, is entirely to misread the history of the development of mankind. But for advertisement, progress would largely cease.

Mr. Stead regards a noble's coronet, the Queen's crown, Her Majesty's features as delineated on a postage stamp, the sacred "Court Circular" itself, as merely "forms of advertisement." The Royal Standard, he continues, warming to the subject, "is essentially an advertisement, and in itself no bad substitute for the sandwichman. It is at once more effective and more conspicuous. The advertising instinct of the Crown is very keen. "Again, the learned professions advertise in their own way. The doctor's red lamp and the endless ingenious devices by which the rising barrister gets his name into the papers are all forms of advertisement. As to the necessity of systematic advertisement on the part of the business man, no question can be entertained, and it is equally certain that better than all leaflets, posters, and sandwichmen is the newspaper:—

> The Press is by far the most powerful and effective instrument which the advertiser can utilise. It covers the earth from north to south, and from east to west. The column of the newspaper or periodical is the merchant's rostrum. It is his pulpit. From it he addresses the public at large. He can choose his own form of address; he may argue, plead, or declaim, as seems best to him. He has here at his command a means of getting in touch with thousands of homes, of laying before the people in attractive fashion the knowledge of his wares. The periodical press is the one means which enables the individual to communicate with the world at large. The Press has grown up and flourished as a green bay-tree, and its branches cover all the land. All other forms of advertising sink into insignificance when compared with it. By judicious Press advertising a manufacturer can reach every family in the land which is at all likely to require the goods he wishes to sell.

There is a most interesting chapter on "The Day of Small Things"—the earliest days of journalism and advertisement. It appears that in Restoration days advertising had made such progress that even Majesty sometimes patronised the newspapers directly. In the *Mercurius Politicus* of June 28, 1660, appeared the following:—

> "A Smooth Black DOG, less than a Greyhound, with white under his breast, belonging to the King's Majesty, was taken from Whitehall, the eighteenth day of this instant *June*, or thereabouts. If any-one can give notice to *John Ellis*, one of his Majesties Servants, or to his Majesties Back-Stairs shall be well rewarded for his labour.

Apparently this announcement proved fruitless, for we find in the next number, printed in large italics, the following humorous appeal:—

> "We must call upon you again for a Black Dog, between a Grey-hound and a Spaniel, no white about him, only a streak on his Brest and Tayl a little bobbed. It is His Majesties own Dog, and doubtless was stoln, for the dog was not born or bred in *England*, and would never forsake his Master. Whosoever finds him may acquaint any at Whitehal, for the Dog was better known at Court than those who stole him. Will they never leave robbing His Majesty? Must he not keep a dog? This Dog's place (though better than some imagine) is the only place which nobody offers to beg."

There is much good matter in this little book.

THE AMERICA CUP.

This is the tenth contest for the America Cup since it was conveyed by deed of gift, in the year 1857, to the New York Yacht Club. Record:—

		1870.		
Magic(w.)	...Am.	sch.	98	Mr. S. O good
Cambria(c.)	...Br.	sch.	198	Mr. J. Ashbury
		1871.		
Columbia	(w) Am.	sch	220	Mr. S. O good
Sappho			310	Mr. W. P. Douglas
Livonia(c.)	...Br.	sch.	280	Mr. J. Ashbury
		1876		
Madeline(w)	. Am.	sch.	152	Mr. J. Dickerson
Countess of Dufferin(c.)	Can.	sch.	139	Mr. C. Gifford
		1881.		
Mischief(w.)	..Am.	slp.	79	Mr. J. R. Busk
Atlanta(c.)	...Can.	slp.	84	Mr. A. Cuthbert
		1885.		
Puritan(w)	...Am.	cut.	140	Mr. J. M. Forbes
Genesta(c.)	...Br.	cut.	80	Sir R. Sutton
		1886		
Mayflower(w)	Am.	cut.	161	General Payne
Galatea(c.)	...Br.	cut.	90	Lieut. W. Henn, R.N.
		1887.		
Volunteer(w)	Am	cut.	152	General Payne
Thistle(c)	...Br.	cut.	149	Mr. J. Bell
		1893.		
Vigilant(w.)	.Am.	cut.	178	Mr. Morgan
Valkyrie II.(c.)	Br.	cut.	155	Lord Dunraven
		1895.		
Defender(w.)	Am.	cut.	202	Mr. Iselin
Valkyrie III.(c.)	Br.	cut.	210	Lord Dunraven.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Sir Ernest Satow, questioned by the people at Moji, is reported to have said that foreigners would probably be disposed to embark capital in mining or industrial enterprises in Japan, but that agriculture certainly would not tempt them. He further stated that Her Majesty's Government had not yet come to any decision with regard to establishing a consulate at Moji.

Ulneung Island, about which there is some talk at present, used to be a kind of no-man's-land. The Japanese knew it as Matsu-shima, and prior to the *Meiji* era, there was uncertainly whether it belonged to Japan or to Korea. At all events, the abundant timber which its rich soil nourishes, was at the mercy of anyone who came along with tools to fell a tree and a boat to carry it away. But one of the results of the more orderly form which Japan's international relations assumed after the Restoration of 1867, was that the island came to be regarded definitely as Korea's property. Nevertheless the inhabitants of Tsu-shima and Oki, to whom the sale of Ulneung lumber had long been a source of profit, continued to fell the trees on the island, the Korean Authorities not taking any sufficient steps to check them. Three years ago, Russia, representing to Korea that if this indiscriminate deforestation continued, the island would soon be bare, asked for a lease of the place, and promised that, in the event of the application's being granted, care should be taken to plant a certain number of trees for every one felled. Korea, agreed, and Japan did not interfere. What is happening now, therefore, is simply that the pledge to Russia is being carried out. There is no new question on the *tapis*, If Japan is disappointed, she must nevertheless recognise that the time for remonstrance is long passed.

Affairs have evidently quieted down at Amoy. The *Tatsuta* left that place for Saseho on the 26th instant, and the *Yayeyama* followed her example on the 27th.

No municipal taxes have hitherto been imposed in Tokyo on Buddhist or Shinto edifices, or on their sites, but there has not been any regulation for exempting Christian churches and chapels or the places of worship of other creeds. It is proposed to introduce a bill in the Tokyo City Assembly, providing that the same privilege shall be extended to all without distinction.

The Prince Imperial is to leave Hayama at 7.50 a.m. on the morning of the 7th instant, and proceed *via* Zushi and Ofuna to Numazu, where he will remain until the 15th instant. Embarking then on the *Asama*, His Imperial Highness will reach Kobe on the 16th, and there take train for Maiko, making a brief sojourn at Prince Arisugawa's country seat.

It is stated that, after much discussion, the Committee appointed by the Communications Department for inquiring into the nature of the motive force for the Tokyo Street Railway has decided in favour of electricity. Inasmuch, however, as the present regulations for the control of electric enterprises impose restrictions which would be fatal to the project it is necessary that the regulations should be revised, and the Committee has now to consider the revisions.

Considering that the question of street railways for Tokyo came upon the *tapis* twelve years ago, it is certainly quite extravagant, as the *Jiji Shimpo* justly remarks, that the citizens should still be discussing whether the lines ought to be owned by private individuals or by the Municipality. In fact Tokyo is making itself quite ridiculous. If the business capacity of the Japanese nation were to be inferred from the behaviour of the people in the capital, the verdict would be bad.

Attention is called by a vernacular contemporary to the fact that the Treasury's Specie Reserve has fallen from 106,183,630 *yen* to 102,070,291 *yen*; a diminution of 4,113,339 *yen* in about a month's interval. At the same time, the steady decline in the gold value of the *yen* during the interval since June last, deserves attention :—

STERLING VALUE OF THE YEN ACCORDING TO THE QUOTATIONS OF THE SPECIE BANK.

June average	2s. $\frac{11}{16}$ d.
July average	2s. $\frac{10}{16}$ d.
August 25th	2s. $\frac{9}{16}$ d.
August 28th	2s. $\frac{8}{16}$ d.
August 31st	2s. $\frac{7}{16}$ d.
First part of the September	2s. $\frac{8}{16}$ d.
September 26th	2s. $\frac{7}{16}$ d.

The *Hiogo News* announces that it ceases to exist as a separate journal, and will henceforth be amalgamated with the *Kobe Chronicle*. We are not surprised at the decision, but we take leave of an old friend with regret, for the *News* has always been a credit to the prosperous place after which it was named. Kobe is now fortunate in the possession of only two journals, both of which will doubtless gain in quality by the greater proportionate support the community can afford them.

An interesting step has been taken by the Naval Department. The pay of officers is to vary henceforth according to the size of the ship in which they are serving. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that extra pay will be given while a man is serving in a big ship. The idea seems excellent. The immense responsibilities devolving upon officers in charge of a line-of-battle ship or a first-class armoured cruiser ought undoubtedly to receive commensurate recognition.

The Cavalry Practical School (*Kihei Jisshi Gakko*) is to be enlarged so that there will be accommodation to provide a year's training for every young officer on joining his regiment, and for every captain on obtaining his company. The Military Authorities have determined, it is said, that henceforth no cavalry officer shall receive his majority unless he has put in two years at the school.

There can be no doubt, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* shrewdly remarks, that the great activity shown by foreigners in the field of Chinese mining enterprise will ultimately affect Japan sensibly. When the magnificent coal-fields that are understood to be situated in the Yangtsze Valley come to be developed, the coal mines of this country can not fail to feel the competition. Our contemporary suggests the rolling of several petty companies into one big concern, and the introduction of better machinery and better methods. We expect that the day is not very far distant when Japan will see a coal trust. There is undoubtedly an excellent opportunity for such an enterprise.

Professor Nagai is said to have completed his new process for refining indigo. He has been carrying on a series of experiments at Tokushima, and comparative tests are now being made of the dyeing material prepared according to his methods and that procured from India. The Nagai indigo is to be called *Awa Nagai Seiran*.

The Committee for the Revision of the Penal Code is to meet immediately at the Department of Justice for the purpose of considering two questions : first, the abolition of capital punishment, and secondly, the setting of political offenders to hard labour when in jail.

The recent elections for members of Local Assemblies produced a considerable crop of offenders against the very severe laws now in force. The following cases are reported :—Carrying lethal or dangerous weapons, 19 persons ; violent conduct, 1 ; intimidation, 3 ; giving money, 135 ; giving articles, 26 ; entertaining, 323 ; various, 20. Divided according to parties, there were 185 Liberal law-breakers ; 149 Progressists ; 23 Imperialists ; 6 Business Men ; 153 Independents, and some partizans of minor associations.

Sir Ernest Satow has been handsomely entertained by the people of Moji. He was able to compliment them very sincerely on the progress the place has made during the past few years, and to contrast it with Bakan, which lies on the opposite side of the strait. Bakan, historically a celebrated place, has remained for twenty years unchanged and unprogressive.

A statement is published by the *Hochi Shimbun* to the effect that, on the 25th ultimo, three Japanese were clubbed to death by Russian convicts in Saghalien, and their bodies thrown over a precipice. The murderers are held for trial.

Correspondence from Taipeh, dated the 22nd ultimo and published by a local contemporary, represents the state of affairs at Amoy as very unquiet. Whenever Japanese go into the streets they are reviled and even stoned by women and children, and the city is placarded with inflammatory posters. It is to be observed, however, that the *Takachiho* and the *Yayeyama* were withdrawn on the 26th ultimo, namely, just a week after the date of this correspondence, and since the departure of the ships involved the withdrawal of the 25 marines told off to guard the Japanese Consulate, we may presume that the Japanese Government entertains no further uneasiness.

It appears that the Prince Imperial contemplates a somewhat extended tour in the South of Japan. He is to start from Numazu to Kobe, and to proceed thence to Kure and Saseho. The statement that Maiko was to be the Prince's destination requires to be corrected : he will merely stop at Prince Arisugawa's villa in that place *en passant*. His Imperial Highness is said to be now enjoying robust health.

A competitive exhibition of domestic products was opened at Hachioji on the 1st instant, the city of Tokyo and the nine neighbouring prefectures taking

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part. The exhibits number 36,000, and include rice, barley, tobacco, textile fabrics, porcelains, lacquer and so on. They are divided into 15 principal classes.

It has at last been finally decided that the building of the Tokyo Street Railway shall be a private enterprise, not a municipal. But there seems to be still some uncertainty as to the concessionaire.

The *Jiji* writes very strongly about the *America Maru*. It says that the incident will reflect very seriously upon Japanese navigators. Truly we can not view the matter in that light. The Japanese share of the blame—whatever blame there may be—is infinitesimally small.

The German Consul in Hongkong, who is now on a visit to Japan, is said to have had his pocket picked while *en route* for Kamakura by the last train from Tokyo on the 27th ultimo. A pocket book was taken. It contained 240 *yen* in notes, and a letter of credit for 2,000 *yen*.

The correspondent of the *Mainichi*, who advances the above statement, adds that the affairs of the camphor monopoly are not progressing satisfactorily. The camphor offered to the Government has not exceeded 170,000lbs., so far, which is about one half of the quantity originally estimated. It is supposed that this discrepancy between practice and hypothesis may be attributed partly to the unsettled state of the country, and partly to the fact that a great deal of camphor was rushed forward in anticipation of the monopoly.

The Committee appointed some time ago to investigate the question of building new Houses of Parliament in Tokyo, has carried its labours to the point of preparing plans, specifications, and estimates. But there is not the least chance of the Treasury's consenting to undertake any large outlay on that account at present. The prediction of the *Mainichi Shimbun* is that three or four years must elapse before funds are forthcoming, and, if that be so, the completion of the buildings may be regarded as ten years distant. There is, indeed, no special reason for expedition. The present temporary edifice at Hibiya is good for fifteen years' use, if trifling repairs are undertaken.

The Agents of the Northern Pacific S. S. Company have written to the *Jiji Shimpo* denying the statement that the Company intends to temporarily suspend its Yokohama-Tacoma service. This statement, as our readers doubtless remember, came from the Japanese Consul in Tacoma, who reported that the Company's vessels, now engaged on the service, having been chartered by the United States Government, would necessarily cease to ply on the Northern Pacific route. Messrs. Dodwell and Company, Lt'd. explain that, although the steamers actually plying on the Yokohama-Tacoma line have, as stated by the Consul, been chartered for purposes of military transport in connexion with the war in the Philippines, the Company has no intention of suspending the service, but will continue it with the *Queen Adelaide*, the *Monmouthshire*, the *City of Dublin*, and other vessels.

Count Itagaki, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, considers that the Diet, in its fourteenth session, will be required to direct its attention to three cardinal question; the amendment of the Law of Election; the abolition of the Law of Public Meeting and Political Associations, and the transfer of the railways to the State. The experience gained in the recent elections has had the effect of partially weaning the Liberals from their affection for single voting and signed ballots, and they will be disposed to accept some modification of the Government's proposed reforms. As to the Law of Public Meeting and Political Associations, Count Itagaki denounces it as altogether behind the time, and compares it to a feeble torch lit when the sun is shining The Liberal leader, who has long been a staunch supporter of the principle of State ownership of railways, repeats his old arguments on the subject, but we suspect that the political atmosphere is not so favourable to this measure now as it was a year ago.

There are complaints about the working of the salt monopoly in Formosa. The Taipeh Merchants and Manufacturers' Association (*Shōkō-kai*) held a meeting on the 18th ultimo, and formulated a statement which seems difficult to believe. The Government, according to the Association, buys the salt at 40 *sen* per picul and sells it to licensed dealers at 85 *sen*, the latter retailing it at 1.95 *yen*. Hence the consumer, who used to be able to buy his salt at 50 *sen* a picul, has now to pay nearly four times that amount. The Association condemns the charge as excessive, and certainly, if the figures be correct, the epithet is well deserved. If the Government has established a monopoly of this important necessary, care should be taken to prevent the licensed dealers from abusing their position of vantage. We should have supposed, however, that experience was not needed to demonstrate that elementary fact to the Formosan Authorities.

The drafts of the revised Penal Code and Code of Penal Procedure are said to be ready for submitting to the Diet next session. They have undergone great changes, a com- plete re-classification of crimes having been effected, *inter alia*, and the duration of punishments having been materially altered.

The abolition of the school for Non-commissioned Officers—the Kyododan—elicits some remarks about the difficulty now experienced in finding good men to save as non-coms. There is nothing to recommend such service. The pay is very poor—quite inadequate for the support of a wife and family in these costly times—, and, however well a man may have acquitted himself, he has to look forward to the prospect of being sent about his business at the age of 36 or 37, with a mere pittance of a pension, and without any competence to engage in a bread-winning trade or profession. In abolishing the School, the Authorities have decided that non commissioned officers shall henceforth receive their training at the head-quarters of their respective regiments. That is certainly the most economical method, but it does not solve the difficulty, and we expect that the War Department will ultimately take the step from which, doubtless, it shrinks now solely on the score of expense, namely, raising the pay of non-commissioned officers to a figure that will bear comparison with the earnings obtainable in other professions. A Japanese navvy receives, now-a-days, a daily wage of 55 *sen*, or about 12 *yen* a month, holidays and wet days subtracted. A sergeant in the Army is no better off, even when all his allowances have been included in the account.

At a Cabinet meeting held on the 3rd it was decided to convene the Diet on November 20th.

It appears, after all, that the Eight-years' Programme of the Minister of State for Education has not been shelved. The necessary appropriation will be sought from the Diet in the form of a supplementary budget. Such, at least, is the latest report.

The suit instituted by ex-Judge Takano against the Minister of State for Finance, for the recovery of salary which the ex-Judge claims to be due to him, his removal from the Bench having been illegal, comes up for hearing to-day in the Tokyo Local Court.

The extension of the Iyo Railway to Yokowara was opened to traffic on the 4th instant.

An explosion of fire-damp took place in the Kanatani Coal Mine on the 2nd inst. Ten persons were injured severely and one slightly.

Professor Ladd has been decorated by the Emperor of Japan with the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun. This recognition of distinguished scholastic attainments is wise, and does honour to Japan as well as to Professor.

News from Nagasaki says that owing to excessive issues of 100-*yen* notes by the Bank of Japan, considerable inconvenience is felt. There is a scarcity of notes of smaller denomination, and a sum of from 5 to 10 *sen* has to be paid for breaking up a 100-*yen* note.

Japan will send either Colonel Yeijichi, of the Artillery, or Captain Kajikawa, of the Infantry, to watch the campaign in the Transvaal. Captain Kajikawa is now Military Attaché to the Japanese Legation in London. It is suggested by a Tokyo contemporary that the war in the Transvaal will be a good opportunity to resolve the doubts felt in some quarters about England's military strength.

If one of the *jinrikisha*-drawers who distinguished himself in connexion with the Otsu affair, has since then earned notoriety by his bad conduct, the other, Kitaga Ichitaro, seems to have shown a very different spirit. On receipt of his decoration and allowances from the Governments of Japan and Russia, he retired to his native place, Shomura, in Ishikawa Prefecture, and devoted himself to study, with the result that he has acquired local distinction and been elected a member of the District Assembly.

The pest continues to be bad in Newchwang. The number of cases from the outbreak of the epidemic to the end of August was 600, and 30 or 40 new cases occur daily at present. Fortunately no foreigner has hitherto been attacked, but it is felt that the continuance of such immunity can not be guaranteed, and stringent measures of sanitation are being adopted.

The predicted "sifting out" of employés has taken place in the Bank of Japan. It is confined to the junior ranks,

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and has involved the dismissal of over 80 persons. The explanation is that since 1890, when Mr. Kawada, the then President of the Bank, effected a wholesale reduction, there had been nothing of the kind, and the result was that the number of superfluous employés multiplied beyond all the limits of reason. Eighty dismissals is a pretty comprehensive sweep, but it looks small compared with the figures for the Taipeh branch of the Bank. That branch has just been abolished, in consequence of the Bank of Formosa commencing operations, and the abolition has deprived one hundred persons of their employment. Imagination declines to suggest tasks for a staff of one hundred persons in the branch of a Bank where the field of operations is so small as in Taipeh.

A telegram from Söul says that the Representatives of the various Powers in Söul have approached the Korean Government with a request that the sphere of industrial interest of each State should be defined, and that special mining privileges should be granted to the subjects or citizens of a State within its sphere only. Nothing is officially known in Tokyo about this singular and most incredible proposal, but the Central News Agency suggests that it has been advanced by Germany at the instance of Russia, and that it will certainly be opposed by the Japanese Representative. We believe that it has its origin in the imagination of a sensational newsmonger.

It is stated that the visit recently paid by Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, to the ports of North China, has suggested the advisability of providing facilities for importing goods in those districts without passing them through Southern China. Mr. Kondo convened a meeting of the principal officials of the Company on the 2nd inst., and submitted the following programme:—(1) That a regular weekly service be established between Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin. (2) That another steamer be placed on the present Kobe-Chefoo-Tientsin line. (3) That a regular weekly service be established between Shanghai, Chefoo, and Newchwang. With regard to the last project, however, it will be postponed until next spring, as Newchwang will very soon be ice-bound. The other part of the programme is to be carried out at once. The *Genkai Maru* (1,409 tons) and the *Higo Maru* (1,405 tons) will be placed on the Shanghai-Tientsin service, and the *Mikawa Maru* (1,940 tons) will allotted to the Kobe-Tientsin line, thus making fortnightly communication.

The question of private *versus* municipal ownership of street railways having now been settled, the problem of motive force has come strongly on the *tapis*. Until quite recently it was supposed that the Triple Union (*Sampa Godo*) could safely count on obtaining a charter for its electric system with overhead trollies. But we are happy to say that there is now a very strong movement against this. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, in his capacity of President of the Tokyo Gas Works, has addressed a most emphatic document of remonstrance to the Authorities. He declares, on the strength of the quoted opinions of several competent experts, that the inevitable leakage of the electric fluid will work serious injury to the underground pipes of the water-works, the gas-works, and the telephones. The President of the Imperial University, also, is said to have sent in a memorial, praying that no electric lines shall be laid in the neighbourhood of the University, for although it is not beyond the resources of science to prevent dangerous leakage, no efficient appliances for that purpose are practically available as yet. We observe with satisfaction that some of the Tokyo newspapers too, are beginning to argue against the crime—for it can be called nothing less—of allowing this perilous gear to be suspended above the heads of the citizens of Tokyo, and are reminding the public of the consequences that might be anticipated if one of the cable-bearing posts happened to fall during a conflagration.

There have been added to the exhibits in the Commercial Museum of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce some patterns of the latest fashions of costumes from America, and also—these latter brought over from France by Mr. Hayashi, Chief of the Business Office of the French Exhibition—a number of specimens of the newest styles of silk fabrics, porcelains, and so forth.

The torpedo-destroyer *Kagerō*, which is being built by Messrs. Thornicraft & Co. to order of Japan, underwent her public trials a few days ago. She developed a speed of 30.55 knots.

Marquis Ito is about to make a trip to the Hokuriku districts. His original programme was to proceed, in the first place, to Nagato to be present at the unveiling of a statue of the late Mori Tadamasa, Prince of Choshu, but circumstances have necessitated a postponement of the unveiling ceremony, and it is now expected that the Marquis will start direct for Hokuriku on the 15th or 16th instant, accompanied by Viscount Watanabe Kunitaki and Baron Suyematsu Kencho. A member of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* staff will also be of the party.

There is a remarkable consensus on the part of Japanese journals as to the probability that England's task in South Africa may create an opportunity in the Far East for other Powers to give free rein to their ambitions. Great Britain's function as the police-constable of the world thus receives another illustration. It must be confessed that guardianship of the peace is not prominent among the duties she performs in that capacity, but still the Far East, much as she has exploited it, seems to feel that her company is better than her room. That is satisfactory, as far as it goes. Perhaps, too, the Transvaal will not fill England's hands quite so full as our vernacular contemporaries imagine. It will not occupy her fleet at all, and ships are the important factor in Far-Eastern politics at present.

The United States Government has given an order for 216,000 tons of coal to the Mitsu Bishi Company, to be delivered at the rate of 24,000 tons a month, during nine consecutive months. Last year the various mines of Japan dug coal in greater quantities than the market required, and the result was that the price of the mineral fell, to the great satisfaction of householders. Gradually, however, the stocks were worked off, and things had assumed their normal condition, when the United States appears upon the scene as a big buyer, and we shall all have to put another brick in our fire-grates. It appears that the Mitsu Bishi finds some little difficulty in supplying such a quantity of coal. We should have supposed that the task was well within the resources of the big Company, but, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*, the Directors have made unsuccessful application to the owners of four small mines, Yoshitani, Mutabe, Yashiro and Aichi, the last-named alone being prepared to make a small contribution of 1,500 tons. It is conjectured, therefore, that the Mitsu Bishi will have recourse to the Mitsui.

Correspondence from Fusan published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* confirms the fact that the land destined as a site for the terminus of the Söul-Fusan Railway has been purchased by Russian subjects. It is suggested that this proceeding is a Roland for the Masampo Oliver. At Masampo certain Japanese subjects obtained possession of land to which the Russians considered that they had a kind of title, or concerning which they held, at any rate, that alienation to foreigners ought not to have been sanctioned by the Korean Government. But when a representation was made in that sense, the Korean Government replied that the land in question was the private property of Korean subjects who were at liberty to dispose of it as they pleased. Such an answer put an end to further controversy. Russia, however, has her innings now at Fusan, and if the Japanese attempt to officially assert any prior claim to the land they will doubtless receive a reply similar to that given to the Russians with regard to Masampo. There is evidently an impression in Japan that Russian activity is beginning once more to find a sphere in Korea. A correct impression, doubtless, though, for our own part, we should be inclined to think that Russia's temporary quiescence was not dictated by any idea of self-effacement, but was simply an illustration of the old saying *reculer pour mieux sauter*. As a point of elementary strategy, Russia must be paramount in Korea if she intends to have positions of development and strength at Vladivostock and Liaotung. It would not do for her to have a potentially hostile country sandwiched between the Amur and the Regent's Sword Peninsula. Japan must reckon with that feature of the Far-East situation.

A member of the *Nippon's* staff has had an interview with a Foreign Representative in Tokyo, and has learned from him that inasmuch as at least one-half of the Transvaal Boers are of German extraction and a great many of them use the French language, Germany and France can not but sympathise with them in their present difficulties, and will probably assist them covertly. That theory certainly does not coincide with the warning given by the German Government to the Boers, that if they persisted in pushing things to an extremity, they must not expect any European Power to save them from the consequences of their obstinacy.

A growing ambition in Japan is to become the half-way house for the trade between America and North China. We mentioned recently that the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are about to increase the maritime carrying facilities for this country's commerce with Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Newchwang. It is a rapidly growing commerce.

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In 1890, the exports from Japan to North China represented only 5¼ million *yen*; in 1897, they aggregated 21½ millions. Such figures are in themselves quite sufficient to justify the increased enterprise of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which has followed suit. But the American trade is an additional incentive. The Japanese see no reason why goods from North China should go to the United States *vid* Shanghai. Japan lies in the direct route, and if the business could be diverted to this country it would be a very pleasant thing. The "if" is large, for the grooves of are deep.

A good deal of attention has been attracted by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's project of increasing its steamship services between Japan and Northern China. There appears to be an unanimous feeling of satisfaction at the step. Some critics suggest, indeed, that the Directors' resolve is inspired by considerations of selfish expediency rather than of genuine commercial expansion. Next year the term of the Company's principal subsidy will expire, and it is therefore desirable to establish some new claim on the Treasury's consideration. The voice of these suspicions is faint, however. Never yet has there been an occurrence into which ingenious folks could not read some mean motive, if they applied themselves with sufficient diligence to the task, though, for the matter of that, the motives assigned to the Yusen Kaisha on this occasion would scarcely merit the epithet "mean" even were they correctly gauged. Apart from that aspect of the matter, it is felt, as the *Asahi* says, that during their brief tenure of administrative power in Newchwang after the war, the Japanese earned golden opinions among the local Chinese. Japan was represented by really able men on that occasion — Baron Sannomiya and Mr. Mitsuhashi——, and the outcome of their management was that the people of the district conceived a very high estimate of their conquerors. Japanese merchants trading in Newchwang to-day find themselves considerably benefited by the reputation established in those times. For that reason, as well as because of the rapidly growing volume of business between Japan and Newchwang, and between Newchwang and North China, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's project of a Shanghai-Chefoo-Newchwang line is considered a very hopeful enterprise. But the Shanghai-Chefoo-Tientsin line is viewed with less confidence, owing to the competition that must be expected on it. The *Asahi* suggests that the Company should abandon its European service, which is more for honour and glory than for profit, and should devote its strength solely to maritime enterprise in the Orient.

MILLER.

A good many articles that might have been used for murderous purposes were brought up from the bottom of the sea in the search for Miller's wrench—a big axe, a kitchen knife, some iron implements, and so on. A shirt, too, was found, which bears the marks of having been torn and trampled on, and is also said to show blood stains. It was evidently worn by a big man, and it is marked "L.M." But Miller's initial is "R," so the shirt cannot be identified as his. Digitized by Google It is rather curious that a monkey-wrench and a torn muddy, and bloodstained shirt should have been found just where Miller says that he deposited articles of the kind, and yet neither of them can be confidently identified. If circumstantial evidence alone were in question, how any one would be ridiculed who doubted the perfection of such a chain of proof! If it were only suspected, for example, that Miller had thrown his shirt and a wrench into the creek after the murder, and if a wrench and a bloody shirt were fished out by divers, how absolutely confident every one would feel that they were the identical articles!

Miller's last escapade has been to destroy two Bibles by a process the most ignominious within his power. It appears that after he was sentenced to death by the Yokohama Local Court, two humane residents sent Bibles to him. These he carried with him to Tokyo, and while in jail in the latter city he received another copy of the holy book. A few days ago, the jailer remarked that two of the volumes had disappeared, and on enquiring as to their whereabouts Miller brutally explained what he had done with them. A Tokyo contemporary, in telling the story, quotes a judicial authority who is reported to have said that Japan must be prepared to receive other foreigners of Miller's type, now that the era of Mixed Residence has been inaugurated. We do not think so. Happily there are few Millers even among the lowest class of foreigners.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Sept. 30th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15,012,119
Amount of convertible notes issued...	219,977,780
Government deposits	32,326,038
General deposits	3,432,499
Exchange liability	45,820
Total	300,794,258

Cr.	
Discount notes	48,415,940
Foreign discount notes	9,753,210
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	59,073,687
Exchange liability	1,507,771
Government bonds	53,475,438
Property...	1,943,203
Bullion and Specie	104,625,005
Total	300,794,258

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	213,555,582
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	102,054,507
Silver	—
Total	102,054,507
Securities :—	
Government bonds	36,756,288
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,119,985
Commercial notes	42,624,802
Total	111,501,075

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Specie Reserve :—		
Gold	—	514,584
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	6,780,005
Government deposits	—	7,160,576
General deposits	—	749,360

OPENING OF THE SÖUL CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Söul, Sept. 18.

The event of the month thus far has been the opening to-day of the Söul-Chemulpo Railway. This has been looked forward to for a long time, and the consummation of the project gives great joy. The road is not as yet completed. Trains do not run from Chemulpo to the river even. The Söul terminus is two miles from the river at the village of Yong Dong Po, where a temporary station has been erected.

A special train came from Chemulpo, leaving there at 7 a.m. and arrived at Yong Dong Po at 8.40 to receive the Korean dignitaries, foreign diplomats, and invited friends. The train was announced to leave the station at 9 o'clock. For some unaccountable reason the diplomatic corps failed to arrive on time, and, quite contrary to what might have been expected, the Korean officials were punctual. The train left ten minutes late, and even then carried only three foreigners.

At Chemulpo a large company of Japanese, Koreans, and foreigners met and welcomed the incoming train. The opening ceremony was simple. The Japanese Minister, Mr. Hayashi, the Korean Foreign Minister, Mr. Pak, and the Chief Manager, Mr. Adachi, were the principal speakers The Korean Minister noted the fact that the railway was begun under American auspices and completed under Japanese, and expressed the hope that it would be a bond of unity between the countries thus interested. Japanese wrestlers were on hand to show their skill, and an elaborate collation served to satisfy the wants of the inner man. The ceremony over, the guests from the capital and the friends from the port boarded the train, and at one o'clock the "opening train" of six coaches rolled slowly out of the depot at Chemulpo. The trip to Yong Dong Po was made on schedule time, or in one hour and forty minutes. The road is well built and runs very smoothly. This is especially true from Chemulpo to Oricole, a distance of about fifteen miles, where the road is well ballasted and nearly finished. The cars are American and have the modern accommodations. The first and second class are in the same car, one-third of the room being given to the former and two-thirds to the latter The third class is a separate car, on which the accommodation are more simple.

The Koreans were much interested in the opening of the line. A large company assembled at the termini, and all along the way people were seen standing and staring at the passing train with profound amazement. The Korean official is always sedate and philosophical, and is rarely betrayed into any expressions of wonder or enthusiasm. He adjusts himself readily to new circumstances, and I noticed a staunch conservative Cabinet Minister dozing complacently on the return trip in a way that would indicate he had spent most of his years in the railway train. There is no doubt to my mind, however, that the Koreans appreciate the benefits to be derived from this road.

The Company is to be congratulated on the auspicious opening, and of all individuals no one more so than Mr. Adachi, the Chief Engineer. Since he took charge of the work, he has pushed the work with much zeal, and managed the affairs of the Company with great ability.

There remains much to be done before trains can run to Söul. The bridge across the Han river is as yet far from completion. Of the nine stone piers on which the bridge will rest one is completed, and others are well under way, the foundation of all being laid. I have not heard when the bridge is expected to be completed. I doubt if the track will be laid to the river before winter sets in, and, with the electric line running from Söul to the river, the people of Söul will be able to take the trip to Chemulpo cheaply, quickly, and comfortably

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THE TRANSVAAL FORCE.

NO wonder that some surprise was caused in Yokohama by the publication of a telegram to the effect that General JOUBERT and his staff, with a force of 45,000 men, had arrived at Volksrust, and that 20,000 Boers had been mobilized on the frontier near Mafeking. If the Boers were already able to put 65,000 men into the field, they would be a formidable foe for a Power to attack which has to send its troops thousands of miles over-sea and carry on the campaign in a country remarkably favourable for purposes of defence. A force of 100,000 men would be the least that England should marshal against such an enemy. But the fact is that the telegram was mutilated by the expansionist or the type-setters of the *Japan Times*. A cipher was added to the figures in both cases, so that they became 45,000 and 20,000 instead of 4,500 and 2,000. It has been pointed out more than once in these columns that the Boers can not possibly muster more than fourteen or fifteen thousand men out of the actual Boer population of the Transvaal. Even that number would be subversive of all normal calculations based on comparisons of total populations and their fighting units. We believe that the Boers themselves will not furnish more than ten thousand for the campaign, but it is, of course, impossible to estimate what proportion of the Uitlanders may be induced to take up arms. Five hundred Germans are already in the ranks, and, if we may judge from the circumstances connected with the counter-petition to the QUEEN, nearly all the German settlers in the Transvaal will be against England. Possibly from that source, and by means of mercenaries, JOUBERT may ultimately find himself in command of fifteen or sixteen thousand men, to whom must be added the Orange State contingent. The telegrams say that KRUGER has issued an order requiring all able-bodied inhabitants of the country to take up arms, irrespective of nationality. Such an order would include the Uitlanders, or as many of them as have not yet effected their exit from the country. But it may be taken for granted that the Boers will not venture to draft any considerable contingent of the Uitlanders into their ranks. The step would be perilous in the extreme, even supposing it possible, which is very doubtful. We do not want to minimize the dimensions of the task before England, but it really seems that the attempts of the Boers' sympathisers to represent the Transvaal as a most formidable Power are finding too much credence. Few writers appear to remember that training and discipline have hitherto been considered of some importance in estimating the fighting value of an army. A portion of the Boer troops may possess those qualifications, and some of their German allies have probably served with the colours in the Fatherland. But the great bulk of both the Transvaal forces and the Orange Free State forces must be raw recruits. The figures we have assumed above as the probable maxima of the enemies England has to face are based on the assumption that every male unit of the population from 20 to 50 years of age takes the field. Very few of these men can have passed under the hands of the drill sergeant. They may be good rifle shots. Their reputation in that respect used to be high. But in proportion as the country has become settled, opportunities for learning to shoot straight by practise against big-game targets have become scarce, and it is permissible to doubt whether the Boers of to-day hold as straight a rifle as they did twenty years ago. Their great strength lies in the fact that they are acting on the defensive in a very difficult country. Skill in manœuvring is not of paramount importance when men are fighting behind entrenchments. If the Boers adopt a purely defensive part, fortifying themselves strongly in positions which can not be turned or passed, and if, as there is every reason to believe, they have an ample supply of quick-firing guns and ammunition, they will surely be able to offer an exceedingly stout resistance. That they will fight splendidly there can be no question. They possess the most important qualities in a soldier, confidence in their own prowess and devotion to their cause. They believe themselves to be fighting for their "altars and their hearths," and they have believed ever since Majuba Hill that they can "whip" the red-coats wherever they meet them. It will be a bloody business. For England the question is greatly complicated by difficulties of transport. But no other country has had our experience in equipping and providing for expeditions that have to march a long way inland in distant lands. We spent ten millions in Abyssinia learning how to do those things thoroughly, and there has not been a single failure in any of our many campaigns since then. Many campaigns indeed! Will the day ever come when the doors of the temple of JANUS will be shut in every part of HER MAJESTY'S dominions? War has become our normal occupation. We are called a nation of shopkeepers, but never a year passes that we do not draw the sword somewhere.

THE QUESTION OF FOREIGNERS' LIABILITY TO PAY HOUSE TAX.

M. RATARD, the French Consul in Yokohama, has made an interesting contribution to the discussion about the liability of foreign land-holders to pay local taxes in the form of House Tax. The Consul's point is that the leases of land in this Settlement were granted on the express condition that the land should be built on. "All concessions of land on which there shall not be established, after an interval of six months, buildings suitable to the class of operations of the grantee, shall be annulled"—that, according to M. RATARD, was the language used by the Consul of France, in 1860, in a notification addressed to the French residents, under instructions from the French Legation. No such condition appears in any of the published treaties or conventions, so far as we know, but M. RATARD says that it was "agreed upon," and he doubtless has warrant for the statement. It is observable, however, that for the purpose of strengthening his argument, he refers to Article 6 of the Convention of 1866 for the Improvement of the Settlement. In that Article it is laid down that every building erected upon a certain part—marked A on the plan—must be of a substantial character, and M. RATARD apparently infers that since the obligation to construct a certain kind of building on the land was thus imposed by the Convention, the rent fixed for the land must be held to cover all taxes upon the buildings. We fear, however, that no argument of the kind can be based on the Article. For its language is:—"Every building erected upon any lot of ground comprised within the annexed plan (A), whether in the occupation of Foreigners or of Japanese, must be of a substantial character. The roofs must be tiled and the walls constructed of bricks, stone or thick plaster." It appears, therefore, that the obligation was imposed on Japanese as well as on foreigners with regard to this particular part of the Settlement, and we can not contend that the obligation conferred any vicarious immunity on foreigners which it did not equally confer on Japanese. In point of fact, the stipulations contained in the article were formulated solely "to protect the foreign and native portions of the Settlement against the spread of fire," as is stated in Article 3, the Convention having been concluded shortly after the disastrous conflagration of 1866. It appears to us that to draw from this altogether special arrangement any inference generally applicable to the Foreign Settlement lands, is not warrantable. Concerning M. RATARD'S first contention also, namely, that a condition as to buildings was imposed by the French Consul in 1860 when notifying his nationals of the transfer of the Foreign Settlement from Kanagawa to Yokohama, we apprehend that the reply of the Japanese Government will be very simple. It will say that the condition was intended solely to prevent inconvenient speculation in land. Had foreigners been permitted to acquire unlimited areas of land and hold them for purposes of speculation without building on them, it is evident that the limits originally fixed for the Settlement might have proved much insufficient. That

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having been the obvious intention of the stipulation, can it be fairly adduced as a proof that the buildings were to be exempted from taxation for all time; or, to put it differently, that the taxes payable upon them were included in the ground rent? We do not think so.

When the question is considered carefully, we find that, excepting the conditions applied to a special part of the Settlement, by an independent Convention, with the explicit object of diminishing the danger of fire, no limitations whatever were generally imposed as to the quality of the structures erected on the lots. All that each lessee was required to do, according to M. RATARD'S statement, was to put up buildings suitable to the kind of business carried on by him. He might be a milkman whose trade required only a few sheds, or he might be a great merchant who had to cover his lot with costly warehouses and offices. In either case the ground rent per square foot remained the same. But the Japanese House Tax is regulated with the utmost possible accuracy, by the quality and size of a building. The milkman of our hypothesis would not be required to pay on his sheds more than a small fraction of the sum demanded from the big merchant on his expensive edifices. How, then, can we reasonably contend that the House Tax, which varies largely according to the class of a building, was intended to be included in a land-rent of invariable amount? The two are essentially different in nature.

We come, now, to M. RATARD'S second argument. It is based on Articles XII. of the Memorandum of 1864 for the Foreign Settlement at Yokohama. That Article says:—"Finally, in order to avoid all further discussions about the keeping of roads, drainage, cleaning of streets and other municipal objects for which hitherto the Japanese Local Authorities have been held responsible in view of the high rental paid by all foreign leaseholders, it has been agreed that these objects shall henceforth be secured by the Foreign Land-Renters themselves, and towards the expenses that must be incurred annually, there shall be a deduction of 20 per cent. from the yearly rent paid by all lands leased to foreigners, to be paid into a municipal fund." M. RATARD contends, on the strength of this article, that "municipal taxes have been provided for by the abandonment to the Municipal Council of 20 per cent. of the ground-rent." In our opinion the Article will not bear any such construction. It certainly does admit that the Japanese Local Authorities were expected to keep up the roads, effect the drainage and cleaning of the streets, and accomplish other municipal objects by payments made out of the land rents, but it does not say that 20 per cent. of the rents was considered sufficient for these purposes. On the contrary, it clearly indicates that the Government's payment of 20 per cent. was only a contribution. The 20 per cent. was to go "towards the expenses" and was to be paid into a municipal fund." If the Article quoted by M. RATARD stood alone, the inference plainly suggested by it would be that the municipal expenses of Yokohama were not wholly included in the land rents. It does not stand alone, however. In Article VII. of the Convention of 1867 relating to the establishment of foreign settlements at Osaka and Hyogo, we have a clear analysis of the nature of the land rent:—"All the ground leased by foreigners at Osaka and Hyogo will be subject to the payment of an annual rent calculated at a rate that will be considered sufficient to meet the expenses of keeping in repair the roads and drains, the cleansing and lighting of, and maintaining order in, the Settlements, and the ordinary land tax payable at the present date to the Japanese Government." That is quite explicit. It shows that the municipal expenses incurred within the Settlements were included in the land rent. But we have to ask, did the proposition apply to all municipal expenses of every kind, or only to such part of the municipal expenses as had to be defrayed by an impost upon the land? It seems to us that it applied only to expenses defrayable with the proceeds of an impost upon the land. There are several reasons for that conclusion. The first is that a man's liability on account of local taxes is not measured in Japan, and has never been measured, by the area of his land alone. If he leads a hand-to-mouth existence in a shanty, he is not expected to contribute as much to the local treasury as he is when he lives a luxurious life in a handsome mansion. The quality of his residence or place of business and the style of his living must be taken into account in assessing his public liability. But they can not be taken into account by means of an uniform charge on the land. In the second place, if it be maintained that all the local taxes to which a foreigner is liable are included in his land-rent, then he ought to be exempt from the payment of a tax on vehicles and a tax on draught animals as well as a tax on his house. There is no possibility of discriminating. If exemption from the House Tax is to be claimed on the ground that the House Tax is a municipal tax, and that all municipal taxes payable by a foreign holder of a perpetual lease are included in his land-rent, then he has a further right to be exempted from carriage tax, *jinrikisha* tax, and so on, since these also are municipal taxes. In the third place, it must not be forgotten that the Foreign Settlements have been abolished. Even if we assume that the municipal expenses connected with the Settlements are all included in the land-rent, what are we to conclude about the prectural expenses? The foreigner has now to bear his share of the latter, and they stand to the municipal expenses in the ration of 100 to 30.

These reflections make it difficult to admit the claim that the House Tax is not payable by foreigners. The Land Rate, being a direct impost on the land, certainly is not leviable. But unless we can find in the Treaties or Conventions some provision explicitly conferring exemption from the House Tax, we fail to see how M. RATARD'S position can be maintained.

LEGAL DEFINITIONS.

NO. 2.—NOTES FOR THE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CERTAIN TECHNICAL TERMS AND LEGAL TERMINOLOGY AS USED IN THE CODES.

In note No. 1, of the 11th September, the following equivalents were given:—CORPORATION, *Kwaisha*; CLOSE CORPORATION, *Gômei-kwaisha*; PARTNERSHIP, *Kumiai*; FIRM, *Shôkwai*; CORPORATE PROPERTY, *Dokuritsu-zaisan*; and it was stated that *Kumiai* are not juridical persons, and need not be registered.

In a learned opinion this note is challenged. Foreign merchants doing business together are advised to register as *Kwaisha* without delay; and that if they do not, they will lose their standing as a commercial firm, and will incur serious difficulties in future. It is said that *Kumiai* is the same as *Societas* in Roman law, and is therefore not properly rendered by the English word partnership; and that the form which is the only suitable one under Japanese law for merchants doing business as an "ordinary partnership" is the *Gômei kwaisha*. It is also said that *Dokuritsu zaisan* does not mean corporate property, but independent property, or property set apart for the purpose of carrying on business with it, and managed separately from the private property of each single partner; in English "partnership property."

The issues thus raised are important, and will be better understood if defined somewhat closely.

A CORPORATION is an artificial, or as some prefer to call it, a juridical person. Its peculiarity is that it has a legal existence distinct from that of the sum of its members. Its distinguishing characteristics are: (1) Unity. As an artificial person it unites and personifies a group of changing and transitory individuals, who, for the time being, make up the corporation. (2) Perpetual succession. In common parlance a corporation never dies. It is endowed with immortality. These two incidents of a corporation, unity—symbolized by a common seal,—and perpetuity, constitute its great merit as a juristic conception. This artificial person has a corporate name in which it can sue and be sued, receive and hold property, and do any act which is within its powers. (*Authority, E. Manson*).

PARTNERSHIP, in English law, is defined as "the relation which subsists between persons carrying on business (which word includes any trade or occupation) in common, with a view to profit." From it, corporations are excluded. (*Authority, The Partnership Act*, 1890).

SOCIETAS.—The translation of *Societas* accepted by English jurists is *Partnership*. (*Authority, Lord Mackenzie, Studies in Roman Law*; *Sandars' Institutes of Justinian*).

PARTNERSHIP, in Roman law, is defined as a contract whereby two or more persons agree to combine property or labour in a common stock for the sake of sharing the gain. Both in Roman and in English law there may be partnership in one transaction as well as in a general business. In the Digest is to be found a further division, in which five kinds of partnership were distinguished; (1), in which everything belonging or accruing in any way to each

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partner was held in common; (2), of all things which were gained or acquired by each partner through such transactions as were contemplated in the formation of the contract; (3), formed to carry on a particular business; (4). formed to carry on the farming of public lands; (5), where one or more particular things were held in common.

KUMIAI, Civil Code, Book III., C. II., Section XII., is translated by Dr. Lönholm as *Association*; but in a note this word is given as the equivalent of *Societas* in Roman law.

In a note to a translation of Imperial Ordinance No. 272, Article V., the same learned author explains that *Kumiai* means associations for business purposes only, *not clubs, etc*; while in his comment on *Note 1*, he says that *Kumtai*, which is the same as *Societas* in Roman law, and therefore has a much wider meaning than *partnership*, denotes any agreement of two or more persons to undertake something together, and make contributions of money or services therefor. This *may be for profit*, but its purpose may equally well be *pleasure*, etc. It will thus be seen that in one place *Kumìai* is said to be an association for business purposes only, and to exclude clubs; in another it is said to be an association which may be for business purposes only, but that it may include Clubs, etc. It is evident that both these definitions cannot be correct, because they are contradictory; but as it is admitted that *Kumiai* is the same as *Societas*; and as it has been shown that the accepted rendering of *Societas* in English is *partnership*, it follows that *Kumiai* is properly translated *partnership*. Further authority for that proposition is to be found in Art. III. of the revised treaty between Japan and Great Britain, wherein it is provided that the subjects of the High Contracting Parties, may trade in the dominions and possessions of the other in *partnership*, (*Kumiai* in the Japanese text), with foreigners or native subjects . . . without having to pay taxes, imports, or duties levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, *Corporations*, (rendered *Kwaisha* in the Japanese text), or establishments of any kind other than those paid by native subjects, &c.

It is thus established beyond further cavil or dispute that KUMIAI means *partnership*, and KWASIHA means *Corporation*, and that the words are not synonymous.

Why then should foreign *Kumiai* be registered as *Kwaisha*? The answer is said to be discoverable in Art. V. of Imperial Ordinance No. 272, which is thus translated by the learned author before named. "An association (*Kumiai*) formed by foreigners in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code, *which has property of its own*, must within six months from the taking effect of the Commercial Code change its organization into some kind of Commercial Company (*Kwaisha*) recognized by the Commercial Code." The words here translated *property of its own* are elsewhere said by the same learned author to mean not *corporate property*, but *partnership property* independent of the private property of each member of the partnership; so that the translation would run, "An association, &c., having partnership property must organize as a corporation," which is obviously absurd. The Japanese words rendered here by "property of its own," and partnership property," are *Dokuritsu Zaisan*; but they do not bear either of the significations attached to them. The Japanese technical equivelant for "partnership property" is *Kumiai Zaisan*; and "held in common" is not *dokuritsu*, but *Kyóyú*. (Civil Code, Art. 668.) Similarly, the property of a corporation is called *Kwaisha Zaisan* (Com. Code, Art. 85). What then is the meaning of *Dokuritsu Zaisan*, and Art. V. of Imperial Ordinance 272? Literally, the meaning of the words is *Zaisan*, property; *ritsu*, standing; *doku*, alone; a convenient English equivalent of which is "separate property." The proper translation of Art. V., in the light of this explanation would therefore be, "Partnerships formed by foreigners in Japan which have separate property must organize as corporations." What is meant by "separate property?" Not partnership property, because that is *Kumiai Zaisan*; therefore, it must be something separate from partnership property. The explanation is probably to be found in the ambiguous use in English of the word "Company" to designate either a partnership or a corporation, and the difficulty of knowing whether a given company properly belongs to the former or the latter; and so, Art. V, probably means that a foreign association, though called a Company, if it is in fact a Corporation, which fact is to depend upon whether it holds, not partnership property, but separate, which it is submitted can have only the meaning of *Corporate* property, will require to be registered as a Corporation. This explanation will appear still more probable if it is borne in mind that in each of the preceding four articles of ordinance 272 the registration of Corporations, *eo nomine* is provided for, whereas Art. V. provides for the registration of an association which, though called a partnership, is in fact a Corporation. Be that the proper explanation or not, one thing is certain, that the Article in question cannot be construed so as to discriminate between foreigners and Japanese. And if it is a fact that Japanese partnerships are not required to be registered as *Kwaisha*, neither can foreign partnerships. Well, there are hundreds and thousands of Japanese partnerships which are not registered, and not required to be registered. They are almost as numerous as the shops and large stores to be found in the main street of any commercial centre in the country. It can easily be tested. Here is a cutting from a local paper:—"The *Chugai Shogyo* states that tenders for the supply of thirty English locomotives took place at the Railway Bureau on Wednesday. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Isono Shokai, Okura-gumi, Takata Shokai, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the China and Japan Trading Co. participated in the tenders."

Let any one interested in the questions make enquiries at the offices of Isono shokai, Okura-gumi, or Takata-shokai, and they will find that there is no more need for these great firms to be registered than there is for the great firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co.; and further enquiries will probably satisfy them that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha is registered because it is a corporation; and that the China and Japan Trading Co., if it is not already registered, will have to be so for the same reason. To translate *Gómei-kwaisha* as "ordinary partnership" is a contradiction in terms. It is the same as saying that every private partnership is a corporation. *Kwaisha* is a corporation; and anything ending in *Kwaisha* must denote a corporation in contradistinction to a private partnership, or *Kumiai*.

The learned author already referred to is fain to admit that the legal character of the two is in some respects different, the former being a juridical person and the other not; but, he adds, this difference is rather a matter of legal construction than of real importance. The difference is one of the greatest importance in an infinite number of ways. Two only need be stated. Art. 67 of the Civil Code provides that "the affairs of a juridical person are subject to the supervision of the competent public authorities.

The competent authorities may at any time of their own motion examine the condition of the affairs and of the property of a juridical person." Now a private partnership is free from this supervision and examination.

By Art. XVIII. of the Commercial Code, it is provided that where no *Kwaisha* exists, the trade name must not contain any word indicating the existence of a *Kwaisha*. Contravention of this provision is punishable by a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*;—though this does not apply to a trade name that has been in use before the taking effect of the Commercial Code. (Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code, Art. XII).

If the reason why corporations must be registered is considered, it will be found to be this, that they are public companies, enjoying certain privileges, against the abuse of which it is the duty of the Government to protect the public. The right of foreign and colonial corporations to carry on business in England, without any authority to that effect from Parliament or Government, has now passed unquestioned for so long that it may be considered as established; but it is a very exceptional instance of liberality. (Westlake's Private International Law, p. 337). The *status* of British Corporations in foreign countries is generally recognized by treaty or convention. Thus, the Anglo-French Convention of 1862 states:—'The High Contracting Parties declare that they mutually grant to all companies and others associations, commercial, industrial, or financial, constituted and authorized in conformity with the laws in force in either of the two countries, the power of exercising all their rights and of appearing before the tribunals, whether for the purpose of bringing an action or for defending the same throughout the dominions and possessions of the other power, subject to the sole condition of conforming to the laws of such dominions and possessions." There are Anglo-Belgian and Anglo-Spanish Conventions in the same or similar terms.

In the case of Japan, foreign partnerships, as has been seen, are privileged to carry on business by virtue of the revised treaties. But foreign commercial companies which are juridical persons, that is to say, foreign Corporations (*Gwaikoku Kwaisha*), derive their right specifically from Article 36 of the Civil Code, which expressly confers upon them the "same rights as the same classes of juridical persons existing in Japan"; and without this recognition they would have been unable to make use in Japan of the rights and privileges they enjoy as Corporate bodies.

Having derived this right from the Civil Code, Art. 255 of the Commercial Code goes on to provide that foreign corporations having branch offices in Japan must make the same registrations and public notifications as a corporation of the same kind or the kind most resembling it, existing in Japan; and, lest the words "foreign corporation" might not be understood to include some of the numerous forms of corporate combinations to be met with in the various countries with which Japan has entered into treaty relations, Imperial Ordinance No. 272 was issued, it is submitted, for the purpose among other things of explaining that even a so-called *Kumiai*, if possessed of corporate property, must, within six months from the taking effect of the Commercial Code, change its organization into that of some kind of *Kwaisha* recognized by the Commercial Code.

STUDENT.

Yokohama, 2nd October, 1899.

TO KOBE AND BACK IN 50 HOURS.

OR THE ADVENTURES OF AN AMATEUR DRAMATIC TROUPE.

Kobe is a most delightful place for a Yokohama man to visit for a few hours—(though the pace begins to tell early on the visitor)—but the getting there, if time be a valuable commodity and the train journey has perforce to be pursued, is very wearisome. It would not be so tiresome did the Government railway but advance with the times and put on a sleeping car for the "mail-trains." Travellers on the Japan Government Railway do not ask for the impossible when they put forth this modest plea, they do not crave for a slice of the moon; but as things now are the prospect of a very necessary improvement in the service seems as desperate as the closing of the doors of the Temple of Janus in the British Empire—and that we know has been definitely postponed to the Greek Kalends. Alas and a lack-a-day!

Had the curious observer, to quote dear old Bulwer Lytton, been wandering in the neighbourhood of Yokohama station on Friday evening he would have seen a select party of gentlemen gathering around the booking office

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(together with a pile of luggage—the paraphernalia of a travelling dramatic troupe in fact) and evidently (for their speech bewrayed them) bound for Kobe. And who were they? Well, to be brief, Lord Gawkey, Sir Folliott Duckworth, Mr. Justice Gyves, Saveloy Joe, and the Head of the Commissariat and Great Keeper of the Robes (and property-man, generally). All were in the highest spirits, despite the steady, persistent rain; the terrors of the road lay all before them; but anyhow, what is the good of meeting your troubles half way? Yokohama, as no doubt all sensible people know, is but a wayside station on the Government railway—that is, it is off the main-track to Kobe and consequently a tootling little "special local" makes the connection at Hodogaya with the through Kobe trains. Humiliating and beyond expression irritating for the residents of such an important port, no doubt; but the wisdom of the Authorities has decreed it should be so, and we must accordingly, bow in meekness and resignation. Saveloy Joe thought the idea was most brilliant both in conception and execution; he positively loved cramped quarters on "country trains," and to be obliged to change cars at the end of the first five minutes of a 17-hour journey was truly delightful. Needless to say, Mr. Justice Gyves dissented, along with the rest of the company. But, bless your soul, Saveloy Joe was only "pulling our legs," for did he not make subsequent boast that he best loved the London and North Western train that left the great city by the Thames at 10 45 p.m. and landed him at his father's rectory, 40 miles north of Dublin, in time for breakfast next morning. Oh, would that Japanese railway officials knew of these things and would act accordingly.

The rain was pelting down at Hodogaya and we were glad when the last piece of baggage was safely bestowed and we could settle down for the journey. The only first-class car on the train was crowded but by the time Gotemba was reached the occupants were reduced to seven and the question of dinner was a possibility of the situation. Of course the troupe were in the hands of an old campaigner who "knew the ropes" and consequently, with the aid of a spirit kettle, a chafing dish, and an ice-box, the following *menu* was discussed to the satisfaction of everybody:—

DINNER.

Olives.
Julienne Soup.
Chicken Salad Mayonnaise.
(Claret).
Filet of Beef, Maitre d'Hotel.
Tomato Salad.
Cheese and Crackers.
Black Coffee.

The inner-man felt comfortable—that was the general verdict, and now poor Sir Folliott Duckworth had reluctantly to take out his "book of the words" and prepare to "sweat it up"—for through the sudden illness of a member of the original *caste* he had been unexpectedly called upon to fill the part. Meanwhile Mr. Justice Gyves and Saveloy Joe held intimate conversation with each other on the opposite side of the car; and the Head of the Commissariat cleared up the litter. Many were the pipes smoked that evening as the train rushed through the desolate night, and within the car a sense of jovial comfort prevailed that even cramped limbs and a suffocating atmosphere could not dispel. Many were the good stories told which took one sometimes to the far-off wilds of Java; anon to dear Ould Oireland; to England—and London in particular; and again to the wonderful lands that lie between the Golden Gate and Sandy Hook. Some among us, as the hours drew on to those wee sma' things that Burns describes as being "beyant the twal" made an easeful disposition of various garments—there were no ladies in the car—and assumed a kind of night attire, and so wooed the Gentle Nymph of Sleep—but with indifferent success all round. At 4 26 a.m. a general movement was apparent throughout the carriage and one by one the sleepers awoke and strolled on to Nagoya platform, there to breathe the fresh morning air and to plunge parched faces in the cool, clear water supplied on the station platform. Returning to the car we found tea being made, and soon after pipes were resumed—but not the collars yet a while.

We were ravenously hungry by the time Maibara was reached, 6.55 a.m., and full justice was done to the products of the chafing dish.

BREAKFAST.

Bouillon.
Eggs and Bacon.
Fried Chicken.
Rolls.
Strawberry Jam.

As dear Lord Gawky exclaimed, "It was not so bad," and Saveloy Joe re-echoed the sentiment; whereupon Sir Folliott Duckworth thought we should rise above the material considerations of the meal and admire the scenery. We jumped at the suggestion, for truly the panorama gradually unrolling on either side was very lovely. Poets and writers galore have raved of Biwa Lake and of the beauty of the hills around Kyoto—they are justified of their ecstacies.

It was at Baba, somewhere about half-past eight, that a serious attempt at a wash and brush-up was ventured, and then we counted the hours that remained ere the sea again broke upon the view. About 9.30, a couple of "small bottles" were opened, infusing fresh heart in frames beginning to feel most wretchedly played out. A few more miles and we ran into Sannomiya, where that sterling good fellow M.B. awaited us with a smile and greeting that cleared away all the discomforts of the road. Anon we learnt of another brave heart—E.T.B.—who had spent two hours that morning at the Kencho on our behalf, endeavouring to make plain to the police the real status of amateur Thespians who came all the way from Yokohama to afford Kobe a couple of hours' amusement—and succeded at last: to both our thanks are due. How the plays went can best be gathered from the Kobe papers. We were assured that both pieces went with even more "go" than in Yokohama. If we pleased, then are we well repaid; and our thanks go out again to two good men and true who kindly filled gaps in the *caste*, and played their parts so well.

Then came the hardest thing of all, to say a long farewell to Sir Sampson Silliman and Clorinda. Not till then, perhaps, did we realise how much the few halting, gulped-out words meant to all of us. After this we were delivered into the tender mercies of the Club, and the pace set there was strong. But all good things come to an end and at 5 o'clock the roll was called and we made for the station, where Saveloy Joe, placed in charge of the baggage, sat down on top of it and incontinently fell asleep—faithful to the end. The journey home was much after the fashion of the downward run, save that most of us got more sleep and were at first rather "shy at the feed." But at Hamamatsu Lord Gawkey woke up and exclaimed, "Ah, Richard's himself again"—and echoed the opinion of us all. Thenceforward the Head of the Commissariat had a busy experience. From this time also the beauties of Fuji, of Suruga Gulf, the beach of Okitsu, the ever-changing glories of sea and land and sky occupied all attention and smart was the converse at times. Then night fell again and comparative silence till Yokohama was reached at 9 40 o'clock on Sunday night. A long and fatiguing journey was at an end—but there were pleasant recollections in the minds of all, recollections that compensate for all the worry, grime, cramps, and disagreeables.

THE SCRIBE.

The Nagasaki *Press* of Saturday says:—It is stated that during the past two or three weeks more than twenty persons in this town have died from hydrophobia, and that many persons are still under medical treatment. The number of infected dogs is said to be increasing daily, in spite of the action of the police, who on Wednesday last destroyed no less than twenty stray animals.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

A WORD TO THE JOURNALISTS.

We translate the following admirable and well warranted article from the *Journal des Débats* of August 19th:—

We could have desired that, at least during the progress of the judicial deliberations which are taking place at Rennes, the newspapers had consented to a truce to polemics on the affair submitted to the decision of the judges. *Sub judice lis est.* The prosecution and the defence are face to face. There is conflict between them as to facts. It would certainly be only reasonable and fitting to await in silence the end of these grave deliberations and the judgment which will follow them. But it was too much, apparently, to expect this restraint to be placed on passions so highly excited and exasperated. The polemics continue. They are as passionate, as violent, as furious as they have ever been. We are now speaking of the French press. But the French press is not alone in presenting this regrettable spectacle and showing this bad example. It is followed and often exceeded by the foreign press. The case of the latter is, it appears to us, less excusable. The foreign press sees things from a distance. It is, or it ought to be, less interested than we in the events which have precipitated such great trouble on this country. One might expect that this detachment would have exempted foreign journals from the sway of the passions which move us. They should regard with *sang froid* an affair which is not their own business, and should only speak of it with moderation. Simple good taste should prompt this attitude. International amenities prescribe it. If the foreign press had maintained this reserve, its discreet reflections on the subject which preoccupies and absorbs us might have had some value in our eyes. We should have been happy to recognise in them the impressions of disinterested and impartial witnesses.

But the foreign press, from the commencement of the affair up to the point that we have now reached, has interpreted its role in a quite different fashion. In the first place, it has had no sort of hesitation. While people in France were divided, troubled, anxious, full of uncertainty and distress, the foreign press experienced no embarrassments of this kind.

It threw itself at once on the one side, as at a given signal, and as on a word of command. In France, light has only gradually dawned on men's intelligence in proportion as events have cleared up little by little things which had long remained obscure. There are certainly still many men of integrity who have not yet been able to arrive at a settlement of all their doubts, but who rely on the deliberations of the Council of War and on the decision of the judges to decide a question which is still not absolutely clear in their eyes. But abroad, or at least in the foreign journals, one sees no trace of this hesitation or of these scruples. The affair was settled by them long ago. It was settled from the first day, and even before they knew anything of the question. But it is not enough to possess a conviction so firm and to make affirmations so intrepid on the main question alone of the affair; they have also a fixed, and in some sort preconceived, opinion on all the accessory and incidental circumstances. The men, and principally the Generals and officers who have played any part in the affair, those who have been called to give evidence before the Council of War—for each of these there is one distinctive and invariable note in the foreign press. With almost complete unanimity foreign opinion is against the French General Staff. Our soldiers are not at all in favour with the cosmopolitan press. In the reports of the trial at Rennes forwarded to foreign journals by correspondents to whom France offers her hospitality, the French Generals are treated cavalierly and with incredible brutality. We should like to know what foreign Powers would think if we permitted ourselves to speak in similar

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terms of the chiefs of their armies and their General Staffs. Or, rather, we know well already. But it is understood that, thanks to the affair, to the disorders to which it has led in France, and to the example that we have given in calumniating and in rending each other, it is no longer necessary to show any consideration in dealing with us.

One can see, in reading the foreign papers day by day, to what point they carry this gross lack of courtesy. A foreign correspondent cannot allow an incident in the trial at Rennes to pass without immediately interpreting it in the sense which he considers most disadvantageous and most humiliating for us and for our army. Though a question may be dubious in our eyes, the foreign correspondent immediately decides on it, with all that facility that unfriendly prejudice gives to the convictions. All that the odious polemics of our revolutionary and Anarchist factions have been able to furnish in the way of arguments, accusations, and insinuations, have been religiously seized on, adopted, and exploited by the foreign journals; and against whom? One can without difficulty guess; in which interest and with what design. That can be seen only too easily.

We warn the foreign journals that, in acting thus, they have quite another aspect than that of generous and disinterested defenders of justice and truth. That there may be abroad, as in France, men who attach themselves to this cause without ulterior motives, and in full integrity of soul, we believe. These have no hostility towards us, their sympathy may even be gained.

They seek with us, in all good faith, justice and truth. But the journals which inspire and express foreign opinion appear to us to be far removed from convictions thus sincere and worthy of respect. An impression of such sincerity is not conveyed by their mendacious correspondence and their virulent articles. They give rather the impression of men who mix indiscreetly, with suspicious passion and haste, in things which concern them little.

They are, say they, the voice of humanity. Justice, right, and truth have no boundaries of nationality. These are the great and holy principles that they defend. For ourselves, we suspect that they defend those principles much more passionately when they believe them menaced in France than if they were threatened in their own country. At home, they would show doubtless a little more precaution. They would be careful especially that the defence of justice and truth did not degenerate into something else, and did not become a pretext for attacks and undertakings of a wholly different nature. They would leave justice to accomplish its work, and at the same time they would take care to safeguard and to place beyond the reach of all attack the essential interests of the State and the fatherland. But it is in France that the affair is being unfolded; therefore they trouble themselves not at all about such considerations. France is a country where questions of justice and humanity have always had more importance and aroused greater stir than anywhere else. There is not perhaps a nation in the world where an affair of this kind could have assumed the proportions that the Dreyfus affair has attained. This native generosity is an honour to France, but she is also occasionally, to some extent, its victim. Foreigners take advantage of it. They proclaim themselves the defenders of justice and truth, and the champions of that cause throughout the universe. We say to them: "Leave us to look after what concerns us. We know what right and truth are. France has given her proofs of that. Remain at home, and mind your own affairs. You have affairs, too. Your intervention, unrestrined as it is, into our business can only injure the cause you pretend to succour. We warn you that it offends us much, that it irritates and revolts our national feeling. Reading your papers, we lose patience. We suspect you, despite all your protestations, of thinking in this affair of quite other things than truth and justice. '*Ce n'est pas toujours*,' said La Rouchefoucauld, '*par vaillance et par chasteté que les hommes sont vaillants et que les femmes sont chastes*.' You foreign journalists, who treat us so badly and in so high a tone, pardon us our scepticsm and distrust; your puritan virtues, arrogant and insulting, look to us very much like nothing but passions, appetites, and vices in disguise."

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In this morning's paper you have a newspaper cutting giving an extract from a sermon on "Spirit Communion" delivered by Dr. Parker at the City Temple, London, in which he says:—"A friend came to me on Thursday morning broken-hearted, and said concerning his last ascended one—(meaning in ordinary words, his lately deceased wife)—"I feel as if I must pray to her"—I said, "Why not? I pray to mine every day. I never come to the work without asking her to come with me, and help me in the strength of God's grace to do it. And she does come. . . . . So I encouraged my friend to pray to his wife, and to pray to God to ask her to come to his help, she will be more to him than twelve legions of unknown angels."

In the interest of those women whom Fate has destined on this earth for widowers, I should like to know, in the event of a broken-hearted husband taking to himself a second terrestrial help-mate (as my worldly experience tells me he is pretty certain to do), will he continue to consult the celestial one only, or both? And if both, and the counsel of wife number one should unfortunately happen to run counter to that of wife number two, whose advice will he follow? If that of number one, how will number two like it? Will her life be an unclouded one? Or will he, for the sake of avoiding probable future matrimonial unpleasantnesses, end by dropping wife number one entirely out of the family councils?

Should there be any of the Spiritualistic persuasion in this community, information on these points will be thankfully received by

One who might marry a Widower.

September 29th, 1899.

QUICK PACIFIC PASSAGE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to the quick arrival of mails per *Empress* that left Yokohama at the end of last July, the following extract from a passenger's letter to me may interest your readers:—

"Had an unusually quiet trip across the Pacific, so that the ship had actually to be held back, and the twelve days taken might easily have been reduced to ten. A few hours after landing at Vancouver, the new "Imperial Limited" started and ran into Montreal in one hundred hours "on time." Had fifty minutes there and left by the fast night express, twelve hours to New York; had twenty-four hours there. Arrived in London on the night of the 21st, or under twenty-three days from Yokohama. Average speed across the Atlantic 22.52, previous record 22.61."

Yours truly, SUBSCRIBER.

Tokyo, Sept. 29th, 1899.

PROTESTANT PREACHERS IN MANILA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the issue of the *Japan Weekly Mail* of September 30th, I find the following note on the first page: "Bishop Graves of Shanghai preached in Manila on the 10th inst. It is believed this is the first occasion on which a Protestant Bishop has preached in Manila."

In a letter written by Bishop Thoburn, March 21st, 1899, on board the steamer *Catherine Apcar*, China Sea, and published in the June number of the *World Wide Missions*, we learn that Dr. J. M. Thoburn, Missionary Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church for India and Malaysia, was in Manila the early part of March of this year, where he spent two Sundays. While there Bishop Thoburn preached twice in a theatre. This antedates the preaching of Bishop Graves by about six months. While not attaching much importance as to what Protestant Bishop preached *first* in Manila, as a historal fact I give the above.

Sincerely yours, JULIUS SOPER.

Tokyo, September 30th, 1899.

"WHAT IS AN ORIENTAL?"

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In default of a better solution of the problem ably laid before your readers under the above heading in this morning's *Mail*, permit me to offer a few words on the subject.

I should infer that the term "Oriental," when used to express the political, social, and moral characteristics of the people of the East when contrasted with those of the West, may be said to be applied to those nations, who, so far as the world outside of themselves is concerned, have been standing still while it was moving, and who therefore are found at the present time to be still adhering to customs and habits which were once more or less common to the whole civilized world. Your illustrations taken from the ancient Greeks and Romans would seem to confirm this view, and the different geographical position and climatic influence of the East would tend to make the inhabitants of that portion of the globe cling yet more tenaciously to the ideas of centuries ago, while by force of circumstances the people of the West have been gradually and surely travelling away from them.

The advocates of Christianity claim for that religion the entire credit of the advancement of Western nations, but, while admitting this claim to a certain extent, there are many thoughtful minds, amongst whom Buckle was one of the foremost, who unite in ascribing the result quite as much to other equally powerful factors, amongst the chief of which may be enumerated the following:—First, the gradual spread of commerce, leading to international communication and reciprocation; secondly, the wonderful inventive powers of the European mind; thirdly, even international wars doubtless played their part in facilitating Western progress; fourthly, the enormous spread of education amongst the masses; and lastly the marvellous discoveries of modern science. In most of these onward movements Christianity can only claim a fair share, and in science least of all, its revelations having proved the fallacy of many time-honoured traditions of the Christian faith—as for instance, geology has shown us the impossibility of the earth having been created in six days; astronomy has proved that light could not have existed previous to the creation of the sun, moon, and stars, and also that, so far from these having been created for the benefit of this earth, the earth itself forms a very unimportant place in the solar system; while physical science has demonstrated that such occurrences as eclipses, thunder, and lightning, the rainbow, etc., are merely the result of purely natural causes, instead of being ascribed to the direct action of the deity. All these things and more had been preached for centuries by the priests and believed in by the people, until science and education came and for ever banished superstition and ignorance.

But, owing to their geographical isolation, and their peculiar national systems of exclusiveness, our brethren in the Far East were long debarred from participating in the march of Western progress until comparatively recent times, when national expediency, resulting from the extraordinary development of commercial interests, forced wide apart the hitherto closed portals of the East. And now that the two civilizations are so suddenly and closely brought into juxtaposition, they afford such striking contrasts that we call these differences "Oriental"—using the term of course in a depreciatory sense—though perhaps if it were possible for "Occidentals" to bring their civilization of, say, only a thousand years ago into comparison

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with the present, they would be driven to call themselves also "Orientals" in the disparaging sense in which the word is often applied to the people of the Far East.

Then why blame the oyster for having remained closed until the knife was applied to its shell? And why find fault with nations whose eyes have only just been opened to the full blaze of Western enlightenment, for winking and blinking, and sometimes feeling that they must even close their eyes temporarily against the blinding glare so suddenly presented to their their vision? Give the "Orientals" a little time to get accustomed to the new light, which is as different from that to which they have for ages been accustomed as the little shred of cotton floating in vegetable oil, in the *andon* of the Japanese pre-Meiji era, is to the electric light of to-day;—but do not quarrel with them because they find it difficult all at once to adjust the focus of their visual organs to the broad daylight of modern enlightenment, for perhaps we "Occidentals" would have found the task equally difficult had we been similarly circumstanced—but, fortunately for us, the light has dawned upon us gradually.

I am, Sir, yours, etc., X. Y. Z.
September 29th, 1899.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

The tenders for 30 engines by the Railway Bureau were as follow:—

Isono and Co.	£79,680
Jardine Matheson and Co..	£80,640
Okura and Co.	£80,970
Mitsui and Co.	£81,235 12s.
Takata and Co.	£82 770 12s.
Nishi Boeki Shokwai	£85,230

The contract for 18 engines was allotted to Messrs. Mitsui and Co. at £47,880 and the remaining 12 were given to Isono & Co. for £31,992.

The following representations were read and accepted at the meeting of the Raw Silk Trade held on the 28th ult. in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce:

1. That malpractices in the Yokohama raw silk trade be reformed. (Proposed by Mr. Hoshimoto).

2. That reports of the foreign raw-silk trade be furnished to native traders. (Proposed by Mr. Hoshimoto).

3. That the abolition of raw silk import tariffs be effected. (Proposed by Mr. Haneda).

4. That regulation of the raw silk factories is desirable (Proposed by Mr. Haneda).

5. That a model raw-silk factory should be established in every place where the manufacture of raw silk is flourishing. (Proposed by Mr. Haneda).

6. That a model silk-weaving factory be established. (Proposed by Mr. Haneda.).

Commodities brought into the market at Kawaguchi, Osaka, are steadily increasing. The rice alone amounts to from 5,000 *koku* to 20,000 *koku* a day. Freight per 100 *koku* from Sankaku to Osaka has risen from 30 *yen* to 45 *yen*, that from Korea to 50 *yen*, and that of beans from Newchwang to Osaka from 12 *sen* to 20 *sen* per picul. Every ship that starts from the harbour is full of cargo. Scarcity of warehouse accommodation is more keenly felt than ever.

The Hokkaido Railway Bureau recently opened tenders for 3,406 tons of rail, &c. The prices named by the tenderers were higher than the estimates, being as follow:—303,808 *yen* 39 *sen*, Isono & Co; 315,399 *yen* 64 *sen*, Mitsui & Co.; 325,745 *yen* 6 *sen* 8 *rin*, Okura & Co.; 329,513 *yen* 78 *sen* 4 *rin*, Jardine Matheson & Co. When tenders were invited a second time Isono & Co. alone applied, but even their second tender was higher than the estimate. The matter was therefore altogether withdrawn.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul in New York, reports that remarkable results have been produced by the adoption of the gold standard by Japan. One of the causes of the increase of exports from New York to Japan is the adoption of the gold standard. Exporters are enjoying the advantage of the system, which has stopped sudden fluctuations of prices. Traders in raw silk and tea enjoy similar advantages from the steadiness of prices. The decrease of such exports from Japan as mats and rugs cannot be ascribed to the gold standard; other causes were at work to account for it. The gold standard has quickened the circulation of money between American and Japanese traders. Not only traders but bankers enjoy a great advantage. Some American capitalists are about to invest capital in Japanese industries. As the trade between Japan and the U.S. may be said to be practically that between Japan and New York, these advantages may be regarded as operating generally throughout the United States.

An approximate estimate of dividends to be paid by the private railway companies during October is as follows:—

	Yen.
Sanyo	602,640
Sanuki	65,000
Osaka	183,135
Kobe	102,000
Kyushu	949 493
Sanyu	73,150
Hoshu	474,400
Some	4 000
Kawagoe	14,000
Nara	64,500
Sano	3,160
Hantan	24 000
Nanwa	18,200
Narita	35,890
Chuetsu	8,400
Kotsuke	2,000
Hosen	10 000
Nankai	51 000
Chugoku	53,750
Hankaku	58,800
Total	2,798,188

Following is a return of traders in Tokyo at the end of the first six months of this year. Houses of assignation (*machiai*) 445; hired women, 1,044; pleasure-boat houses (*yusen yado*), 20, hired women 56; Room renters (*kashi seki*) 56; hired women, 42; Restaurants, 516, hired women 2,081; *Nake* saloons (*meishu ya*), 447; hired women, 354; Tea houses, 155, hired women, 98; Ice water shops, 3,337, hired women, 604; Drinking and eating shops, 5,707, hired women, 4,292; *Geisha* houses, 1,424, hired women, 957; Gaming houses, 428, hired women, 352; *Geisha*, 2,954; Prostitutes, 6,942; Pawn brokers, 1,806; Small wares dealers, 12,617; Lock repairers, 430; Blacksmiths, 2,564; Founders, 1,300; Tinkers, 190; Waste paper purchasers, 388; Waste paper pickers, 51; *Geta* repairers, 883; *jinrikisha*, 40,614, *jinrikisha* coolies owning their own *jinrikisha*, 950; *jinrikisha* coolies renting *jinrikisha*, 29,924; Hired *jinrikisha* coolies, 2,208.

The revenues of various railway companies in the second week of September were:—

	Total.	Per Mile Per Day.
Kwansai	31,572,000	21,310
Osaka	17,204 370	37 979
Sanyo	4,946 455	18 320
Sanyo	71,774 505	25,628
Kyoto	4,097.940	18,418
Hoshu (Nakatsu)	3,073,626	14,300
Hoshu (Tagawa)	9,482,530	38,587
Nankai	14,392,162	36,950
Chugoku	4 475,200	12 786
Nankai	2,092,628	12,414
Sanuki	4.349.155	16 108
Kanan	499,165	8,217
Hokuriku	13,780.950	16,220
Nara-Kyoto	4,853,270	18 663
Nara Kyoto Sakurai	1.941,800	17,652

On the 14th and 15th inst. there will be a large exhibition of Japanese marine products promoted by the Dai Nippon Suisan Kwai. The Minister for Agriculture and Commerce and other well-known personages will be present.

THE PRIZES OF WAR.

ADDITIONS TO THE U.S. ASIATIC FLEET.
(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

The U. S. Asiatic squadron will shortly be strengthened by the addition of three very useful cruisers, in the *Isla de Cuba*, the *Isla de Luzon*, and the *Don Juan de Austria*. These three vessels, which were sunk at the battle of Cavite, were raised at the end of last year by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., and afterwards made the voyage to Honkong on their own steam. Subsequently Lieutenant Hobson, of *Merrimac* fame, was sent over by the U. S. Naval authorities to supervise the reconstruction of the cruisers, and under his direction the Dock Company have so far completed the work on the vessels that they are now within measurable distance of their preliminary steam trials. The reconstruction of the *Isla de Luzon* and the *Isla de Cuba* was undertaken by the staff of the Hunghom Dock, and these two vessels are in the most advanced stage. Both vessels have undergone steam trials to test the efficiency of the engines alongside the quay at the dock, and these trials have been entirely successful. The *Isla de Cuba* is almost ready for sea, and it is expected that she will go out to sea next week for a preliminary trial. The probabilities are that the *Isla de Cuba* will be ready for sea about three weeks after her sister ship. The work on the *Don Juan de Austria* is being carried out by the staff of the Cosmopolitan dock, and it is estimated that she will be ready for sea about two weeks after the *Isla de Cuba*. After the preliminary trials of the different vessels, dates will be fixed for their respective official trials, which will possibly be watched by a naval commission from Manila. It is estimated that the total cost of raising and reconstructing the three vessels, exclusive of armament, will be $304,000 gold, and a fair estimate of the market value of the vessels, exclusive of armament, is stated as $610,000. It would seem, therefore, that the raising and refitting of these prizes is a most profitable undertaking, and from the fact that the money expended on the work is not taken from the naval appropriation fund but from a special fund, the Naval Authorities have been enabled to increase the fleet by three vessels without having to curtail their expenses under the appropriation vote. The vessels are admirably well suited for the patrol of the Philippine coasts, having been originally designed for that purpose by the Spaniards. Part of the crews for the vessels is now in Manila, and the men will be sent over to Hongkong about the time of the official trials. It is presumed that the ships will go into commission immediately after the official trials, but but some little difficulty may probably be raised in consequence of the small number of naval officers at Manila.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On Tuesday morning a man was found dead in a lighter moored in the creek at Yokohama. The body has not been identified.

A court of enquiry held at Hongkong into the circumstances attending the loss of the steamer *White Cloud*, on a voyage from Hongkong to Manila, has found that the ship was not in a seaworthy condition, and that the master and officers were in no way to blame for the casualty.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller has given $250,000 to Brown University. This is the first substantial lift toward the $2,000,000 endowment fund which the corporation of Brown University has been trying to raise for the last five years. Mr. Augustus S. Van Winkle hasgiven the University $45,000 for a memorial gateway and for an administration building.

The will of the late Mr. George W. Clayton provides that almost the entire estate shall be devoted to the establishment of a new university in Denver to partake of the characteristics of Girard College, Philadelphia. The trustees are

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to be public officials, including the chief justice of the Supreme Court. The will was made in 1892, since which time Clayton's estate has shrunken in value greatly, but more than $1 000,000 will yet be available for the university.

Mr. M. A. Schlosser, who has attained a very wide reputation as a chiropodist, is staying for a few more days at the Oriental Hotel, where he may be seen by patients. Mr. Schlosser is one of the leading authorities on diseases of the foot, and wonderful results are said to be attained by him. His method is a radical one. He does not, like most chiropodists, content himself with merely palliative measures; but extracts the corn or bunion by the roots. The operation is said to be practically painless.

The Police authorities are anxious that the foreign druggists of Yokohama should know that a list of buyers of *Kolium chloricum* and the quantity purchased must be supplied to them every month. Certificates of the sales of this drug as given by qualified medical men must be retained for *five* years. If this precaution is not adopted, druggists are liable to a five of *yen* 1.95, or to police detention for 10 days.

In Kobe District Court on Saturday morning the case of Sudzuki Teijiro, 29 years of age, who killed his master, Tanabe Tokujiro, on the morning of 4th Sept, was disposed of. The accused confessed the crime and the prosecutor claimed that the murderer must be sentenced to death. The prisoner met the statement with a smile. His advocate urged that as the prisoner had confessed the penalty should be mitigated to some extent. The Judges retired to consider as to the sentence. After a short interval they returned and sentenced Sudzuki to death.

The *Yuensang* had a unique experience on her last voyage from Manila to Hongkong, says the *Daily Press*. In consequence of the many filibustering expeditions to the Island of Luzon the American authorities keep a sharp look-out in case there should be any arms landed for the Insurgents, a number of small gunboats, including the *Pampanga*, being used for this purpose. The *Yuensang* left Manila early on the morning of the 13th. At three o'clock, when it was yet dark, she was hailed and called upon to stop. Captain Rolfe, thinking he was too far out to be interfered with, took no notice of the call. A shot was then fired at the *Yuensang*. This was followed by a second and a third, much to the consternation of the passengers, of whom there were a good number aboard. The third shot went so close to the *Yuensang*, that she hove to. It was discovered immediately afterwards that the shots had been fired by the *Pampanga*, the officer in charge of which thought that the *Yuensang*, by declining to stop when called upon, was engaged in a questionable business.

Nagasaki is well supplied with visitors just now, for with the men-of-war and the American troops there must be some 5,000 strangers at this port. Unfortunately for the Japanese stores, remarks our local contemporary, the troopers on the outward bound transport *Warren* are totally unsupplied with money. The men complain bitterly of not being allowed to draw some portion of their money until they are mustered in. Many have six or eight months' pay to draw. Surely some arrangements could be made to allow them to draw a certain amount for shore expenses, when they are allowed liberty. A spectator saw one man cutting the brass buttons off his coat and trying to sell two for 10 sen in order to post a letter home, but the Japanese purchaser insisted on having three. During a conversation one man stated that he had sold his blankets in Yokohama to pay his expenses on shore, and that hundreds on board have only one fatigue suit and hat, and no underclothing whatever, everything that would realize a few cents having been sold. This matter should surely receive attention, especially as it is understand there are many transports immediately behind the *Warren* en route for Manila.

FOREIGN AUXILIARY W.C.T.U.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Foreign Auxiliary W.C.T.U. was convened in the Yokohama Union Church at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30th, 1899. The chair was taken by the Vice-President, Mrs. Davidson, and Mrs. Large was asked to conduct the responsive reading of the Crusade Psalm. After the singing of a hymn, Mrs. Van Petten conducted the devotional exercises, giving a brief but helpful talk on 1 Sam. 7.2-11.

Following the Roll Call came the Treasurer's Report for the year, showing a balance in hand of *yen* 142.82, but as this is less than the amount brought forward from last year, it was felt that a special effort must be put forth to raise the necessary funds this coming year. The Financial Report of the "Florence Crittenton Home" given by Mrs. Large showed an expenditure of *yen* 876.86 for the year. An informal report was given of the condition of the "Home" at present, the lines of industry carried on, etc., showing that the inmates are receiving an elementary education and character training in addition to the Industrial training which is to fit them for earning an honourable livelihood. Mrs. Large also stated that the work of the "Home" was demanding more and more of her time and attention and made it impossible for her to do as much work in touring as she had hoped to do. The discussion of this matter not being concluded at twelve o'clock, it was decided to leave it open until the afternoon session and the morning meeting closed with the "noontide" moments of prayer.

Afternoon Session.

The convention re-assembled at 1.30 p.m. Mrs. Ellis led the devotional exercises, speaking for a few minutes on the helpful lessons to be drawn from Luke 10.25-37. Following this, a brief memorial services was held in loving memory of Mrs. R. P. Alexander of Hirosaki, a sketch of her life, written by Mrs. Chappell, being read by Miss Kuhns. A telegram from our absent President, Miss Denton, was read, conveying her greeting to the Convention in the words of Psalm 68.11. The Corresponding Secretary then read a brief letter received the day before from Miss Denton, regretting her absence from the Annual Meeting. The Secretary was instructed to send Miss Denton a letter of greeting in reply.

The discussion of the morning was then resumed and finally it was decided that Mesdames Davidson, Large and McCauley be a committee to draw up a resolution to send to the World's Executive W.C.T.U. asking that Mrs. Large be allowed to continue in charge of the "Florence Crittenton Home" for another year, doing less touring work for the present; also, that W.C.T.U. members throughout Japan be urged to do all they can to arrange for public temperance meetings being held for women, thus helping to share the burden of Mrs. Large's work.

The Recording Secretary's report for the year compiled from the various reports sent in by Heads of Departments, gave interesting and encouraging items about the work being done in the eighteen Departments at present by the Japan Foreign Auxiliary W.C.T.U. After this, Miss Parmelee read an interesting paper prepared by Miss Doughaday of Sapporo on "Work for Children."

On motion, Mrs. A. D. Hale of Osaka and Miss L. Thomas of Hiroshima were appointed committee for the year on Summer Conferences in the South. A vote of thanks to the Editor of the *Japan Evangelist* for so kindly continuing to place at the disposal of the W.C.T.U. the columns of the magazine, was passed unanimously. Miss Parmelee then voiced the regret felt by all present in hearing of the establishment of great beer halls in Japan, and moved that a resolution protesting against this evil be sent to the leading Japanese dailies. This motion was seconded and carried and a committee appointed to prepare the resolution and send it to the newspapers.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President—Mrs. Davidson, Vice-President—Miss Osborne, Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Large, Recording Secretary—Miss Veazey, Treasurer—Mrs. Borden.

Heads of Departments.

Evangelistic—Miss Fife, Social Purity—Miss Kidder, Schools and Colleges—Miss C. Spencer, Sunday School Work—Miss Eriswold, Loyal Temperance Legion Work — Miss Doughaday, Scientific Temperance Instruction—Miss E. L. Case, Narcotics—Mrs. Leavitt, Unfermented Wine—Miss Jast, Sabbath Observance—Mrs. Bailey, Health and Physical Culture—Dr. Kelsey, Food Reform—Mrs. Topping, Press Work—Mrs. Davidson, Railroad and Postmen—Miss Gillett, Work among Foreigners—Mrs. Van Petten, Petitions and Treaties—Miss Mead, Literature—Mrs. Large, Organization—Miss Watson, Mothers' Meetings—Mrs. Chappell.

The Standing Committee for the "Florence Crittenton Home" were re-appointed. It was decided to print three hundred copies of the "Plan of Work" and ask members to buy them instead of distributing them gratuitously as formerly.

The meeting was closed with singing "Blest be the tie," and the repeating of the Lord's Prayer.—*Communicated.*

SUICIDE OF AN EX-RESIDENT.

A young German named Leo Goldsmith, who was well known in Yokohama, shot himself a few days ago in Central Park, New York. He was of a good German family, and two years ago a brother left him $40,000. When this was gone, his relatives sent him money frequently, but he saved none of it. Goldsmith was but twenty-four years old, and after getting the fortune from his brother began a tour of the world. Settling in Japan, he did some teaching in Tokyo and afterwards represented a bicycle firm in Yokohama. His resources, however, appear to have failed him, and about six months ago he went to America. He appears to have since been leading a fast life in Chicago and New York.

CHINA NEWS.

The Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes, concerning the recent sudden dismissal of H.E. Hu Ping-chih from the Sansi Governorship, that the action was one merely of spleen on the part of the Empress Dowager, He states that the Government, being unable, through incapacity and timidity, to prevent Shansi from being over-run by foreign syndicates and explorers, required some scape-goat, and so chose the Shansi Governor to be the one. It appeared that the official record of ex-Governor Hu Ping-chih was singularly free from "black marks," and it is reported that his friends in Peking intend to bring the question before the Empress Dowager and ask for him to be reinstated.

A report to the *Universal Gazette* says that recently a Banner official under orders to put down brigandage in the districts of Tichling and Kai Yuan, Moukden, with some soldiers put up on the way over night in a large private house. They were visited by a number of brigands all disguised as officials and soldiers, with the result that the Banner official was taken prisoner and beheaded there and then. The brigands then fled after ransacking the house.

It is stated in reliable quarters in Peking, according to the native correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, that, having felt the pulse of the nation and of the majority of the high officials of Chinese descent, and gathered that any attempt at the deposition of H.M. Kuang Hsü would be met by very determined opposition and precipitate a dangerous civil war, the politic and shrewd Empress Dowager has shown more consideration to the Emperor, giving him more freedom to speak on State affairs with the

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officials during the usual audiences, and even on several occasions encouraging the Emperor to speak to the Grand Councillors when he seemed inclined to keep the usual silence and indifference scrupulously observed by him ever since the *coup d'état* a year ago. This seems to be confirmed by a telegram received at Shanghai by a local mandarin from Peking congratulating all friends of the Emperor that, when the Empress Dowager went to the temple of the Most High on the 22nd to party for rain, the Emperor went also and *kouteued* in the same place and at the same time with his aunt, thus performing for the first time since the end of September, 1898, one of the fundamental functions of an Emperor of China, namely, praying to Heaven on behalf of his people.

TO DRESS OR NOT TO DRESS?

This is the question which, with the Transvaal and black-and-white marriages, is chiefly interesting the frivolous of London at present. Some of the more fashionable hotels and restaurants have taken stern steps to discourage the wearing of any but the conventional livery at the *tables d'hote*, and a great outcry has been raised in the home papers concerning this tyranny. Public opinion is keenly divided over this great question. We give two divergent views below. The first is from *The World*, which, as it claims to be quite the glass of fashion and the mould of form, assumes to speak with authority:—

Scant sympathy will be extended to the correspondents of a daily paper who are endeavouring to organise a movement of hostility to hotel-keepers who decline to relax the rule that requires the wearing of dinner dress at their *tables d'hôte*. Apart from the fact that protests of this kind almost invariably have their origin in sheer cantankerousness, and are prompted by the "anti" spirit which delights in tilting against all established social usages and conventions, it is obvious that a rule of this kind has its practical value as a barrier again a selfish and boorish individualism which has a habit of displaying itself, when permitted, in ways that are studiously offensive to ordinary people. It is well that some check should be imposed upon the aggressive unconventionality of the kind of person who would think it a fine thing to sit down to dinner at a *table d'hôte* in cycling costume or in boating flannels; and even though the law, if tested, may not prove to be on the side of the hotel-keeper who enforces the impeached rule, he is certainly entitled to the support of all reasonable persons.

"That kind of person" is good. It suggests the caste of Vere de Vere. Turning from this organ of austere gentility to the more democratic pages of the *London Letter*, we read:—

It is idle to contend that the presence of a gentleman of presentable appearance in a dining-room will scandalise other diners merely because he is not wearing the conventional swallow-tail or dinner jacket. That such integument is the customary dinner dress of decent society is perfectly true; and just for that very reason the sort of person who dines at a good hotel may be trusted to put it on whenever it is practically possible for him to do so. But to erect the unwritten convention of society by which a gentleman is expected to dress for dinner into a law of the Medes and Persians is merely snobbish and absurd. Let us take the case of a man who arrives at his hotel from a journey and only just in time for dinner. Is he to be condemned to dine in a private room because he has no time to unpack and dress? Would he have the least hesitation about entering the dining-room of a private house to which he had been invited in the same circumstances? These questions answer themselves.

LADIES' INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The third year of the "Ladies' International Reading Room" ended September 30th, 1899.

The second annual general meeting was held on Oct. 10th, 1899. Reports of the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary were read and adopted, new officers were selected, and Sub-Committees appointed.

The Directors have held business meetings each month except August. Vacancies on the Board from withdrawal or removal have been filled by election.

There has been some difficulty in securing a suitable person for Librarian, but the present one has proved capable and reliable.

There are 178 Members, including 85 $3.00 Subscribers and 93 $5.00 or family Subscribers. The full use of the Book Library is allowed all members.

Visits during the year, to the Reading Room, 4158; number of times monthly magazines have been taken out, 4095; weekly magazines, 1324.

The list of magazines has been added to during the year, as the number of magazines available for circulation was not sufficient. No copies could be allowed to remain in the room for table use. It was therefore decided to add the following for that purpose:—

AMERICAN ISSUES.

Harper's Monthly Magazine	2 Copies
Atlantic Monthly Magazine.....	2 ,,
Eclectic Monthly Magazine.....	2 ,,
Scribner's Monthly Magazine.....	1 Copy
St. Nicholas Monthly Magazine.....	1 ,,
Youth's Companion—Weekly.....	1 ,,

ENGLISH ISSUES.

Cornhill Magazine	2 Copies
The Queen	1 Copy

These for 6 months from June, 1899. A number of magazines have been donated by members.

The regular hours of the Reading Room were altered during the summer months and resumed on Sept. 15th, 1899.

All matters pertaining to the Book Library have been in the care of the Book Committee, for which a special report is given.

COWIE FURBER SWAIN,
Hon. Secretary.

DR.

	Yen.
To Subscriptions	612.33
,, Contributions	62.06
,, Strawberry Fete	330.75
,, Loan of Plates, etc.....	4.96
,, Sales of Catalogues	11.75
,, Interest Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	4.82
	1,026.72
,, Balance from last year	305.53
	1,332.25

CR.

By Rent of Room	240.00
,, Librarian's Salary	196.90
,, Momban's Wages	17.50
,, Binding Books	3.00
,, Newspapers and Magazines.....	251.16
,, Freight on Books	20.75
,, Letter Box	4.20
,, Book Committee Fund	25.00
,, Advertisements	3.00
,, Printing Catalogues	25.00
,, Stationery, Ink, etc.	14.78
,, Post Cards and Stamps.....	4.70
,, Insurance	11.75
,, Collector's Fee.....	5.00
,, Coal and Wood	59.42
,, Sundries	4.55
,, Painting and Fixing Room	12.44
	898.25
By Balance, Cash in H. & S. Bank	434.24
	1,332.25

E. & O. E.

JULIA M. LOWDER,
Hon. Treasurer, L.I.R.R.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1899.

BOOK COMMITTEE REPORTS.

At the beginning of the year there were not quite 500 books in the Library. There are now 1000. Last year 1390 books were taken out during the year. This year over 4000 have been taken out.

The fines for magazines and books kept out over time (which go to the Book Committee) have amounted this year to a little over Yen 52. Yen 38 was carried forward from last year. A private donation of Yen 10 was given to go towards the purchase of new books, and Yen 25 was handed over to the Book Committee out of the proceeds of the Strawberry Fete—making the total receipts for the year a little over Yen 125. Of this, Yen 61.48 has been spent on the purchase of new books—all standard works. The other items of expenditure, such as the binding and covering of books, the printing and postage of supplements to the catalogue, etc., amount to about Yen 58—making a total expenditure for the year of about Yen 120.

A very large proportion of the books has been given by persons interested in the Reading Room; and until the receipts are considerably larger only very small sums, if any, can be spent on the purchase of books. The Book Committee therefore hope that the public will continue to shew their interest in the Reading Room in the same acceptable manner.

A printed Catalogue of magazines and books (titles and authors only, price 25 sen each) was issued by the Directors of the Reading Room in the beginning of the year. Three printed Supplements have already been issued by the Book Committee and sent round to all members of the Reading Room. One written catalogue of authors and Titles, and two printed catalogues of titles and authors, are kept at the Reading Room.

The books so kindly lent by Mr. Cox from his Library have proved a most welcome addition to those already in the Reading Room. The first batch, of about 250 books, was in circulation for about 3 months and was returned in the Spring. The second batch, of over 300 books, has now been in circulation for over 4 months, and both batches have evidently been much appreciated by the members.

G. STEADMAN.
(Hon. Sec. Book Committe.)

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL AFFAIR.

Shanghai, Sept. 29.

The Volksraad of the Orange Free State has unanimously instructed the Government to do its utmost to ensure peace without sacrificing the honour and independence of the Republics. It declares that war would be criminal, but that in any case the Free State will fulfil its obligations to the Transvaal.

A meeting of Ministerialists at Capetown has resolved to petition the Queen deprecating war, and urging that a joint inquiry be held as to the franchise question.

Mr. Balfour, speaking at Dundee, said that the Government had striven for a peaceful solution, and that, if it failed, the fault would rest with others. They had not abandoned all hope. It had seemed that a satisfactory point was about to be reached when the Transvaal had refused to yield, and Great Britain could not and would not give way, inasmuch as her interests in South African civilization and her honour made that impossible.

Shanghai, Sept. 30.

The Transvaal's reply to Mr. Chamberlain's last despatch says that the Transvaal adheres strictly to the convention of 1884 and asks for nothing further. The despatch makes no allusion to the question of suzerainty.

Seventy-five transports have been provisionally engaged by Great Britain for the purpose of sending troops to South Africa if necessary.

New Zealand sends a force of 200 men to South Africa.

Arrangements have been completed at Pretoria for defending the Transvaal borders. The burghers congregated in the towns are anxious to advance, but the Authorities are determined to restrain them in order to avoid a collision.

Shanghai, Oct. 2.

A British Cabinet Council, in the absence of the Transvaal's reply, has agreed upon the draft of a despatch formulating its own proposal, which will probably be communicated to the Transvaal in a few days. Parliament will be summoned in a few days to consider the situation. The military movements are kept secret, but the evening papers report that the Cabinet

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has decided to despatch an Army Corps forthwith.

A conference of the military commanders in the Australian Colonies, New Zealand excepted, is sitting in Melbourne to discuss the equipment and despatch of a force to South Africa.

The British troops and the Boers are strongly concentrating on the northern frontier of Natal. Joubert and his staff, with a force of 4,500 men, including 500 Germans, have arrived at Volksrust. Two thousand Boers have been mobilized on the frontier near Mafeking, and have also established a camp near Vryherd, where a great force will be mobilized. Hostilities are regarded as imminent. All the local forces in Natal have gone north.

Shanghai, October 3.

The British Government has notified the Omnibus Companies that it may requisition their horses.

Various reports concur in stating that the Boers are rapidly massing near Charlestown and Mafeking. The latter is especially exposed to attack.

Scarcity of water in Bechuanaland, Rhodesia, is causing uneasiness.

The Consols fell yesterday one point, mainly owing to a general impression that an issue of 23 millions is impending.

The Queen attended the meeting of the Privy Council on Saturday.

Parliament will probably be convoked on the 17th instant.

Shanghai, Oct. 5.

The artillery of the Orange Free State is moving towards Kimberley. The Free State troops have also occupied Fathos Pass near Newcastle. A Boer force of 5,000 men with 23 guns holds Landsprirt, and 4,000 are in position at Mullers Farm.

Four Castle liners have been chartered and will be ready to sail in ten days. The *Pandos* (?) the *Oriental*, the *Formosa*, and the *Nubia* have also been chartered.

There is a lull in the news from South Africa, owing to a delay in connexion with the wires in the Transvaal.

The Transvaal has seized half a million of gold which was *ex route* for Capetown, and also retains possession of 400 railway trucks belonging to the Cape.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD ON CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Shanghai. Sept. 30.

At a dinner given by the Chinese Association to Sir Claude Macdonald, the latter made a speech taking a hopeful view of British prospects in China, where, he said, Great Britain more than held her own.

THE VENEZUELA ARBITRATION.

Shanghai' Oct. 5.

A decision has been rendered in the Venezuelan arbitration. It amounts to a compromise rather favouring Venezuela.

THE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE.

The *Columbia* allows the *Shamrock* $\frac{5}{10}$ of a second.

Later.

The first race for the America Cup was resultless owing to the time limit having been exceeded. The *Shamrock* had a slight lead.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

Saigon, Sept 29.

THE CROPS IN FRANCE.

The production of wheat in France is 129,005,500 hectolitres.

SUBMARINE VESSELS FOR THE FRENCH NAVY.

The French Minister of Marine has signed an order for the construction of four submarine vessels.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

The Raad of the Orange Free State has unanimously voted in favour of the alliance with the Transvaal in case of war.

Saigon, Oct. 1.

The Boers are massing on the frontier of Natal. Great military activity is taking place in the whole of South Africa. A state of siege is imminent in Pretoria.

Saigon, Oct. 2.

Advices received from London in Paris, are to the effect that hostilities are considered to have virtually commenced with the Transvaal.

Saigon, Oct. 4.

The Transvaal and the Orange Free State have concluded their mobilization, but hostilities with the English have not yet commenced.

THE FRENCH GENERAL STAFF.

Saigon, Sept. 30.

General Frater (Fabre?) has been appointed Sous-Chef of the General Staff of the Army.

THE MISSION THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN ANNIHILATED.

The Foureau-Lamy Expedition of Exploration is installed at Tir (?) in an excellent condition.

[This news seems to contradict the telegram sent by Reuter's Agency, some days ago, announcing the total destruction, in the Tchad region, of a French Mission which was evidently identical with the Foreau Lamy expedition.—Ed. *J. M.*]

THE TRIAL OF THE DEROULÈDE CONSPIRATORS.

A delegation of the commission of the High Court of France is examining, with closed doors, the documentary evidence against the persons charged with plotting against the Government. This evidence will be subsequently communicated to the counsel for the defence. The delegation will to-morrow commence the examination of the accused.

[The French Constitution provides that cases of plotting against the safety of the State shall be submitted to a special jurisdiction. It consists in this instance of the Senate in Tribunal, which takes the name of the "High Court."—Ed. *J. M.*]

POLITICAL CRISIS IN SPAIN.

The Spanish Cabinet has resigned.

THE PLAGUE IN EUROPE.

The plague is increasing at Oporto.

PROMOTION OF GENERAL OFFICERS IN FRANCE.

Saigon, Oct. 1st.

A decree has been issued in France modifying the conditions of the appointment of General Officers. The Minister of War alone will henceforth submit the promotions of General-officers direct to the President of the Republic.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HIGH COURT.

In the High Court Déroulède was brought up first for examination. On being interrogated he refused to reply, declaring that he would speak in the public session only of the Court.

THE STATE TRIAL IN PARIS.

Saigon, October 2.

The other members of the League of Patriots, now undergoing trial on a charge of plotting against the safety of the State, have followed M. Déroulède's example, and refused to answer the interrogatories of the High Court except in public session.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN SPAIN.

Saigon, October 3.

It is announced in Madrid that Mr. Silvela has formed a Cabinet.

THE TRIAL OF THE ROYALIST CONSPIRATORS.

Saigon, Oct. 4.

The examination of the Royalists charged with conspiring against the safety of the State, has been adjourned by the High Court of France in compliance with the request of the advocates employed in the case.

H.M.S. "LINNET."

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, Oct. 3.

H.M.S. *Linnet* arrived here at 10 a.m. to-day.

(From the N.-C. "Daily News.")

AN OMINOUS DECREE.

Peking, September 26.

The Empress Dowager showed a little temper recently in the Grand Council when asking Prince Ching, the patron and sponsor of Liu and Ch'ing, the secret emissaries to Tokyo, what had become of them and why she had received no personal report from them upon their return to China. Prince Ching was unable to give a satisfactory reply and so a secret decree has been sent to Viceroy Liu of Nanking to expedite the two envoys' departure from Shanghai for Peking, on pain of the Empress Dowager's high displeasure. There has, of late, been a truce between the Censors of Prince Ching and Jung Lu's parties. The latter seem to be waiting for the two envoys' arrival at Peking before resuming the strife. Jung Lu stands alone now, with scarcely a Manchu of influence on his side, and considers the envoys a powerful weapon of offence against his rival.

Note—It is understood here that the Empress Dowager's envoys to Japan, Liu and Ching, would have gone up to Peking to deliver their report some time ago had they been able to perform all that was required of them. Just prior to their journey to Tokyo no less than 27 memorials were presented to the Throne denouncing them as unfit to represent China in Japan, and this made the two men hesitate to accept the mission, and they told Prince Ching the reason. The Prince, however, instilled courage into them by saying that, so long as they performed their mission satisfactorily he would "guarantee protection to them were there a hundred memorialists against them." The Prince also promised that, if successful, he would "undertake to help them to revenge themselves on every one of their enemies, on matter who they might be." These words have now gradually leaked out from Prince Ching's household, causing the two envoys to be almost universally execrated. Unluckily for them their success at Tokyo was a doubtful quantity, and, apprehending an unpleasant reception at Peking, they have delayed their journey North from Shanghai, where they have been staying ever since their return from Japan three weeks ago, in the hopes of travelling under the ægis of Mr. Chinda, the Japanese Consul-General here, who chaperoned them to Tokyo. This gentleman, it seems, is not ready to go to Peking as yet, while the envoys must now go to Peking *nolens volens*.—Ed. *N.-C. Daily News.*]

(From Japanese Source.)

CHINESE OFFICERS.

Nagasaki, Oct. 3.

The nine Chinese officers who are about to study the Japanese Army system, arrived from Shanghai to-day. They will proceed to Tokyo *via* Kobe.

THE FIRST SNOW.

Morioka, Oct. 3.

This morning the first snow of the winter fell on Mount Iwate.

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YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

The weather on Saturday afternoon was miserable for yachting. Rain fell heavily, and the wind was light. Only two 39-raters got under way, and as *Wanderer* had no club member on board *Spray* elected to return to her morning rather than sail over the course. The 21 raters attracted three entries, the result being as follows :—

	Start, h.m.s.	Finish. h.m.s.	A.C.T. m.s.	C.C.T. h.m.s.
Abunai	2.25 20	4.54.30	1 04	4 53.26
Nandeska ...	2 25 15	5.04.13	1.04	5 03 09
Sodeska	2.25.30	5.11.15	1.04	5.01.11

Prizes, 1st, *Abunai*; 2nd, *Nandeska*.

Only two started in the 17 raters race for non-winners, *Devonia* winning from *Oscar*. Times :—

	Start. h.m.s.	Finish. h.m.s.	A.C.T. m.s.	C.C.T. h.m.s.
Oscar	2.30.12	4.28.01	—	4.28 01
Devonia ...	2.30.10	3.28.12	1.03	4.27.09

The 12 raters race resulted in a win for *Albion*, *Ttan a* being second. Times :—

	FINISH.
Lorna Doone	5.00.45
Titania	4.59.30
Albion	4 51.35

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 439.

By GEORGE RUSHBY,

First prize Canadian Chess Association Tourney.

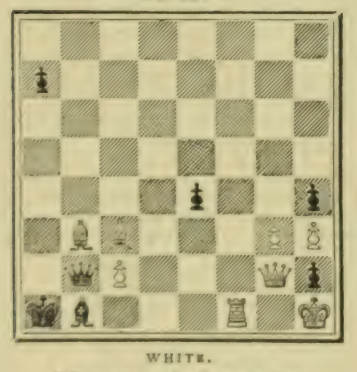
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to R 8	1—K to Q 3
2—Q to Q Kt 8 ch	2—K to K 2
3—Kt to Q 5 mate	if 2—K to B 4
3—Q to B 7 mate	
	1—K to B 3
2—Q to K R 8 ch	2—K to K 2
3—Kt takes P mate	if 2—K to Kt 4
3—Kt to B 3 mate	

Correct solution received from East Anglia, L.M.A. and Marco.

PROBLEM No. 442.

By VALENTINE MARIN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Next week we commence a series of lessons on Chess, beginning with the very rudiments of the game. This should prove a capital opportunity for those who have long wished to learn chess, but from want of a proper teacher or an easy hand book have been unable to do so.

We will endeavour to confine ourselves only to what is quite indispensable for the student to know, omitting everything that might unnecessarily encumber the memory. Thus we may hope that none of those who may now take up the study of the game will drop it after a little while as so often happens when students use as a medium of acquiring a knowledge of the game one of the many voluminous works on chess which now exist and which are mostly intended for advanced players.

FROM THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL TOURNEY.

Below we give three more specimens of Pillsbury's play: one game, won after stubborn fight off the French Champion; another very brilliant game with the world's champion, resulting in a draw; and lastly, a quite exciting partie with the English champion, in which the American was defeated,

GAME No. 556.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Pillsbury. Black—Janowski.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	37 PxR	QxBP
2 P QB4	P K3	38 P B4(h)	P R5
3 Kt QB3	P QR3(a)	39 R KKt2	R B5q
4 PxP	PxP	40 R KB2	Kt B3(i)
5 Q Kt3	P QB3	41 RxP	Q Kt8ch
6 Kt B3	B Q3	42 K Kt2	R Kt5q ch
7 B Kt5	Kt B3(b)	43 R Kt5	R K5q
8 P K4	PxP	44 Q Q4	Kt Q4
9 KtxP	B K2	45 R K5	R Kt5q ch
10 KtxKtch	BxKt	46 R Kt5	R K5q
11 Q K3ch	B K3	47 K R2	R K8
12 B QB4	Castles (c)	48 Q R8ch	K B2
13 B(B4)xB	R K5q	49 Q Kt7ch	R K2
14 BxB(d)	KtPxB	50 R Kt5q(k)	Q Q6
15 Cstls. KR	PxB	51 Q R6	R R2
16 KR K5q	Q Q4	52 R Kt7ch	RxR
17 Q R6	Kt Q2	53 QxRch	K Kt3
18 R K3	R K2	54 Q Kt4	Q R2
19 QR K5q	QR K5q	55 P B5	Q B2ch
20 P QKt3	R Kt2	56 K R5q	Q K4
21 Kt R4	QR K2(e)	57 QxP	Q K8ch
22 Q B4	Q KR4	58 K R2	Q K4ch
23 P KR3	Q Q4	59 Q Kt3	Q B3
24 P Kt3	R B5q	60 R K2	P R4
25 Kt B3	K K5q	61 Q B2ch	K R3
26 Kt R4	K Q5q	62 R K6	Q B2
27 Kt Kt2	K B5q	63 Q K2ch	K R2
28 R K4(f)	P K4	64 Q K5	Q R4
29 PxP	PxP	65 Q Q4ch	K Kt5q
30 Q K3	R(K2) B2	66 Q KKt4	Q B2(l)
31 Kt R4	R B5q	67 Q Kt6	Q Q2(m)
32 R K2	R(Kt2) B2	68 Q K8ch	K B2
33 R Q2	Q K3	69 QxQch	KxQ
34P KKt4	R Kt5q	70 K Kt3	P Kt4
35 K B5q	P KR4	71 P R4	Kt B2
36 Kt B5	RxKt(g)	72 R K5q(n)	Resigns

Notes by Kemeny.

(a) The usual play is Kt to K B 3, which is preferable to the text move. Black intends to continue P takes P and P to Q Kt 4, followed eventually by P to Q B 4, which, however, is prevented by White's P takes P and Q to Kt 3.

(b) Against Lasker, he played B to K 2, which was answered by B to B 4. The text move is more aggressive, but is cleverly answered by P to K 4, which gives a pretty strong attack in the centre.

(c) Had he played Q to K 2, then B takes B and eventually Q takes Q would have left Black with a weak K P. The text move in connection with R to K sq is quite ingenious, but not altogether satisfactory.

(d) He could not play B takes P ch, followed by Kt to K 5 ch, on account of K takes B, R takes Kt and B takes B winning a piece. The text move is quite forcible. Black cannot answer Q takes B, for White would continue P takes P ch and Kt to K 5 ch, coming out a pawn ahead. Black thus will be obliged to answer P takes B, which weakens his king's side.

(e) Q takes Q P could not be played on account of Kt to B 5.

(f) Threatening Q to K 3 and eventually Kt to B 4. Black cannot save the K P without moving P to K 4, which, however, isolates that pawn.

(g) The sacrifice of the exchange was pretty nearly forced. White threatened Kt to Q 6 ch and Kt takes R, as well as Kt to R 6. Had Black tried to save the exchange by moving R (B 2), then Q to R 7, followed eventually by Kt to Q 6 ch, might have been White's continuation.

(h) An important move, White having the R to K Kt 2 continuation in view, forcing away the Black rook from the open K Kt file.

(i) P takes P would have been answered by R takes P, leading to an exchange of rooks, and White wins the R P. The play selected gives up the K P, but Black has better chances of escape.

(k) A powerful move, which will enforce the exchange of rooks. Black cannot afford to exchange queens, and if he moves his queen then Q to R 6 follows, which threatens R to Kt 7 as well as Q takes P.

(l) Q to R sq would have been answered by P to B 6, and Black could not play Kt takes P on account of Q to B4 ch and Q takes Kt. The text move does not save the game, for Q to Kt 6 will enforce the exchange of queens, White coming out with a winning end game.

(m) Q to B 2 would have been answered by Q to Kt 2. If Black then moves Kt to B 5 White plays R to K 4, and the exchange of queens follows. The text move is answered by Q to K 8 ch, which virtually ends the game.

(n) After this move Black surrendered. White threatens P to R 5, P to R 6 and queening of the pawn. If he plays Kt to K sq White can afford to play R takes Kt. followed by K to B 4 K to K 4, etc., winning easily.

GAME No. 557.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Pillsbury. Black—Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 Kt Kt3	Q B3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	19 K Kt2	Kt B4
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	20 P Kt3	Kt K3
4 Castles	KtxP	21 B K5	Q R5
5 P Q4	B K2	22 Kt B5	Q Q5q
6 Q K2	Kt Q3	23 K R5q	P B3
7 BxKt	KtPxB	24 R KKtsq	K R5q
8 PxP	Kt Kt2	25 B K12	Q Q2
9 Kt B3	Castles	26 R K13	Q QB2
10 R K5q	R K5q	27 QR KKt	
11 B B4	P Q4	sq	Q K4
12 PxPe.p.	PxP	28 Q R6	QxKt
13 QR Q5q	B Kt5	29 BxP	R K2
14 P KR3	B R4	30 BxR	BxB
15 Kt K4	B B5q	31 RxP	QxPch
16 Q Q2	BxKt	32 R(Kt) K2	Q Q8ch
17 PxB	P Q4	Drawn.	

GAME No. 558.

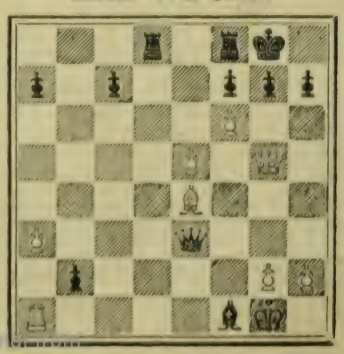
White—Blackburne. Black—Pillsbury.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	28 Q Q5	P Kt 4
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	29 PxP	PxP
3 P K3	P B4	30 Q R8ch	K Kt2
4 B K2	Kt B3	31 Q Q5	K Kt3
5 Castles	P K3	32 QR B5q	P Kt5
6 PQ R3	B Q3	33 R B6ch	P B3
7 PxP	BxP	34 R K6	Kt Kt6ch
8 P QKt4	B Q3	35 KtxKt	QxKt
9 B Kt2	Castles	36 RxR	QxR
10 P B4	PxP	37 Q Kt8ch	K R3
11 BxP	P K4	38 QxP	Q K8ch
12 Q Kt Q2	Q K2	39 K R2	P Queens
13 P Kt5	Kt QR4	40 RxQ	QxR
14 B K2	B KKt5	41 Q B4ch	K Kt3
15 Q R4	P QKt3	42 Q Kt3ch	QxQch
16 B B3	KR K5q	43 KxQ	K B4
17 KR Q5q	QR Q5q	44 K B3	K K3
18 P R3	B R4	45 K K4	P B4ch
19 B Kt4	P K5	46 K B4	K Q4
20 Kt Q4	KBxB	47 KxP	KxP
21 PxB	RxKt	48 P Kt4	K B4
22 PxR	P K6	49 P Kt5	KxP
23 BxB	PxPch	50 P R4	K B3
24 K R5q	KtxB	51 P R5	K Q2
25 Kt B5q	Q K5	52 P Kt6	PxPch
26 Q R2	Q B5	52 KxP	Resigns.
27 PxKt	R K6		

END GAME.

The following ending is taken from one of the games played in a simultaneous exhibition by Lasker at Manchester. He only lost one game, the winner being Mr. F. C. Carrol. Chess players in the South, says the *Manchester Times*, will remember that Mr. Carrol for a short time took up his residence at Rochester where he astonished the natives by his skill over the board. The play in the game given below is of a most peculiar character, and quite out of the common. Mr. Carrol wins the game simply by outplaying the champion. Queens may be seen flying about the board as if they were of no more account than pawns, and the final triumph of Black had to be gained by fighting.

BLACK.—F. C. Carrol.



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WHITE.—E. Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.
26—Q takes Q	26—P takes R (Q)
27—Q to Kt 5	27—B to B 5 dis ch
28—K to B 2	28—Q to B 8 ch
29—K to Kt 3	29—Q to K 8 ch
30—K to R 3	30—B to K 3 ch
31—P to Kt 4	31—Q to B 8 ch
32—K to R 4	32—Q to B 7 ch
33—K to R 3	33—P to Kt 3
34—Q to R 6	34—R to Q 6 ch
35—B takes R	35—Q to B 6 ch
36—K to R 4	36—Q takes P mate

NOTES.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club will be held at Mr. Thomas' Rooms, No. 60, Main Street, on Monday, the 9th inst. at 5.30 p.m.

According to Berger's latest chess annual there are now seventy-two chess associations and 1372 chess clubs in the world. Great Britain has 734 clubs and 44 associations; the United States of America have 18 associations and 194 clubs, Germany has 9 associations and 186 clubs, Austria Hungary has 1 association and 69 clubs, Russia has 47 clubs, The Netherlands 47, Italy 17, France 19, Switzerland 17, Sweden and Norway 7, Spain 9, Denmark 4, the West Indies 4, Cape Colony, Belgium, Mexico 3 each; Brazil, Argentine Republic, Japan, 2 each; Venezuela, Uruguay, China and Chile, 1 each.

Of course there are more than two chess clubs in Japan. But that does not necessarily prove Berger's statistics to be incorrect. Probably he gathered his information not only from directories and similar sources but also procured it direct from various countries together with particulars as to the status of their chess clubs. In that case he may have doubted the propriety of including in his calculations some of the chess clubs in Japan that merely exist on paper and have long ceased to do any active work. Berger is treating us well enough in giving us credit for two clubs, we think.

It has been a commonplace of modern Chess history that in 1861 Morphy was playing blindfold chess in Manchester and Blackburne was among the contestants, and this it was that turned Blackburne's attention to blindfold simultaneous play, of which he has since proved the greatest master. Now on the authority of Mr. J. S. Kipping, who was secretary of the Manchester Chess Club in 1861, the *Manchester Evening News* asserts that Morphy never visited Manchester at all. The story has been repeated times without number in notices of Blackburne's career, and only now has the *B. C. M.* asked Mr. Blackburne whether there is any truth in it. The veteran's reply will be awaited with interest.

Of the fourteen greatest Chess-Masters, beginning with Philidor (1747), there are four who seem to be greater than the others; La Bourdonnais, Morphy, Zukertort, and Lasker.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Tonkin 1	F.	Oct. 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan 2	F.	Oct. 6
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla 3	M.	Oct. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China 4	Th.	Oct. 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 5	W.	Oct. 18
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th.	Oct. 19
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	M.	Oct. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W.	Oct. 25
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa.	Oct. 28
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th.	Nov. 2

1 Left Kobe on the 5th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 27th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 29th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F.	Oct. 6
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W.	Oct. 11
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	W.	Oct. 11
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa.	Oct. 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W.	Oct. 18
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th.	Oct. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa.	Oct. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M.	Oct. 23
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F.	Oct. 27
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu.	Oct. 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th.	Nov. 3

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 29th September,—Yokkaichi, 28th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 29th September,—Otaru via ports, 26th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cheruskia, German steamer, 2,097, Ehlers, 30th September,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 28th September, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, G. Oda, 30th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 29th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 30th September,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 12th Sept., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 1st Oct.,—Kobe, 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 2nd October,—Hakodate 30th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 2nd October,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 24th September, General.—C. Illies & Co.

John Sanderson, British steamer, 2,089, J. Erskine, 2nd October,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 1st October, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, A. E. Moses, 2nd October,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 1st October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 2nd October,—Kobe, 1st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 2nd October,—Yokkaichi, 1st October, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 2nd October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 1st October, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 3rd Oct.,—Kobe, 2nd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senator, U.S. Army Transport, 1,836, J. B. Patterson, 3rd October,—Manila via Nagasaki, 1st October, Troops.—U.S. Government.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 4th October,—Kobe 2nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 4th October,—Yokkaichi 3rd October, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, Paul, 4th October,—Muroran, Furs and Salmon.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 4th October,—Yokkaichi 3rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 5th October,—Hakodate, 2nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, K. Kirchner, 29th September,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Nakajima, 29th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, A. Christiagen, 29th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 29th September,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 29th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 30th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 30th Sept.,—Kobe, 28th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Sudo, 30th Sept.,—Moji, General.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 1st October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dr. Hans Jurg Kiaer, Norwegian steamer, 691, H. Lersbryggen, 1st Oct., Ballast—J. Puig.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 2nd October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 2,875, Evans, 2nd October,—Seattle, Washington, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 3rd October,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 3rd October,—San Francisco via Vladivostock, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Thos. W. Gregory, 3rd October,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Cheruskia, German steamer, 2,097, Ehlers, 3rd October,—Port Arthur, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 3rd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 3rd October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 4th October,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 4th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 4th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 5th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. J. F. Allen, Mr. W. H. Wakefield, Mr. T. Yamaba, Mrs. J. M. Moore, Mr. K. von Bodenhausen, Mr. J. A. Barnett, Miss B. Baber, Mrs. Fischer-Zumlohe, Dr. A. Pfluger, Mr. A. Mayer, Mr. J. Gerjach, Mrs. A. Richter, Miss I. F. Robbins, Miss C. Robbins, Mrs. C. F. Snow and infant, Mr. W. H. Wakefield, Mr. O. Suzuki, Mrs. E. S. Babcock, Miss L. B. Barnett, Mrs. J. A. Barnett, Miss Z. Baber, Gen. Count Reventlou, Gen. Baron Von Korff, Mr. A. Beckmann, Mr. E. Haubitzober, Mr. O. Robbins, Miss E. P. Robbins, and Mr. C. F. Davis, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Capt. M. F. Patterson, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. F. Marsland, Miss J. Clemmons, Miss A. de Long, Mrs. J. F. Smith, Miss Kitty Wilber and servant, Miss M. Stetson, Miss M. Hyde, and Master Smith, in cabin; 1 European in steerage; 180 Japanese, 104 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Colonel Denby, Madame Denby, Prof. Worcester, Captain, Tokizawa, Miss L. Dening, Mrs. Terry, Miss Terry, Miss M. Terry, Miss S Terry, Miss L. Terry, Mr. Terry, Mr. Vannxeur, Mrs. Vannxeur, Miss Vannxeur, Miss F. Vannxeur, Mr. T. Kusumoto, Capt. Peterson, Miss C. Esdale, Mr. Charles, and Dr. Nathan, in cabin; Mr. Murayama, and Mr. Nakashiba, in second class; 41 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kaelin, Mr. Tamura and family, Mr. H. R. Bowie, Mr. F. G. Barkley, Mrs. W. E. Moses, Mr. Ch. Jeusen and servant, Mr. Correand, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. G. T. Taylor, Mr. P. B. Shelmerdine, and Mrs. Innocent, four children and servant, in cabin; 2 steerage. For San Francisco:—Mr. C. P. Plunkett, Mr. W. Liebes, Mr. A. M. Hicks, Miss M. Vintan, Mr. B. Braham, Mr. J. B. Tenney, and Mr. A. S. Tenney, in cabin; 5 European in steerage; 29 Chinese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Ziegler, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read, 2 children and nurse, Miss Ozaki, Mr. T. Mizobuchi, Mr. J. Shimoda, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. W. Ledder, Mr. M. Vetterich, Mr. C. Niemeyer, Mr. M. Mogihara, Mr. M. E. Emecke, Mr. and Mrs. Alb. L. Koch, Mr. G. G. Melhuish, Dr. Clay McCauley, Mr. Chandler Gibbens, Mr. W. Butterworth, Mr. A. Nirnheim, Mr. L. Snidter, Miss H. M. Witherbee, Miss Aoyagi, Mr. Aboody Peress, Mr. Bussler, Mr. H. Worles, Mr. H. Fabricine, and Mr. Th. B. W. Schmidt, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Marsland, Mrs. J. Clemmons, Mrs. J. F. Smith, Master Smith, Miss Kitty Wilber and servant, Mrs. M. Stetson, Miss

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M. Hyde, Mrs. Piver, Miss Piver, Captain M. F. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Howard, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Babcock, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Donkin, Mr. Drosemier, Dr. H. H. Haas, U.S.N., Madame L. V. Musso, Mrs. C. Borrett, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Thoms and two daughters, Mr. L. Caetani, Mr. G. Pallavicino, Mr. M. Kutschera, Mr. R. Finch and servant, Mr. A. M. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Richardson, Miss Richardson, Mr. F. Wengel, and Mr. S. Strauss, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. E. L. Tatham, Mr. R. T. Gill, Miss Wilson, Mr. E. T. Thomas, Mr. C. J. Cotter, Major G. O. Coates, Lieut. A. W. H. Lee, Lieut. H. Rotherham, Miss Seth, Miss P. Seth, Mr. S. A. Seth, Mrs. Chang Sen Che, infant and Chinese maid, Mr. G. C. Painter, Mr. J. Adamson, Mr. Liu Lo, Mr. Chan Jun Sang, and Miss Duthoit, in cabin; 11 Chinese and infant, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Lieut. C. P. Plunkett, Mr. B. Braham, Mr. W. Liebes, Mr. J. B. Tennay, Mr. A. E. Tenney, Miss Vinton, and Mr. A. M. Hicks, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokura Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Hyde Lay, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Owen, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mrs. G. L. Thompson, Dr. Haberer, Mr. G. C. Harry, Miss A. A. Thompson, Mr. C. R. Joy, Consul A. Segawa, Mr. T. Sidachi, Mr. T. Hirose, and Mrs. Yone Sato, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk 739 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 235 bales.

CARGO.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Hohenzollern*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Option	France	Nagasaki	Genoa	Italy	Austria	France	Option
Sieber & Co.	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	38	50	—	33	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	148	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Browne & Co.	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—
Robinson & Co.	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	27	15	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	47

Total—Raw 283 bales, Waste 170 bales.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For AUSTRALIA and New Zealand (from Kobe), Quick Despatch, the "EASTERN."—Browne & Co.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 3rd and 18th at Noon (every month), the "YOKOHAMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 8th and 23rd at Noon (every month), the "OMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For VLADIVOSTOCK via ports (from Kobe), Oct. 8th, the "TAIREN MARR."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For LONDON, viâ Kobe, Hongkong, Straits, Ceylon, and Suez Canal, Oct. 10th, at 8 a.m., the "CANDIA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For MARSEILLES, London, & Antwerp, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and Port Said, Oct. 10th, at Noon, the "TAMBA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO via Honolulu and San Diego, October 10th, the "CARLISLE CITY."—Butterfield and Swire.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Oct. 10th, the "SAINT IRENE"—Dodwell Co., Ltd.

For MARSEILLES, via ports and Shanghai, Oct. 11th, at 9 a.m., the "TONKIN."—M.M.S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI, viâ Kobe, Shimonoseki and Nagasaki, Oct. 11th, at Noon, the "KOBE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SYDNEY, and Melbourne, viâ Kobe, Moji, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, and Brisbane, Oct. 12th, at Noon, the "YAWATA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, Oct. 14th, the "CHINA."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For BOMBAY, viâ Kobe, Moji, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, 17th Sept., the "KAGOSHIMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For VLADIVOSTOCK direct (from Nagasaki), Oct. 17th, the "KOSAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, and Nagasaki, Oct. 18th, at Daylight, the "ROHILLA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Some business has been done in American and Egyptian yarns, the quotations showing a pretty sharp advance, which will probably be continued. There has not been any considerable movement in grey shirtings, and fancy cottons and woollens are inactive, buyers being still unwilling to pay the high prices demanded. Raw cotton shows an advance.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 34½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/21, Singles	$37.00 to 40 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43 00 to 5 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	48.00 to 50 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	72.00 to 74.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	89.00 to 91.00
Nos 2 100, Plain	114.00 to 114.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	84.00 to 88.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	98.00 to 104.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	130.00 to 135.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.00
Indian Broach	20 00
Chinese	23.00

METALS.

The market is quiet, and nothing is doing beyond a few sales in plates, bars, and galvanized wire.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5 50 to 5 70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails assorted	7 00 to 7 25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¾ inch)	6.50 to 6 75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, and prices have an advancing tendency.

American	$2 75 to 2 80
Russian	2 60 to 2.65
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady, with a slightly better demand for refined.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.20 to 5 90
Brown Manila	5 40 to 6 90
Brown Daitong	4 30 to 4 50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6 75
White Java and Penang	6 75 to 8 50
White Refined	7 70 to 9 40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market was quiet all the week, until Thursday, when a fair amount of business was done in filatures at or about quotations. The rising exchange should make prices slightly easier.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	$1200
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1180 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1135
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Commons—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1020 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1.65
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No. 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No. 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

A good business doing at former values. The aspect of the market is unchanged. Supplies of good quality scarce.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best / Noshi—Shinshu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best / Noshi—Bushu, Good / Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$100 to 105
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

There is not much good tea in the market, and the trade is practically restricted to qualities from 24 to 26 *yen* per picul.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 5

Private paper opened to-day ⅛ to ¼ higher. London silver came ⅛ lower and sterling from China consequently ⅛ to ¼ lower, causing local rates on China to advance accordingly.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 5/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 13/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2 1
On Paris Bank sight	256⅛
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅜
On Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213⅛
On Hongkong—Bank sight	5½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	6½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76⅛
— Private 10 days' sight	78⅛
On India—Bank sight	151⅛
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	26⅝

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 5.

Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 190. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 235. Club Hotels can be had at *yen* 85. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 90. Offers for Laundries are wanted. Bretts are weak at *yen* 9.50. North and Raes can be placed at *yen* 215. Helms are obtainable at par.

Debentures—Breweries are wanted at *yen* 110, Y. U. Clubs at *yen* 108, offers for Oriental Hotels wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	220 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	190 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	235 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	85 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld (Pref.), $25	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9 50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	90 B
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa & S.
Hugo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property: 2. *yen* 17,770.89 1, *yen* 16,298.41; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,728.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

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A. C HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARK LIST.

Yokohama, October 5.

Japan Breweries are steady at *yen* 190. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 225. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 235. Laundries can be had at *yen* 65. Langfeldts are obtainable at par. Y. U. Club and Brewery Debentures are wanted.

YEN.

Yokohama E & I. Works ...225 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....235 Sellers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sales.

Tokyo, October 5.

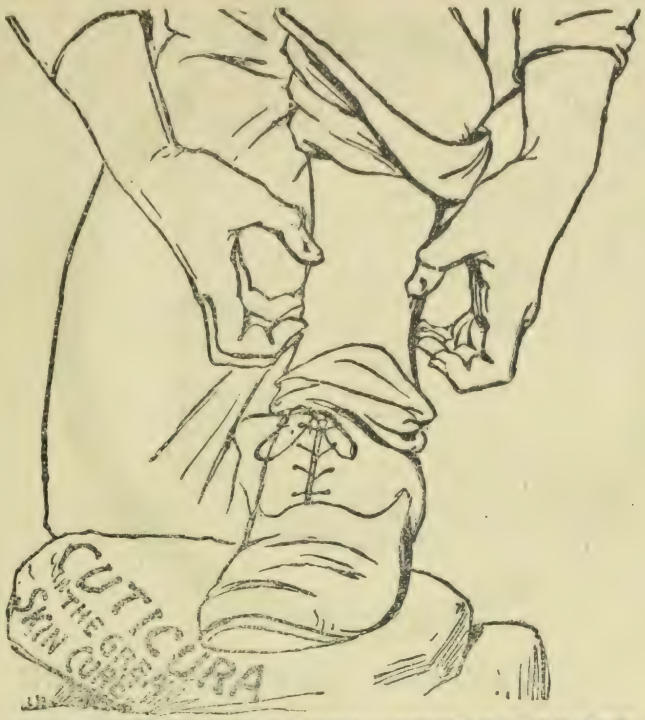
Redemption Loan Bonds	96.95
War Loan Bonds	96.95
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	406.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	63.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	274.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	69.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	69.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104.20
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	29.70
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	74.80
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	61.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50	25.70
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	122.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	81.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	58.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	65.80
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	51.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	108.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28	88.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	93 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	49.50
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	40.50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	25 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	11 00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	23 80
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 co
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	225 co
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	197.0c
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	73.60
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	25.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10	11.80
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	29.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21.03
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	33.50
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16 50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	250.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	227.0c
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	132.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	81 co
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.5.
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	56 5.
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	84.co
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	75 20
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	41 20
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	89 00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	35.5c
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	56 50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	47.80
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	54 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	54.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	21.00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	45.00

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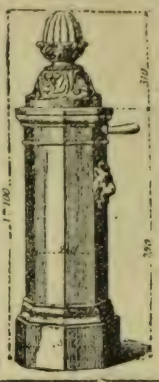
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 14TH, 1899.

MARRIAGE.

On the 9th instant, at the British Consulate and afterwards at 253, Bluff, A. R G. CLARK, Yokohama, to HETTIE, youngest daughter of the late Captain Swain, Dragoon Guards, Canterbury, England.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Formosa Bank made an issue of one *yen* bank notes on the 26th ult.

A KEROSENE well has been discovered beside the Nippon Railway line in Taira district.

THEIR Majesties have made further large donations to sufferers by the September storms.

THE foreign trade of Nagasaki during Sept. was as follows:—Exports, 511,921; Imports, 534,746.

VARIOUS influences are being brought to bear at Pretoria on President Kruger to induce him to take the offensive in the field, but he has hitherto refused.

AN extraordinary rise has taken place in the price of iron. In a week it rose from 7 *yen* 80 *sen* to 9 *yen* 50 *sen*.

OWING to Saturday's storm, the Tokkaido railway at Suzukawa has been badly damaged, and communications are still interrupted.

A TELEGRM reached Yokohama from New York on the 1st instant to the effect that the raw silk market is dull and has a downward tendency.

JAPANESE War Bonds have been influenced by the Transvaal affair. They fell one pound on the 3rd inst, and steadily receded all the week.

THE races between the *Shamrock* and the *Colombia* for the America Cup have so far proved fruitless owing to lack of wind or fogs.

WAR has commenced in the Transvaal, the South African Republic having sent an ultimatum to Great Britain which the latter refuses to discuss.

MR. W. K. VINCENT has been chosen to conduct the resuscitated Yokohama Choral Society this winter. The first concert will take place in December.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD, H.B M.'s Minister to Peking, has completely recovered, and sailed for China on Monday accompanied by Lady MacDonald.

ACCORDING to the latest investigation made by the authorities the emigrants to Hokkaido during 1898 were 64,628, a decrease of 721 as compared with 1897.

THE turn over of the Kwansai Railway for for the ten days of September was 22 *yen* 6 *sen* per mile per day. Compared with last year this is an increase of 4 *yen* 57 *sen*.

113 miles and 40 chains of railway were opened in Japan during the period extending from April to the 27th Aug. The total mileage now in working order is 3 534.

SINCE the Shinagawa Tramway Car Company combined with the Tokyo Tramway Car Company, the revenues of the former have increased from 100 *yen* to 300 *yen* per day.

CHINESE tobacco, the price of which has been from 25 *yen* to 22 *yen*, has now begun to fall owing to the good crop in Japan. It is now as low as 15 and even 10 *yen* per picul.

THE storm of Saturday occasioned a tidal wave on the east coast of Japan that did a lot of demage in the coast villages, especially at Tagono ura, where several lives were lost.

AT the extraordinary general meeting of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory, held on the 7th instant, the purchase of the Kashu Spinning Factory for *yen* 319 000 was decided on.

THE M.M. steamer *Tonkin* had a narrow shave of being carried on to the Yokohama breakwater during the gale last Saturday. She collided with three vessel before being brought up.

THE regular general meeting of Tobu Railway Company will be held at Taiwan Kyokwai on the 18th instant. As the line was opened only 35 days ago there will be no dividend declared.

A VERY destructive storm swept over the eastern coast of Japan on Saturday causing great damage the district in comprised between Hamamatsu and Utsunomiya. Many lives were lost through a railway accidents.

THE revenue of the Saugu Railway for the last ten days of September was 5,651 *yen* 90 *sen* (an average per mile per day of 20 *yen* 93 *sen* 3 *rin*). Last year the return per mile per day was 33 *sen* 7 *rin*.

AT the end of March this year, the number of private railway companies in Japan was 58, with 238.775,000 *yen* capital. The mileage was 3.737, of which 2,652 miles were in operation. Of the capital referred to 158,181,389 *yen* was paid up.

SOME 830 bales of Chinese cotton were brought to Yokohama by the *Yamashiro Maru* on the 2nd inst., and 890 bales by a foreign vessel. The price is still high, and a sudden and great rise may be expected within a fortnight.

THE Jobu Railway Company was founded in Oct., 1896, for the construction of a line from Kumagaya, Kotsuke, to Omiya-go, Chichibu district, a distance of 28 miles. The first call on shares will take place on the 10th inst., and the work will be commenced shortly.

THE *London Gazette* contains a proclamation summoning Parliament for the 17th inst. It also contains another proclamation calling out sufficient of the Reserves to make every battalion ordered to South Africa 1,000 strong. The Reservists who are joining the Colours will number 25,000 men.

THE Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce has passed the following resolution, which is to be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and the Minister of Communications and also to the combined Chambers of Commerce meeting:—That Government aid be granted to Japanese navigation on at least five lines—to Vladivostock, Tientsin, Newchwang, Shanghai, and Manila.

THE rise in iron will have a very bad effect on Japanese railways, whether in present operation or in course of construction. Many lines now working are in a dangerous state for want of repairs, but with iron so dear no attention will be paid to them. Indeed, many of the Companies are even selling their stocks of iron at the enhanced prices in order to secure fat dividends.

THE Yokohama Chamber of Commerce at its coming general meeting will discuss the following resolutions:—

1. That investigations be made on the subject of import contracts, as requested by the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce.

2. That arbitration rules be considered, as requested by Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce.

THE abolition of the import tariff upon raw silk was discussed at the last meeting of the Raw Silk Trade Association, and a motion was passed approving of such a step. This will be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The reasons assigned for the decision were that the tariff checks the growth and development of the silk-weaving industry, &c.

THREE causes are enumerated by the *Chugwai Shogyo Shimpo* for the rise in iron.—(1) The demand is very great on account of the construction of railways in Russia, China, Africa, &c; (2) iron foundries in England and on the Continent are flooded with orders from all countries; (3) the U.S. are using vast quantities of iron since the late war. No fall can be expected in Japan, but on the contrary a constant rise.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Monday, Oct. 9.

It is plain that the mobilization of the Boers is not proceeding as rapidly as the first telegrams suggested. Mobilization is perhaps the severest test of military organization. To bring troops together quietly from all parts of a country, with their due supplies of stores and ammunition, and with all their communications established, requires a highly developed state of preparation and much military experience. Apparently the Boers are not in that condition of readiness, nor, indeed, could anything of the kind have been reasonably expected. When news came of their forward movement into Natal, the natural supposition was that they had got together a force of eight or ten thousand men, and were about to attempt some signal *coup* before the British local troops could be sufficiently re-inforced to offer any effective resistance. In one sense that would have been a wise and perfectly proper move on their part. The question of striking the first blow has ceased to have any moral significance, and if the Boers could gain some signal success at the outset, they might find it easy to obtain recruits from every part of South Africa. But their chance of making such a *coup* is now reduced to a vanishing quantity by the arrival of British transports at Durban, and they will have to adopt the soberer programme of defending their frontier—a programme which, from a strategical point of view, is probably the wisest they could choose. There will doubtless be a long interval before anything like a decisive action occurs. The force which the Boers are assembling at Volksrust is said to be from 18,000 to 22,000 men, but Reuter adds that the number is probably exaggerated. We have little doubt that it is. As has been frequently pointed out in these columns, there is no apparent possibility of the Boers putting more than fourteen or fifteen thousand into the field. The estimates seem to grow wilder as the crisis approaches. The leading Shanghai paper, for example, puts the number at ninety thousand. If the Free-Staters render really vigorous assistance, and are not merely going to discharge garrison duty, their accession will probably raise the Boer army to twenty-five thousand. In any case, against an entrenched position guarded by fourteen or fifteen thousand men, England must move a force of thirty thousand at least, and it will probably be the middle of November before such a force can be concentrated in Natal. We shall hear many expressions of impatience in the interval, and smart paragraphists will have much to say about the impotence of a great empire which requires so long to crush a petty State. Already the folks at the Cape are beginning to cry out, But we must possess our souls in patience.

Wednesday, Oct. 11.

The Boers appear to be already in trouble. That difficulty is just what might have been expected. Commissariat arrangements are the supreme test of military organization, and there the Boers have broken down. They appear to think that they have already been long in the field and that things would mend in the matter of commissariat if, instead of remaining encamped on the frontiers, they marched into British territory. Of course the very opposite is the fact. President Kruger is showing his usual wisdom, in refusing to assume the offensive. He knows well that in the defensive lies the only hope of making a stand. But it looks as if his hand would be forced. Commandant Viljeon, whose appointment to the command in chief is spoken of, in *lieu* of General Joubert, is a noted character. He is—or was up to the time of mobilization—owner and editor of the *Voortrekker*, a journal which does everything in its power to promote racial hatred, and which has been in the habit of publishing lists of Uitlanders whom it recommends the Boers to haul out and shoot at the first outbreak of war. Something about the Krügersdrop journal may be learned from a *Times* letter which we re-produce elsewhere. The appointment of such a man to the post of commander in chief could not fail to add bitterness to the war.

Thursday, Oct. 12.

We infer from the telegrams just received that the Boers are resolved to take the initiative. They have thrown down the gauntlet and are irrevocably determined to appeal to arms. The nature of their ultimatum suggests that they intend to assume the offensive. The British troops will not be withdrawn; that is certain; and the Boers will proceed to drive them back, if possible. It can not be denied that in this early stage of the conflict they have greatly the advantage of position. A line of railway connects Mafeking with Pretoria and the distance is only 150 miles; whereas from Mafeking to Cape Town by rail is some 800 miles. The Boers should not find any serious difficulty in massing the whole of their forces for an assault along the Western frontier; nor would such an operation be dangerous at the present stage, since the British are not strong enough on the eastern frontier to take advantage of the withdrawal of the enemy on that side by invading the Transvaal. A blow swiftly delivered in the direction of Mafeking and Kimberley with all the troops the Boers can muster should be a serious matter. Unfortunately we have no information as to the strength of the British in that quarter. We know that on the 5th instant several transports entered Durban from India, and doubtless the troops were sent forward without a day's unnecessary delay. That rendered Natal secure, and may possibly have been the reason of the apparent change of tactics that has taken place on the Boers' side. For it seemed at first that they intended to advance in the direction of Laing's Nek, whereas now their objective points appear to be Mafeking, Vryburn and Kimberley. Of course they are choosing what they judge to be the line of least resistance, especially since in that quarter the cöoperation of the Orange Free State will have its maximum value. It is impossible not to admire the courage of the Boers, little as we admire their methods of administration and their general civilization. Whether they are acting wisely in attempting to gain some signal advantage before the British preparations are complete, or whether they have been driven to this movement, carrying President Krüger with them, by the impatience that undisciplined forces always show in the field, is a question the answer to which depends largely on the state of their military resources, and that they themselves are alone in a position to estimate. We suspect that the detachment affairs of 1881 have been magnified by tradition until the Boers have learned to think that British soldiers can not stand against them for a moment.

Friday, Oct. 13.

Reuter's agent gives us a very full and concise epitome of the ultimatum addressed by the Transvaal to Great Britain. It must be confessed that from their own point of view the Boers are justified in the course pursued by them. They have doubtless believed from the very outset that to concede Great Britain's demands was to resign themselves to a process of slow dissolution as an independent state, for from the moment when the Uitlanders, with their already preponderating strength and ever-increasing numbers, obtained the franchise, the descent of the Boers to a position of political insignificance was only a question of time. We think, for our own part, that the Boers were correct enough in that estimate, though we do not think that they have any right to remain a community apart, governing after the methods of mediæval days, and abusing their possession of arms to rob the unarmed foreigner living in their midst. Having, however, refused hitherto to allow the thin end of the wedge to be inserted, they now see Great Britain's power gradually closing in upon them, and feel that the longer they wait the more hopeless will be their condition. In face of such a prospect their ultimatum is not unreasonable, but unless they are very dense they must know that after this document left their hands, the last chance of compromise was forfeited, and that only war remained. England can make only one reply to an ultimatum couched in such language She will acknowledge its receipt and declare the discussion closed.

There is one perplexing feature of this intelligence. In Reuter's telegram of the 11th instant, it was stated that the Transvaal Government demanded the withdrawal of the British forces from the frontier in 48 hours, and the telegram received yesterday at the Legation of France confirmed that statement. To-day's digest of the ultimatum says that "instant" withdrawal is asked for. We suspect that there is a slight looseness of phraseology. The ultimatum was formulated on Monday, the 9th, and an answer was asked for by the afternoon of the 11th, that is roughly 48 hours, and the correct version probably is that the Boers declared that if the British troops remained on the frontiers later than the afternoon of the 11th, their presence would be construed as a declaration of war. We may conclude, therefore, that a state of war now exists, for assuredly the troops have not been withdrawn.

What will bitterly offend Great Britain is the extreme brevity of the period named by the Boers. The great distance between Pretoria and London renders it little short of a gross insult for a Government in the former city to demand a reply from a Government in the latter on a question of peace or war within two days. President Krüger's despatch was probably forwarded by special messenger from Pretoria on the 8th instant, so as to reach Sir Alfred Milner on the 9th. It was evidently a document of considerable length, yet Krüger expected it to be telegraphed to England and answered by

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telegram within 48 hours, and that, too, after the extreme patience shown by England throughout these long negotiations.

Since the above was in type, Reuter's account of Great Britain's answer has arrived. The die is now cast.

THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF LAND.

Monday, Oct. 9.

It is plain that the problem of foreign ownership of land in Japan is about to become the question of the hour, the Tokyo Chamber of Cammerce having taken it up and decided to submit it to the united Chambers in session. In connexion with this step on the part of the Tokyo Chamber two important articles have been published, one by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the other by the *Tokyo Asahi*. Both journals advocate the granting of the privilege. The *Nichi Nichi* does not admit, however, that the introduction of foreign capital is materially affected by this question. The foreigner, it thinks, desires to be allowed to own land chiefly, if not altogether, because he wishes to live in security and comfort in Japan. He wants to be sure that the land on which he builds can never be taken from him. Now it is in the best interests of Japan to provide this security for foreigners. Having divested herself completely of her old anti-foreign sentiment, there is no reason why she should employ the land question as a weapon for the exclusion of foreigners. The history of the matter is this. Under the feudal system sales and purchases of land by private individuals were forbidden. But on the 15th of Feb., 1872, feudalism having been abolished, an Ordinance was issued, removing that veto and declaring that transactions in land would thenceforth be lawful. The drafters of the Ordinance forgot to exclude foreigners from its purview. Hence, on the 14th of the following April, a notification was hastily published, interdicting the sale or mortgage of land to any persons not Japanese subjects. Things remained thus until the conclusion of the Treaty with Germany on the 4th of April, 1896, when the Japanese negotiators explicitly conceded to German subjects the rights of pledge and mortgage of immovable property in Japan. Thus one-half of the veto of 1872 was abolished. Further, in one of the notes addressed by Japan to Germany in connexion with the same negotiations, it was distinctly declared that a company including foreigners might own real estate in its capacity of juridical person. Not only might such a company or association be composed of foreigners and Japanese in combination, but it might also be composed of foreigners alone, so that, for example, if a foreigner and his own son combine to form a juridical person, they would be entitled to hold land. Thus another large slice was cut off the second half of the veto of 1872. Foreigners were now allowed to own land collectively, though the privilege was withheld from them individually. In fact, nothing now remains but the mere outlines of the old interdict, and it seems quite useless to preserve them. The only thing necessary is to rescind the notification of April, 1872, which has already become, in the main, a dead letter. No permissive legislation is needed. The second Article of the Civil Code declares that foreigners are eligible for all privileges not forbidden by law or treaty. The Treaties contain no veto, and all that need be done is to clear away the remaining fragments of the 1872 Notification.

The *Asahi* also is strongly in favour of granting the privilege. It comments on the singular changes that public opinion undergoes, and on the rapidity with which old-fashioned prejudices disappear in the presence of new social conditions. After the conclusion of the Revised Treaties, and after several leaders of thought, notably Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, had declared themselves unable to detect any valid objection to the ownership of land by foreigners, it was certain that the question would come up for final decision at no distant date. Evidently the time is now ripe, and it is to be hoped that no effort will be spared to secure the assent of the United Chambers to the proposition emanating from Tokyo. The interesting phase will be the attitude of politicians. There exists a party whose members object to the Second Article of the Civil Code, and would alter it to read that foreigners shall enjoy only such privileges as are explicitly granted to them by law or secured to them by treaty. What will these folks say? Then, the Liberals were opposed to Count Okuma's Treaty which permitted foreigners to own land. Which side will the Liberals espouse now? It is pretty certain that they will advocate the removal of the veto. Will the Progressists go into the same camp with them, or will party feeling drive them to oppose a measure which they strictly approved when their own leader fathered it? There is going to be a very pretty fight.

Wednesday, Oct. 11.

It is contended by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that even though the privilege of owning real estate were granted to foreigners, they would not be able to engage in agriculture, inasmuch as the right to carry on agricultural pursuits is nowhere provided in the Treaties. Our contemporary's object in advancing this argument is to allay the apprehensions of people who imagine that the Japanese farmer, with his small holdings and his petty capital, would not be able to stand his ground for a moment in competition with the foreigner. The motive of the contention is excellent, but we are not convinced by the reasoning, neither does it seem consistent with the line taken elsewhere in the same article. The Second Article of the Civil Code provides that foreigners shall enjoy private rights except in so far as they are forbidden by law or treaty. The Treaties do not impose any restriction on foreigners engaging in agriculture, and it certainly appears to follow that if the Ordinance of 1872 were repealed, a foreign land-holder would become entitled to farm his property if he pleased. As a matter of fact, ownership of real estate by foreigners is not forbidden by the Treaties. Neither is it sanctioned by them. Yet our contemporary asserts that if only the Ordinance of 1872 were revoked, there would be nothing to prevent the right of property in land being enjoyed by foreigners. Surely, if that is true of land-owing, it must be true of land-farming also, the Conventional and legal conditions being identical in both cases?

The *Nichi Nichi* is on much safer ground when it alleges that foreigners would not think of engaging in agriculture in Japan. Of all the improbable enterprises that is the most improbable. There is absolutely nothing to tempt the foreigner and there is everything to deter him. In the virgin soil of Hokkaido he might possibly see some inducement to engage in the growing of crops or the rearing of cattle. But even that is most apocryphal, and as for rice-culture and *daikon* cultivation, we do not believe that in the length and breadth of America and Europe that is a man who would think of coming to Japan with such objects. The chimera is supremely ridiculous.

Thursday, Oct. 12.

We regret to observe that in the concluding article of its series of leaders on the question of foreign ownership of land in Japan, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not maintain the firm attitude suggested by its opening remarks. It hints that the privilege should be subject to restrictions, and ought not to be granted until full investigation has been made as to its probable effect on Japanese public opinion and on foreign enterprise in this country. We infer that our contemporary would have the various Chambers of Commerce and other representative bodies consulted. Of course, there can be no manner of objection to that. Due respect must be paid to the nation's views on such a subject. But how the effect on foreign enterprise is to be estimated we do not clearly see. There can not be the least doubt that the restriction now existing with regard to foreign ownership of land is a great obstacle to the embarking of foreign capital and to the permanent residence of foreigners in this country. False impressions have been created by writers who declined to understand the privileges of land tenure that are actually secured to foreigners. Nothing could persuade them that it was within the power of a foreigner to acquire, as a superficiary, a valid title to occupy and use land for any period he pleased, or that it was within the power of two or more foreigners, as a juridical person, to acquire the fee simple of land. By persistently misrepresenting these points, and contending that, in the absence of the privilege of ownership, no provision whatever existed which could enable foreigners to engage in industrial pursuits with security, the writers of whom we speak greatly injured their case in the eyes of the Japanese, for the whole subject was naturally rendered distasteful by such misrepresentations. It must be plain, however, to any order of intelligence that neither as a superficiary nor as a juridical person can a foreigner feel satisfied about his title. As a superficiary there is always some one between him and his property. The law does not recognise him as the chief party concerned. Even if he has a superficies for 999 years, the ultimate title to the land is registered in the name of a Japanese, and it is by the latter that the taxes on the land have to be paid. As a juridical person he has no individual rights. Hence nothing short of actual ownership can be really satisfactory. But whether by granting that right foreign capital would be attracted, no one could venture to affirm. We can only say that, assuming a desire on the part of foreign capitalists to engage in industrial enterprises in this country, the land difficulty would certainly prove an obstacle. Its removal might not suffice to attract capital, but its existence unquestionably helps to deter it.

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TELEGRAMS.

We observe that the latest form imparted to the telegram fiction is that it is a "monopoly established by Reuter." The public ought to understand the matter pretty clearly by this time, but as these extraordinary misrepresentations are still ventilated in newspaper columns, it may be well to say a few words. Naturally the first object of journals combining to obtain a service of telegrams is to procure the fullest possible information, and since the fuller the information the better the interests of their readers are served, such a combination differs essentially from an ordinary trust or monopoly which has for its purpose the exploiting of the public. No tax whatever is levied upon the public in connexion with the service of telegrams now furnished to the press of Japan by Reuter's Agency. Subscribers to the newspapers in which the telegrams appear are not charged anything extra for the benefit of the news. That point has to be premised, for very disingenuous endeavours have been made to obscure it.

Our readers are aware that for many years the *Japan Mail* alone purchased a service of telegrams for publication in Yokohama, and that they were copied into the columns of the other local journals. From time to time our contemporaries—especially the newspaper whose *métier* is to grumble—complained that we enjoyed a monopoly. The simple fact was that we were sufficiently enterprising to pay for news. The other local journals might easily have occupied the position held by us had they been willing to incur the expense. They might, indeed, have occupied a more advantageous position, since by combining to share the outlay which we bore alone, they could have procured a fuller service. There had been nothing whatever to prevent them from stepping into the field originally, and procuring for themselves the telegrams which the *Japan Mail* ultimately obtained. Hence their complaints of a monopoly were nothing better than a device to cloak their own want of enterprise.

The service afterwards fell into the hands of the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Japan Times*, whose united contributions placed them at an advantage. But they, too, found the burden too onerous, and at the same time several other Tokyo journals evinced willingness to share it. Last summer, therefore, a new arrangement became desirable. Reuter's agent in Yokohama was approached by a syndicate of Tokyo Japanese journals with a proposal that he should furnish all the telegrams coming from England *viâ* India, Ceylon, Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai. Before concluding the proposed agreement, Reuter's agent endeavoured to induce the foreign journals of Yokohama to form a syndicate for a special service on their own account. The *Japan Mail* declared itself perfectly ready to join such a syndicate if fair arrangements could be made with regard to differences in times of publication. But the other journals declined. The proprietor of one said, as we have been informed, that he intended to continue his course of copying telegrams where he could find them; the proprietor of another said that he could not afford the expense, and so on. Ultimately the *Japan Mail*, slightly altering its hour of publication, joined the Tokyo Syndicate.

That is the present situation. Now, as we have said, Reuter's service of telegrams is sent *viâ* India, Ceylon, the Straits, Hongkong, and Shanghai. It is tapped at all those places, and the combined payments thus obtained enable Reuter to forward very full messages. There is no time lost. The news reaches Japan just as quickly as though it were telegraphed direct from London and tapped *en route* at Kobe only, and the same service obtained by the latter plan would cost many times as much. But, of course, by employing other agents in London with directions to telegraph only items of the highest importance, it is possible that different intelligence might, from time to time, be procured. It could not be intelligence of moment, however, for Reuter's agents would certainly never fail to wire everything of real interest to the great *clientèle* for which they cater eastward of London. We do not wish to throw discredit on the Kobe-Yokohama service. It is an experiment possibly worth trying. We ourselves refrain from using the telegrams thus obtained, because we consider that such a course would be eminently unfair. But we have not hitherto instituted any comparisons or suggested any doubts, and, if we approach the subject now, it is because we are driven to do so by a dishonest attempt on the part of the other side to enlist public sympathy and cöoperation against a so-called "monopoly," in other words, to bring obloquy on a syndicate of journals which has its *raison d'être* solely in the procuring of a full service of telegrams, which charges the public nothing for the news, and which deserves support not abuse. Special subscriptions have had to be solicited from private sources in order to maintain the other service. That is all right. If the subscribers deem it worth while to put up their money on the off-chance of occasionally receiving an item of intelligence which Reuter's agents do not think worth sending, they may as well test the value of the probability. Besides, it is very conceivable that Reuter's agents will be spurred to keener efforts by opposition, and so we shall all gain in the long run. But let us have a fair and manly competition, not disfigured by virulence or falsehoods. The subscribers only want the telegrams, we presume. It is not their purpose to constitute themselves partizans of any one particular journal, or to subscribe exceptional sums for its sole benefit. A little time will make clear the relative values of the two systems.

One word more may be added. An absolutely false notice has been published by the journal receiving the Kobe service, to the effect that it "alone is enabled to produce telegrams from abroad on the evening of the day they are received in Yokohama, instead of next day, as is done by other journals." That is quite untrue. Extras containing telegrams have more than once been issued by the *Japan Mail* in the evening, when news of importance arrived, and will continue to be issued, probably on frequent occasions, as in the immediate future we may expect much interesting intelligence.

The Japanese Government will not co-operate in the Glasgow International Exposition to be held in 1901. This was decided at the meeting of high officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the 5th inst.

THE DAIGO CASE.

The first public hearing of the Daigo case took place in the Tokyo Local Court on the 5th instant. Anticipating a large attendance, the Court sat in the room generally used for hearings in appeal, but only some two hundred persons were present. Perhaps it may be necessary to recall the facts of this case to our readers. The arraignment is for murder, and the accused is Daigo Kakutaro, nephew of the late Marquis Daigo. He killed his uncle, the Marquis, shooting him with a revolver, and severely wounded his cousin, Miss Tame, daughter of the Marquis, who interfered in her father's defence. The Daigo is one of the old Kuge (court families), and has inherited the poverty which used to be the almost invariable lot of those houses in former times. Besides, the family seems to be more or less demoralized. There were no legitimate children in the last generation, nor are there any in this. The former Marquis Daigo—Daigo Chujun—had two sons, Chukoku and Chukei, both born out of wedlock. Under ordinary circumstances Chukoku would have inherited the title, but he showed an almost maniacal tendency to excesses of all kinds, and his father disinherited him in favour of Chukei. The disinherited man had two sons, Kakutaro and Kenjiro. On the 23rd of May, at 7 p.m., Kakutaro entered the room of his uncle Chukei, and shot him dead, wounding his daughter also, as already stated. The act was generally attributed to envy on Kakutaro's part because of his father's disinheritance in favour of his uncle, but Kakutaro's examination on the 5th instant suggests that the uncle, *i.e.* the murdered Marquis, was a man of great inhumanity. He showed unmerciful penuriousness towards his disinherited brother Chukoku, allowing him only 20 *sen* a day for maintenance and six *yen* a year for incidental expenses. Chukoku eked out this scanty pittance by domestic labour: he manufactured sandal-cords, selling them for 3 *sen* a score, and realizing a sum of about 10 *sen* per day. He was of course unable to allow his sons anything even approximately sufficient for their sustenance. The younger son, Kenjiro, went to the war as a transport coolie, and died in Formosa. His bones—we are quoting Kakutaro's statement in Court—were sent back to Japan, and lay for years in a store-house belonging to the Marquis who would not incur the expense of a funeral. Finally Kakutaro took them to Aoyama and buried them—a funeral procession of one. It is true that the Marquis himself was poor. His whole inherited property consisted of ten thousand *yen* invested in shares of the Fifteenth Bank. But the family had been granted by the Emperor thirty thousand *yen* at the time of the promulgation of the Constitution, the money being held by the Household Department, and a portion of the interest paid to the Marquis, whose annual income thus amounted to some fifteen hundred *yen*, perhaps. Kakutaro had incurred debts to the amount of nearly four hundred *yen*, though he claims that he never spent more than 40 or 50 *yen* of that amount. His position was desperate. His cousin Tame, whom he nearly killed, seems to have been of weak mind, for she had several times fallen into a state of melancholia, and once tried to stab herself to death. Kakutaro denied that he bore his uncle

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any grudge on account of the inheritance: that question had been settled before his (Kakutaro's) birth. But he declared that it had become impossible to him to endure any longer the sight of his father's wretched penury and his uncle's comparative opulence. It is a miserable story.

EXPENSES OF PROMOTION.

Undo-hi, or expenses of promotion, figure in the accounts of many Japanese enterprises. We have often looked at the item with curiosity, for, though it costs money to start the simplest undertaking, the amounts set down under the heading of *undo-hi* are generally too large to consist of mere travelling and correspondence expenses. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the money is usually spent upon entertainments in tea-houses, where men fare sumptuously and drink freely, to the accompaniment of music and dancing. Several thousands of *yen*, our contemporary thinks, were expended in that way by the agitators in the recent Kiushu-railway trouble. They do things very differently in England, according to the *Jiji*. There business and pleasure are kept severely separate. Two Japanese officials, for example, who went recently to London in connexion with the loan, had to endure an absolutely wearisome round of dining and wining before they started. There were parties of farewell, and parties of introduction and parties of congratulation, and at each party they met the same people, ate the same kind of viands, listened to the same music, and saw the same dancing girls. Their patience and their digestive organs were worn out before it was all over. But when, the loan having been concluded in London, they innocently invited the principal officials of the syndicate of banks to a party of felicitation, they were met at first with emphatic refusals, and barely achieved their purpose in the end by making it quite clear that a friendly leave-taking was their sole object, and that business had nothing to do with the matter. Englishmen will, perhaps, be surprised to learn that dinner parties play such a small part in their commercial, industrial, and political tactics, but we make no attempt to disturb our contemporary's verdict, for everything it can write against tea-house excesses is well written.

FRENCH EMBASSY AT THE VATICAN.

The telegraph tells us this morning that the Budget Commission sitting in Paris has suppressed the appropriation for the maintenance of the Republic's Embassy at the Vatican. That means, of course, that if Parliament endorses the Commission's action, the French Government will have to withdraw its Representative at the Court of the Supreme Pontiff, a step bearing most serious import. But there is at least a strong probability that the Commission's procedure will not obtain parliamentary approval. The proposals of the Commission do not bind the Chamber of Deputies in any way; and in view of the present composition of the Chamber, it is very likely to shrink from the consequences, certainly grave, of suppressing the Embassy of France at the Vatican.

RUSSIA IN KOREA.

Monday, Oct. 9.

Using double-leaded capitals, the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegraphic item sent by its special correspondent in Söul under date of the 6th instant. The correspondent says that the Russian Representative, acting under instructions from his Government, addressed the following communication to the Korean Government on the 4th instant:—"The Russian Government considers that the Masampo incident is attributable to a fault on the part of the local officials. Should Korea desire to avert any demands from Russia for land, she will do well to take care that no further sales of land are made to Japanese subjects. The Russian Government will not retire in the slightest degree from the position here assumed by it." Of course it is not possible to place any reliance on the wording of this message. Its import may have been conveyed, but surely in different language.

Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Russia's apparent renewal of activity in Korea is beginning to attract journalistic attention in Japan. The *Jiji Shimpo's* view is that she desires to acquire a naval station somewhere between Vladivostock and Liaotung, and that she has fixed her eyes on Masampo as the most favourable place. Her original idea was that it would be possible to acquire a footing there, without attracting any attention, by purchases of land apparently on private account. She would doubtless have been successful had she gone to work on a more liberal scale, but the prices offered did not tempt the Korean holders, and in the meanwhile some Japanese subjects intervened and bought the land over the heads of the Russians. The interesting question now is, what will Russia do? It is not her habit to tamely accept rebuffs in such matters, and, if an important project has to be achieved, she will find some means of accomplishing it. Our contemporary conceives that while England's hands are full with the Transvaal complication, Russia will seize the opportunity to find a *pied à terre* in the desired region. The fact that the British Navy will not be involved in the South African trouble does not appear very important to the *Jiji*. It thinks that England will none the less be too much occupied in the Occident to interfere actively in the Orient. After all it would seem that England is regarded as the potential saviour of the Far-Eastern situation.

Friday, Oct. 13.

When Akechi Mitsuhide revolted against his liege lord Nobunaga, it is said that his followers knew nothing of his intention until the moment of action. Mitsuhide had been ordered by Nobunaga to march to the relief of Hideyoshi. He set out at the head of a large body of troops, but suddenly *en route* he issued the instruction *teki wa Honnoji ni aru* (the foe is in the Honno temple), and, changing front, marched against Honno-ji, where Nobunaga, entirely unsuspicious, was sojourning with a few followers. Since that time the words *teki wa Honno-ji* have become a household saying in Japan to designate any proceeding which has a purpose different from that apparent on the surface. Russia's doings at Masampo are so designated at present. It is suggested that she no longer wants Masampo, but that she has successfully placed Korea between the devil and the deep blue sea. The Söul Government can not think of confiscating land which has already passed into Japanese possession, nor does Russia expect anything of the kind. On the other hand, the Great Northern Power must not be slighted. Thus we arrive at the inevitable "something else." A weak Oriental Power is most pleasantly treated nowa-days. *A* comes along and lops off one of its fingers. Then *B* arrives and wants to know why, if vivisection was on the *tapis*, *A* was allowed to get all the flesh. So it ends in an entreaty from the terrified weakling "Oh, for goodness' sake lop off another of my fingers and leave me my head." The finger to be lopped off on this occasion for the sake of equilibrium is said to be the island of Chöl-yöng-to, which lies between Tsushima and Fusan. Those of us who remember the extreme perturbation caused in Japan by England's occupation of Port Hamilton in 1885 can appreciate the effect that this rumour is likely to produce upon the Japanese.

IMPERIAL DONATIONS.

It will be remembered that the Emperor and Empress gave a sum of nine thousand *yen* for the relief of the sufferers by the typhoon of July in Kagoshima. Details of that disaster, as well as of sufferings caused by subsequent storms, have induced Their Majesties to supplement the gift by the following donations:—

	yen.
Kagoshima Prefecture	5 000
Hyogo Prefecture	4 500
Okayama Prefecture	4,300
Tokushima Prefecture	1,500
Kagawa Prefecture	6,700
Ehime Prefecture	1,600
Kochi Prefecture	6,000

These sums, added to the previous gift of 9,000 *yen*, make a total of 38,600 *yen*.

CRIME IN JAPAN.

In consequence of the more discriminating attitude adopted by the police and the Courts toward offenders against the law, a very perceptible diminution has taken place in the number of persons undergoing imprisonment. The following figures indicate the change:—

NUMBER OF PERSONS IMPRISONED.

	At close of August. 1899	At close of August. 1898.	Diminution.
Condemned	50 885	56,393	5 504
Awaiting Trial	5,815	10,645	4,827
In Houses of Correction	185	198	13
Detained under Supervision	1 005	1,723	718
Children in Arms	111	348	237
Totals	58,004	69,303	11,299

With regard to the persons detained under supervision, it should be explained that they are offenders who were originally sentenced to a period of police *surveillance* on the expiration of their term of imprisonment, but who, having no relatives or friends to be responsible for them, are detained in confinement, in separate cells, until the end of the *surveillance* period.

The Yokohama Tea Traders' Corporation held a private meeting on the 5th inst. on the question of the so-called middle men (*Nakatsugi*). The question was not settled, and will be discussed again at the general meeting.

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DISASTROUS STORM IN EASTERN JAPAN.

ITS ORIGIN AND PASSAGE.

Monday, Oct. 9.

The storm which swept over Tokyo and Yokohama on Saturday, Oct. 7th, had its origin, at a point in the neighbourhood of the Riukiu Islands. The depression declared itself first on the 4th instant, but showed a disposition to pass into the Pacific, and hopes were entertained that Japan might thus escape without any serious visitation. On the 6th, however, at 2 p.m., the centre began to move in a north-easterly direction, and it was then evident that these islands would be invaded. That night the centre reached Oshima, and on the 7th the storm swept into the south-eastern corner of Kiushu. Thenceforth, so far as we can now judge, it coasted alone the east of Kiushu and Shikoku, the centre probably following a maritime course, and only the skirt of the storm being felt on shore. But the curve of the main island brought it nearer the path of the depression's centre, and when the typhoon, after crossing from Shikoku, struck the shore again in the neighbourhood of Hamada, the wind and the rain were exceedingly violent. All along the eastern coast the effects were felt very severely. Rain fell in torrents—from 50 to 100 millimetres in 8 hours—, and the storm developed hurricane force at Ishigaki, Nafa, Oshima, Kagoshima, Kochi, Matsuyama, Hamada, and Nemuro. The heaviest fall of rain was recorded at Shio-no-misaki, 406 m.m. from first to last, and the record ran as follows for other places:—Tsu, 194 m.m.; Yokosuka, 175 m.m.; Wakayama, 174; Choshi, 151 m.m.; Hamamatsu, 146 m.m.; Numazu, 144 m.m.; Tokushima, 141 m.m.; Yokohama, 138 m.m.

IN TOKYO.

In Tokyo the atmospheric disturbance commenced with heavy rain during the night of the 4th and 5th, which continued without intermission but with varying violence until the 7th, when, at 11 a.m., a transitory blink of sunshine relieved the monotony of the downpour, only to be followed by sheets of water, evidently indicating the near approach of the storm. The Central Observatory had issued a warning that morning to the effect that the gale would visit Tokyo during the day, that the weather would probably mend in the evening, and that on the 8th instant (Sunday) fine, clear autumn skies might be expected. This prediction was fulfilled with singular accuracy. At about one o'clock in the afternoon, the wind, which throughout the three preceding days had been blowing steadily but lightly from the north east, veered towards the south-east, and began to blow in heavy gusts, the mercury falling rapidly until the extraordinarily low reading of 723 m.m. was reached. The wind now began to veer from south east to north-west, passing by the east, and when it reached the north-westerly point of the compass, at 3 p.m., it developed tremendous force. Happily this extreme phase did not last more than 20 minutes, and then a belt of clear sky began to show itself in the west, broadening steadily until Fuji-yama and the O-yama range stood silhouetted against the sky with extraordinary sharpness. The city suffered a good deal in the matter of fences and telegraph poles; a few houses were partially unroofed, and here and there uncompleted buildings were levelled like a pack of cards.

The police returns show that sixty-six houses were overthrown in Tokyo by the gale on the 8th instant; nine hundred and twenty-three were injured and eighteen telegraph poles were overthrown. These figures do not signify as much in fact as they suggest numerically. The storm was not sufficiently violent to overthrow any buildings except those of the very flimsiest description, as fuel-sheds, temporary out-houses or partially constructed edifices, and inasmuch as a fallen fence is included in the category of "houses injured" a mere statement of numbers has little value. In the Fukuzawa suburb, however, considerable loss appears to have been caused. The storehouses of the Tokyo Soko-gaisha, the Chiugai Soko-gaisha, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and also the ward store known as Hoyen-gura were partially inundated, and quantities of rice and *shimekasu* (fish manure) received a wetting.

THE RAILWAY DAMAGE.

The worst casualty happened on the Japan Railway's line. A train which started from Uyeno at 11 a.m. going north, passed Utsunomiya safely, but happened to be crossing the iron bridge over the Hoki-gawa just as the gale developed its greatest force. This bridge, which is situated between Yaita and Nozaki, has a length of 1044 feet, and the river, though of small dimensions under ordinary circumstances, had been considerably swollen by the rains. The train, from its exposed position on the bridge, could not resist the pressure of the wind. The locomotive, owing to its greater weight, crossed safely, but all the carriages were tumbled into the bed of the stream, their coupling with the locomotive being severed. Twenty-three passengers had booked at Uyeno for places northward of Utsunomiya, and it is estimated that, including those who entered the carriages at intermediate stations, there must have been at least a hundred people on the train at the moment of the accident. On the following day, news reached Tokyo, that two persons had been killed and thirty injured. Gangs of workmen were despatched speedily from Utsunomiya, and the passengers were rescued and cared for speedily. By the 6 p.m. train from Uyeno, a number of surgeons, nurses, and assistants, together with various appliances, were sent by special train to the scene of the disaster, and the Company announced that free passage would be given to all relatives and friends desiring to proceed to the place.

THE TOKAIDO.

The Tokaido Railway has of course suffered. At a point beyond Numazu the sea swept in with such violence that the rails were torn up for a distance of 20 chains, and the ballast was washed away through a still greater length. So tremendous was the invasion of water at Kashiwabara that the descriptions speak of it as a tidal wave. Over ten people are reported to have suffered injuries. The English mail on its way to Yokohama from Kobe is still detained somewhere along the line, though it was due to arrive early on Sunday morning.

Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Varying accounts are given as to the casualties caused by the disaster at the Hoki-gawa railway bridge. On Sunday, it was believed in Tokyo that only two persons had been killed and thirty injured. But subsequent intelligence swelled these numbers, and it is to be feared that at least eleven lives have been lost and twenty-eight persons injured. There is talk of fifty more who are supposed to have perished, as their whereabouts can not be ascertained. It is scarcely conceivable, however, that so many bodies could have been swept away by the river, which is comparatively shallow at the place where the accident occurred. Thus there is a strong probability that the corpses recovered from the wreckage represent the total fatalities. The train was composed of a locomotive and eighteen carriages, eight of them being passenger cars and ten, goods waggons. It would appear that the disaster may be approximately attributed to the first class carriage — there was only one. Its place was at the head of the other passenger cars, and, being very light, with its freight of a single passenger, it proved unequal to withstanding the pressure of the wind, and, leaving the rails, toppled over into the river. Its coupling with the locomotive broke, and the latter continued its journey unharmed, but the carriages immediately behind the first-class car were dragged down with it. They did not fall in a bunch, however. Those in front fell clear of each other, and those behind were piled up so that the lowest suffered as much from the super-incumbent weight as from the fall. This manner of falling, disastrous as it proved to the cars thus huddled together, saved the cars at the back, for, as the distance that each fell was diminished, the strain on the couplings grew less, and thus the last section of the train remained partly on the line and partly entangled in the girders of the bridge. The fall was not very great, only 18 feet, for the bridge, though 1,040 feet long, does not pass high above the surface of the river. Under ordinary circumstances the bed of the Hoki consists of a waste of boulders with a small stream flowing in the middle, but the heavy rains of the 6th and 7th instant, had caused a spate. Still there was not more than a foot of water at the place where some of the carriages fell, and nowhere did the river itself constitute a source of serious danger. The bridge has 14 spans, averaging about 70 feet each, and is supported on brick pillars. The accident occurred just as the locomotive had entered the seventh span, so that it may be said to have happened mid-way. There is a disposition to hold the Railway people responsible, but how they could have been expected to provide against such a disaster we do not see. The extraordinarily sudden development of the storm's violence was a contingency not to be anticipated. We read in Japanese journals that the passengers who escaped injury showed great fortitude and assiduityin succouring the wounded and rescuing those imprisoned in the cars. Ample provision of medical and hospital aid was soon furnished.

A telegram received since the above was written says that fourteen corpses have been recovered, and that two of the wounded have died. It is further stated that three foreigners are missing. They were certainly in the first-class carriage when the train left Utsunomiya, and

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nothing has been heard of them since. According to the view entertained in the best informed quarters, there was no reason whatever to apprenend danger when the train set out from Utsunomiya. The wind was then blowing from a point a little east of north; in other words, it was nearly dead ahead. But just as the train approached the Hoki River, a sudden shift of the wind to the west took place. This immediately led to the closing of the windows of the first and second class carriages on the side exposed to the storm, which proceeding necessarily augmented the danger.

At Oiso.

The effects of the storm were felt with extreme violence at Oiso and Koiso, but most of the damage caused seems to have been due to the sea, which rose to such a height as to sweep everything before it. The Tōryu-kan, which is the chief lodging-house in Oiso, had three of its rooms demolished by the waves. Six persons who were viewing the spectacle from the building were overwhelmed by the débris, two of them being crushed to death and the other four wounded more or less severely. Many of the villas in the neighbourhood had their stone fences destroyed. A small steamer, the *Umezawara Maru*, was lost, and out of 14 persons on board 2 perished.

The above was all the intelligence available on Sunday night but numerous telegrams received during Monday show that the disasters caused by the sea were very serious. Summing up these various messages, the news amounts to this:—On the afternoon of the 7th instant, at about 3.30 o'clock, a wave estimated to have been about 25 feet high, invaded the Tago-no-ura region, devastating the following districts:—Mayeda-shinden, Tago, Nakamaru, and Sameshima. In the Moto-Yoshiwara regions the districts devastated were Tanaka shinden, Suzukawa and Kashiwa-mura; and in the Imaido region, Mayeda-shinden, (there appear to be two districts of this name) and Shinhama. Fifty-three persons were killed, 36 severely injured, and 150 slightly injured. The wave piled up such a quantity of sand at the mouth of the Numa River, that the river was dammed up, and overflowed its banks, producing an inundation of large dimensions. The Suzukawa railway station is under water with the exception of the roof. Several houses were, of course, swept away and many others invaded by the flood. The local officials collected a band of a thousand men, and set to work vigorously to clear a sea-ward passage for the river. They toiled all through Sunday night by torch-light.

The high-road over Satta Pass is completely destroyed, and a considerable length of the railway beyond Suzu-kawa is under water. The train which left Numazu for Hamamatsu at 3.20 p.m. on the 7th ran right into the flood, which now forms a huge lake at a point along the line about 95 miles from Tokyo, between Suzukawa and Iwabuchi. The driver was fortunately able to take the train back to Numazu without accident. There were about 500 soldiers in the carriages, reliefs bound for Kobe whence they were to embark for Formosa. They are now waiting in Numazu until the line becomes passable—an event the date of which can not yet be predicted—, and the troops just returned from Formosa, in whose place they were to proceed to the island, are similarly detained in Kobe.

About 200 boats were wrecked at Numazu, and a quantity of fishing nets destroyed. Five or six fishermen were injured in attempting to save the nets.

A villa at Oiso, which Viscount Oki Morikata recently purchased from Mr. Imamura Seinosuke, was levelled with the ground. The villa of the Prince Imperial at Numazu escaped with scarcely any damage. Baron Ozawa's villa had a large part of its grounds swept away. At Dzushi, Mr. Mitchell's villa, as well as several other foreign-owned residences, was invaded by the sea.

No serious casualties at sea have yet been reported. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, while *en route* from Yokkaichi to Yokohama, experienced the full force of the gale, and met with an injury to her propellor. She put into Shimizu. The *Fushiki Maru*, from Kobe to Yokohama, had a dusting and the Captain was badly knocked about.

The great wave was felt in Chiba Prefecture also. Fifty houses were swept away, 90 injured, and the casualties to life and limb were 2 killed and 5 wounded.

Wednesday, Oct. 11.

The latest intelligence up to Tuesday forenoon from the scene of the disaster at the Hoki-gawa Bridge puts the total number of casualties at 81, but does not distinguish between fatalities and injuries. Another account, however, which is apparently trustworthy, alleges that, up to 2 p.m. on the 9th instant, 18 dead bodies had been recovered and that forty wounded persons were receiving treatment. This account adds that 10 escaped without injury. If the figures be correct, it is to be feared that the list of casualties will grow, for only 68 persons are thus accounted for out of the whole train-load. There is a strong disposition in some quarters to hold the Railway Authorities responsible. The Chief Judge of the Local Peace Court, at whose instance a public procurator visited the scene, has expressed the opinion that the couplings were bad, and that the distribution of the cars was also injudicious. The heavy baggage-waggons, which remained on the line and did not meet with any accident, were all grouped together instead of being distributed among the passenger cars. He claims, too, that due precautions were not observed as to slackening speed. Doubtless an investigation will be held. There never yet occurred a railway catastrophe that did not suggest accusations of this nature.

It is alleged that thirty summer-residences on the sea-shore near Suzukawa were swept away by the waves on the 7th instant, and that fifty persons are missing.

At Tago-no-ura the missing number forty-four, and thirteen bodies have been recovered. Forty-six wounded persons are now receiving treatment in the village school. Two hundred and twenty houses are said to have been destroyed, and a hundred and thirty suffered injury. Fifteen hundred acres of arable land were inundated, and out of three hundred and thirty fishing boats, two hundred and ninety-nine were destroyed.

At Odawara two lives were lost and sixty-two persons were injured; at Nebukawa-mura there was one fatal casualty; at Kamakura five persons were injured, and at Kanazawa twenty boats were wrecked and forty houses inundated.

Thursday, Oct. 12.

The disasters caused by the storm on the 7th instant continue to attract much attention. Only nineteen bodies have been recovered from the wreck of the train which fell into the Hoki River, and there seems to be little probability of the number's being increased. Unless, therefore, some bodies have been carried away by the stream, which appears very unlikely, it may be assumed that the tale of deaths is now fully told.

There have been some inaccuracies in the descriptions hitherto published. The length of the bridge has been stated to be 1,040 feet, but it now appears that the true figure is 470. The bed of the stream, that is to say, the total area through which the water has from time to time made its way, is 1,040 feet. What many people are now asking is why the road-way was not furnished with guards. It seems rather like the wisdom that follows the event, but since the Chief Public Procurator of Utsunomiya is understood to have raised the point in the prosecution inaugurated by him, the Company's engineers will have an opportunity of defending their views in open Court. It must be confessed that in the interests of nervous travellers these guardless bridges are not at all desirable, but whether a guard would have prevented the accident on the 7th instant we do not pretend to offer any opinion. As to the question of the speed at which the train was travelling, that too will be for the experts to determine. The most serious feature of the affair, so far as our judgment goes, is the distribution of the carriages. Here, too, we find that the early accounts were inaccurate. They spoke of the locomotive alone having escaped, and said that its coupling with the car immediately behind had parted. But the accounts now published show that the train was composed of 10 goods-vans, all of which were attached behind the engine, and of 8 passenger-cars which formed the latter part of the train. The goods-waggons, without exception, remained on the line, whereas the whole of the passenger cars were either precipitated into the river or dragged to the edge of the bridge. It is a fair presumption that, had the freight cars been placed at intervals throughout the train, their weight would have supplied the necessary stability. Their grouping all together at the front is said to have been a violation of the regulations. If the suit instituted by the Public Procurator succeeds, the families of the killed and of the wounded survivors will doubtless institute proceedings against the Company. The *Jiji Shimpo* urges the Directors to take the initiative by presenting handsome donations to the injured and the relatives of the dead. A hundred thousand *yen* would probably suffice, and to a Company with a capital of 44¾ million *yen*, a sum of a hundred thousand should seem small when such a purpose is in view.

Tokyo, it seems, was threatened for a moment with a serious disaster. Near Omiya in Saitama Prefecture the waters of the Tone River are restrained by an embankment called the *Gongendo no Suibo*. It is a celebrated work, completed more than a hundred years ago. Prior to the erection of this big dyke, a heavy flood in the Tone meant that a great part

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of Shimosa was converted into a lake, and the citizens in the north and east of Yedo (Tokyo) had to take to boats. It was during such a flood in the days of the third Tokugawa *Shogun*, Iyemitsu, that the celebrated feat of Abe Tadaaki occurred—the crossing of the Sumida on horseback. Since the building of the dyke the capital has enjoyed immunity from similar disasters, but it is well understood that, were the dyke to burst, the city would fare ill. The immense rainfall of the 5th, 6th, and 7th swelled the river to such an extent that the condition of the dyke suggested uneasiness. Fortunately the local officials of Saitama Prefecture lost not a moment in collecting a squad of 2,400 labourers, and by their exertions all danger was averted.

It may reasonably be hoped that there is no truth in the suggestion that three foreigners were inmates of the first-class car precipitated into the Hoki River. The statement has not been repeated, and nothing whatever has been heard of the supposed victims. The two Chinamen also have now dwindled to one. He is said to have been a very big man, and even his costume is described. But what can have become of him? The probability is that he had already left the train, if, indeed, he was ever in it.

News from Tago-no-ura, dated 10 a.m. on the 10th instant, puts the number of the dead at 50, and that of the severely injured at 70. A vigorous search is still in progress. Twenty-five bodies have been exhumed from the mountains of sand piled up by the wave, but it is feared that a great many unfortunate people were swept out to sea. Accounts vary as to the height of the wave. Some put it at 30 feet, some at 20.

The section of the Tokaido Railway between Numazu and Iwabuchi can not possibly be restored to working condition before the 13th instant, it is said. Meanwhile people going from Tokyo to Kyoto, have to proceed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers to Yokkaichi, and there take the Kwansei line. Of course the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is profiting by the interruption of land communications. The *Tamba Maru*, which started from Yokohama on the 10th, had to refuse 60 passengers; the *Kobe Maru*, which sailed on the 11th, had to refuse 40, and the *Yawata Maru* was crowded.

The work of freeing the mouth of the Usui River from the mountains of sand and shingle piled up there during the typhoon on the 7th instant is proceeding vigorously, but no signal success has thus far been attained. A force of a thousand labourers was organized by the localities, and the men have been toiling day and night. On the 10th they had cut a small channel for the river, but no appreciable effect was produced on the great volume of water that had been dammed back by the action of the sea. The Governor of Shizuoka applied for assistance to the officer commanding the Nagoya garrison, and a battalion of sappers, 410 strong, was despatched to the scene on the 10th instant.

YOKOHAMA'S EXPERIENCES.

Yokohama fortunately escaped the full force of the typhoon on Saturday afternoon, but nevertheless the wind was quite violent enough to do some damage in the harbour, especially among the smaller yachts. During the heavy rain of Thursday and Friday the wind, what there was of it, was from the north, and the temperature was chilly. On Saturday morning however, it began to veer round to the South East, and by 11 o'clock there was quite a gale blowing from that quarter gradually work round to nearly due south. The temperature rose rapidly, so rapidly indeed that in the space of five minutes there was a change from comparative cold to the atmosphere of a hot-house. Shop windows were coated with condensed vapour, and the sudden heat and the oppression of the lungs were almost painful. The wind momentarily increased in violence, blowing first in gusts, and then steadily till it reached typhoon force at 2 p.m., when the glass stood at 28 66. By 2.30 there was a further fall to 28 40; at 3 p.m the glass was at 28.36, and at 3.30 p.m. at 28 30.

While it lasted the force of the wind was terrific and the scene in the harbour, especially outside the defence works, was remarkable. Great seas were rolling up over the break water, and the spray hid from view the American telegraph survey steamer and the more distant shipping.

THE "TONKIN" IN PERIL.

About half-past three the most serious incident of the storm occurred. The French mail steamer *Tonkin* was lying on the southern side of the pier instead of at the usual berth on the northern side. She was made fast with hemp cables fastened to iron stanchions on the pier, but the tremendous strain to which the wind subjected her caused the vessel to snap the stout steel bollards like carrots and she found herself adrift and at the mercy of the wind. Two anchors were put out, but these the liner dragged, and she commenced to drift sideways towards the southern breakwater. Her position was, indeed, very perilous, for no steam was up, as we believe some repairs were being effected to the machinery at the time. Fortunately she avoided collision with the sailing ship *Columbia*, and, though narrowly, with a Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer; finally she bore down on the Hamburg America steamer *Serbia*. Fortunately, a line was here put out and the *Tonkin* was secured, but she was perilously close to the breakwater when brought up, and had the wind continued at its full force she might easly have been dashed to pieces in her helpless condition. As it is she suffered very little damage. Her condition appeared so serious to the master of the *John Sanderson*, who, being close by, was naturally in a better position to judge than watchers on shore, that he had taken steps to have his life boats out in case of the worst happening.

Though the M.M. steamer *Tonkin* escaped without damage the *Serbia*, did not come off so well. She was struck by the *Tonkin's* stem abreast of No. 1 hatchway, and then further aft abreast of the fore rigging. The top sheer plate at the upper gangway was crushed in at the top margin, the deck stringer plate was bulged, and the angle iron bent, so that the cement and the girder bracket stay to the bulwark came away and started the rivets at the heel and bulwark plating. At the second blow abreast of the fore rigging the top rail bent, starting and bending two bulwark stay rivets and cement. The same blow struck the second plate below the sheer plate bulging it in on each side of the No. 2 bulkhead, starting many rivets on each side of the vertical rivetting, also on the upper edge of No. 3 plate. The whole damage will be satisfactorily repaired before the steamer leaves port.

YACHTS DAMAGED.

Havoc was wrought among the smaller yachts. The *Nita* (12 rater) filled and capsized early in the afternoon. *Surprise* afterwards got loose from her moorings and went adrift, fouling the *Abunai*, and the two drifted on till they came to the 12 raters *Shamrock* and *Titania*, which they sank. The authors of this mischief then separated, and *Abunai* ran into the *Stella* and carried away her mainmast, while the *Surprise* discovered an affinity for Mr. Owston's new 21 rater yacht, the *Kodesu*, which she sank. The *Surprise* then went off towards the breakwater; but fortunately she pulled up a few yards from it. Mr. Clausen's *Wettinge* also took a trip in the same direction, but was fortunately not precipitated on the breakwater. The *Nita* was swamped, and the *Eclair* had a narrow escape. The large boats, *Yamato Damashii* and *Wanderer*, both dragged, and in fact so did almost every boat in the fleet. The actual damage, however, will probably not prove to be very great.

FLOODS IN YOKOHAMA.

The incessant three days' which preceded the storm caused floods in China Town and the lower-lying parts of the Japanese city. In some places the water was knee deep.

BAROMETRICAL READINGS.

The following are the barometrical readings, furnished by Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt:—

6th Oct.	9 p.m.	758 5	29 86
Midnight		757	29 80
7th Oct.	2 a.m.	755 5	29 74
	4 ,,	753·5	29 66
	6 ,,	752	29 60
	8 ,,	748.5	29 46
	9 ,,	746	29 37
	10 ,,	745	29 33
	11 ,,	742 5	29 21
	Noon.	739	29 09
	1 p m.	735	28 93
	2 ,,	728	28 66
	3 ,,	720 5	28 36
	3 30 ,,	719	28 30
	3·50 ,,	727	28 62
	4.00 ,,	730	28 74
	4.20 ,,	733	28 85

Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt have also very courteously favoured us with a copy of the record showing the barometrical and thermometrical readings from Sept. 30th to Oct. 9th inclusive. The former chart shows a gradual rise from 6 p.m. on the 30th, when the glass stood at 755, to 10 a.m. on the 4th when 767 was reached. After this it fell gradually till about 10 p.m. on the 6th, when 758 was regained, and from that time it continued to fall rapidly. An increasingly steep curve is thenceforward indicated till about 3 30 on the 7th (Saturday), when it reached 719 and the mercury began to rise again even more abruptly than it had fallen. Between 3.30 and and 6 p.m. it jumped from 719 to 739; at midnight it was 749. The following is the temperature record.

		C.	F.
6/10/99	9 00 p.m.	17	62
	Midnight	17	62
7/10/99	2.00 a.m.	17	62
	4 00 ,, ...	17	62
	6 00 ,, ...	17	62
	8 00 ,, ...	17.5	63
	9 00 ,, ...	17.5	63
	10 00 ,, ...	17.7	63 5
	11 00 ,, ...	17.7	63.5
	noon	22	71.5
	1.00 p m.	22	71.5
	2 00 ,, ...	22	71 5
	3 00 ,, ...	22	71.5
	3 30 ,, ...	22	71.5
	3 50 ,, ...	22	71.5
	4.00 ,, ...	21	70
	4.20 ,, ...	21	70

MARQUIS ITO ON THE TWO QUESTIONS OF THE TIME.

Marquis Ito thinks that the Transvaal War will be a troublesome business for England, as the Boers are stubborn fighters and good marksmen. That opinion was delivered to a representative of the *Chuo Shimbun*. His Excellency supplemented it by saying that England must feel badly when she finds herself defied by a petty State like the Transvaal, and is obliged to make extensive military preparations for its subjection. But, after all, strength in war does not depend merely upon military resources, in the ordinary sense of the term: it depends also upon circumstances. No one knows better than Marquis Ito

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what efforts are involved in equipping a strong military force and despatching it to a distant country. Besides, these things are done now-a-days on a much more extensive scale than was the case in former times. England sent only twenty-seven thousand men to invade the Crimea; France sent thirty thousand, and Turkey sent six thousand. England alone is sending fifty thousand now to South Africa. It will stand on record as the biggest military expedition despatched over-sea in the history of the world; and without the resources of modern science the feat would be impossible. What makes such preparations necessary is the nature of the country where the campaign will take place. If the Boers and the Free-Staters are wisely directed, they will set for England's forces the task of capturing a succession of entrenched positions defended by fine marksmen and by efficient artillery. Even in the times when weapons of precision had not been carried to anything like their present perfection, it used to a maxim of military men that a force attacking a strongly entrenched position ought to treble the force defending it. What the ratio should be now-a-days there have been no practical tests to determine, but it is certain that arms of precision have augmented the capacities for defence more than they have increased the potentialities of attack in land fighting. There is no reason to doubt that the Boers and Free-Staters can together put into the field an army of some thirty thousand men. Their weak point will be the difficulty of keeping up their strength. Whence are they to draw fresh levies? Each man that falls will leave a permanent vacancy in the ranks, for their first musters, if they be of the magnitude here supposed, will virtually exhaust the available men.

Marquis Ito further thinks that the Dreyfus affair is a dead issue. France has put it aside, and will now resume the even tenor of her life. The French are a singular people. While their armies were fighting for the nation's life in the great war, the citizens of Paris went to the theatre as usual, and laughed at farces or cried over tragedies just as though no world-moving incidents were occurring in real life. They will lay the Dreyfus affair upon the shelf with equal nonchalance. It is indeed that wonderful elasticity of temperament that constitutes such an element of strength in the character of the French. Nothing crushes them. They rise from stupendous misfortunes as though a plunge in the waves of adversity invigorated rather than choked them, and they emerge with smiling countenances from crises that would carve permanent wrinkles on the brows of a less buoyant people. Perennial youth is a grand gift.

TOKYO STREET RAILWAY.

At its meeting on the 7th instant, the Tokyo City Council decided several important points with regard to the Street Railways. Having voted that the enterprise should be left to private hands, the Council passed the following resolutions:—(1) That after the Company has paid a dividend of 6 per cent., and appropriated a sufficient sum for its reserves, one half of its remaining net profits shall be paid to the Municipality. (2) That it must keep the streets in perfect order for a distance of 18 inches on either side of the rails. (3) That single lines must not be laid in streets of less than 36 feet width, or double lines in streets of less than 48 feet. If it is desired to lay lines in narrower streets, special application must be made. (4) That the charter shall be for 30 years, after which the city shall have the right to purchase the lines at their market value. (5) That the Company shall fix the fares, subject to the approval of the City Assembly. (6) That the work must be commenced within 6 months and finished within 5 years.

The Council then proceeded to consider the question of motive power. Mr. Hoshi Toru moved that as the matter was under investigation by experts of the Home Office, a decision by the Council had better be postponed, but his motion was rejected, and the meeting decided that either electricity or compressed air must be used.

AMERICANS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Manila correspondent of the *Tokyo Asahi* continues to write strongly about the conduct of the United States troops in the Philippines, and about the bad relations existing between them and the Japanese. As to the former point he does not enter into any details, but confines himself to general accusations. He declares that discipline is at a discount, that General Otis has lost his reputation and ceased to be able to obtain respect for his authority, and that, although a police force of 250 men has been organized, it is powerless to preserve order. Japanese, he goes on to say, are regarded with most unfriendly eyes. Nakamura, who was arrested some time ago, is still detained in prison, although no proof against him is forthcoming, and an attempt recently made to wreck a train by means of dynamite was at once attributed to the Japanese, in spite of the utter groundlessness of the suspicion. The *Manila Times* lends its columns to foster the ill-feeling against the Japanese, whom it accuses of wanting to fight for the sake of fighting, and of being quite indifferent to the exceptionally friendly relations existing between the Governments in Tokyo and Washington. Probably these statements are exaggerated, but it is well to hear all sides of a story.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND ITS ASSAILANTS.

The journalistic attack upon Viscount Aoki continues. The *Asahi* says that the people are tired of "nothing." They want something. To be in a state of *pas d'incident* is not to their taste. Apparently our contemporary conceives that a sensation should be provided for them. It suggests the Masampo incident and the Ulneung incident. And then, having, in effect, accused the Foreign Office of not manufacturing some puppet to dance for the people's diversion, it turns round, with exquisite naïveté, and charges the Foreign Office with being merely a place for playing with arguments. To play with international crises would be wiser, no doubt. The *Nippon*, which is devoting its whole strength to this campaign, thinks that deference is paid to the feelings of strong nations only, and that the weak receive no consideration. It supports its contention by reference to Sŏng-chin, in Korea, where the cenotaph of Confucius was removed to make room for a Japanese Consulate, and to Amoy, where a Chinese cemetery was desecrated to procure a site for a Japanese Settlement. The *Yomiuri* falls back on the Thursday Island affair. It is so blindly determined to attack the Minister that it will not read the Treaties. Queensland, in acceding to the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty, obtained a protocol the first Article of which says:—"The stipulations contained in the first and third Articles of the above-named Treaty shall not in any way affect the laws, ordinances and regulations with regard to trade, the immigration of labourers and artizans, police, and public security, which are in force or may hereafter be enacted in Japan or in the said Colony of Queensland." In other words, Queensland expressly reserved to herself the right of legislating as she pleased for the restriction of immigration, yet the *Yomiuri* would persuade its readers that Viscount Aoki should have been able to prevent Queensland from exercising the right! All this does not suggest very serious journalism.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

Count Kabayama's eight-years' programme of educational development has had a chequered career up to the present. At one moment the public were told that it had been finally shelved; at another they learned that it had only been deferred. The latest intelligence about it is that the Cabinet has definitely endorsed it, the financial arrangement being, however, slightly modified. No demand is to be made upon the Treasury next year. The sums subscribed by the localities will alone be employed for the establishment of two additional middle Schools. From the year 1901, however, and thence forward during a period of seven years, the Treasury will make appropriations aggregating six million *yen* in all. Mr. Hirata, President of the Legislative Bureau, is said to have been instrumental in effecting this arrangement. It is not a very extensive programme, but it will tend to ease the pressure now felt in the field of education.

In the graduation examinations at the Imperial University last July, 315 candidates were plucked out of 754. The *Kokumin* has been making inquiries into the cause of this remarkable ratio of failures to successes, and has arrived at the conclusion that defective knowledge of foreign languages is chiefly responsible. The students can neither read foreign books intelligently nor follow the lectures delivered in a foreign language, and they thus approach their examinations in a very poorly equipped condition. It is a signal and unhappy change. Formerly graduates of the Imperial University enjoyed the reputation of being exceptionally proficient in foreign languages—English, German, and French—, and their rapid advance in the various walks of life espoused by them was mainly due to that cause. But now they seem likely to fall very far below the old standard. We ourselves have long been prepared to hear this complaint formulated. It is one of the signs that we interpreted some time ago as indicating a distinct lapse from the progress formerly made by Japan. Foreign languages are taught in numerous

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schools throughout the Empire, but the teachers are Japanese. We have made the acquaintance of many of them during the past fifteen or twenty years, and we must frankly say that we have never met one who was qualified to teach any foreign language. It is extravagant to imagine that any Japanese possessing a really sound knowledge of an European tongue would think of embracing a career so miserable as that of a teacher in an elementary or middle school. Incomparably better opportunities offer in other professions for a man so equipped. It results that at a time when the student's mind is most receptive and his ear most impressionable, he acquires a parodical smattering of some foreign language, and when for the first time in the University he listens to a lecture delivered in English, French, or German, the poor fellow hears with bewilderment and chagrin a tongue the idiom of which is almost as strange to him as its sound. No one, we imagine, underrates the difficulties with which the Japanese have to contend in this matter. They cannot afford either to procure foreign teachers or to offer salaries that will attract their own good men. But why, under such circumstances, do the Authorities deliberately lend themselves to a policy which inevitably tends to annihilate private education? And why do they endeavour to rule the missionary out of the sphere of education?

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has two able articles advocating a complete remodelling of the school system. These articles are written in our contemporary's usually admirable style—lucid, well reasoned, and facile. But it must suffice that we refer in the briefest terms to their gist; which is that, according to the present educational methods of Japan, a student does not find himself equipped for any practical purpose unless his scholastic career is extended as far as the University. The knowledge acquired in the primary, middle, and upper schools is fragmentary. He receives a smattering of instruction in numerous subjects, but does not carry any one of them far enough to turn his acquaintance with it to practical account. Our contemporary suggests that a drastic reform should be undertaken in the sense of altering the curriculum at each kind of school so that, even though a youth can not push his studies beyond a primary school, or a middle school, he shall still find that he has garnered practically useful knowledge in certain subjects. Mathematics, the *Nichi Nichi* thinks, should be the chief subject of study in the elementary schools, and foreign languages the principal item of instruction in the middle schools.

THE "NIPPON" ON RUSSIA.

The *Nippon* observes Russia's proceedings in Korea with considerable uneasiness. The concessions secured in connexion with whale fisheries, the acquisition of a lease of Ulneung Island, the purchase of land at Fusan, and the apparently determined attempt to procure property at Masampo—all these incidents constitute, in our contemporary's opinion, valid evidence that the Great Northern Power is pushing for another port in southern seas. The *Nippon* recalls the history of the past four years, which includes such events as Japan's extrusion from Liaotung at Russia's instance; the subsequent occupation of the place by Russia herself; the scheme of railway construction in Manchuria; the convention with Japan; the proposal to establish a service between Vladivostock, Talien, and Port Arthur by means of a line of splendid steamers, and now the effort to obtain a half-way house in Korea. It is a story with an easily discernible moral, and the tone of extreme moderation adopted by the *Nippon* in writing about it suggests that our generally frank contemporary is in a particularly grave mood.

A RUSSIAN ENTERPRISE.

It is stated that a large Russian Company is to be formed for the purpose of establishing connections between Vladivostock, Port Arthur, and the Manchurian railways. The Company will be called the Eastern Maritime Steamship Company, and its first step will be to organize a steamship service from Vladivostock to Port Arthur. The head of the Chemulpo branch of the concern is quoted as saying that the relations between the Company and the East China Railway Company will be of the closest kind, and that possibly the two may have their capital in common. There will be a large measure of Government aid, and the Siberia Company is to be absorbed into the new enterprise. Ten steamers are spoken of for the maritime service.

GOLD IN HOKKAIDO.

There is no longer any room to question the fact that gold in considerable quantities is being found in Hokkaido. The locality is the extreme north of Teshio province in the neighbourhood of Soya Cape. It is called Esashi—not, however, the well-known port of the same name, also in Hokkaido. We can not learn how the existence of the precious metal was originally discovered, but undoubtedly it is there in paying quantities, and numbers of diggers are trying their fortune. On the 19th of August a police inspector proceeded from Wakanai to the locality. The miners, of whom the great bulk had no licence, obtained news of his coming and fled into the hills. They are said to be very skilful in evading pursuit, but it is scarcely conceivable that any very resolute efforts have been made to capture them. Peichin is plainly one of the richest spots hitherto found. Twelve hundred and eighty persons received permits to work there between May 2nd and August 27th on condition of paying from 2 *momme* to 3 *momme* of gold monthly; that is to say, from 10 to 15 *yen* approximately. At Pankenai the charge for a permit is only 1.2 *momme*. Nineteen hundred and seven permits were taken out originally at the latter place, but the successes achieved must have been comparatively small, for only 167 diggers remain at work. Taikio and Omoroshu are also mentioned, 652 persons having obtained claims at the former place and 170 at the latter. Concerning the successes achieved, we read that a company of twelve men—the Mori-gumi—took out 1 *kwan* 600 *momme* of gold—13½ lbs.—in fifteen days, and nuggets are spoken of weighing from 21 *momme* to 134 *momme*—1,218 grs. to 777.2 grs. The place is regarded as a second Klondyke.

THE SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The public will be much pleased to learn that the School of the Morning Star has obtained official recognition. This admirable institution has hitherto laboured under the fatal disadvantage of not being recognised by the Authorities, and consequently not enjoying the privilege of its students' exemption from conscription, or their enjoyment of the other important rights resulting from official sanction. We consider it a distinct gain to the cause of education in Japan that a school incomparably the most highly equipped in the empire, should now be allowed to assume the place and play the part properly belonging to it.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There has been another arrival of a Korean assassin at Nagasaki, it is said. In the days of Kim Ok-kyun and Pak Yong-ho, a gentleman called I Il-sik was sent to do away with the latter. He not only failed in his attempt, but was seized by his intended victim and handed over to the police. It is this person's son, I Si-sik, who now comes to Japan with a similar mission, and he is to kill I Chung-yong and An Kei-ju (we do not know the Korean pronounciation of An's second name). The story is that the new chief of police in Söul, Kim Yŏng-chung, has despatched I upon this sanguinary quest, being anxious to distinguish his accession to office by a *coup* which would be welcome to his Sovereign. It can not be supposed that all these rumours of itinerant assassins are untrue.

The *Morgan City*, which ran aground in Miura Bay, on September 4th, was nearly floated by a party of workers despatched from the Mitsu Bishi Dock in Nagasaki. The work commenced on September 12th, and the ship had been raised so that her deck was awash when some dispute occurred between the Mitsu Bishi folk and the representatives of the owners, and the workmen were withdrawn. It is stated that in the storm of the 26th ultimo, the vessel sank again, so that the water is now above her masts, and there seems to be very little hope of saving her.

Judgment has been given for the defendants in the suit instituted against the Minister of Home Affairs and the Head of the Sanitary Bureau by seven wholesale wine-dealers of Tokyo, who claimed that they had suffered a loss of 28,700 *yen*, in consequence of the analyses of Japanese wines published in the *Official Gazette* last spring.

It is stated that whereas the accommodation granted by the Tokyo banks up to recent days was almost entirely on the security of bonds, two thirds of their present loans are on railway shares. Railways, in fact, are the favourite enterprise of the moment.

The *Nippon* violently denounces the policy of allowing diplomats to contract marriages with ladies of other nationalities. In that creed the Tokyo journal has many fellow-disciples, but we question whether any one of them ever disfigured his views by personalities such as the *Nippon* indulges in. One is disposed to conclude, on reading its arti-

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cle, that the clever journal's object is to discredit one particular individual, rather than to attack a system.

Mr. Asano, President of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, has an unpleasant complication on his hands in connexion with the *America Maru*. The way of it was this:—In publishing its original account of the *America Maru* incident, the *Jiji Shimpo* claimed that the Japanese officers of the ship had warned the Captain against putting to sea without taking thorough measures to ascertain whether any danger existed of fire in her bunkers. Subsequently, in an interview with one of the *Jiji's* staff, Mr. Asano was represented as saying that the statements of the Japanese officers were valueless, the officers being irresponsible, and he was even made to allege that Japanese seamen in general were a worthless set of follows. Subsequently he repudiated the assertions thus attributed to him, but the *Jiji* declined to accept his denial and insisted that he had used the words. Then the Kobe Mariners' Club (*Kai-in* Club) took up the question, and addressed a vehement remonstrance to Mr. Asano—a "challenge to a duel" (*ketto-jo*) some journals call it—, the result of which proceedings was that Mr. Asano inserted a long advertisement in the *Jiji Shimpo*, exalting the men whom, as a class, he was supposed to have belittled. We suspect that the style of the advertisement will prove a fresh cause of offence.

The interminable problem of the Tokyo Street Railways drags its weary length along. There are thirty-seven competing companies in the field, and the City Council is only setting itself to determine definitely the conditions under which a charter will be granted.

We are asked by the Minister of France to say that as he is unable to call in person for the purpose of thanking his numerous friends, Japanese and foreign, who have so kindly inquired for Madame Harmand during her illness, he wishes to convey to them through these columns his most sincere expressions of gratitude for their heart-felt sympathy.

The Chief Public Procurator of the Utsunomiya Local Court has instituted a suit against the Japan Railway Company for culpable negligence in connection with the Hoki-gawa disaster.

The trouble connected with the Dojima Rice Exchange has ended in the removal of the Chief Manager, Mr. Sugiyama, and eight of the Managers.

The new Siamese Minister has arrived in Tokyo and is staying at the Imperial Hotel. He is accompanied by his wife and two children, and a Secretary who is said to be an excellent English scholar. The Minister is a military man and has the rank of Lieut.-General.

Ex-Judge Takano has been cast in his suit against the Minister of Finance. The main question did not come up for discussion, the Court having ruled that it had no jurisdiction, the plaintiff's proper course being to bring his action in Formosa.

The Japanese Government has considered it necessary to adopt the usual precautions against the danger of plague-contagion in the case of ships coming from Newchwang. The *Official Gazette* announces that ships coming from Newchwang to Izugahara (Tsushima), Yokkaichi (Miye Prefecture), or Taketoyo (Aichi Prefecture), must be disinfected. The disinfecting stations for Izugahara are either Onagami (Nagasaki Prefecture) or Hikojima (Yamaguchi Prefecture), and the stations for Yokkaichi and Taketoyo are Nagahama (Kanagawa Prefecture) or Wada-no-Misaki (Hyogo Prefecture).

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a list showing that there have been 26 accidents in Japanese mines since the beginning of this year, involving 742 deaths and 36 injuries. The Besshi mine is responsible for the bulk of the casualties. The number of persons killed there during the great typhoon of September was 687, out of the above total of 742. The Yuban Coal Mine has the worst record of all, for though only 4 deaths stand against it, they were caused by four repetitions of the same accident—the falling of coal. When four separate casualties result from falls of coal within a space of 9 months, it seems pretty plain that the methods of the mine must be defective.

A telegram from Peking, published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that China remains firm in her resolve not be make any concession to Italy over and above mining privileges in Ninghai. The Italian Representative is not satisfied, and has postponed the negotiations until the arrival of the man-of-war now *en route* for the East. But, inasmuch as Italy has practically pledged herself not to resort to force, the presence of a another war-vessel can scarcely exercise any appreciable effect on the situation.

Inquiries have been made as to the general line of policy that will be adopted by the new Bureau for investigating the Imperial System of Japan. People were anxious to learn whether Marquis Ito was disposed to remodel the system on foreign lines, or whether he would adhere to Japanese precedents. The Marquis is understood to have intimated that the latter is his purpose, as far as possible. European Courts also are precious of their own traditional customs, some of which—such as the periodical washing of beggars' feet—would probably excite a good deal of derision were they practised in Japan.

A telegram in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* announces that Mr. Cho Pyŏng-sik, Minister of Justice in Sŏul, has been removed from office and replaced by Mr. Kwŏn Chai-hyŏng. This may possibly interest some one, besides Messrs. Cho and Kwŏn.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has an extraordinary article in which it prefers sweeping charges of dishonest practices against some leading men of Osaka and the priests of the temple Hongwan-ji in Kyoto, in connexion with the Dojima Rice Exchange. Our contemporary does not pretend that the Managers of the Exchange were blameless in the recent trouble, but it would have the public believe that their irregularities suggested to certain capitalists a plot of an unscrupulous character which they carried out by evil means, their object being to get the control of the Exchange into their own hands. Nothing is impossible. The *Mainichi* may be correct. But we confess that we no longer recognise our once sober and well-ballasted contemporary. It seems to be sinking to the level of yellow journalism, a disgrace which unfortunately exists already in a very flagrant form in Tokyo.

There is a project on foot to construct a harbour at Ofunado in Iwate Prefecture. The facilities are magnificent, and it is said that an expenditure of a million *yen* would provide the place with everything required But the communications on the land side are very defective, the basin being surrounded by high hills. It is therefore essential that a railway should be built, bringing the place into connexion with the Japan Railway's lines, on which account another sum of six millions is required. Viscount Yenomoto, Mr. Amenomiya, Mr. Totake, and many other prominent men are interesting themselves in the scheme. A meeting of promoters was held in the Imperial Hotel on the 9th. Viscount Yenomoto took the chair, and addressed the sixty-four gentlemen who were present, explaining the details of the enterprise, and asking for a sum of six thousand *ven*, in addition to two thousand already put up, for carrying out preliminary investigations. The money was provided.

The period for the negotiation of the Conventional Tariff between Italy and Japan has been extended until the 31st of next March. It has already been under discussion for six months, but these matters move deliberately.

We regret to learn that Professor Ladd has been taken ill. He was obliged to forego his intention of meeting the Liberal leaders at luncheon on Wednesday.

The torpedo-destroyer *Akebono* arrived at Gibraltar on the 10th *en route* for the East, and the *Shiranui* is on her way up from Hongkong.

In the *Official Gazette* of the 11th instant the ratification of the new Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation between Japan and Greece, is published. The Treaty was concluded on the 1st. of June and signed in Athens, but some delay occurred in connexion with the exchange of ratifications.

It appears that there was no foundation for the statement that the chief public procurator of Utsunomiya had instituted proceedings against the driver of the train which met with the terrible accident when crossing the Hoki Bridge on the 7th inst. No such step has been taken. The driver's responsibility would evidently be limited to the speed at which the train was travelling, and there are strong doubts whether any fault can be found on that score.

An announcement in the *Official Gazette* says that police constables may in future be rewarded with grants of money not less than 15 *yen* and not greater than 50 *yen* for specially meritorious services. These sums do not seem very large, from a foreign point of view, but 30 or 40 *yen* to a man whose monthly pay is only 12, must a highly substantial consideration. What is more noteworthy, however, is that hitherto the maximum reward payable to a policeman was 10 *yen*, and as he was not, and is not, permitted to receive guerdons from private individuals, there was no pecuniary inducement to discharge his duty with special assiduity. The *Jiji Shimpo* has lately published

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strong articles advocating a change in the sense now effected.

The complication connected with the Dojima Rice Exchange has been adjusted, and we read in Tokyo journals that the chief condition of the compromise is the cancellation of all the October transactions, representing an aggregate of 118,000 *koku* of rice at 11.20 *yen* per *koku*. No agreement has yet been concluded with regard to the November transactions, but it is not anticipated that they will constitute a difficulty.

Baron Nishi, formerly Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg and subsequently Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, is to replace Mr. Yano as Minister in Peking. There was talk some time ago about Mr. Yano's probable return to Japan, but the public did not imagine that his replacement was imminent.

At the suggestion of the Korean Minister of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce, the Söul Government is said to have granted a charter to a native company to build a light line of railway between the capital and Wiju. Nobody imagines that there is any intention of constructing such a line, but poor Korea has to get ready some pretext for refusing the next foreign applicant. Building excuses, not railways, may be said to be her principal occupation.

Another strike is said to be imminent on the part of 2,000 workmen and 100 officials engaged on the works at the Sasago Tunnel, which, we may add, is the second most arduous undertaking of the kind on the Central Railway, between Shinshu and Koshu. The cause of the trouble now is said to be the injudicious or arbitrary conduct of the new chief engineer, Mr. Kishi, who requires the *employés* to comply with some onerous preliminaries before drawing travelling allowances and extra pay.

A telegram from India, published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that the Bombay cotton-mill owners have decided to shorten their hours of working, in view of the poor demand in the market coupled with the high price of raw material. They desire to secure the cöoperation of Japanese mill-owners in this matter, but will probably take the step without awaiting the result of consultation already addressed to Japan.

ARREST OF EUROPEAN OFFICERS.

The new became known on Wednesday that five foreign officers on board the N.Y.K. liner *Tamba Maru*—Mr. de la Hayde, chief officer; Mr. Charles Hill second officer; Mr. R. Kent, third officer; Mr. J. I. Wallet, third engineer; and Mr. Daniel Wallace, fourth officer—had been arrested by the Yokohama Water Police on a charge of assaulting Umeseko Toyomatsu, quartermaster of the steamer. We find that the account of which the arrests were made took affair on place just after the *Tamba* had left Moji. The quartermaster and others of the Japanese crew had been indulging in drink, and Umeseko committed some breach of discipline—we are informed that he was smoking—for which the third officer, Mr. Kent called him to account. Umeseko then became insolent but the matter did not at that time proceed to blows. The Japanese, however, later on came to Mr. Kent's private cabin, and a struggle followed between the officer and the man. The exact details are not clear; but it is stated by the Europeans on board that the quartermaster struck the first blow. The two were soon rolling on the deck, and according to what Kent afterwards told friends in Yokohama, the quartermaster bit him several times in he leg. The other officers who are charged came to Kent's assistance, but other members of the crew came to help Umeseko, so that the affair almost assumed the aspect of a small mutiny. Umeseko was, however, secured and put in irons, but he became so furious and the crew showed themselves so maliciously disposed, that it was thought better to take off the irons and lock him up. On the arrival of the steamer at Yokohama the quartermaster was dismissed, and some days after he lodged a charge with the Police, which ended in the arrest of the accused. They were taken to Negishi prison, but all but Kent were released on Tuesday. In spite of the offer of bail by Mr. Paxton, of the N.Y.K., Kent was kept in custody. Kent is a young officer on his first voyage in the N.Y.K.'s service, and is ignorant of Japanese ways and manners. He is a nephew of Captain Efford, and the latter made attempts to obtain bail for him. Representations made through the British Consulate ended in the authorities agreeing to accept bail, and the unfortunate young fellow was, we believe, liberated last night.

We can not but express unbounded surprise at the action of the police in this matter. The arrest of the officers, in the first place, was a step for which, assuming the above facts to be approximately correct, no precedent can be found in the modern records of any Occidental country. Had the incident occurred in England, the strongest action taken by the authorities would have been to summon the persons against whom the charge was preferred. It is a monstrous notion that any sailor on board a vessel should have it in his power to procure the arrest of several of the ship's officers simply by lodging a complaint of assault against them. Pending fuller information we refrain from criticising the conduct of the police and of the Judge who issued the warrant in terms such as the case seems to demand, but we may add that if anything were wanting to complete the scandal it is furnished by the refusal to release Mr. Kent on bail. A man's own recognisances should be ample to procure his release in such a matter.

THE LAW OF APPEAL.

The following translation has been sent in by the Imperial Customs, with the request for its publication:—

THE LAW OF APPEAL.—(LAW NO. 105, 9TH, OCT. 1890.)

ART. I.—Appeals can be entered as to the following matters, except in cases where specially provided for in any other law or ordinance:

1.—Matters relating to the imposition of taxes and fees;
2.—Matters relating to actions taken in case of non payment of taxes;
3.—Matters relating to the rejection of trade licenses;
4.—Matters relating to public works;
5.—Matters relating to disputes as to lands held by Government or Individuals;
6.—Matters relating to local police affairs.

All other matters on which appeals can be entered under special provisions of law or ordinance.

ART. II.—Any person desiring to enter an appeal shall present it through the Authority whose action is called in question.

If a person desires to appeal again after the first appeal has been adjudged, he shall do so through the authority by which the first appeal has been adjudged.

Any person who desires to enter an appeal, under this law against an action or decision taken by County (*Gun*) or City (*Shi*) Council relating to the administration of the Central Government shall make it to the prefectural (*Fu, Ken*) Council, through the said lower Councils.

ART. III.—Any person desiring to enter an appeal against the action of a Minister of State shall present it to the department under his charge.

ART. IV.—With regard to matters on which the judgment of Courts, Government Departments, or Prefectural Councils has been already given a new appeal shall not be permitted.

ART. V.—An appeal shall be made in writing. Appeals containing expressions of contempt or libels shall not be received.

ART. VI.—The letter of appeal shall contain the essential points of objection, grounds, and also the class (if any) profession, residence, age of appellant, and it shall be signed; accompanied with all essential documents and the judgment, if any, of the lower administrative Authority which has heard the case in the first instant

ART. VII.—When a number of persons desire to appeal jointly they are required to mention their classes, professions, residences, and ages respectively in the letter, and attach their signatures; they shall appoint their proxies not exceeding three in number, whose authorities shall be duly attested.

Any one who is recognized as a legal person by law, may enter an appeal in its own name.

ART. VIII.—An appeal shall not be admitted when sixty days have elapsed after the administrative authority took action in the matter.

An appeal in which the judgment of the administrative authority has been already given, cannot after thirty days have elapsed, be brought before the superior Authority. But if the authorities shall be convinced of any excusable delay, they may receive an appeal even after the lapse of the prescribed periods.

ART. IX.—An appeal which is not in accordance with the provisions of legal procedure, shall be rejected. An appeal defective in form, only, however, shall be sent back to the appellant.

ART. X.—An appeal may be forwarded by post. The time occupied in transit by post shall not be counted in the periods prescribed in Article VIII.

ART. XI.—In the case specified in Clause 1 of Article II. the Administrative Authority though which the appeal is forwarded, is required to forward the appeal, adding explanations and other necessary documents, to the superior Authority, within ten days after the time the appeal was received. In the case specified by Clause 2 the Administrative Authority through which the appeal is forwarded, is required to send it to the superior Authority within three days after the time when the appeal was received. When the appeal is sent out in the case specified by Clause 3 of Article II., the same rules apply.

ART. XII.—An appeal does not necessarily postpone the execution of Administrative action, except in cases specially provided for by laws or ordinances; but this rule may be disregarded as far as the Administrative Authority thinks necessary either by its own initiative or by the request of the appellant.

ART. XIII.—An appeal shall not be adjudicated by oral examination, but simply upon depositions; provided, however, that the Administrative Authority, may, if it seem fit, decide otherwise.

ART. XIV.—The judgment on an appeal shall be given in writing, and the grounds of decision stated.

ART. XV.—The written judgment shall be delivered to the appellant through the Administrative Authority through which the action in question has been taken.

ART. XVI.—The judgment of the superior Administrative Authority over-rules all Authorities of lower grade.

ART. XVII.—In cases specially provided for in other laws or ordinances, as to the procedure of appeal, the procedure shall be in accordance with the respective provisions thereon.

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ENGLAND'S STRENGTH IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Japanese, as we noted in a previous issue, are watching the Transvaal with much curiosity, regarding it as an opportunity for obtaining practical evidence of Great Britain's military capacity at present. One journal, the *Asahi*, writes in rather a pessimistic strain. It calculates that Great Britain had only a thousand men at the Cape when the war-cloud began to gather, and that she sent five hundred of them to Natal immediately. Her standing army in the United Kingdom it estimates at 99,000, and her Indian forces —that is to say, the English section of them—at 70,000, but it appears to think that no levies could be made upon India for the purposes of a war in the Transvaal. Of course the latter supposition is quite erroneous. England can easily draw thirty or forty thousand men from India if she pleases. It is understood that she does not intend to make any use of native troops in the war, but, without having recourse to them, there would be no special difficulty in sending an army corps from India and another from the United Kingdom, which would mean a total force of over sixty thousand. It is, moreover, a mistake to say that there were only a thousand British troops in South Africa when war came in sight. Ten thousand would be nearer the mark. The *Asahi* puts the Boer force at 44,000, and thus arrives at the conclusion that England will have employ one half of her total available forces for the invasion of the Transvaal. We imagine that the ideas of many of the Japanese are based on very false conceptions of England's last struggle with the Boers. The war of 1881 was in reality a campaign of detachments. What happened at the outset of the fighting might have happened to some extent now also had the Boers been strong enough to invade Natal before defensive measures to receive them were in readiness. The sudden proclamation of a republic by the Boers in 1881 found Great Britain totally unprepared. She had several petty bodies of troops scattered here and there throughout the Transvaal, and these, incapable of offering any effective resistance in detail, were precluded from forming a junction. An attempt made by one detachment of 250 men to reach Pretoria, led to the first disaster of the war—the affair of Bronkerspruit. The Boers in overwhelming strength attacked the detachment, killed or wounded one half of its total number, and took the rest prisoners. The disaster at Laing's Nek was due to the same cause, in this way: another British detachment of 120 men were caught and besieged in Potchefstroom. They held out splendidly, but it soon became evident that, unless they were relieved before re-inforcements could arrive from England, their fate was sealed. COLLEY went to their relief. He had 1,200 men under his command. With only 1,200 men, including 120 sailors and 180 mounted troops—half-drilled men whose blunder was the proximate cause of the disaster—he undertook a twenty-days march into a hostile country. If such an expedition had succeeded it would have been a marvel. Two days brought him to Laing's Nek, the point at which the old road into the Transvaal climbs the last ridge on the east of the plateau. The Boers, at least 2,000 strong, occupied the spur of the hill. They had advanced into Natal for that purpose. COLLEY'S failure should have been a foregone conclusion, yet it is pretty certain that but for the conduct of his undisciplined cavalry he would have won a victory. At Majuba Hill 400 British troops were engaged. The Boers say they had only 150 men. Whether we believe that or not, the point is that they obtained possession of a splendid position and succeeded in surprising the British troops. In all these affairs England's strength was not exerted. She made peace after a few affairs which were little better than outpost engagements. The present war will be on different lines. We may add that a portion of the troops from India were expected to start by Sept. 20th. Doubtless England, in pursuance of her policy of patience, has hesitated to despatch any considerable force to South Africa pending the final failure of the negotiations. But we know by telegraph that several transports reached Durban on the 6th instant. From Durban there is a railway running into the Transvaal. It passes by Pietermaritzburg—where General White seems to have temporarily established his head-quarters — Ladysmith, Laing's Nek, and Charlestown, finally reaching Johannesburg and Pretoria. If General WHITE finds himself in insufficient strength, he has doubtless taken steps to occupy Laing's Nek. The railway does not climb the ridge: it passes under it by a tunnel. Evidently it is of prime importance to secure both ends of the tunnel, for this line is the only means of massing troops rapidly on the Transvaal's eastern border, whence an invasion will certainly be made. There is another line which starts from Capetown, crosses the Orange River (which forms the southern boundary of the Orange Free State) at Hopetown, and thence, skirting the western border of the Free State, runs *viâ* Kimberley to Mafeking. Up to this last point the line is in British territory, but from Mafeking it enters the Transvaal and proceeds to Pretoria. This line will probably be used for the invasion of the Orange Free State. Hopetown being made the point of entry. But its proximity to the State's western border after passing Hopetown renders it unsafe for operating against the Transvaal. The distance from Hopetown to Bloemfontein is 150 miles. Two other lines, from Port Elizabeth and East London, respectively, cross the southern boundary of the Free State, and, uniting at Philippolis, proceed thence to Bloemfontien. These also might be used for an offensive movement against the State. In fact the Orange Free State is much easier to attack than the Transvaal, and it will therefore be necessary for the Free-Staters to defend their own territory instead of detaching a large body of troops to aid the Transvaal.

EDUCATION AND THE STATE.

COUNT KABAYAMA, when waited on by a deputation representing the principal Christian Schools, is said to have explained that it is his desire to adopt the most liberal policy possible towards Christianity, and that he fully recognises the desirability of obtaining the assistance of religion for the moral education of the nation. In the field of scholastic education, however, he follows the Government's policy of keeping education and religion entirely apart. The *Jiji* gives the Count credit for the best intentions, and concludes that to him must be ascribed the wise step of removing from the draft of the Imperial Ordinance the veto which it originally contained against all religious instruction at officially recognised schools, whether within or without the regular hours of study. It is true that Count KABAYAMA revived the veto in the form of a Departmental Instruction, but a Departmental Instruction is obviously less objectionable than an Ordinance of the Government. Our contemporary's conviction is that Count KABAYAMA would have dropped the veto altogether had he not been subjected to irresistible pressure by the conservative section of educationists.

In connexion with this question of the Government's attitude towards Christianity in Education, Dr. D. C. GREENE has addressed to the *Japan Times* a very interesting letter. He shows that the essentially Christian character of the Doshisha must have been fully understood by all that contributed in the first instance to its establishment, since that character was set forth in the most unequivocal terms by Mr. NISHIMA in a prospectus which was published simultaneously by twenty Japanese newspapers and distributed by thousands throughout the land. Nevertheless a number of the most prominent men in Japan subscribed largely towards the undertaking, and their example stimulated even greater benevolence on the part of American philanthropists. Hence Dr. GREENE says:—

> The aggregate of the sum contributed by American friends of Dr. Neesima for endowment, buildings, salaries, etc. if calculated at the present rate of exchange would probably exceed *yen* 1,000,000. They regarded the subscriptions of Japan's representative men as the most satisfac-

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tory assurance that their cooperation upon the basis so clearly set forth by Dr. Neesima would not only be welcome, but that it was earnestly desired. How could they take any other view of the matter?

While the history of the Doshisha possesses certain striking features not presented by that of other Christian Schools in Japan, there is probably not one of them which is not as truly the result of Japanese encouragement, perhaps even of Japanese initiation. In my judgment not one of the larger institutions would be in existence to day but for the firm conviction on the part of their promoters that their establishment would be looked upon by the real leaders of public sentiment in Japan as a very great benefit to their country.

Now, I will not say that even the many distinguished men who gave their names and their active influence in behalf of these Christian institutions were authorized to commit the Government to any particular educational policy; but I do think that all fair-minded men will agree that the fact of their coöperation does entitle the missionaries and their friends to a thoroughly respectful hearing when they protest against a measure which has few if any parallels in recent history.

Taking all these institutions together, we can hardly place the total expenditure which they represent at less than *yen* 3,000,000 of foreign funds, not to mention the unpaid services of many men who have as a result of Japanese incentive and encouragement sought to supply what they believed to be a great and widely recognized need. Have not these institutions after such a history a strong claim upon the Japanese Government and people for their sympathetic and attentive consideration?

We are unable to see that any view other than that advanced by Dr. GREENE could be taken by thoughtful persons. We observe with some surprise that whereas Dr. GREENE distinctly disavows any intention of asserting that "even the many distinguished men who gave their names and their active influence in behalf of these Christian institutions were authorized to commit the Government to any particular educational policy," the *Japan Times* nevertheless asks whether "it is correct to argue as though this fact"—*i.e.* the giving of sympathy and assistance by some of Japan's most representative men—"placed these men and through them, the Japanese Government under some sort of moral obligation to the American supporters of the institution." Neither Dr. GREENE not any other reflecting person would hold that the Government of a country is placed under a moral obligation by the acts of some of its nationals in their private capacity. But neither will any reflecting person, we venture to think, refuse to endorse Dr. GREENE'S claim that when the recognised leaders of public thought in a country openly cō-operate with a certain enterprise, the foreign supporters of the enterprise are entitled to expect a respectful hearing in that country when they protest against an official measure which renders the enterprise fruitless. It is placing the matter on a very degraded footing to contend against the unjustifiability of "supposing that Marquis ITO, Count OKUMA, Baron IWASAKI and others, who gave their support in money or moral influence to the late Dr. NISHIMA'S scheme of creating university courses in his establishment, did so under the impression that their names would be utilized for purposes of advertisement in America." Neither Marquis ITO, nor Count OKUMA, nor Baron IWASAKI can be under any mis-apprehension as to the value attaching to their names in the eyes of the public. Such men can not preserve their strictly private capacity outside their own domestic circles. From the moment when they associate themselves openly with an enterprise, it is considered by the world to have obtain a guarantee, not merely of stability, but also of public consideration. Setting aside these secondary points, however, we cannot but note the fact that from first to last in this discussion not one of those defending the action of the Department of Education has adduced a single reason for his views. They all limit themselves to the simple assertion that the Government has no intention of legislating against religion, but merely seeks to keep national education in all its stages entirely free from religious elements. Why should it be kept free? That is what they do not tell us. We all admit that a particular form of religion should have no place in State schools supported by taxes which men of various creeds are required to pay. But that has nothing to do with forbidding Christian parents, or Buddhist parents, or Jewish parents to have the influence of their respective creeds brought to bear upon the education of their children. We shall be told that nothing of the kind is forbidden in Japan. We answer that the denial is mere persiflage. Education including religious elements is practically forbidden when it is officially placed at overwhelming disadvantages as compared with education which excludes such elements. Japan seems to be embarking on a course of religious intolerance which will injure her greatly, not only in her national morality but also in her international reputation.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the *Kenseitō Tōhō* (Liberal Organ) Mr. Komuro Shigehirō asserts that religion will be discussed during the next session of the Diet, and adds that it is highly important that members should prepare themselves for taking an intelligent interest in the question. It sometimes happens, says Mr. Komuro, that a subject is sprung on the House of Representatives of which it knows little, and the members pass bills without realising what is their real import. The ready way in which members gave their consent to the perpetuation of the Chinese quack system of medicine by continuing to license practitioners of this school astonished outsiders. Mr. Komuro goes on to argue that the Government ought to do something to assist Buddhism, on the ground that it is the religion of a very large and influential section of the nation. Pro-Christian legislation, says Mr. Komuro, is quite out of the question, as it would stir up ill-feeling throughout the country. Mr. Komuro thinks, however, that the policy of leaving religion to take care of itself is not one that can be carried out on all occasions; that under certain circumstances interference becomes necessary, as was shown in the case of the Mormons in the United States, and he maintains that the Diet should legislate in favour of the native creeds. The gist of Mr. Komuro's article is that Japan's religion is in rather a sickly state, that it needs a Government cordial, and that it is the duty of the Diet to help the executive to mix the ingredients for this cordial.

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The Roman Catholic organ, the *Koye*, has come out in a new form. It is now a magazine instead of a religious newspaper, and has been taken in hand by the Kanda Sansaisha, the well-known Roman Catholic publishing house; whence issues the *Tenchijin*. The writing has greatly improved in character and tone. L'Abbé Charles Brotelande and other foreign missionaries are contributing articles on doctrinal points and on ecclesiastical history. In No. 194 the subject of "education and religion" is discussed, and it is maintained that in Europe and America the attempt to divest education of all religious elements has failed. In America especially has the failure been marked, says the *Koye*. A *résume* of western opinion on this subject is given.

* * *

The *Rikugō Zasshi* contains a very long report of the proceedings of the Comparative Religion Society at its Eighteenth Meeting, held some weeks ago. The subject was "Our National Gods." Briefly stated, the conclusions to which the meeting arrived were that Japanese ancient religion consisted of nature worship and ancestor worship, and that almost all natural phenomena were worshipped in a personified form. As is known to many of our readers, there has been a warm discussion among foreign scholars as to the existence of personification among the Japanese, Mr. Chamberlain and others affirming that few instances of personification are to be found in the language, and Mr. Ehmann and those who think with him asserting, on the other hand, that Japanese thought is permeated with personification. The verdict of the learned society whose proceedings we are summarising favours Mr. Ehmann's theory. The society was of opinion that in early days none of the objects, elements, or powers of nature were worshipped as impersonal entities. The anthropomorphism was most thorough in every instance. An object of nature when worshipped received what practically was a human name and had human attributes ascribed to it. The Sun became Tenshōdaijin, a male humanised deity, and the moon Tsukiyomi-no-Mikoto, a female deity. Wind became Shinatsuhiko-no-Mikoto or Shinatobe-no-Mikoto, and so on. The numerous gods of the Japanese pantheon are all represented in the *Kojiki* and the *Nihonki* as marrying and begetting children and as acting in every other way like human beings. The personification of inanimate objects and blind natural forces could hardly have been more complete than it was in ancient times. Nature worship and ancestor worship were closely connected; for tradition, that skilful forger of mythological links to connect one stage of religious thought with another, taught that these semi-human and semi-divine beings, whose existence was suggested by nature's works and ways, were the progenitors of the human race. Most

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being better paid. That the labourer is worthy of his hire is a principle which in all other lines of life in Japan is faithfully followed. But the Protestant Christian pastor has to live in the world and to a great extent do as others do with entirely inadequate means. Could he seclude himself as the Roman Catholic priests or the Buddhist Zen sect priests do, he could manage to get along. But such exclusiveness is contrary to the spirit of Protestant Christianity, so he has to observe all the social conventions of life with insufficient means. (3) *Christianity is not prospering at the present time.* This deters many would-be evangelists. It is only the strongest minds that are prepared to face all the above-named difficulties and work as pastors or evangelists.

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The *Rikugō Zasshi* has an article on "Religious Union," in which it is contended that the only obstacle to such union is the petty jealousies and animosity of the adherents of the various creeds. The founders of these creeds were all great men, says the *Rikugō*, and, were they living now, would shake each other by the hand and would be the first to deprecate the divisions which exist. As regards doctrine, the *Rikugō* thinks the following points of agreement would suffice as a basis of union. (1) The universe has one great originating principle. Whether it be called God, Buddha, the Way, Law of Nature, or what else, is of no consequence. On the existence of this first principle all religion is alike based. (2) The object of all creeds is to mould man's life so as to bring it into conformity with Heaven's laws, and on this ground those who follow different forms of faith can meet and work together for the good of humanity. It is not at all necessary that there should be compromise. The adherents of the various creeds can go on believing what they have always believed. All that would be required of them would be liberality of sentiment towards co-religionists. Though bigoted Christians and bigoted Buddhists can never join hands, there seems to be no reason whatever why liberal-minded persons among both sects, who invariably hold that every person has the right to choose what form of faith he pleases, should not unite their forces for a common end. There is a bond of union in confronting the same foes.

Irreligion, immorality, materialism, money-worship—these are the giants that every earnest David is anxious to slay, be he Buddhist or Christian. It seems to me, concludes the writer in the *Rikugō*, that this union of available forces on the side of religion and morality is the most urgent of duties, and that the liberal section of Japanese Christendom and the Buddhist liberal contingent should at once enter into negotiations with each other with a view to realising the desired end.

The *Kore*, the Roman Catholic organ mentioned above, pours scorn on the above proposal. To apply the terms liberal, progressive, and conservative to Christian sects and parties sounds very grand, says this organ, but it smacks of medicine-puffing advertisements. The more ineffectual the thing the more noise is made about it. This principle of liberty of conscience of which the Protestants make so much has proved a snare and delusion to them. Unitarianism is its natural result. In making freedom of belief the foundation of the Church, the Protestants have built upon sand. Men who have given up all the chief articles of the Christian faith and who have nothing but unoccupied building ground to offer are soliciting Buddhists and Shintoists to provide them with material to erect a structure to take the place of the building that has fallen to pieces on their heads. But what else can be expected from a magazine like the *Rikugō*, which fails to distinguish between pearls and pebbles, truth and error? And this kind of action they call "progress." To us it looks very much like retrogression. In the following number of the *Koye* the subject is taken up again. This talk of union among the Protestants is mere idle prating, says the *Koye*. What have they to unite them? Do they not all advocate independence of judgment? Is it not a case of there being no standard to which all will alike bow? This cry for union shows that they are ill at ease, and well they may be. What elements of union are there in the whole system? We are united because our church is founded on the teaching of Christ as transmitted by St. Peter. Our church distinguishes between truth and error, and we all obey her. But it is of the very essence of Protestantism to split up into a hundred sects. Each man is free to set up a sect of his own if he disagrees with his fellow-Christians. And so we see disruption and disorganisation on every hand. The foundation of the whole system is shaky, and hence the superstructure is constantly tumbling. There are Protestant sects that seem to have nothing to hold them together except the name that they bear, which is no more useful for this purpose than a signboard.

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The *Taiyō* has some very practical and timely advice to offer to the heads of the leading Buddhist sects, which it tells us has been suggested by an important meeting of Buddhists held in Kyōto a few weeks ago, at which the desirability of obtaining that one panacea for all their ills, State aid and recognition, was discussed for the hundredth time. The counsel which the *Taiyō* offers is given under three heads. (1). It must be evident to all Buddhists that, compared with religious thought in Europe and America, Buddhist thought in Japan is in a very backward condition. In order to remedy this defect, Buddhist priests should take steps to put themselves into direct communication with the West. The missionaries who come to this country, says the *Taiyō*, bring knowledge that may be said to rank beneath that of middle class Christians in Europe and America, and hence Buddhist priests should not flatter themselves that they have reached the highest level of Christian thought when they have heard what the missionaries have to say. Then again missionaries are generally behind the age. The people they get hold of are mostly the ignorant or the shallow. The first class believe blindly; the latter flippantly make an outward profession of belief. Buddhists should invite high class Christian scholars from the West to come to this country and lecture to them, and should be prepared to follow their convictions wherever they may lead them after hearing what the ripest Christian scholars have to say. (2). The next piece of advice offered by the *Taiyō* is that the various Buddhist sects should choose some of the brightest of their students and send them to Europe or America for education, giving them liberty even to become Christians if they are so disposed. Buddhists should not be afraid of allowing the freest and fullest investigation of Christianity, and should be prepared to remodel their whole system of doctrine if they are convinced that it contains what is erroneous. Most of the great questions of the world are settled in Europe and America. It cannot be otherwise with religion. If Buddhism is as effective and superior as many represent it to be, let it try its strength against the most advanced religious thought of the West. If it succeeds there, its success in Japan will be a foregone conclusion. If it fails to make headway at the centre of the world's thought, then the effort to keep it on its legs in Japan will prove utterly futile. It is a question of whether the creed is to live or die, and the test we have suggested, if employed, would soon settle that question, concludes the *Taiyo*.

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The *Shinri*, the organ of the Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society (German and Swiss), keeps up its reputation month after month by furnishing its readers with an abundant supply of up-to-date articles on current religious topics. No. 115, which lies before us, contains among other articles, an essay by the Rev. H. Minami entitled "A danger in Japanese Civilisation," which is of considerable interest. After calling attention to the fact that Japan, a non-Christian country, owing to the rapid growth of liberal sentiment in Europe and America, has been allowed to enter the comity of Western nations, Mr. Minami goes on to point out that Japan is making a great mistake in seeking to exclude religion from her schools. Her progress may all be traced to her adoption of Western civilisation, and she should not rest content till she has imported not only the material part of Western civilisation, but its ideal part also, and religion is included in that. Mr. Minami next proceeds to quote some remarks of Lieutenant-General Terauchi Seiki, published in a recent issue of the *Tenchijin*. Those who are making such loud professions of their superior loyalty and patriotism, have never been abroad and know nothing of the patriotism of other countries, observes the general. To say nothing of the love of country shown in France and England, even a little country like Montenegro is full of ardent patriots. The men who talk the loudest about their country's greatness and dignity are doing next to nothing to promote her highest interests. What is of the most vital importance to us as a nation is the training of the rising generation in such a manner that they shall prove a credit to us as a people when compared with foreigners. It cannot be said that our soldiers are taught as carefully as are Western troops. The latter have chaplains always near them and attend divine service periodically. It is my belief that there is more principle among them than among our men. It is the fashion to boast of our being without gods or divinities, but to me this is a cause for shame rather than for boasting. Mr. Minami endorses these and similar remarks of General Terauchi and then goes on to argue that undoubtedly religion ought to permeate education; not controversial religion, but practical religion—

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of the facts stated at the meeting of the Comparative Religion Society are familiar to readers of Mr. Chamberlain's translation of the Kojiki and the notes appended thereto.

Coming to the shapes which in Japanese mythology represent deity, there is the greatest variety. Ten of these were discussed at the meeting. Perhaps it would be more correct to speak of these objects as emblems or symbols of deity rather than representations, pure Shintō being averse to any form of idolatry. Among these there are:—the mirror, a precious stone, ordinary stone, a double edged sword, (the sword of Kusanagi is regarded as the form assumed by Atsuta *Daijin*), paper known as the *gohei*, the *sakaki*, bows and arrows, vessels, and another object which cannot be named here. A distinction was drawn at the meeting between *Shintai* and *Shinzo* (the body of a god and his form), and it was maintained that it was incorrect to suppose that every Shintō god must have a body or a form attributed to it. There were shrines like the Minowa-no-Jinja, where no representation of the Deity of any kind was to be seen. The endowment of deities with visible forms in order to aid the worshipper in conceiving of them was no doubt an invention of Buddhism, and was adopted by Shintoists without warrant.

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The *Kyōrin* (Shintō) contends with great earnestness that in order to insure the payment of due respect to the Imperial ancestry throughout the whole country, it is absolutely necessary that the Government should make it clear that the Constitution grants no liberty of conscience which may involve a discontinuance of the performance of the rites and ceremonies which all loyal subjects have hitherto taken part in when worshipping at the Imperial Shrines. Shintō proper must be declared to be a national cult, to be honoured by Japanese subjects of whatever creed. At the same time the *Kyōrin* is in favour of radical reform in Shintō ranks. Corrupt sects should be dissolved. All priests should be required to undergo an examination before being licensed. All gods should be banished from the Shinto Pantheon with the exception of the three chief deities and Izanagi and Izanami. All sects should be brought under direct Government control and should act uniformly on all occasions. The founding of new sects should be forbidden.

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A writer signing himself T.S. furnishes to the *Fukuin Shimpō* a report of an interview with a Roman Catholic missionary whose name we take to be L'Abbé Ligneul.* It is pleasing to find a Protestant organ like the *Fukuin Shimpō* stating at considerable length the views of a Roman Catholic missionary. We give an epitome of the opinions stated, which opinions cannot but strike the reader as most liberal in tone and as permeated with Christian common sense. We allow the missionary interviewed to speak for himself. (1) In reference to the recently issued Mombushō orders and instructions, after mature consideration, I purpose stating my views in a small pamphlet, which will be issued within a few weeks. Men must be left free to make their own choice in the matter of religion, and restraint and constraint are both alike to be deprecated. (2) If the word religion is objected to, then substitute for it the term justice or righteousness (正義), or conscience. It must be admitted by all that the heart of man needs guidance and that his better feelings need cultivation. If such matters as these are treated with indifference the nation will drift into materialism. In saving it from this fate Protestants and Roman Catholics can sink their differences and work together. (3) In reference to evangelisation, however much effort may be expended in preaching the gospel, it is very difficult to induce people to listen with attention. Though preaching and lecturing are not to be neglected, I am of opinion that better results are obtained from the distribution of tracts and small books and the statement of one's views in magazines or newspapers. But a more effective manner still is to make converts whose lives are a daily sermon to all who come into contact with them. (4) In training Christians our Church attaches great importance to the instilling into their hearts of certain cardinal doctrines. But we realise that men's minds are differently constituted and that all teaching must be suited to individual peculiarities and wants. The articles of the Apostle's creed it is necessary for all converts to understand and to accept, but in the matter of religious doctrines outside these we deem it best to allow Christians to decide for themselves what they shall believe and what reject. Many persons are greatly disturbed in their minds by the amount of Biblical criticism which is showered on them from all sides, and think that, in face of the facts which have been brought to light, it is difficult to believe that the Bible is faultless. These things do not disturb me. I say to the investigators, search as much as you will. You have not yet discovered any geographical or historical error in the Bible. I believe the day will come when it will be seen that there is no conflict between science and the Bible. (6) In reference to my system of thought, it is founded on the Bible and its teaching. But I study all the questions of the day and endeavour to make up my mind in reference to them, and to explain them to others. I criticise and advocate reforms of various kinds. Philosophy and history, specially ecclesiastical history, interest me much, and I read with great pleasure modern works on sociology, economy, and politics, but the flavour of these is not so suited to my palate as the records of the past. In these I see a picture of the conflict of opinion that is going on at present. To know the past is to know the present, for history repeats itself. But in order to utilise the events of history in teaching to-day, one must submit them to a process of transformation. If the Japanese coin called *Koban* is to be made use of in this age, it must be recast and modelled anew. So with the doings of our ancestors, they must be extracted from the ancient surroundings and so explained as to suit the present age. . . . . Of all the works that I have read those that I have found most helpful to me have been the philosophical writings of Thomas Aquinas, an author whom I dearly love.* Among books written in English, for the display of rich Christian experience of a most varied type, first as a Protestant and afterwards as a Roman Catholic, the works of Frederick William Faber have no rival.

The Protestant public is greatly indebted to the *Fukuin Shimpō* for this interesting vitascopic portrait of a mind that may be said to represent that of a class of men whose inner lives are too little known to the general world.

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In reviewing the Japanese translation of Dr. Davis' "Outline Study of Ethics," the *Fukuin Shimpō* says that a more inaccurate and obscure rendering it has never been its ill-fortune to come across. A certain Mr. Okamoto Ushikuma is the translator, who, according to the reviewer, has made use of terms which nobody understands, and who in attempting a literal rendering has made parts of the work quite unintelligible. This is greatly to be regretted, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*, as the original work, though very short, is exceptionally well written. It is surprising, concludes the reviewer, that the author should have allowed such a translation to be published.

A Mr. Sakamoto Reishū has published a small work on "Mahomet," which the *Sekai-no-Nihon* criticises unfavourably. It is hard to see, says the review, what use such works can be. There is no attempt to trace the secret of Mahomet's power over his fellow-countrymen. He is supposed by the writer to have been a hero of a very savage type with no high ideal to lead him on, and is represented as a clever deceiver of ignorant Arabs. Does this account for the great religion which Mahomet founded and for the existence of his millions of followers?

* * *

The great question of the day among Christians is how to build up a ministry, says the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*. Look where one will, divinity halls are poorly attended. Since the Dōshisha disturbance the *Kumiai Kyōkai* has been without even a small theological training school (*Dōshisha sōjō irai bibitaru Shingakkō sura naku nareri.*) But a more serious feature of the present situation than the paucity of training schools is the fewness of the applicants for theological training. However much the evangelists now in the field may exert themselves, and however bravely they may struggle on, unless they are reinforced, it is plain that in the long run the cause for which they contend must lose ground. Why are there not more applicants for holy orders? The following are the principal reasons. (1) *The unpopularity of the profession* Ministers are regarded by many of their own countrymen as traitors and the slaves of foreigners. From foreigners they do not receive much sympathy. (*Gaijin yori wa oi naru dōjō wo ukezu.*) Where they do get a certain amount of sympathy is among Japanese believers. (2) Then there is the ever present *financial difficulty*. Pastors are poorly paid, and from year to year there seems no prospect of their

* It is to be regretted that Mr. Loomis confines his list of Missionaries to Protestants. There is no published list of Roman Catholic Missionaries that we are aware of, and we frequently find great difficulty in identifying names written in Kana and not even correctly spelt in Kana.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

* Of this divine an ardent admirer, D. John Radle, writes:—"In concise and earnest simplicity of style, in subtle and daring speculation, in purity and loftiness of aim, in orthodoxy of religious sentiment, acuteness and vigour, in breadth and depth of view, in intellect and heart, in piety and temper, Thomas Aquinas is the acknowledged prince of the Mediæval Schoolmen and divines.—WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.

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religion that manifests itself in superiority of character and life. The personality of Christ ought to be held up as a model. Japanese morality is entirely without a motor and there is no motor like the religion of Christ.

* * *

The *Kwassen* (活泉, Living Spring) is the title of an Annual Report of Mission Work published in December last by the Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society, a copy of which has just been forwarded to us. Among the contents there are three articles by the Rev. E. Schiller, one by Dr. Christlieb, one by the Rev. T. Hiroi, and one by the Rev. E. Wendt. In one of his articles, Mr. Schiller gives an account of the principles of the Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society which may be of interest to other missions, and which we therefore epitomise here. The chief object of our mission, says Mr. Schiller, is no other than that of other Missionary Societies and Churches, namely the propagation of Christianity. We differ from the Unitarians in that, while they are content to endeavour to nourish religious life in Japan in a general way without endeavouring to persuade people to adhere to any one religion or form of faith in particular, we with heart and soul devote ourselves to the preaching of the religion of Christ, believing it to be the most highly developed of all creeds. From other bodies we differ in the importance attached by us to modern learning. But it is not true to say that on account of the value we place upon criticism and research of all kinds, we have given up any of the essential parts of Christianity. The knowledge which advances as the world progresses cannot affect in any way the fundamental truths of the Christian faith. In preaching the faith of the Apostles of Christ we suit our message to the age in which we live. It is not for a moment to be supposed that were the Apostles among us to-day they would do otherwise. It is our object to divest Christianity of its antiquated costume and to present it to men's minds arrayed in garments of modern cut, to substitute for the lifeless dogmas of antiquity truths that are replete with life and power, and to get rid of cumbersome ceremony, rules, and usages of every kind. It is the spirit and essence of Christianity alone that we are concerned in imparting to the Japanese nation. As to matters of ceremony and questions of Biblical exegesis, we leave Christians to come to their own conclusions. It is a living thing that we preach and as long as we succeed in implanting that living thing in the hearts of men we are content though none of the Western forms of Christianity are perpetuated in this country.

THE CONDUCT OF THE BOERS.

Reuter telegraphs that intense indignation is felt at the Cape in consequence of the brutal behaviour of armed Boers towards British refugees at way-side stations. In connexion with this piece of intelligence much interest attaches to the following extract from correspondence recently published by *The Times* :—

The view has been expressed in Johannesburg that representations should be publicly made to secure the observation of the Geneva Convention in the event of war taking place. This is not due to unfounded nervous apprehension; there is no lack of evidence that some such representation is necessary. It is not long ago since the member for Johannesburg, Mr. Dieperink, denounced as rebels and traitors those of the community who took part in the meeting held to adopt the franchise memorandum. Now mark how this memorandum came into existence, and how the meetings came to be held. The Government approached the capitalists to negotiate terms of peace; the capitalists declined to speak for the public and demanded that they should themselves be heard; the Government selected a dozen men arbitrarily to represent the public; these men, in compliance with the Government's request, drew up the franchise memorandum; the public desired to hold a big meeting to adopt it, but the Government forbade the meeting and condemned all available buildings. When the storm which was bound to follow this broke, the State Secretary, Mr. Reitz, suggested that a series of smaller meetings should be held for this purpose, and this was done, and the speakers at these meetings are the men who are denounced by the member for Johannesburg as rebels and traitors, and who, he says, ought to be expelled from the country or otherwise summarily dealt with by the Government. The Government themselves do not openly support such action, but they have mounted their quick firing machine-guns on the top of the fort, so that all may see them; they work their heliograph by day and their flash-light and search-light by night—moral pressure on the Uitlanders; they have surrounded the fort by immense wire entanglements; and they have the streets patrolled day and night by armed, mounted police. Their official organs—the *Standard and Diggers' News*, *Rand Post*, the, *Voortrekker*, and other Dutch papers—suggest or openly advocate the destruction of Johannesburg and indiscriminate shooting. Week after week we read in the *Voortrekker*—a paper published at Krügersdrop owned and edited by Commandant Viljoen, lately elected second Raad member for Johannesburg—the black list of men who are not to be tried, but to be pulled out and shot if any trouble should take place. These men are described fully—name, address, occupation, and antecedents—with every cowardly and malevolent incitement which the hatred of the Boer writers can suggest. They are charged not with working for reform, but with endeavouring to promote war, although their every speech and act bear witness that they seek for nothing more than a bare *fraction* of the ordinary rights of free men. Not only are they repeatedly named and described in the Dutch papers but they are subjected, too, to the persecution of the anonymous, threatening letter warnings, and death sentences; messages couched in an ostensibly impartial spirit, but really designed to terrorise, reach them from well-known Boers and very well-known officials. The men so selected are Messrs. W. F. Monypenny, editor of the *Star*; William Hosken, a well-known merchant and chairman of the Chamber of Commerce; W. Wybergh and T. R. Dodd, the Chairman and Secretary of the South African League; and C.D Webb (who with Mr. Dodd was arrested for protesting against the murder of Edgar). Many others have been privately warned, but against these, and especially the first named, the black-listing in the Dutch papers is publicly carried on.

An intensely bitter feeling has been created in the place against the authors of these men themselves, but others who follow and admire them, feel that something might well be done to bring home to a semi barbarous people that, since they have signed the Geneva Convention, they will be called upon to observe it in the event of war breaking out, and that anybody failing to observe it will be called upon to give an account of himself at Court-martial. To European people this may appear unnecessary; but if anybody should still think so let him read the history of the Boer, and see how Commander Cronje, who would undoubtedly, in the event of war, be entrusted with the command of the Boer forces, behaved when he conducted the siege of the Potchefstroom garrison. There it may be read that he forced non-combatants of other nations to fight against the British troops, that he compelled British subjects to do the trenching for the Boers under fire from their own people, and that British subjects were shot dead by British soldiers while doing it.

DR. SENICHI OTSUKA, an expert of the Government Iron Foundry, has been investigating the Japanese iron mines. He finds that at Miyazaki, in Echigo, is one of the best and largest in Japan. Material for fire proof brick, a necessary article in iron founding, has been discovered near at hand in the same district. The mine is now rented to Messrs. Gonzaburo Koganei and Muneshichi Kakehi.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A WORD OF THANKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg room in your columns to express for Dr. Otsuka, of the Meguro Leper Home, in Tokyo, his heart-felt thanks—though I am very tardy in fulfilling his request—to friends, one in Yokohama and one in Australia, for gifts of money for the bicycle which was asked for last spring. The good friend in Australia supposed the bicycle was an accomplished fact long ago, but I am sorry to say it has not yet materialized. Meanwhile work in the Home has greatly increased because of the entrance of Dr. Kitazato's leper patients; his leper hospital having been merged into the one at Meguro, which, while it does not change the Christian character of the institution, adds the prestige of Dr. Kitazato's services and influence, though it adds nothing to Dr. and Mrs. Otsuka's salary, and by more than doubling the number of patients adds immensely to the arduousness of their duties, as servants or nurses are just as difficult to secure as ever, for such a place.

Dr. Otsuka has been weakened this summer as usual when he had to do much walking in the heat. More than this, Mrs. Otsuka, who is usually very strong, has been confined to her bed for about a fortnight from excessive weariness and over-work. The bicycle is just as needful to-day as ever, as is assistance in every direction.

Thanking you for space in your columns.

Yours, H. F. P.

Mayebashi, October 6.

"ORIENTAL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the question of Oriental and Occidental morality, briefly discussed in your columns on the 28th instant, I wish to bring the following extract to your notice :—

"If, leaving aside the middle age and its clergy, we cast our eyes around us in the most civilised and polished European societies, we see that the concubinate has indeed disappeared, but that its inferior form, concubinage, is very flourishing. Centuries of legal and religious restraint have not been able to uproot it, and the rigid monogamic marriage inscribed in our laws is constantly set at defiance by our customs. Nearly everywhere the number of births called illegitimate is on the increase. In France it constantly progresses :

From 1800 to 1805.....4.75 per cent.
From 1806 to 1810.....5.45 per cent.
From 1821 to 1825.....7.16 per cent.

Since that time the proportion has oscillated round 7.25 in France. But in Sweden, from 1776 to 1866, it has risen from 3.11 per cent. to 9.5. In Saxony the return has been 15.37 in 1862-1864. In Paris, according to the calculations of A. Bertillon, more than a tenth of the couples (40 000) were living in free union. . . . . The concubinate is, therefore, or at least has been till now, natural to man. One may say, borrowing a locution from Bossuet, that this is proved by "the experience of all the centuries." It remains for me now to deduce from the facts I have enumerated a sketch of the general evolution which they represent, and to estimate their moral significance. The evolution is of the simplest. Sexual union, without restraint or law, has been the commencement. Then the right of the strongest or the richest has created polygamic households. In those households the priority was at last bestowed on one wife; but, as the husband did not curb his changing humour, he kept by the side of the chief spouse either slaves or "lesser wives" to whom, in the end, a legal position was accorded. The monogamic *régime* making more and more way, the time came—at Rome, for example—when this disguised polygamy was no longer tolerated, and the concubinate became a marriage of the second order, being unable to

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co-exist with the other. At length there was a pretence of abolishing it, and there was no other matrimonial type legally recognised except the monogamic union, lasting till the death of the husband or wife. But custom has rebelled against the law, and monogamy has been more apparent than real. Prostitution for the least refined, adultery and free union for the others, have served as safety-valves for inclinations too inveterate and too violent to be controlled by legal texts. Has moral purity gained thereby? Surely not. Moreover there is in consequence a whole population of illegitimate children, too often abandoned by their fathers, and suffering from their birth a legal indignity of the most iniquitous kind. Hence arise a thousand unmerited sufferings, which legislation must some day or other remedy, and from which the legal concubinate has spared China, for example. Doubtless the ideal is a fine thing, but it is folly to sacrifice the real to it, and to legislate without taking into account the requirements of human nature."—[From "The Evolution of Marriage and of the Family" by Ch. Letourneau, General Secretary to the Anthropological Society of Paris, and Professor in the School of Anthropology. London, Walter Scott, 24 Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, 1891.]

Yours, etc. D.

PROTESTANT PREACHING IN MANILA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I notice in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of Sept. 30th that Bishop Graves of Shanghai preached in Manila on the 10th of Sept. and it was thought to be the first occasion on which a Protestant Bishop had preached there. Bishop J. M. Thoburn, who has been a missionary over forty years in India, visited Manila last March and preached a number of times. The following extracts from one of his letters are not only full of general interest, but perhaps describe the first public Protestant preaching service held in Manila.

Yours truly, W. P. T.

"Yesterday, March 5, was my first Sunday in Manila, and I had been looking forward to the day and its duties with peculiar interest. According to announcement, I repaired to the Filipino Theatre at 9.30 a.m., where I found a dozen soldiers and two or three chaplains standing in front of the door, with perhaps two dozen Filipinos gathered in the street, watching what to them was a novel spectacle. Going inside, I found a somewhat spacious audience room, with side galleries, and seats capable of holding about 300 people on the main floor, which was separated from the somewhat higher seats under the galleries by a wooden railing. At the time announced for the meeting about fifty persons were present, but this number increased slowly, until just before beginning the sermon I counted seventy-four persons on the main floor, with about fifty Filipinos standing near the door or along the sides of the railing. Most of the congregation were soldiers. Five ladies were present, and four or five army chaplains. The first attempt at singing was not very successful; but further on in the service, when the people became better acquainted with their environment, things moved more smoothly.

"At the close of the sermon I announced that as it cost something to secure the theatre and arrange for the meeting, we would, according to our custom, take a collection, and forthwith called on Prautch and Booth to take their hats and gather up the offerings of the people. The smile which this announcement occasioned was almost audible, but when at the close of the meeting we counted up the contents of the hats we found the sum of $92, which showed that the people were ready to support the work. This money included coins from many countries—the nickel from America, the old-fashioned dime, Mexican coins of various sizes, and coins from Malaysia, Japan, China, and elsewhere, not excepting the little copper American cent.

"I could not announce an afternoon or evening service in the theatre, as owing to the strict military regulations a special permit has to be obtained from the general marshal for every public meeting. At 2.30 however, I went across the river to a suburb on the other side, where the general had promised to meet. It had been announced that I should preach there at that hour, and I found that a very suitable place at a point where four verandas were within reach of my voice had been selected for our occupancy. A few hearers from the city and from the shipping in the port, and also four or five chaplains, with soldiers from various points, came together, so that I had a very fine audience. Many were standing, some were seated, while the wounded reclined in such positions as could be arranged for them. Two poor fellows who had requested to be carried as near to me as possible were laid on stretchers immediately before me. The whole scene was not only unique in its character, but exceedingly touching. Men with every possible kind of wounds were present. One poor fellow had received fifteen distinct wounds, and was still carrying in his body several pieces of the iron shell which had exploded near him. Among others was a young Englishman who had ventured too near a place of danger as a spectator of the fight. Some were present who had known me, or at least heard me preach, in America at various times.

THE CUSTOMS.

Procedure of Protest and Appeal.

We have received from the Customs authorities an English copy of the Rules of Procedure for Protest and Appeal under the Customs Law. The chief points are as under:—

Protest.

(1) A person dissatisfied with the action of the Director of the Customs as regard the imposition of Customs Duties may enter a protest in writing within ten days.

The protest should properly be written in Japanese, but for convenience sake foreign languages will be accepted by the Customs, if it appears desirable and expedient. The day on which notice for payment of duty is issued shall be deemed the day on which duty is imposed.

When duty is paid in cash, as in the case of dutiable articles among travellers' baggage, no notice is issued, and the time when payment is made shall be regarded as the time of imposition of duties.

Protest should be made before taking delivery of the goods in question; after delivery no protest will be accepted. Goods, however, may be removed after a protest has been laid.

The protest shall state the grounds of objection, the claims made, and the amount of the duty protested against, and if there are any documents relating to the case they shall be endorsed on the form of protest. The date of the imposition of duties must also be mentioned.

The decision of the authorities shall state the name and residence of the person making the protest, the grounds of the objection, and the principal facts influencing the judgment, and this shall be delivered by a messenger of the Customs House to the person making the protest. This document will be in Japanese, but the Customs will, at its discretion, issue an English translation which has, however, no legal effect.

In case of a protest relating to the dutiable value of goods on which *ad valorem* duty has been imposed being considered unreasonable, such a document as the above need not be issued (Art. 63, Customs Law).

Appeal.

Any person dissatisfied with the action of the Customs Authorities may lodge an appeal with the Minister of Finance. The procedure is as follows:—

The document of appeal must be addressed to the Minister of Finance and forwarded through the Director of Customs. If forwarded in any other way the appeal will not receive consideration.

The document shall state grounds of objection; claims, class, profession, domicile, and age of the appellant; and his signature shall be appended. Documents relating to the case, including the written decision of the Director of Customs on the protest already entered, shall be annexed to the document.

The appeal must be lodged within 60 days from the date of the Director's decision (if there has been a previous protest), or from the date of the imposition of duties (if the appeal is made directly).

The document shall be forwarded to the Minister within 10 days from its receipt by the director.

A written decision on the appeal shall be delivered to the appellant through the Director of Customs.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held at Mr. Thomas' rooms, No. 60, Main Street, on Monday afternoon. Mr. J. T. Griffin presided, and there were also present Messrs. L. Abenheim, E. C. Fox, F. W. Thomas, S. E. Unite, and W. Friedlander (Hon. Secretary).

The Report.

The Secretary presented the following report and accounts:—

Secretary's Report, 1898 9.

Your committee have much pleasure in presenting to members the 9th annual report of the Yokohama Chess Club.

The number of members during the past season was thirty-six. Suitable club rooms were obtained at Wright's Hotel, but were very little used, so that not a single tournament is to be recorded. Of the thirty six members on the roll a large number have since removed from Yokohama or resigned membership for other reasons. Many of those remaining are members by name only, taking no active part in the working of the club.

The prospects being thus rather bad, the general meeting will have to consider the advisability of adjourning the club meeting for one season calling for no subscriptions in the meantime.

The Club has to mourn the loss of two very old members, Mr. J. Davieson and Mr. O. Keil, both of whom died during this year. Mr. Davieson will be remembered as the energetic secretary of the Club during the two seasons of 1894-5 and 1895 6, and as one of the most enthusiastic members of the time. Mr. Keil belonged to the club since it was formed, nine years ago. The fine championship trophy which he presented to the Club in 1893 and which is still being competed for annually, was a proof of the great interest our deceased friend took in the affairs of the Club.

The treasurer's account is annexed, showing balance in hand of *yen* 99.32 against *yen* 127.22 as compared with last year.

The committee now tender their resignation.

Wm. Friedlander,
Hon. Secretary.

Hon. Treasurer's Account.

Oct.	1. 1898.	To Balance in hand.	127.22	
Dec.	1. ,,	,, Subscriptions (36)	108 00	
Dec.	1. ,,	,, Entrance Fees (3)	9.00	
Sept.	30. 1899.	,, Interest	5.00	
Apr.	19. 1899.	By Rent, Wright's Hotel		110 00
Sept.	30. ,,	,, Printing & Advert.		19 00
,,	,,	,, Sundries		20 90
				149 90
,,	,,	,, Balance		99 32
			Yen 249·22	249.22

Oct. 1. 1899. To Balance in hand. 99 32

Wm. Friedlander,
Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
F. W. Thomas.

Yokohama, October 2nd, 1899.

The report and accounts were adopted on the motion of Mr. Abenheim, seconded by Mr. Fox.

A Decline of Interest in Chess.

The Chairman, in addressing the meeting, endorsed the Secretary's opinion that it would, perhaps, be best to adjourn for a season, considering the very small interest taken by members during the last season. It was a curious fact that chess of late had declined all over the East. Singapore and Hongkong were doing very little, and Kobe and Tokio Clubs had adjourned for an indefinite period or ceased to exist. The Y. C. C. was the oldest Chess Club East of Calcutta, and after many successful seasons it had at last also followed in the footsteps of those junior Clubs and a catastrophe was threatened unless something was done.

The members present expressed general regret at this sad outlook. Much discussion took place, finally resulting in the proposition by Mr. Fox, that the incoming committee

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should make arrangements to secure suitable quarters on the Bluff, the possibility being that such a course might change the aspects completely Many members who might be willing to come out for play at night, would not have to journey down to the settlement and might therefore attend the meetings regularly. The proposition seemed to meet with general favour.

Mr. UNITE seconded and it was carried unanimously, thus for the present disposing of a very serious question.

Mr. J T GRIFFIN was re-elected President, and Mr. FRIEDLANDER, Secretary and Treasurer, while Messrs. Fox, Thomas and L. Abenheim were re-elected the Committee.

This was all the business.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of members of this Society was held on Friday evening at the Club Hotel, Mr. F. W. Mitchell presiding. There were also present Messrs. C. M. Duff, G. Phillip, C. W. Ure, E. Coutts, R. M. Stirling, W. G. McVicar. H. A. Stewart, James Stewart, James Dodds, Hamilton Boag, H. Boag, R. B. McKinnell, &c.

The president (Mr. F. W. Mitchell) presented the report and accounts, which were as follows :—

The Committee beg to submit their report for the year 1898-99, attached to which is the Honorary Treasurer's statement of accounts. The funds at credit of the Society now stand at *yen* 740 94 as compared with *yen* 630.70 at the corresponding date last year. The funds of the Society now bear interest at 5 per cent. per annum. Two Scotchmen received assistance during the year, one to the extent of *yen* 28 and the other to the extent of *yen* 20. There are now on the list 109 members, of which two are life members. There are 44 resident and 65 absent members against 53 resident and 57 absent members last year. Two new members joined during the year and one member, resigned. The Committee deeply regret to record the deaths of two members since the last report, viz., Messrs. W. Barries and W. K Burton. St. Andrew's Day was celebrated by a very successful Ball under the auspices of the Society, and our thanks are due to the Ball Committee for their handsome donation of *yen* 150.

RECEIPTS

October, 1899.		Yen.
To Balance from Last Account		630 70
To 9 Subscriptions, 1898 9		18 00
To 44 „ 1899-1900.....	88.00	
Less outstanding subscriptions ...	44 00	44 00
To Donation from Ball Committee...		150.00
To Proceeds of sale of 22 Silver Crosses		33 00
To Interest from Bank.....		30 81
		906 51
To Balance		740 94
Property Account—		
48 St. Andrew's Silver Crosses valued at *yen* 1.50 each		72.00

DISBURSEMENTS.

October, 1839	Yen.
By Advertising, etc.....	12 50
By Rent of Room.....	5.00
By Wires to Hongkong, Shanghai, and Kobe	20 18
By Cost of 70 St. Andrew's Crosses	78 39
By Sundries	1.50
By Donation to J. Gilliland	28 00
By „ J. McArthur.....	20 00
By Balance.....	740 94
	906 51

Examined and found correct.

W. REID.

Yokohama, October, 1899.

J. MCARTHUR, Hon. Treas.

Mr. Mitchell was re-elected President; Mr. Ure, Vice-President; and Mr. C. M. Duff, Mr. G. Phillip, Mr. E. Coutts, Mr. R. M. Stirling, and Mr. W. G. McVicar were chosen as the Committee. Mr. J. McArthur was elected Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. H. A. Stewart Hon. Secretary in place of Mr. H. W. Fraser, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed.

It is proposed to hold the usual ball on St. Andrew's Day.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Owing to the rain there was but a small attendance at the Literary Society's business meeting. Those present elected Mr. Cahusac chairman, and Mr. Sachs secretary, and proceeded with the business of the evening.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the last season were read and accepted, and after some discussion it was decided to call another meeting for next Friday evening, at which the officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

The following is the report of last season :—

Although the constant change which marks life in Yokohama has affected the Society, and some members have removed from the city, yet 105 new individual members and three families have been added to the membership, so that at the close of the season the Society numbers about 280. The attendance during the year has been large, over 620 guests having been present by special invitation. The finances of the Society will be seen by the following report to be in a good condition, notwithstanding the fact that by vote of the Society a fine piano was purchased early in the season. The musical programmes have been most enjoyable and varied. A high grade of music has been presented. The marked excellence of the papers has given rise to the expressed wish on the part of some that they might be printed and bound and thus preserved as valuable souvenirs of the Society. The hearty thanks of the Society are due to those ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly assisted in both the musical and literary parts of the season's meetings.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT—SEASON 1898-1899.

Receipts.

To Balance from last year.....		476 96
„ Members' Subscriptions—		
134 Ladies at 2	268 00	
119 Gentlemen at 3	357.00	
6 Families at 10	60 00	685 00
„ Interest from Bank		6 00
		1 167.96

Expenditures.

By Cost Piano	550.00
„ Rent Van Schaick Hall	120.00
„ „ Chairs.....	10 70
„ Refreshments	217 05
„ Postages and Coolie Hire ...	29 67
„ Printing Stationary and Advertising.....	114.66
„ Travels Mr. Knaff.....	5.00
„ Cost collecting Subscriptions.	5.00
„ Balance on hand	115.88
	1,167.96

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, Oct. 4th, 1899.

C. S. AVERIL, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

E. B. S. EDWARDS.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

Branches of the U.S. Paper Trust will be established in South America, China, and Japan.

Murai and Co. have joined the U.S. Tobacco Trust.

Thirty-two commercial students of a private commercial school at Nagasaki started for Korea and China on the 7th inst. by the *Hyogo Maru*. They will be engaged in practical and experiment work.

The Meikyo Insurance Company has hitherto been engaged both in fire and life insurance business, but from December the fire business will be given up. This decision was taken at the extraordinary general meeting in January last.

The Tokyo Savings Bank has inaugurated several new systems of thrift, including a species of old-age pensions, annual allowances for study, and marriage settlements.

A new fire insurance company, called the Nai Gwai Kwasai Hohen Kaisha, has been promoted, and has commenced business. The capital is 150,000 *yen*.

The repair of the Besshi Copper Mine is going on. The upper part of the railway will be in good condition by the 20th inst. The direct damage caused by the flood is estimated at 350,000 *yen*, and the indirect damage at about 150,000 *yen*.

Raw silk transactions at Kobe during September were as follow :—

	Sept. 1899.	Sept. 1898.	Decrease or Increase.
Raw Silk sent in...lbs.	258,325	533,437	D. 275,085
Sold .....lbs.	120,100	229,100	D. 109,000
Price .....yen	25 301	47,978	D. 22,677
Average price per hundred lbs. ...yen	21,066	20.942	I. 114
Direct exports ...lbs.	252,427	379,152	D. 126,826
Left in Stock .....lbs.	467,625	172,930	I. 294.695

The following comparative table shows the position of the tea trade at Kobe up to the end of September :—

	1899.	1898.	Decrease or Increase.
Tea sent in..lbs.	11.921,912	10,666,432	I. 1,255,480
Sold .....lbs.	9,919,600	8,479 000	I. 1 440 600
Price .....yen	2,336 834	2,199.172	I. 137.662
Direct Exp..lbs.	1,534,687	1,995,600	D. 460,913

Statistics of the raw silk trade at Yokohama up to the 2nd instant are as follows :—

Silk sent in.....	62,719 bales
Sold	31,639 bales
Directly Exported.....	12,623 bales
Returned	4,523 bales
Left in Stock	13.934 bales

The decrease of coal production in Chiku-Ho district is remarkable, as the following table shows :—

May, 1899	600,116,410lbs.
June, 1899	534,481,890lbs.
July, 1899	483,304,120lbs.
August, 1899	427,284,820lbs.

The foreign trade of Kobe during September was as follows :—

	Yen.
Exports	2 261,491
Imports	5,619,301
Total	7,880,792

Thus imports exceeded exports by 3,357,810 *yen*. 74,439 *yen* worth of rice was exported, and 2,956,433 *yen* worth of cotton imported.

The foreign trade of Yokohama and Kobe during September, and that from January to September, was as follows :—

	Sept. Yen.	From Jan. to Sept. Yen.
Exports.....	18,284,786	148,273,837
Imports.....	19,488,492	151,584,270
Total.....	37,773,288	299,858,116
Excess of Imports	1,203,696	3,310,442
Exports of gold and silver...	1,004,016	2,869 927
Imports of gold and silver...	438,857	19,279,876
Excess of Exports	565,195	—
Excess of Imports	—	16,409 949

Compared with last year, exports increased by 6,124,040 *yen* and imports decreased by 619,234 *yen*; the exports from January to September increased by 38,125,672 *yen* and the imports for the same period increased by 33,688 530 *yen*.

The subjects to be discussed at the meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce are as follows :—Railway Regulations (Sendai Chamber's motion). State purchase of Railways—How to encourage Japanese industry (Kyoto Chamber). Revision of Currency Law and issue of one *yen* gold notes (Mito Chamber). Renewal of the Government aid to the N.Y.K. (Sendai). Assumption of Government responsibility for the loss of registered letters (Kanazawa). Entire abolition of import tariffs upon foreign raw silk (Kyoto). Extension of inland navigation (Hakodate). Government aid to navigation between Japan and Vladivostock, Tientsin, Newchwang, and Shanghai

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(Nagasaki). Revision of the Election Law for the House of Representatives. (Tokaoka). Ditto (Tokyo). Speedy construction of a railway between Toyama and Naoetsu (Toyama). Completion of double line of Tokaido Railway (Hamamatsu). Provision of second grade post and telegraph office in every prosperous commercial city (Hamamatsu). Enactment of law for the regulation of the coal trade (Kanazawa) Revision of regulations for commercial chambers (Hakata). Revision of Election Law for the House of Representatives (Hakodate).

From the following table of prices during September we see that the tendency is still a constant rise. In the table the price prevailing in January, 1887, is taken as the standard of comparison, and is put at 100 :—

1899.	Coal.	Copper.	Iron.	Cotton.	Cotton Yarn.
August	164	316	214	127	107
September	161	316	223	133	118

	Muslin.	Floss Silk.	Lumber.	Charcoal.
August	216	131	272	170
September	216	133	272	176

	Faggots.	Kerosene.	Sake.	Soy.	Bonito (dry).
August	163	133	145	141	246
September	191	143	151	141	261

	Sugar.	Salt.	Barley.	Rye.	Wheat.
August	135	124	167	223	125
September	142	176	164	238	157

	White Cotton Cloth	Manure.	Rice Brace.	Wax.	Foreign Yarn.
August	118	155	172	95	125
September	125	160	176	104	128

	Eggs.	Home cut Tobacco.	Tea.	Mats.
August	228	146	127	206
September	254	146	129	205

	Miso.	Raw Lacquer.	Fowls.	Oil.	Flour.
August	186	101	135	232	160
September	186	100	142	236	161

	Foreign Nails.	Leather.	Lining Stuff.
August	128	197	108
September	133	197	108

	Silk Yarn.	Glass.	Hemp.	Oil Cake.
August	161	103	138	185
September	176	193	142	185

Telegrams to Yokohama from London speak of a constant rise in iron. This is partly due to the increase in freight charges owing to the Transvaal affair.

On Saturday the quotation for time rice transaction sprang up to *yen* 11.40 per *koku* owing to the bad weather.

The *habutare* trade at Yokohama presented the utmost activity last week Prices at Kanagawa and Fukui rose by five *sen*.

The time transactions in the Tokyo Rice Exchange during the latter half of September amounted to 683,250 *koku*; a daily average of 62,114 *koku*. The average prices were *yen* 9.709 for September; *yen* 9.848 for October; *yen* 10.072 for November.

At the end of September the amount of rice stored in Fukagawa, Tokyo, was 225,362 *koku*.

Mr. K. Otani arrived in New York on the 28th ult. after visiting Chicago and other imtant places.

The Formosa Bank was successfully opened on the 26th ult. and among the first deposits was one of 50,000 *yen*. Several ladies were among the depositors.

American flour has risen 3 or 4 *sen* per bag at Yokohama.

Out of the loans negotiated by the Industrial Bank three have been repaid. The first is that of the Wakayama Weaving Factory; the second the Kashu Spinning Factory, which has been wound up; and the third the Tanshima Spinning Factory, which repaid 42,000 *yen* on the 9th inst.

The Nanao Traders' Union (Nanao Boeki Domei-kwai) has forwarded a representation to the Governor of the Prefecture to the effect that the Nanao reefs should be destroyed at the expense of the Prefecture. The work would cost about 300,000 *yen*. The Governor is inclined to accept the scheme and the subject will be discussed in the Prefectural Assembly.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

At the request of the U.S. Governor, all the friars have departed from Guam.

H.M.S. *Linnet* returned to Yokohama on Monday after a cruise in Behring Sea. She stops here a fortnight.

News has been received of the death of Lieut.-Commander Ian P. Barton, of H.M.S. *Woodlark*, at Hankow, of congestion of the liver.

An official telegram dated Vienna, October 3rd, reports that Count Thun, Premier, has resigned. Count Krally, Governor of Styria, has formed a new Cabinet.

At the meeting of the British Association at Dover, amongst the papers in the Geographical Section was one by Professor J. Milne on "Seismology in relation to the Interior of the Earth."

A little child accidentally fell into the deep drain that runs along the road under the Bluff leading from Cherry Tree Walk to the Skating Pond on Sunday, and before it could be rescued was drowned.

Arrangements are being made to raise the stranded U.S cable ship *Hooker*, which lies on Corrigidor Island, Manila Bay. She is said to have had on board a hundred miles of cable valued at $500 per mile.

His many friends in the East will be interested to learn that Captain Sir E. Chichester, late of the *Immortalité*, has been appointed Naval Director of Transports at Durban, the chief port of Natal, which is likely to be the sea base of operations against the Transvaal in the event of war.

Mr. H. O. Emelker, a German subject, who was recently arrested at Nagasaki on the M. M. steamer *Tonkin* on the information of Mr. Steen, Manager of the Club Hotel, was released on Tuesday evening after a preliminary examination. The charge on which Mr. Emelker was brought to Yokohama was one of fraud, but the examination disclosed no ground for the prosecution and he was discharged.

The ex-King of Annam, now a State prisoner of France, has been permitted to pass the autumn at Royan, where, he was recently thrown out of a carriage and had an arm broken. The Prince was returning to Royan, in company with Mlle. Morisset and her brother, when the horse, which was driven by Mlle. Morisset, bolted. The carriage dashed with great force into another carriage, and both vehicles were smashed, while the occupants were thrown out. The lady sustained a fracture of the jaw, and may be disfigured for life. The ex-King was badly bruised about the head and had his arm broken.

Miller was again before the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Saturday. He showed the same insolent and unconcerned demeanour that he has exhibited all through the case, and he repeated his account of how he accomplished the crime with frank and stolid brutality. The procurator summed up the evidence, casting doubt on the prisoner's statements, and expressing the opinion that the murder of Suye and Ward was premeditated, and that the servant, "Jennie," was on the principle that "dead men tell no tales." Under these circumstances, the procurator could find no extenuating circumstances.

A Japanese named Makino Shinchi, employed by Messrs. Illies and Co., has been arrested. It appears that a bill for 60 *yen* was presented on the 30th ult by Captain Weston to Messrs. Illies and Co., and a cheque was drawn by Illies and Co on the Mitsui Bank for the amount. The bill, however, was again presented on the 6th inst., and, Illies and Co. stating that it had already been paid, the matter was put in the hands of the police. Makino was eventually arrested and confessed the crime. He cashed the cheque at the Yuen Tai exchange, representing himself to be an employe of Captain Weston, but on its being presented at the Mitsui Ginko payment was refused. The prisoner has been committed for trial.

Manila exchanges report the murder of another American soldier by a comrade and the shooting of another in a drunken quarrel. After getting their pay, one of the coloured regiments painted the town red.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN JAPAN.

By Ernest W. Clement, A.M.

Inasmuch as it is now more than ten years since the Constitution of Japan was promulgated,* it is a fitting time to consider what progress, if any, has been made during the first decade of constitutional government in this Empire. We often see and hear rather uncomplimentary statements about the Imperial Diet, political parties, Cabinet Ministers, and Japanese political affairs in general, and are even told that Japan is only "playing" with parliamentary and representative institutions, that her constitutional government is all a "farce," her popular assemblies mere "toys," and her new civilization a "bib." But such criticisms result either from ignorance or from the wrong point of view. It is undeniably true, that, viewed from the vantage ground attained by popular institutions and constitutional government in most Occidental nations, Japan is still lagging far behind. It is not, however, fair to judge her by our own standards; the only just way is to estimate carefully the exact difference between her former and her present conditions. What, then, has been actually accomplished in a decade?

To assist in answering this question properly, we desire first to submit some tables of statistics, to which reference may be made. The first table shows the changes which have taken place in the last ten years. In connection with this table, we wish to call attention to the fact that the average duration of the eight Ministries is less than one year and a half; and that the average was considerably raised by the unusual length of the Ito Ministry which covered the period of the war with China, when political rivalries were buried. It is quite probable that, if a foreign war had not occurred to unify the nation, that Ministry would not have had a duration so greatly in excess of the average, especially as, at the outbreak of the war, party feeling was running very high. In that case, the general average would have been reduced by an increase in the number of cabinets. It should also be noticed that three of these Ministries, (both Matsukata, and the second Ito), came to an end on account of collision with the Diet; and that three Ministries, (the Kuroda, the first Ito, and the first party Cabinet of Okuma and Itagaki), were broken up by internal dissensions. But, although the average duration of a Cabinet may seem short, it must be acknowledged that the record of Japan makes a very favourable showing when compared with that of France, if we may trust some figures which have recently been published in the *Japan Mail*, to this effect:—"Of the forty Ministries which have come into existence since 1870, none has survived more than 20 months, while their average duration has been from 5 to 8 months, according to the season at which they assumed the reins of power. The longest lived were those constituted in February or March, because, if they outlived July, the recess added three months to their term of office."

Premier.	Term of Office.	Yrs.	Mos
Kuroda	Apr., '88—Oct., '89	1	6
Yamagata	Dec., '89—Apr., '91	1	4
Matsukata	May, '91—July, '92	1	2
Ito	Aug., '92—Aug., '96	4	0
Matsukata	Sept., '96—Dec., '97	1	3
Ito	Jan., '98—June, '98		5
Okuma-Itagaki	June, '98—Oct., '98		4
Yamagata	Nov., '98—Sept., '99		10

* February 11, 1889.

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The second table gives the dates of the opening and closing of each session of the Imperial Diet and of suspension, re-opening, and dissolution. The first date is that of the formal opening ceremony, and the last date is that of the formal closing ceremony in the cases when the session "died a natural death." This happens to be eight times out of thirteen, so that there have been just five instances of "death due to violence" or dissolution by the Government (three by Ito Cabinets and two by Matsukata Cabinets). It should, moreover, be noted that there have been six suspensions for what the Government deemed unreasonable opposition; but it is also true, though it is not shown in the table, that on a few occasions the House of Representatives suspended its own session by adjourning for a few days to give the Government an opportunity to "think" and "come to terms." How successful suspension in either instance, or dissolution was, will be apparent when we take into consideration later and more in detail each session of the Imperial Diet. Here, however, it is interesting to observe that no House of Representatives has yet been permitted to serve out its full term of four years The members elected in the fall of 1894 enjoyed the longest continuous service of more than three years, until they lost their seats by dissolution of the House in December, 1897. On the other hand, the distinction of the shortest term of service rests with members elected to the Sixth and the Twelfth Sessions, each of which lasted less than one month, and was suddenly ended by dissolution.

Session.	Opened.	Suspended.	Reopened.	Dissolved.	Closed.
1	Nov. 29, 1890	...	...	...	...Mar. 8, 1891
2	Nov. 26, 1891	...	...	...Dec. 25, 1891	...
3	May 6, 1892	...May 16	...May 23	...	...June 15
4	Nov. 29, 1892	...Jan. 23, 1893	...Feb. 7	...	...Feb. 28
5	Nov. 28, 1893	...Dec. 19	...Dec. 29*	...Dec. 30	...
6	May 15, 1894	...	...	...June 2	...
7	Oct. 15, 1894	...	...	...	...Oct. 22
8	Dec. 24, 1894	...	...	...	...Mar. 25, 1895
9	Dec. 28, 1895	...Feb. 15, 1896	...Feb 25	...	...Mar. 29
10	Dec. 25, 1896	...	...	...	...Mar. 25, 1897
11	Dec. 24, 1897	...	...	...Dec. 25	...
12	May 19, 1898	...June 7	...June 10	...June 10	...Mar. 10, 1899
13	Dec. 2, 1898	...	...	...	...

* On December 29th there was a suspension for 14 days, but on the next day dissolution was announced.

In the third table the mere names have no special significance except to indicate who have been and are the popular leaders. Mr. (afterwards Baron) Nakashima has been Minister to Italy, and is now dead; Mr. Tsuda seems to have dropped out of public life; Mr. Hoshi, after serving as Minister to the United States, is again a leader in the Lower House; Mr. Sone has served as Minister to France and is now Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Kusumoto has become a Baron; while Messrs. Abei, Shimada, and Hatoyama are still leading members of the Lower House. I have not considered it necessary to state the party affiliations of these officers; because, in most instances, personal popularity or acknowledged ability was an important element in the election, which was not, therefore, a real test of party strength. In some cases also, small factions, holding the balance of power, have cast their votes with the minority; or, to use an American political expression, the "field" has been able to combine against the most prominent candidate.

Session.	President.	Vice-President.
First	Nakashima	Tsuda
Second	Nakashima	Tsuda
Third	Hoshi	Sone
Fourth	Hoshi	Sone
Fifth	Kusumoto*	Abei
Sixth	Kusumoto	Kataoka
Seventh	Kusumoto	Shimada
Eighth	Kusumoto	Shimada
Ninth	Kusumoto	Shimada
Tenth	Hatoyama	Shimada
Eleventh	Hatoyama	Shimada
Twelfth	Kataoka	Motoda
Thirteenth	Kataoka	Motoda

In the fourth table there are not so many changes, because the officers of the House of Peers, (nominated by the Emperor), hold office for seven years. The table, therefore, indicates only the changes, almost all of which were due to the transfer of an official to another position.

Session.	President.	Vice-President.
First†	Count Ito	Count Higashikuse
Second	Marquis Hachisuka	Mr. Hosokawa
Fifth	Marquis Hachisuka	Marquis Saionji
Sixth	Marquis Hachisuka	Marquis Kuroda
Tenth†	Prince Konoye	Marquis Kuroda

Although the Privy Council is only a deliberative body, and "shall not interfere with the Executive," yet, as it "the Emperor's highest resort of counsel," it is practically a body of great importance, especially in connection with the formation of new Cabinets. Its Presidents, who are Imperial appointees, have been Count (now Marquis) Ito, Count Oki (recently deceased) and Count Kuroda (who was Premier from April, 1888, to October, 1889).

It will now repay us to make a little more detailed investigation of each session of the Imperial Diet. It was feared by many that the First Session would develop such antagonism between the Government and the Diet as to lead to a serious rupture; but such an unfortunate outcome was averted by tact on both sides. The House of Peers was composed of 252 members, as follows. 10 Imperial Princes; 10 Princes and 21 Marquises, having a hereditary tenure of office; 16 Counts, 70 Viscounts and 22 Barons, elected by "the members of their respective orders"; 44 persons chosen from among and by the highest tax-payers in each Imperial City (*fu*) and Prefecture (*ken*); and 59 persons, nominated by the Emperor on account of meritorious services. Some of these members were incapables, possessing no merit save their rank; some were merchants, whose wealth was their only qualification; some among those appointed for erudition were mere book-worms without knowledge of political science. A curious paragraph, occurring now and then in the newspapers of that time, informed the public that a certain number of men, members of the House of Peers, "had formed an organization for the purpose of investigating the manner of studying political questions!" Nor was this so strange; for as representative institutions in Japan are but in their infancy, it would, of course, be unreasonable to expect the First Diet to be composed largely of tried and experienced legislators. But it is only fair to add that in both Houses there were many veteran statesmen and well-versed young politicians, and that the House of Peers has since been steadily growing in reputation and influence. The House of Representatives consisted of an even 300 members, who had a great variety of professions and showed great differences in personal ability and experience. The old *samurai* (gentry) class had 109, and the *heimin* (commonalty) class had 191, representatives.

It was on Dec., 2, 1890, that the House of Peers had the honour of receiving the first bill ever presented to a National Assembly in Japan, —a "bill for the amendment and control of the system of weights and measures." It was on Dec. 4, that Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance, laid before the House of Representatives the first Budget, over which ensued a prolonged and bitter discussion. The Government asked for the sums of 70,800,311 *yen* for "ordinary expenditures," and 23,204,082 *yen* for "extraordinary expenditures." The Budget Committee of the House recommended a reduction of about 7,840,000 *yen*; the "Moderates" proposed to reduce 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 *yen*. At one time it looked as if the "Radicals" would surely win and thus provoke the Government to dissolve the House of Representatives; but finally a compromise was effected, by which the Government consented to a reduction of about 6,500,000 *yen*.

Other important measures passed by the Diet were bills for opening additional ports, for postponement of the operation of the Commercial Code, for reforming weights and measures according to the metric system. One bill, passed by the Lower House, but not reached in the Upper House, was for the reduction of the land tax.

The Second Session was almost entirely consumed in a bitter fight over the Budget. Fortunately the appropriation of $500,000 for the Columbian Exposition in Chicago was put through by itself in a supplementary budget. Vain attempts were made to amend the publication regulations, the law for public assembly, and other regulations, in a way to grant greater freedom of the press and liberty of speech. The main strength of the Opposition, which had a good working majority, was spent upon reductions of the Budget; and the Government, insisting that the reductions proposed were too drastic for administrative purposes, finally dissolved the Lower House on Christmas day.

The Third Session, which was a Special Session, necessitated by the dissolution of the previous regular session, was marked by two conflicts: one between the Lower House and the Government on the subject of interference in the election of members of that House; and one between the two Houses with reference to the respective powers of deliberation and consent in respect to the Budget. In the former case, as the House by a large majority passed a Representation arraigning the Government for improper interference in the February elections, the session was suspended for one week. The dispute between the two Houses arose from the fact that the House of Peers made amendments in the Budget sent up from the House of Representatives by restoring some items expunged by the latter. The majority of the Representatives contended that the House of Peers, though competent to diminish or expunge items, exceeded its authority when it inserted items, because, according to the Constitution, the Budget must originate with the Executive, and any new item must be submitted first to the Lower House. The Upper House, however, insisted that it had equal rights of amendment with the Lower House, and not only sent its amended Budget down a second time, but also voted an Address to the Throne on the question at issue. The Emperor, having consulted the Privy Council, decided that "neither House is superior or inferior to the other except . . . that . . , the Lower House receives the Budget from the Government before the Upper." The particular points at issue between the two Houses were afterwards settled by compromise, and the Budget was finally passed on the last day of the session. But once again several important measures failed to get through both Houses. In July the Matsukata Cabinet resigned, and was succeeded by an Ito Ministry.

The apparently inevitable conflict between the Diet and the Government was continued in the Fourth Session, when it took the form of a dispute over what the Constitution terms "Fixed Expenditures," and says "shall be neither rejected nor reduced by the Imperial Diet, without the concurrence of the Government." The Lower House called for large reductions especially in naval expenditures; but the Government refused to entertain the idea, although the Opposition mustered a large majority. Even after the Government, by suspending the House had given an opportunity for calm reflection, the Opposition vehemently continued the fight

* First elected Vice President to succeed Mr. Sone.

† Regular election.

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and finally carried by the sweeping majority of 78 an Address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet. The Emperor, with the advice of the Privy Council, having carefully considered the situation, critical in the extreme, issued a conciliatory and compromise Message, in which he skilfully balanced the censure and the praise on each side and closed by donating ten per cent. of the Imperial Household Allowance,* and by directing all civil and military officials (with certain exceptions) to give the same per cent. of their salaries, for six years, to the fund for building men-of-war. The total sum thus obtained was from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 *yen*.

This spirit of compromise was still further carried out in the remainder of the Budget, which was reduced by about 3,750,000 *yen* on its expense side. The Fourth Diet also passed three important bills, marking long steps in advance in the path of popular rights: these bills effected most desirable amendments in the copyright law, the publication regulations, and the law of public meeting and political association.

In the Fifth Session, Mr. Hoshi, President of the Lower House, was accused of unprofessional conduct as a lawyer and of having abused his official position in the interests of certain legislation, and finally not only deposed from office, but also expelled from membership. Later a conflict arose between the House of Commons and the Government on the subject of the strict enforcement of the treaties, and led to a suspension for ten days. When the House reassembled, it was deemed by the Government to be in the same unconciliatory mood, and was again suspended for two weeks. The following day, however, dissolution was ordered, so that practically nothing of importance was accomplished in that session.

The Sixth Session was short-lived and came to an untimely end, because the House of Representatives passed an Address to the Throne, impeaching the Cabinet. By this time the situation had become very critical; the Ito Ministry stood firm, and the Opposition were aroused by two dissolutions within six months; so that the harmonious co-operation of the legislative and the executive departments appeared almost an impossibility. At this juncture, the war with China broke out and temporarily cleared the political atmosphere. There were, indeed, those who claimed that the Ministry was not averse to a war which should divert the minds of the people from politics and unite the nation in a common patriotic cause.

Consequently, when the Seventh (Extraordinary) Session was convened at Hiroshima in October, 1894, it took only a few days to get organized and vote, with unanimity, an appropriation of 150,000,000 *yen* for carrying on the war.

The Eighth Session, which met at the regular time two months later, also passed the Budget with absolute unanimity, and sank all party differences in an earnest effort to support the Government in the prosecution of the war.

But a year later, when the Ninth Session met, partisan feelings were again aroused in connection with post bellum measures, and finally resulted, in the House of Representatives, in a resolution of want of confidence in the Cabinet. This was met by a suspension for ten days, after which that resolution was voted down. This result was due to a coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party (*Jiyuto*), the first in the history of constitutional government in Japan. In accordance with the terms of this alliance, the Liberal leader, Count Itagaki, and other Liberal politicians, were admitted into the Cabinet. But this Coalition Ministry was soon broken up by internal dissensions; and Count Matsukata, with the aid of Count Okuma and the Progressives, organized the next Ministry.

When the Tenth Session of the Diet began, it was supposed that the new Cabinet was in a minority in the Lower House; but it soon gained the support of a good working majority and put though its measures with remarkable ease and celerity. Although the session was interrupted by frequent recesses on account of the death and funeral of the Empress Dowager, a great deal was accomplished. A national taxation law, a new tariff law, the adoption of the gold standard, a radical revision of the press law and the law of public meetings in the interests of larger freedom, and the Budget, were among the very important measures carried through both Houses.

But one year later, when the Eleventh Session was opened, the condition had so materially changed that a resolution of want of confidence in the Cabinet was able to command a good majority, and was on the point of being voted on the second day of the session, when the Ministry administered a dose of "dissolution" medicine, and then itself gave up the ghost through resignation. In the following month Marquis Ito was again at the helm, with a Cabinet supposed to be able to command the support of the Liberals.

The Twelfth [Special] Session, however, was not of very long duration. The bone of contention was the subject of taxation: the Ministry wished to obtain a larger amount of revenue by increasing the Land Tax; but the Liberals, who in the first few sessions of the Diet had been ardent supporters of a reduction of that tax, did not dare to put themselves in an apparently inconsistent position. The result was that Government was unable to get many supporters for its bill, and, after one suspension, administered another dose of dissolution, again in less than six months after the previous one, and then, like the preceding Cabinet, resigned office. Although this sudden end of the session found some important measures left on the docket, yet the income-tax law, the naturalization law, and the revised Civil Code were fortunate enough to get through both Houses.

The Okuma Itagaki "party-cabinet," organized with the support of the new Constitutional Party, formed by the amalgamation of the opposition parties and factions, was soon broken up by internal dissensions; and the new party itself, because it was not a real union but only an amalgamation, was rent in pieces. But the temporary alliance had served its purpose of establishing the principle of "party cabinets"; so that, when the Yamagata Ministry was organized, theoretically as a "neutral cabinet," it found itself compelled to make an informal alliance with the Liberals.

The result was that the Thirteenth Session of the Diet was harmonious and "unusually fruitful of legislative works," as one vernacular journal expressed it in its English column. The chief failure of this session was the inability of the two Houses to agree upon a new law of election, by which the right of franchise should be largely extended by diminishing the age limit and amount of property qualification. But many important measures were carried through, such as a reform of the local government system, the amendment of the code of criminal procedure, the increase of the land tax and a Budget calling for *yen* 246,451,706 of expenditures. It is interesting, by the way, to compare these figures with those of the Budget presented at the First Session in 1890, and thus to get a very striking object lesson of the tremendous development of this Empire. The Thirteenth Session of the Diet also made itself famous or infamous (according to the point of view) by a "salary grab" measure, which did not, however, contain any "back pay" provision, but went into effect from July 1, 1899. By this, the salary of the Presidents of the two Houses is increased from 4,000 to 5,000 *yen*; that of the Vice Presidents from 2,000 to 3,000 *yen*; and that of a member from 800 *yen* to 2,000 *yen*. The need of an increase is acknowledged, but the amount of increase is criticized.

We have now reached the point where we are able to ascertain pretty accurately what progress has been made during the first decade of constitutional government in Japan. In the first place, popular rights have largely expanded by the removal of most restrictions on freedom of the press and public meeting; and popular opinion, as expressed in the newspaper and magazines, is wielding an increased and constantly increasing influence. On this point, the *Japan Times* says: "No one who goes into the country and compares the present degree of the people's political education with what it was ten years ago, can fail to be struck by the immense progress achieved during that interval." It is evident, therefore, that a considerable extension of the franchise is warranted and will soon be accomplished.

In the second place, the character of the two Houses of the Imperial Diet has greatly improved. The inexperienced have given way to the experienced; the ignorant to the intelligent; so that, after six elections, the personnel of the House of Representatives is of a much better quality, and the House of Peers has been quickened by the infusion of new blood. Experience, as usual, has been a good teacher.

In the third place, the Cabinet, theoretically responsible to the Emperor because appointed by him on his own sole authority, is practically responsible to the Imperial Diet and must command the support of a majority of that body. Hereafter, it would seem that dissolution of the Diet is not likely to occur as often as dissolution of the Cabinet. But, in this connection, it is proper to speak of the one weak point in this situation. Although the principle of party cabinets is thus established, its practical application is difficult of realization, simply because there no true political parties in Japan. There are many so-called "parties," which are really only factions, bound together by personal, class, geographical, or mercantile ties, and without distinctive principles. One "party" is actually Count Okuma's following; another is Count Itagaki's; another is called "the business men's party;" another is composed of politicians of the North-East; and another tries to maintain the old clan alliances.

But it is, nevertheless, true that "Japan is at length passing out of the epoch of persons and entering the era of principles," when, of course, will speedily come the development of parties. It is not, perhaps, strange that the personality of the great statesmen who made New Japan possible has been felt for so long a time, nor that the able men of the rising generation have begun to chafe a little under the prolonged control of those older statesmen. But, as the *Japan Times* says, "the conflict between the old and the new elements of political power, the so-called clan statesmen and the party politicians has been so far removed that the time is already in sight when the country will see them working harmoniously under the same banner and with the same platform."

We may, therefore, conclude that the working of the new system of government has, on the whole, been satisfactory. We must acknowledge with the *Japan Mail*, that "it would be altogether extravagant to expect that Japan's new constitutional garments should fit her perfectly from the first. They are too large for her. She has to grow into them, and of course the process is destined to be more or less awkward." We must agree with Marquis Ito, the author of the Constitution, not only that there has been the experimental period, but also that "excellent results have thus far been obtained, when it is remembered how sudden has been the transition from feudalism to representative institutions."

EUROPEAN NOTES.

Two young Germans, who secretly left Bremen in order to escape their military duties, recently returned home from Algiers, where they had served in the French Foreign Legion—certainly the most senseless step they could have undertaken. The young men, of course, will have to fulfil their military duty now, but their treatment out in Algiers has been of such a kind that they will hardly have the necessary strength to serve in the ranks of the German army.

The *Figaro* states that the engagement of Prince Jean, second son of the Duc de Chartres,

* Then 3,000,000 *yen*.

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with his cousin, Princess Isabella of Orleans, is now officially announced. The marriage will probably take place at the end of this month or the beginning of November. The bridegroom, who is twenty-four years of age, is now in the military service of Denmark, where his sister, Princess Waldemar, has been established since 1885. Princess Isabella, third daughter of the Comtesse de Paris, is twenty one years of age. Her elder sisters are the Queen of Portugal and the Duchess of Aosta.

A Madrid correspondent states that there is much talk of an important impending measure of constitutional reform; in other words, the prolongation of the regency until the physical and moral growth and expansion of the young King is completed. The young monarch will come of age in three years' time. The rumours are considered well founded but premature. It is added that Senors Sagasta and Silvela are occupied with the modification of the constitution, which is deemed necessary by the needs of the country. Notwithstanding that its importance is denied, much comment is being made on a pamphlet attributed to the adjutant of the King of Portugal, inviting his country to make ready to govern Spain by means of an alliance with England. The King is now a little over thirteen years of age.

A Berlin paper publishes an interview with one of its representatives has had with an English diplomatist, who is at present travelling on the Continent. The diplomatist is reported to have stated that the terms of the agreement between Great Britain, Germany, and Portugal regarding Portuguese East Africa will be made public shortly. It will be found that the northern part of the territory will pass under German rule. Great Britain will hold Delagoa Bay and the adjacent country on a ninety-nine years' lease, and Mozambique remain under Portuguese rule.

In an article on the French and English languages the *Saturday Review* says:

It seems to us as a matter of fact that the French language has its purpose exactly and possibly more precisely than the English language has. But there is French and French as there are *fagots et fagots*. Any trained diplomatist will tell one that the so-called French used between the Foreign Office and the French Government is not the least like real French. Then again we come to French and French. There is a very wide difference. Parisian French is a language by itself; and it may be noted that the Parisians have adopted a good many words from the English tongue. For instance "Stopper" as applied to a railway train or a steamboat has been many years in use. One may also quote the familiar use, a few years ago and possibly now "On five o'clock era à six heures."

The struggle between Germany and Russia in Constantinople is likely says the *Saturday Review*, to result after all in a substantial benefit to England in Asia Minor, or rather to the Anglo-Hungarian railway syndicate. German over-confidence led to bullying, and the Sultan has shown his displeasure by falling back on his old game by playing one Power off against the other. Germany wants the Bagdad railway to take the northern route from Angora viâ Sivas and Diarbeker and the Sultan was inclined to favour this course for military reasons, the frontier he wants to defend being on the north east beyond Erzeroum and not in the south. But for the same reason Russia objects to it, and she enforced her objection with her familiar arguments—payment of the indemnity and repatriation of the Armenians. So the Sultan, according to the latest news, is likely to leave Russia and Germany to fight it out and to give the concession to M. Rechnitzer, who, backed by English money, proposes to make Alexandretta the terminus of the railway and to construct it thence south-east to Bagdad via Aleppo and north-west to Skutari via Konieh. It would be strange if the old scheme of the Euphrates Valley railway to India should thus be carried through after all.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

LATEST NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, October 6.

The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent telegraphs from Newcastle, Natal, on Wednesday to say that the Boers began their advance on that day. They are making a general movement with infantry and artillery.

The British are preparing to abandon Natal from the frontier to Glencoe. General Simons is prepared to evacuate Newcastle within twenty-four hours.

The Premier of Natal cables from Newcastle that the military cannot assist the town. He believes that the Boers are about to attack it, and advises to surrender, as resistance would be futile.

Shanghai, October 7.

The advance which the Boers were reported to be making is not confirmed by subsequent events. Later telegrams despatched from Newcastle by the Governor state that there is no immediate cause for alarm, and that the panic has been arrested.

Several British transports arrived at Durban on Thursday, the 5th instant, from India, and these re-inforcements are considered as rendering the military situation in Natal secure.

The chief Boer concentration is taking place in the neighbourhood of Volsrust. Their forces are estimated at between 18,000 and 22,000, but these numbers are probably exaggerated.

Disappointment is felt at the Cape in consequence of the delay in despatching troops from England.

The commanding officers in Australia recommend the despatch of a force of 2,000. Mr. Chamberlain has cabled recommending that New South Wales and Victoria send 250 men each, and Victoria and South Australia 125 each, in addition to those from Queensland, which have been already accepted. Mr. Chamberlain says that infantry would be preferred. West Australia will also send a contingent.

The *London Gazette* contains a proclamation summoning Parliament for the 17th inst. It also contains another proclamation calling out sufficient of the Reserves to make every battalion ordered to South Africa 1,000 strong. The Reservists who are joining the Colours will number 25,000 men.

The military situation in South Africa is puzzling. The Boers have not taken the offensive in any quarter, though they are known to be in strong force on the south-west frontier. Meanwhile the British are strengthening their positions. The forces at Mafeking and Kimberley are now believed to be strong enough to secure both those positions.

Numbers of the Cape Dutch are going to the Transvaal.

General White, who is in command at Durban, will proceed at once to Maritzburg.

One of the cruisers on the Mediterranean station has sailed for Delagoa Bay.

6,000 Boers are known to have advanced to the border within 8 miles of Mafeking, where they have elaborated various defences, including two armoured lyddite mines.

It is reported that the Boers on the Natal frontier are retiring, leaving only patrols.

Intense indignation is felt at the Cape in consequence of the persistent brutality shown to British refugees by armed Boers at wayside stations.

Shanghai, Oct. 10.

The Boers on both frontiers are grumbling at being kept so long in the field. The commissariat is wretched. Blame is laid on General Joubert, who is distrusted as favouring peace. There is a strong agitation in favour of appointing Commandant Viljeon, as Commander-in-Chief.

The Times states that Parliament will commence its regular Session with the Queen's Speech, the Address to the Throne, and so on.

Shanghai, Oct. 11.

The Transvaal has sent an ultimatum to Great Britain demanding the withdrawal of the British forces from the frontiers within 48 hours.

The New South Wales Lancers marched from the city yesterday *en route* for the Cape. Enormous crowds assembled to see them off amid frantic enthusiasm.

Mobilisation is proceeding rapidly, and recruiting is brisk.

Shanghai, Oct. 12.

The Transvaal's ultimatum has a lengthy preamble in which Great Britain is accused of unlawful intervention in the internal affairs of the country.

The document demands:—

Firstly, that all points of difference between the two Powers shall be referred to arbitration.

Secondly, that the British troops now on the borders of the Transvaal be instantly withdrawn.

Thirdly, that all reinforcements landed since the 1st June in South Africa be withdrawn within a reasonable time mutually determined on, assurances being given on both sides that there shall be no attack during the course of the negotiations. On receiving such assurances the Transvaal will withdraw the armed burghers now on the frontier.

Fourthly, that the British troops now on the high seas should not be landed at any port in South Africa.

A reply is requested by the afternoon of the 11th inst. Should it be of an unsatisfactory nature the Transvaal will regard it as a formal declaration.

Moreover, further movements of British troops in the meanwhile in the direction of the Transvaal borders will be equally regarded as a declaration of war.

Lord James of Hereford, speaking at Aberdeen, said that the resources of diplomacy are now exhausted, and that the Transvaal ultimatum renders war certain.

The British Cabinet meets on Friday.

Later.

Great Britain's reply to the Transvaal's ultimatum is understood to be short and dignified. It is simply a brief expression of regret that President Krüger should have taken the serious step of addressing such a communication to Great Britain, and it states that Her Majesty's Government has no further communication to address to the Transvaal

Sir Alfred Milner has issued a proclamation declaring that all persons abetting the enemy will be considered guilty of high treason.

The second brigade of the first division of the Army Corps, under the command of Hildyard, is to embark on the 20th of

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THE AMERICA CUP.

Shanghai, Oct. 7.

The second race for the America Cup has been again resultless.

The third race in the America Cup contest was again unfinished.

Shanghai, Oct. 12.

The America Cup Yacht (Fourth) Race is off, owing to fog.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD RETURNING.

Shanghai, Oct. 9.

Sir Claude MacDonald, H.B.M.'s Minister to Peking, has completely recovered and sails for China on Monday accompanied by Lady MacDonald.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Saigon, October 6.

The situation in the Transvaal is unchanged. Hostilities are always imminent.

Saigon, Oct. 12.

The Transvaal on Monday evening addressed an ultimatum to England, demanding the withdrawal of the British troops from the frontier within 48 hours, and the recall of the re-inforcements sent to South Africa.

The English journals deem it impossible to reply to the ultimatum of the Transvaal. They accuse the Transvaal of provocation.

THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

Saigon, Oct. 7.

The re-assembly of parliament will probably take place on the 3rd of November.

THE FRENCH EMBASSY AT THE VATICAN.

The Budget Commission, by a vote of 13 to 5, has suppressed the appropriation for the Embassy of the French Republic at the Vatican.

A POLITICAL CRIME.

Saigon, Oct. 9.

The son of the Grand-Vizier has been assassinated at Pera.

[Pera is on the Golden Horn. It is the seat of the diplomatic bodies at Constantinople.—ED. *J.M.*]

PRESSURE ON KRUGER.

Saigon, October 10.

Various influences are being brought to bear at Pretoria on President Kruger to induce him to take the offensive in the field, but he has hitherto refused.

(SPECIAL TO THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

FRENCH MAIL STEAMER OVERDUE.

Hongkong, Oct 11.

The French mail steamer which left Saigon for this on October 5th has not yet arrived.

(FROM THE "DAILY PRESS.")

THE POSITION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Manila, October 1.

General Alejandrino and two Majors accompanied four en American prisoners to Manila yesterday.

To-day General Alejandrino held a conference with General Otis, desiring recognition, which was refused.

Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, the British Consul at Yokohama, while out shooting in Ibaraki Prefecture last week, stayed for a night at the Maruman Hotel, Tsuchiya, and was robbed of *yen* 30, the notes being taken from his pocket. On search being made they were found in a cupboard and two maidservants were arrested on suspicion. One was subsequently released.

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 440.

By WILL H. LYONS,

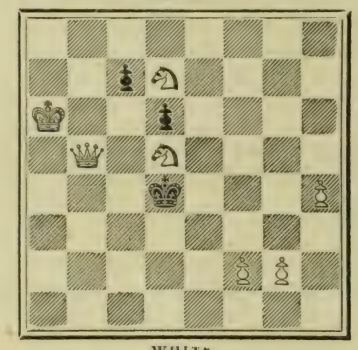
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K 7	1—K to B 5
2—Q to K 2 ch	2—K takes P
3—Kt to Kt 5 mate	
	if 2—K to B 4
3—Q to Kt 5 mate	
	1—P to B 6
2—Q to B 7 ch	2—B takes Q
3—R to B 6 mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, L.M.A., Marco, and Voila.

PROBLEM No. 443.

By ZDENEK MACH, OF PRAGUE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

ZUKERTORT.

(TO THE CHESS EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—A short time ago you reproduced an interesting paragraph from the *Manchester News* regarding the rapidity with which noteworthy competitors in tournaments often played their games. The writer went on to say that he remembered seeing Dr. Zukertort in 1893 walking about during the progress of the game with Black burne, and looking on the games played in the minor tournament. That must be a mistake. Zukertort died in 1888. I used to have the honour of playing with the worthy doctor in the early seventies for a shilling on the game. He gave me the odds of a rook, but, need I add, he invariably won and took my shilling! It may have been a habit of Zukertort's to walk about the room "because he could not possibly sit and stare at the board," but I never observed it in any of his games with the noted players of those days, or even with myself.

Yours truly,

W. B. M.

Tokyo, October 10th, 1899

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

A full account of the annual general meeting held on Monday last, together with Secretary's and Treasurer's Report appeared in Tuesday's issue of the *Japan Mail*.

The officers of last season were re-elected, viz: President, Mr. J. T. Griffin; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Friedlander; Committee, Messrs. Fox, Thomas, and L. Abenheim.

It was decided to remove the Club to the Bluff, a very wise step to take we think. We had almost despaired of the Y.C.C., but now new hope springs up.

THE AMSTERDAM INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR TOURNAMENT.

We learn from the *Westminster Budget* that Mr. H. E. Atkins, the only English representative amongst the sixteen competitors, had scored all his games played in the first thirteen rounds. His rival, the Dutch champion, Herr Olland—playing under the pseudonym "Mat"—scored eleven games out of thirteen, so that even if Mr. Atkins should have lost both his remaining games (an unlikely occurrence), and "Mat" won both his, there would be a tie for the first prize between these two amateurs.

Mr. Atkins, who hitherto had no opportunity to confirm the generally-accepted opinion of being one of the best English players, has done so now in a striking manner. Even Lasker, when he gained the mastership in a similar contest at Breslau, lost a game and had to tie with Herr von Feyerfeil, of Vienna.

Amongst the sixteen players who competed at Amsterdam for the Queen of Holland's medal are the noted Dutch amateurs Bleijkmans, Olland, A. E. van Foreest, Dimer, and Tresling. From Germany, Dr. Mannheimer, Pelizer, and Swidensky; and it may fairly be assumed that even the most eminent master might have lost a game in such a contest—anyhow he could not have done better than Mr. Atkins.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Atkins was unavoidably prevented from measuring his strength with the eminent masters in the recent London International Tournament.

Later accounts state that the Amsterdam Amateur Tournament was concluded by Mr. H. E. Atkins winning his remaining two games, thus securing fifteen wins out of fifteen games played. These figures speak eloquently enough, and we need not add anything in praise of such an achievement. The second favourite, Herr Olland, lost both his games, and remained with one point ahead of Bleijkmans, Mannheimer, and Swidenski, who divided with ten points each the third, fourth, and fifth prizes, Dimer and A. E. van Foreest dividing sixth and seventh prizes with 8½ points each.

Mr. Atkins received the silver medal given by the Queen of Holland. He received the brilliancy prize for the game won against Tresling (published below), and was elected Master of the Netherlands Chess Association.

RUBY LOPEZ.

White—Herr Tresling. Black—H. E. Atkins.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 B B2	P KKt4
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	19 P KKt4	Kt Q2
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	20 R R3	Kt B3
4 Castles	P to Q3	21 K Kt2	P KR4
5 Kt B3	B K2	22 P R3	K Kt2
6 P Q4	Kt Q2	23 R R5q	R R5q
7 Kt Q5	Castles	24 P Kt4	Kt R3
8 KtxBch	QxKt	25 P B5	B Q2
9 P Q5	Kt Q-q	26 Q B5q	K Kt3
10 B Q3	K R5q	27 BPxP	BPxP
11 Kt K-q	P KB3	28 BxP	PxP
12 P QB4	Kt B2	29 RPxP	Kt(R3)xP
13 B R3	KR Ktsq	30 B QKtsq	RxR
14 R B-q	P KKt3	31 KxR	Q R2ch
15 R B3	Kt B4	32 K Kt2	Q R6ch
16 B B2	P B4	Resigns	
17 P B3	P B5		

4—P to Q 3 is an inferior variation to 4—Kt takes P, even with Tschigorin's continuation 6—Kt to Q 2, as in the text. White gets a fairly good game after 8—Kt takes B ch; but he made a faulty combination with 14—R to B sq. His intention must have been to utilise this Rook for the purpose of a King's side attack, and he should therefore have continued 16—B takes Kt, followed by P to KB 4, and after removing the remaining Bishop, he had a clear road for the QR. Omitting this manœuvre, his QR was blocked in on the Queen's side, so he utilised it eventually to gain the QRP with 28—B takes P, when Mr. Atkins cleverly concluded the game with the sacrifice of the Knight.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON I.

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The game of chess is played by two persons on a board of sixty-four squares, coloured white and black alternately. The board is so placed that each player has a white square at his right-hand corner. Thirty-two "men" are used for play, namely sixteen white and sixteen black men, which consist of eight pieces and eight pawns of each colour.

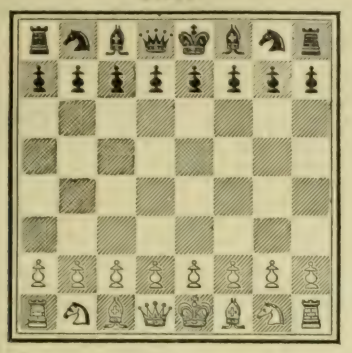
These are the eight pieces:—

	WHITE.	BLACK.
King or K..... =	♔	♚
Queen or Q ..... =	♕	♛
Two Rooks (or Castles) or R ..... =	♖	♜
Two Bishops or B ..... =	♗	♝
Two Knights or Kt ..... =	♘	♞
	and these	
the Pawns or P ..... =	♙	♟

The diagram below shows the men properly arranged for the commencement of a game.

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BLACK.



WHITE.

It will be seen that the King and Queen occupy the centre squares of the first row; then follow Bishop, Knight and Rook, the eight pawns being posted in front of the pieces. The Queens stand on their own colour; white Queen on the white square and black Queen on the black square. The Bishop, Knight and Rook which are nearest to the King are called King's Bishop (KB), King's Knight (KKt) and King's Rook (KR) whilst those nearest to the Queen are called Queen's Bishop (QB), Queen's Knight (QKt) and Queen's Rook (QR).

The Pawns receive their name from the pieces in front of which they stand, *i.e.* King's Pawn (QP), Queen's Pawn (QP), King's Bishop's Pawn (KBP), Queen's Rook's Pawn (QRP) and so on.

The object of the game is to capture (checkmate) the hostile King.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Oct. 7th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,970,322
Amount of convertible notes issued...	205,433,517
Government deposits	40,710,823
General deposits	4,838,311
Exchange liability	77,624
Total	296,030,616

Cr.	
Discount notes	44,638,861
Foreign discount notes	11,447,107
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	55,372,036
Exchange liability	1,168,556
Government bonds	53,513,116
Property...	1,943,760
Bullion and Specie	105,947,177
Total	296,030,616

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	213,091,596
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,529,995
Silver	—
Total	103,529,995
Securities :—	
Government bonds	30,066,455
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,334,418
Commercial notes	48,160,728
Total	109,561,601

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	1,475,488	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	3,701,650
Government deposits	8,384,785	—
General deposits	1,405,811	—

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 6th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 5th October, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 6th October,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 5th October, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 6th October,—Kobe, 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 6th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Thos. Aitken, 7th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 5th October, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,781, J. S. Thompson, 7th October,—London via ports, and Kobe 5th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Candia, British steamer, 4,195, W. H. Houghton, 9th October,—London via ports, and Kobe, 7th October, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,982, Joseph Pulford, 9th October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 7th Oct., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 8th October,—Otaru, 5th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 8th October,—Kobe, 6th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Linnet (6), British gunboat, 756, Commander W. W. Smythe, 9th October,—Hakodate.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 9th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 11th October,—Kobe, 9th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 11th Oct.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 11th Oct., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 12th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 11th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Senator, U.S. Army Transport, 1,836, J. B. Patterson, 6th October,—San Francisco, Troops.—U.S. Government.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 6th Oct.,—Vancouver, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, ——, 6th October, — Kobe, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 6th October,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

John Sanderson, British steamer, 2,089, J. Erskine, 8th October,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 9th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, M. Takahashi, 9th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 9th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 9th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nero, U.S. cable steamer, 1,880, Lt.-Com. Hodges, 10th Oct.,—Guam.—U.S. Navy Department.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 3rd 10th Oct.,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 10th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 10th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 10th October,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 11th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 11th October,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 11th October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Thos. Aitken, 11th Oct.,—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 11th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, Paul, 12th October,—Kamchatka, Tea.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, A. E. Moses, 12th October,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. S. Brecha, His Excellency Phyaketerong, Lady Phya Piterong and 2 children, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. J. T. Brown, Miss Turgnam, Mr. R. Riddock, Mr. U. C. Macdonald, Major J. C. C. Watson, Mr. Gromsch & 2 children, Mr. J. A. Butterworth, Mr. A. W. Fisher, Mr. John Hall, Mrs. W. Dimock, and Mr. A. T. Bowler, in cabin; His Excellency Phya Piterong and 2 servants, in second class. In Transit:—Mr. F. J. Bailey, Mrs. Bailey, Mr. F. B. Frank, Mr. R. Muncantelli, Mr. and Mrs. Van Vleet, Mr. D. Mann, Mr. A. M. Burns, Mr. E. T. Farquhar, Capt. Harrison, Misses Harrison (2), Mr. Geo. Lord, Mr. A. Campbell, Miss Allworth, Mr. McKenzie, Mr. E. A. Harper, Mr. Mr. E. G. Ackerman, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Yamanaka, and Mr. Ushikubo, in cabin; 13 in second class; 326 Chinese, and 3 Japanese, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Onchara, Mr. Borshard, Mr. Bouard & servant, Miss Sophie Mills, Fathers Banman, Saden, Kuth, Mr. Novoa, Mr. Van Hunt, Mr. Mazich, Mr. Jocelyn, Mr. Yung-Tok-Cho, Mr. Yeong, Mr. Traval, Mr. Johannes, Mr. Gedit and boy, Dr. Hickin, Mrs. Hickin, Mrs. Castelin de Maedones, Mrs. Licizina, Mr. Kabakoikoff, Mr. Tokkes, Mr. Odam, Mr. de Ruthkay, Mr. Masujima, Mr. Shyama, Madame and Miss Delbourgo and children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Kelmann Braess, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. A. Ehlers, Mrs. Ehlers and 2 children, Colonel Nakayama, Consul Ogawa, Mrs. Ogawa, Mr. Withington, Mr. Whiley, Mr. Mathes, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. T. Yamamoto, and Mrs. Chaw Fan Ding and baby in cabin; Mr. T. Ikuno, Mrs. Yamahara, Mrs. Summura, Mr. F. Witschi, Mr. A. Muller, Mr. M. Novwisch, Mr. L. Gruber, Mr. T. Komatsu, Mrs. Takeshita, Mr. M. Carton, Mr. A. Schmidt, Mr. E. Rohr, and Mr. N. Christman in second class, and 12 Chinese and 68 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. John Myler, Mr. Therese, Col. W. J. Irwin, Capt. Thompsen, Mrs. H. K. Miller, Miss Gurfluh, Mr. A. Ploos Von Amstel, Mrs. Levy, 2 children and native servant, Mr. Mackee, and Mr. Kum Kwai Sang, in cabin; two Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Pugh, Miss E. V. Pugh, Miss M. E. Pugh, Mr. and Mrs. A. Roll, Mrs. Sharp, Mr. H. H. Todd and servant, Mr. R. Tuthill, Mr. H. J. Such, Mr. W. L. Peppermen, Mrs. Neville, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mrs. M. Hall Brutton, Miss Stewart, Mr. O. K. Davis, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. A. J. S. Lefroy, Mr. R. K. Miller, Mr. J. Kerman, Mr. Boissiers, Mr. Vaughan, and Mr. Danckwerts, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. O. K. Davis, Major L. L. Seaman, Mr. J. May, Mr. J. May, Mr. H. Bancher, Mr. Jas. Green, Mr. J. E. Farrell, Mr. H. Komada, Mr. G. W. Pease, Mrs. C. H. Smith, Mr. W. Daland, Mr. Louis de Jose, Mr. J. R. McArthur, Mr. Godeffroy, Mr. K. Godelino, Mr. M. M. Trepionock, and Mr. K. Fukushima, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. E. G. Ackerman, Miss Allworth, Mr. T. F. Bailey, Mrs. T. F. Bailey, Mr. Ford G. Barclay, Mr. Bigelow, Mrs. Bigelow, Miss A. F. Brush, Mr. W. F. Brush, Mr. A. M. Burns, Mr. J. S. Bradstreet, Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. Saul S. Cohen, Col. Denby, Mrs. Denby, Mr. T. G. Denby, Mr. A. Gordon Dixon, Mrs. F. E. Evans, Mr. E. F. Fanquier, Mr. F. B. Frank, Mr. C. E. Fripp, Mr. E. H. Gilpin, Mr. E. S. Halford, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Miss Harrison, Capt. W. A. Harrison, R.E., Mr. K. Hattori, Mrs. F. Isham, Miss J. Isham, Mrs. F. S. James, Miss James, Mr. J. S. Lord, Mr. M. Mackenzie, Mr. R. H. Muncatelli, Mr. D. Mann, Mr. A. F. Manville, Mr. K. Marimura, Miss Patten, Mr. J. S.

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Ray, Prof. Mitchel Revon, Mr. Hunter Sharp, Mr. H. F. Seymour, Mr. D. Ushikubo, Mr. Vanleet, Mrs. Vanleet, Mr. Dean, Worcester, Mr. M. S. Yamanaka, and Mr. T. Yoshii in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—Col. H. Elsdale, Capt. E. Mould, Mr. C. E. Pierce, Mr. B. Blake, Mr. J. G. Walker, Mr. C. P. Fowler, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. H. Hayashi, Mr. Albert Chaix, Mr. Bailly, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Ferreira and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. de Menezes, Mr. and Mrs. Seisson and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. Fenner Hogg, Mr. and Mrs. F. Prideaux, Mrs. da Suz, 3 children and amah, Miss Bell, Miss Blake, Mrs. Toulyn, Mr. H. K. Parkes, Mr. J. T. Hamilton and boy, Mr. H. F. Bowles, Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. Ch. J. S. Van Hunt, Mr. Joseph Eymard, Mr. Marza, Mr. Mahia, Mr. Morris Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. F. Grosser, Major J. J. Ch. Watson, Mr. J. Day, Mr. F. Mitchell, Mr. Ch. Braess, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. J. C. Browne, Miss Twyman, Mr. Y. Fujita, and Mr. Sarolidis, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, for London via ports:—Count Inouye, Mr. T. Nishikawa, Major T. Mizoguchi, I.J.N., Mrs. T. Mizoguchi, Lieut. M. Kamada, I.J.N., Paymaster Y. Saito, Surgeon M. Ishiguro, Mr. T. Takenouchi, Mr. Y. Kajima, Mr. K. Masuda, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fujita, Mr. Nedzu, Mr. K. Usui, Mr. Y. Kobayashi, Mr. T. Matsumoto, Mrs. Matsumoto, Masters Matsumoto (3), Mr. H. Kawashima, Miss S. Tokuda, Dr. A. Monad, Mr. F. W. Withington, Mrs. A. McCrackin and child, Mr. T. Hara, Mr. T. Hayashi, Mr. A. Gassier, and Mr. D. Suyenobu, in cabin; Lieut. G. Katsuki, I.J.N., Mrs. Katsuki, Miss C. Kohara, Mr. Y. Demizu, M.P., Mr. Y. Shidejima, Mr. M. Kumjima, Mr. S. Tanabe, Capt. Watanabe, Mr. J. Midzumoto, Mr. K. Nishimura, Mr. T. Kuroki, Mr. C. Kishida, Mr. Leslie Sadler, Mr. N. Tsuda, and Mr. I. Kano, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. J. W. Copman, Mr. F. J. Gause, Mr. M. Suzuki, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Layton, Mr. M. Kurahara, Mr. J. Saito, Mr. S. Yoshida, Mr. H. Wakizaka, Lieut.-Col. J. Yoshida, I.J.N., Mr. K. Ogura, Mr. T. Higuchi, Mr. H. Toda, Mr. S. Yoshino, Mr. S. Kajima, Lieut.-Colonel Yokoo, I.J.N., Capt. Yoshida, I.J.N., Mr. E. H. Tsuka, Rev. R. W. Andrews, Miss F. Obana, Mr. Y. Oshima, Prof. Mannen Uyeda, Mrs. A. E. Moses, Capt. Ishii, I.J.N., Mr. S. Nakajima, Mr. T. Kimura, Mr. H. Marugi, Mr. T. Takayanagi, Mr. K. Mukai, Mr. G. Ito, Mrs. Sestinova, Miss Sakata, Mrs. Masa Sugihara, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nakamura, Mr. S. Tanimura, Mr. Y. Fujimoto, and Mr. B. Takayagi and family, in cabin; Mr. Y. Koizumi, Mr. K. Ogawa, Mr. K. Takahashi, Mr. D. Uyemura, Mr. S. Nakamura, Mr. K. Nishigori, Mr. S. Kawase, Mr. Y. Hara, Mr. T. Sugimoto, Mr. and Mrs. T. Mochizuki and son, Mr. T. Mizuno, Miss N. Uyeno, Mr. T. Takayagi, Mr. S. Shimamura, Mr. Y. Kimura, Mr. Tsuruto, Mrs. Ishida and 3 sons, Mr. and Mrs. M. Ishida, Mr. N. Oki, Mrs. M. Masuda, and Mr. M. Okuno, in second class; 97 in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Bayern* by *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Miss Mair, Dr. T. Sako, Dr. and Mrs. Lehmann Well, and Miss Grage, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 849 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 548 bales.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empres of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago and West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Ports.	Total.
Hongkong	625	44	71	738	—	1478
Amoy	447	—	7,692	—	—	8,116
Foochow	2,546	—	—	50	—	2,596
Shanghai	3,705	431	293	2	—	4,431
Hankow	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	234	—	—	—	—	234
Yokohama	1,384	—	256	—	—	1,640
Total	8,911	491	8,321	790	—	18,605

SILK.

	New York.	Hamburg.	Total Bales.
Hongkong and Canton	701	—	
Shanghai	681	—	
Yokohama	471	10	
Total	1,853		

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From.	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	M. M Co.	———	Tu. Oct. 17
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 1	W. Oct. 18
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 2	Th. Oct. 19
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Oct. 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R Co	Em. of India	M. Oct. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Oct. 25
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Oct. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 2
America	T. K. K	Am rica Maru	Th. Nov. 2

1 Left San Francisco on the 29th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Oct. 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rohilla	W. Oct. 18
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Oct. 18
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Oct. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Oct. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 23
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Oct. 27
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Oct. 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. Nov. 3
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 3

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market here is advancing rapidly in sympathy with Manchester, especially in yarns. Some business has been done at full prices, but generally buyers hesitate to follow Manchester so far.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 36 yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	Per Yard. 0.26 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Fillots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$38.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 5.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	50.00 to 54.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	91.00 to 94.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	115.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	88.00 to 92.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	104.00 to 107.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	133.00 to 137.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.00
Indian Broach	20.00
Chinese	23.00

METALS.

The market is quiet.

	Per Picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.50 to 5.70
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.00 to 7.25
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.45 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅞ to 1⅜ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

Market steady, and prices firm.

American	$1.75 to 2.80
Russian	2.60 to 2.65
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market continues steady, prices being generally maintained.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$5.20 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.90
Brown Taitung	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.75
White Java and Penang	6.75 to 8.50
White Refined	7.70 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fair business has been done at current rates. Holders would like to be moving a little faster and may perhaps accept some slight reduction of price to clear their stocks.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	$1200
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1130 to 1140
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1080 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1080 to 1085
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1140 to 1145
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1100 to 1110
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1030 to 1040
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1070 to 1075
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No 2	1020 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1000
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1065
Kakedas—No. 1	1050 to 1055
Kakedas—No. 1½	1025 to 1030
Kakedas—No 2	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No 2½	970 to 980

WASTE SILK.

Market quieter and business prices firmer for best qualities.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best Noshi—Shinshu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best Noshi—Bushu, Good Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$100 to 105
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	125 to 120
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Fairly large transactions have been made the last few days, trade being practically confined to lower qualities. There is a large stock, and fresh consignments have been arriving from the country.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 12.

Breweries have buyers at *yen* 185. Engine and Iron Works are steady at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels—a few shares are wanted at *yen* 230. Club Hotels can be had at *yen* 85. Langfeldts—a few shares can be placed at *yen* 90. Offers for Laundries are wanted. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms have again changed hands at par.

Debentures—Breweries can be placed at *yen* 110, Y. U. Clubs at *yen* 108; offers for Oriental Hotels are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	...	220 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld., *yen* 50	4...	185 B.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	...	235 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	1...	85 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	3...	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Wdrn.), $125	...	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	...	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	...	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	...	9.25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	...	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50	...	50 Sa. & S.
Hogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	3...	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	...	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	...	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	...	50 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	...	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	...	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	...	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	...	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,300 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2. *yen* 17,770.80; 3. *yen* 16,298.44; 4. *yen* 77,884.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 12.

Laundries can be had at *yen* 60. Langfeldts are steady at *yen* 100. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230.

Punjom Mines have buyers at $10.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....230 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sales.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 12

A lower rate of discount from London has caused private paper to be negociable on more favourable terms, but Bank paper has kept steady. No change in silver, and local rates on China are steadier.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 5/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 1/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/0 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49½
— Private 4 months' sight	50¾
On Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4¼% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5¼% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76½
— Private 10 days' sight	77½
On India—Bank sight	151½
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	26¾

Tokyo, October 12.

Redemption Loan Bonds	97.00
War Loan Bonds	97.00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	435.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	63.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	274.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	71.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	71.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104.20
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	30.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	75.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	61.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	26.00
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	122.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	81.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	59.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	50.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	65.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	51.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	107.80
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 3rd issue-paid up yen 28	87.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	93 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	49.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	41.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	25.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	11.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	23 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 10
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	225.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	192.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	74 60
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10	12 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	30.20
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	34.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16 50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	250.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	224.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	142 50
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	87 50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2 50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	68 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	25.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	75 20

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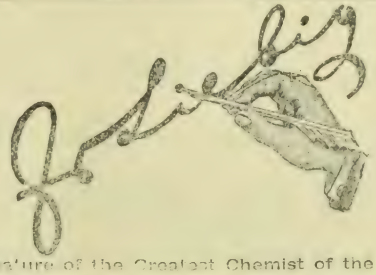
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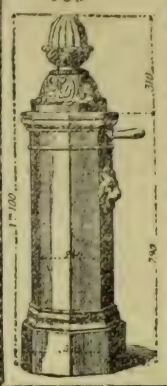
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 21ST, 1899.

MARRIAGE.

In New York City, N.Y., June 28th, by the Rev. Armand C. Miller, JOSEPH WILLIAM SCHERESCHEWSKY, M.D., son of the Rt. Rev. S. I. J. Schereschewsky, D.D., to BESSIE PERRY, daughter of Genge F. Conklin, Esq., of Exeter, New Hampshire, U.S.A. No cards. China papers, please copy.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Basutos are said to have risen against the Orange Free State.

THE British Parliament has been asked to vote £10,000,000 for war expenses.

YOKOHAMA is suffering from a water famine, the main delivery tunnel having been damaged during the recent storms.

THE French are employing Chinese workmen for service in the Soudan.

TWO million *yen* of War Bonds were issued on the 13th inst. at *yen* 95.48.

THE British Admiralty has ordered 12 torpedo-boat destroyers from private firms.

THE highest price for raw silk was reached on the 13th inst.—1,250 *yen* per bale.

THE Japan Spinning and Weaving Company has added 3,510 spindles to its muslin looms.

TWO torpedo-boat destroyers have been ordered to join the Italian squadron on the China station.

SINCE the commencement of the trouble in the Transvaal upwards of 25,000 people have left the Rand.

THE turn-over of the Hokkaido Government Railway from the 11th to the 20th Sept. was 6,102 *yen*.

THE revenue of the Sangu Railway for the first ten days of this month was 7,119 *yen*—26,368 *yen* per mile per day.

A TELEGRAM from Java says that an earthquake has taken place in Ceram destroying the town of Amahay and killing 4,000 persons.

THE Boers killed 15 British soldiers when they blew up the Mafeking train; the British are said to have killed 300 Boers near Mafeking.

THE price of coal is rising owing to the increasing demand at home and a big order from the United States fleet for 240,000 tons.

THERE were applications covering 280,000 *yen* for the 200,000 *yen* of debenture bonds placed on the market by the Sapporo Brewery Company.

CAPTAIN MEUNIER-JOANNET has been nominated Commodore of the French Naval Division in Cochin China, and will hoist his flag on the *Triomphante*.

BANK of Japan shares rose from 425 *yen* (on the 10th) to 440 *yen* on the 11th. It is said that most of the buying was done by the Morimura Ginko.

THE Yokohama Water Works Bonds have been well taken up. There were applications covering 516,700 *yen*, while the amount at disposal was 400,000 *yen*.

ACCORDING to a telegram which reached the Yokohama Specie Bank from London, Japanese War Bonds have fallen by 15s. 1d¼, and are quoted at £106.18s. 7¾d.

PRESIDENT KRUGER, telegraphing to sympathisers in New York, says that if the two Republics have to belong to Great Britain it shall be at a price which shall stagger humanity.

MR. SCHREINER, Prime Minister of Cape Colony, has strenuously enjoined upon all the Dutchmen of the Cape to remain quiescent and prove their loyalty to the Queen.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Industrial Bank debenture bonds were received on the 10th inst. About 20,000 *yen* was subscribed, the highest bid being 12 50 *yen* per 20 *yen* face value.

A strong Naval Brigade has been landed at Simond's Town; a further 14 battalions have been sent from England and Sir Redvers Buller has left for the Cape to assume supreme command.

AT the meeting of chief officials the dividend of the Osaka Railway Company was fixed at 11.4 per cent. The Hankaku Railway Company will declare a dividend of 8 per cent.

THE news from the Transvaal is very contradictory, but it is certain that the Boers have entered Natal by Laings Nek and on the other side of the country have advanced on Kimberly.

ACCORDING to a Reuter's telegram, Major Marchand has sounded the French Government as to whether he would be allowed to offer his services to the Transvaal Government. The French Government has discouraged the idea.

THE revenue of the Osaka Railway for the first ten days of this month was 18,313 *yen*—40.427 *yen* per mile per day. Compared with last year, the revenue increased by 2,151 *yen* per mile per day.

MESSRS. TATSUSABURO OUCHI, Enichiro Nakamura, Koichiro Nakagawa, Bunso-Kure, Seishu Wada and Daishiro Sawada (interpreters) will be despatched to Paris as managers of the Tea House at the Exposition.

THE America Cup races continue. After three postponements on account of lack of wind or fogs, the *Columbia* beat the *Shamrock* by half a mile. In the next race, the *Shamrock* retired, having broken her topmast.

THE downward tendency of silver is shown in the following statement:—July 1st, 27d$\frac{13}{16}$; July 15th, 27$\frac{1}{16}$d$\frac{0}{16}$ Aug. 3rd, 27d$\frac{9}{16}$, Aug. 15th, 27d$\frac{13}{16}$; Sept. 1st, 27d$\frac{10}{16}$; Sept. 11th, 27d$\frac{5}{16}$; Sept. 20th, 27d$\frac{1}{16}$; Sept. 22nd, 27d; Sept. 30th, 27d; Oct. 3rd, 27d$\frac{3}{16}$; Oct. 5th, 26d$\frac{14}{16}$.

THE deposits in the Imperial Post Office Savings Bank during the fiscal year 1898-1899 amounted to 11,764,424 *yen*; 15,430.589 *yen* was withdrawn by depositors; and 22,490.918 *yen* was left in the bank at the end of the fiscal year.

ACCORDING to the investigations of the Finance Department the number of banks at the end of September was 1,954, and the capital aggregated 416,690,000 *yen*. Compared with August the number of banks had increased by 18, and the capital by 1,540,000 *yen*.

THE French Colonial Minister has received a telegram from Lieutenant Pallier of the Soudan, announcing that he has taken command of the Voulet mission. He confirms the assassination of Colonel Klobb, and adds that he has found Lieutenant Meynier, who will survive his wounds.

CAPTAIN GRIEK, of the German steamer *Savonia*, which arrived at Singapore on the 29th September, reported that on the voyage from Moji a crew of fifteen Japanese was picked up from a Japanese junk on the East coast of China in Lat. 27 deg 2m. North and Long, 121 deg. 29 m. East. They were landed in Singapore.

IT is reported from Peking, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that the Tsungli Yamên has borrowed from the Russo Chinese Bank Tls. 1,200,000, for the commencement of the construction of the Lungchow Railway in Kuangsi, and that the loan was signed and sealed by the respective parties on the 20th of September last, while the matter was reported to the Throne on the 24th of that month.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Monday, Oct. 16.

The news that the Boers have wrecked an English armoured train confirms the apprehension expressed recently in these columns that one of the chief dangers in the early stages of the war would be connected with any attempt to utilize the railways up to the points where they touch the frontier of the Transvaal. The Railway from Capetown to Mafeking crosses the Orange River at Hopetown, a few miles from the South-western corner of the Orange Free State, and thence passes close along the Western boundaries of that State and of the Transvaal. The distance of the line from the Transvaal frontier at Vryburg is 35 miles, and in the interval of 95 miles between Vryburg and Mafeking, it passes within 10 miles of the frontier at Matabi, which is the station immediately south of Mafeking. Evidently such a line is greatly exposed to enterprises on the part of the enemy. From the moment when the Orange Free State takes up arms against England, the whole 235 miles of railway from Hopetown to Mafeking must cease to be safely serviceable for the transport of troops northward.

With regard to the news that a considerable force of Boers have entered Natal *viâ* Laings Nek, it appears at first sight strange that anything of the kind should have occurred without fighting. Laings Nek is a most important position. It is virtually the only point at which Natal is accessible from the Transvaal, and it offers good facilities for defence. One is disposed to wonder why such a position should have been left undefended, especially since we know that the troops in Natal were largely reinforced on the 5th instant. Several transports from India entered Durban on that day, and, as Newcastle was already in danger, it must be presumed that the troops were hurried to the front as quickly as possible. But, with the Orange Free State in the field as well as the Transvaal, there is an obvious strategical difficulty in operating from Natal. Both the Free State and the Transvaal are conterminous with Natal. An army marching against the Transvaal from Durban has the Free State on its left flank. The railway from Durban to the Transvaal trends north and west as far as Ladysmith, which is 35 miles from the Free-State border. But at Ladysmith the line turns almost due north, running thenceforth nearly parallel to the Orange Free-State frontier, until it reaches Laings Nek, 75 miles distant. Moreover, from Ladysmith a branch, proceeding westward, crosses the Drakensberg range—the eastern boundary of the Free State—and runs as far as Harrismith, which lies beyond the border. It will be seen, therefore, that the transport of troops by rail towards the Transvaal becomes a dangerous business from the moment that Ladysmith is passed, since a force of Free-Staters, crossing the frontier, could easily operate against the left flank of the invaders. In fact, speaking strategically, a campaign against the Free State and the Transvaal combined is impeded by the same difficulty whether the operations be from Cape Town or Natal. The railway from Cape Town becomes, from the moment of passing Hopetown, a line of communications parallel to the enemy's front—which is the worst possible direction for such a line—, and the railway from Durban becomes, from the moment of passing Ladysmith, a line similarly circumstanced. In that respect the Orange Free State affords great protection for the Transvaal against a British attack, because the State lies on the right and left flanks, respectively, of armies operating from Cape Town and Natal. Delagoa Bay is, the only really favourable basis, and Delagoa Bay is, of course, out of the question. To come back, now, to the telegrams. Reuter, telegraphing on the 13th instant, said that the Free-State Boers had seized an English train bound for Harrismith. It is evident, therefore, that the Free-Staters were then operating from Harrismith in the direction of Ladysmith, and unless General White had sufficient troops to leave a strong force at Ladysmith and another at Newcastle, he would scarcely have been justified in pushing on to the defence of Laings Nek, for by doing so he would have left his line of communications virtually at the mercy of the enemy. It is possible, therefore, that he has decided to concentrate in the neighbourhood of Ladysmith, and await the advance of the Boers. The latter will probably gain some apparent advantages at the outset, but their decision to assume the offensive must weaken them greatly in the end. They can not possibly be provided with transport service, commissariat, and ambulance corps fitted for such operations.

Since the above was in type we have received the telegrams addressed from Saigon to the Legation of France under date of the 15th instant. They seem to confirm our view that General White, apprehending an attack on Ladysmith from the Orange Free State, did not dissipate his forces by attempting to seal the northern route at Laings Nek. It is possible, of course, that the British troops at Ladysmith may be only a covering column, and that Newcastle is occupied in force. In other words, General White may have made his dispositions for receiving the attack of the eastward-moving Free Staters at Ladysmith and the southward-moving Transvaalists at Newcastle. We do not know what facilities for defence Newcastle offers, but our belief is that if there had been any idea of holding Newcastle firmly, the approach to it at Laings Nek would have been guarded. From Durban to Ladysmith is 125 miles by train, so that any available troops at the former place could be sent forward to the latter in four or five hours.

A private telegram received in Tokyo says that sixteen British officers were wounded by the wrecking of the armoured train near Mafeking, and that among them was the brother of Madame O'Gorman, whose husband is serving in Hongkong. The Boers doubtless effected this business with dynamite.

Wednesday, Oct. 18.

The plan of the Boers on the Natal side appears to be defensive. They hold Laings Nek, and, at the same time, throw forward a column to keep in touch with any advance of the British troops from the South. On the Western border, however, where the strength of the British is smaller, and where they occupy positions that can not easily be reinforced, it would seem that an offensive *coup* is being attempted in the direction of Mafeking and Kimberley. The danger that we anticipated with regard to the railway has been been realized. Indeed, the most elementary notions of strategy would have induced the Boers to cut a line of communications lying practically at their mercy. So far as we can ascertain from the most recent intelligence, the British forces available for the defence of Mafeking and Kimberley do not exceed six thousand of all ranks. It is not probable, however, that the Boers can muster in very much greater strength at three places. Kimberley is, of course, the weakest point of the British position in the West. It lies within a very few miles of the Orange Free State's frontier. We shall not be surprised to learn that the Boers have gained some success in these districts.

It looks strange, at first sight, that General White did not attempt to gain possession of Laings Nek before the Boers could seize it. But that would have been such an obvious advantage that we must suppose it to have been deliberately foregone for good reasons. The explanation which presents itself to us is that the adhesion of the Free State to the cause of the Transvaal has radically affected the military aspect of the problem. The two Republics must be taken in their geographical order. There are scarcely sufficient facilities for attacking the Transvaal before dealing with the Orange Free State, and the natural course is to strike at the Transvaal through the Free State, especially as the configuration of the ground on the southern border of the Transvaal—that is to say, on the side of the Orange Free State—offers less obstacles than those that would have to be encountered by an army marching from Natal. If that supposition be correct, Laings Nek ceases to be of prime importance, and Hopetown becomes the point of entry. But it is impossible at this distance to do more than conjecture. Nearly a week must pass before the first section of the Army Corps sets out from England. Thirteen battalions represent about one half of the total strength. It will be said, of course, that there has been delay. But the undertaking is large. The despatch of an army of thirty thousand men in one body to such a distance over-sea is the most serious military effort that any country has been required to make in the history of the world. At least a month will intervene before there can be a general advance against the two Republics. We do not expect that the movement can begin until the end of November. In the interval the troops in Bechuanaland and Griqualand may have a very hard time. As to those in Natal, there does not seem to be any reason for anxiety.

Thursday, Oct. 19.

Writing in a recent issue with reference to the transport of troops from Natal for the purpose of an attack on the Transvaal, we said that "the transport of troops by rail towards the Transvaal becomes a dangerous business *from the moment that Ladysmith is passed*, since a force of Free-Staters, crossing the frontier, could easily operate against the left flank of the invaders." "A military correspondent," writing in the columns of a local contemporary, traverses this statement, and attributes it to lack of easily accessible information. But the statement is absolutely correct. The assertion attributed to us by our critic is that "the British troops are liable to have their

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left flank attacked all along the line from Pietermaritzburg to Newcastle." We did not say anything of the kind. What we said was that *after Ladysmith is passed* the danger of a flank attack begins. There is all the difference in the world between the two statements. In the interval between Pietermaritzburg and Ladysmith the line is not exposed to any enterprises from the Free State, for it has Basutoland, not Free State, on its South and West. We imagined that our meaning was sufficiently clear when we wrote:—"The railway from Durban to the Transvaal trends north and west as far as Ladysmith, but at Ladysmith the line turns almost due north, running thenceforth nearly parallel to the Orange-Free-State frontier, until it reaches Laings Nek." If our critic intends to say that Basutoland protects the Ladysmith-Laings Nek section of the line from attack on the part of the Free-Staters, his contention is inexplicable, since the point where the northern frontier of Basutoland abuts on the eastern frontier of the Free-State is 50 miles distant from Ladysmith. In other words, the frontiers of Natal and the Free State are conterminous through a distance of 50 miles south of Ladysmith. It appears to us that the difference of opinion is due solely to our critic's failure to read what we wrote.

VISCOUNT AOKI & HIS TRADUCERS.

Monday, Oct. 16.

We observe with surprise that the *Jiji Shimpo* gives currency to strange statements about the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It is true that our contemporary does not endorse the statements, and that it is careful to avoid any direct responsibility for them. But surely the *Jiji* does not think that its duty as a great newspaper ends there? If a man stood up in a public meeting, and made this kind of bald assertion:—"There is a story that so and so has been guilty of such and such an offense," would he not be regarded as indirectly endorsing the story by all sane persons? So it seems to us at all events. One of the *Jiji's on dits* is that Baron Nishi—who, we may note *en passant*, is to have the relative rank of a *shinnin* official for the purposes of his new post—declined to go to Peking unless he could be independent of Viscount Aoki. Now the *Jiji Shimpo* must know perfectly well that such talk is pure nonsense. It is the Minister that recommends a man for the post of Representative abroad, and if a nominee adopted the course attributed to Baron Nishi, his appointment would be wholly out of the question. Did the Cabinet show any disposition to send Baron Nishi to Peking under such circumstances, Viscount Aoki would not remain five minutes longer in office. These things are the mere *a b c* of every-day knowledge. Why, then, does the *Jiji* give space to such a silly story? It is plain that Viscount Aoki has made some enemies, and that they are prepared to resort to any device, however treacherous and contemptible, with the object of discrediting him. The *Nippon's* recent attempt to strike at him through his wife, was one of the most miserable and unmanly journalistic escapades that have ever come under our notice, and it is precisely to a paper like the *Jiji* that we should have looked, if not for an open protest against the slanderers, at least for careful avoidance of any aid to them. Yet the *Jiji* now opens its columns to a story which is obviously concocted by purely malicious mischief-makers, and which would have been consigned to the waste-paper basket by any editor of ordinary discernment. We must hope that it is a case of *aliquando dormitat* on the part of our contemporary, but such displays of journalism do not enhance journalistic reputation.

Wednesday, Oct. 18.

Mr. Takahira, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has spoken very frankly to a member of the staff of the *Keikwa Nippo* with reference to reports recently circulated to the effect that he, Mr. Takahira, and other officials of the Foreign Office were parties to a plot for displacing the present Minister. Mr. Takahira associates himself very closely with Viscount Aoki. When the latter was sacrified to Russian sentiment on the occasion of the Otsu incident—sacrificed in a manner which to foreigners seemed anything but honourable to Japan—Mr. Takahira was at the Head of the Official Bureau, but found himself unable to continue his duties to his own satisfaction after Viscount Aoki's retirement. He is, in short, a whole-hearted supporter of the Minister. Even apart from that fact, however, he justly scoffs at the notion that there could possibly be a party within the Foreign Office working for the Viscount's overthrow. He does not claim for the Foreign Office any special immunity from domestic friction, but he does deny emphatically that among its principal officials there are any so wanting in the sense of discipline and in *esprit de corps* as to engage in a conspiracy against their chief.

Mr. Takahira's words ought to serve the purpose of a wholesome rebuke to the unscrupulous tale-bearers who have set themselves to attack Viscount Aoki. But we apprehend that these men are not accessible by such means. The only thing that they are likely to feel badly is failure, and unfortunately in Japan there have been too many instances of the successful over-turning of leading officials by a storm of pure slander and personal intrigue. If people can only succeed in making themselves noisy, the tendency in this country is to purchase their silence by some concession, a most demoralizing habit. We trust that the present occasion may prove an exception to the evil rule.

JAPAN AND INDIA.

The question between Japan and British India has come under the observation of vernacular newspapers, and is seized by the *Mainichi* as a weapon for attacking Viscount Aoki. India allowed the two years' grace to expire without signifying her adherence to the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty. She then announced her desire to adhere, but stipulated for the insertion of a clause empowering her to exclude Japanese subjects at any time. It is difficult to see the object of such a clause, inasmuch as every independent State is always competent to close its doors against any foreign nationals if it be so minded, and the Indian Government was consequently asking for Conventional recognition of a right which it already possessed from a source much higher than the sanction of a treaty. However, there is no accounting for the idiosyncracies of diplomats. The same line of reasoning leads us to the conclusion that Japan need have no hesitation about acceding to India's proposal. Whether such a provision exists in the Treaty or does not exist, India has the right, and Japan would be none the worse for humouring the fancy of her *vis-à-vis*. Very likely Viscount Aoki takes that view, as most sensible men would, we imagine. But the *Mainichi* endeavours to hold him up to execration as a statesman ready to sacrifice his country's honour, and avers that the Privy Council has interfered to save Japan. Extremely silly writing, surely. No national honour is going to be sacrificed over this matter. We suspect that Japan is in no hurry about concluding the arrangement, for India would be the chief gainer by it. India has an uniform tariff for imports from all parts of the world. She can not offer any inducement to Japan in that field. But Japan has conventional Tariffs and a Statutory Tariff. At present, goods exported from India to this country are taxed under the Statutory Tariff, whereas a very large percentage of them would fall under the Conventional Tariff if India adhered to the Revised Treaty. In fact, it is doubtful whether any country would benefit more largely than India by the Conventional rates. Under the circumstances she would better consult her own interests, we imagine, did she refrain from encumbering the Treaty with superfluous and abnormal provisions, which confer no new right or privilege on herself and create prejudices in the mind of her *vis-à-vis*.

YOKOHAMA AND ITS OWN AFFAIRS.

The Yokohama folk seem to be growing more and more excited about the prospect of the charter for the fore-shore reclamation being given to Mr. Oyamada of Ibaraki. The Municipal Assembly held an extraordinary meeting on the 17th, and decided, *nem con.*, that should the danger prove real, neither water from the water works, nor gas from the gas works, nor electricity from the electric-light works should be supplied to the occupants of houses on the reclaimed land; and, further, that no bridges should be built to connect it with the mainland, not should any resident of Yokohama enter the market as a purchaser of the lots. Certainly if the Yokohama folks stand firm, they have the game in their own hands. Meanwhile journals writing in the interest of the Progressists are endeavouring to make political capital out of the incident. They pretend that Mr. Hoshi Toru is largely interested, and the *Hochi Shimbun* goes so far as to assert that Count Itagaki received a sum of 120,000 *yen* for granting—when he presided at the Home Office—the charter under which the Aoki-machi reclamation at Kanagawa is proceeding. It is a pity that such slanders should go unpunished.

In Tokyo the well known Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro has startled the sleepy local authorities by applying for a charter to construct a harbour all on his own account. The municipality, however, adheres to its policy of itself doing the work—or rather not doing it—and so Mr. Yasuda's application has been rejected, as also have been all the fore-shore reclamation schemes proposed by the citizens.

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RUSSIA IN CHINA AND KOREA.

Saturday, Oct. 14.

Mr. Kato Masuo, formerly Japanese Representative in Söul, has made some interesting statements about the Masampo affair. He says that when Mr. Pavloff was on his way home five months ago, he called at Masampo, and was there met by two Russian ships which had been lying in Nagasaki. Mr. Pavloff and the Russian commanders pegged out an area of considerable extent, and intimated to the chief local official their desire that the land should be reserved, and that no part of it should be bought or sold, pending further instruction. The official replied that he had no power to comply with such a request, as the land was private property, and its owners were entitled to do as they pleased with it. M. Pavloff is said to have answered in a menacing manner that the Russian Government would take the necessary steps to make good his demand. Subsequently the land, or considerable portions of it, changed hands, and M. Pavloff's project came to nothing. Such is the story, as said to have been related by Mr. Kato to a representative of the *Mainichi Shimbun*.

Monday, Oct. 16.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not think that Russia really contemplates the acquisition of a port in southern Korea. She would have to reckon with England, for when England evacuated Port Hamilton in 1886, she obtained from China a pledge that no part of Korea should be alienated, and Lord Curzon, in his speech on the 13th of July last year, used language which showed that England was determined to maintain the *status quo*. As to the statement that England is too much engrossed with South-African affairs to attend to the Far East, our contemporary observes that the British Navy is not at all concerned in the Transvaal War, and that Far-Eastern questions are still within the range of maritime settlement. Finally, Russia is not ready to take any decisive step. Her finances are in disorder and she knows that she would have to reckon with Japan. We (*Japan Mail*) agree with all this except as to the question of finance. Want of money never yet kept a nation out of the lists.

A telegram published by the *Asahi* says that the Korean Government, driven into a corner by Russia's persistence in the matter of Masampo, gave its final answer on the 13th instant, to the effect that it is entirely powerless to take any step of the nature desired by its *vis-à-vis*, and that if Russia has anything more to say, she had better address herself direct to Japan. If Korea has really adopted that course, it does more credit to her astuteness than to her dignity. Certainly such a reply is not calculated to satisfy Russia. It is probable that the true inwardness of this Masampo business is not fully understood by the public. Russia's only ground of objection, so far as the world knows, seems to be of an unsubstantial nature, for unless her Representative did more than peg out a section of land with the idea of future purchase, no valid claims can possibly be set up against persons who stepped in at a later date independently and purchased the land on their own account. The Russians, we may be sure, have a better case than that.

Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Telegrams received by the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Tokyo Asahi* from Söul agree in stating that the Korean Government, replying to Russia's renewed remonstrance with regard to the land at Masampo, has adhered to its original contention and suggested that the matter now rests between the Russians and the Japanese purchasers of the land. Of course the claim of the Russians is one of priority. They say that they had obtained a title to the land before any Japanese purchasers came into the field. But on the other side it is affirmed that M. Pavloff addressed himself to the local officials only at the time of staking out the land, and that they distinctly declared their inability to enter into any engagement, since the land was private property, and its owners had the right to dispose of it as they pleased. It must be confessed that according to present appearances the Japanese seem to have stolen a march on the Russians. Such of the Tokyo journals as have discussed the matter show a measure of excitement and uneasiness, but they agree in insisting that the question should not be allowed to assume an international character. We fear, however, that as things are managed now-a-days in the Orient, the proper distinction between private affairs and diplomatic questions is not likely to be respected. That the land is not wanted for individual purposes may be taken for granted, and there is some warrant for the idea that if Russia does not get it, she will not be content without compensation. The island of Chöl-yöng-to is suggested as the alternation for Masampo; but Chöl-yöng-to lies, apparently, within the limits of the Fusan Settlement, and is already in Japanese possession for the most part.

There is one point to which our Japanese contemporaries do not seem to have directed much attention in discussing this matter. It is that proceedings at Masampo do not belong to the category of an aggressive attempt to procure a naval basis in Korea. Masampo is an open port, and Russian subjects, in common with the subjects and citizens of all the Powers having treaties with Korea, are entitled to procure land there if they effect its purchase by legitimate means. We can not, for our own part, see why the matter should be taken up diplomatically at all. Whether there is really a prior title on the side of the Russian purchasers, a court of law is the preper place to decide. But it has become the unfortunate custom in the Far East to substitute diplomatists for judicial officials on every possible occasion. Japan was long the victim of that pernicious habit, and only now has she succeeded in enforcing the principle that not until the remedies offered by the law courts have been exhausted, should the aid of diplomacy be sought.

Wednesday, Oct. 18.

Evidently many Japanese journalists are determined to attribute sinister designs to Russia in connexion with the opportunity afforded by England's preoccupation in the Transvaal. Since her *coup* in the Liaotung Peninsula and Manchuria Russia must be content to be an object of suspicion. She has sown the seed of doubt pretty thickly and has now to reap the harvest of distrust, which is always plentiful wherever the soil and whatever the climate. On the 14th inst., the Russian Representative in Peking was received in audience by the Emperor and the Empress-Dowager, to whom he is said to have presented an autograph letter from the Czar. Had the letter embodied merely some formal expressions of goodwill or of conventional sentiments, the ceremony of presenting it direct to Their Chinese Majesties would not have been necessary, according to the view of the *Jiji Shimpo*, which journal consequently infers that some very important topic was broached. Our contemporary's premises as to the manner of presenting the letter seem unfounded, but it can not be denied that an autograph epistle from the Czar to the rulers of China at this juncture is an incident lending itself to disquieting constructions. At all events, Russia's doings are being very keenly watched, and each movement that she makes will probably be considerably refracted by the atmosphere of doubt that exists.

Masampo, of course, continues to be an absorbing topic of interest. We say "continues," but "begins" would, perhaps, be a more correct form of expression, seeing that almost every leading Tokyo journal had an article on the subject on Tuesday. The latest news from Söul is that the Russian Representative has abandoned his somewhat menacing attitude, and is now devoting his attention to the obviously sensible alternative of procuring some other land at Masampo by the ordinary process of purchase, in *lieu* of the alienated district. It is now stated that Russia wants the land for the purpose of erecting a hospital. The Liaotung peninsula does not offer any suitable position for that purpose, and Russia would like to construct at Masampo a place where her sick soldiers could be sent from Port Arthur and Talien. She is also credited with the intention of building a dock at the Korean port. The hospital project appears to us very probable, though we should imagine that a sanitorium would be more likely.

The tone of the Tokyo press in remarkably firm. If we may take it as an index of the nation's mood, any act of Russian aggression in southern Korea would be resolutely resisted. Nature has placed the two Powers in a very delicate situation, and it will require all their goodwill and mutual forbearance to avoid unpleasantness.

THE AUTOGRAPH LETTER.

It turns out, after all, that the autograph letter from the Czar to the Emperor of China, about which we have had a small sensation, was an epistle innocent of all political significance. When the Czar travelled in the Far East as the Czarevitch, his experiences were compiled in a volume, which, it appears, has been translated into the Chinese language, and the autograph letter contained only a few lines desiring their Chinese Majesties' acceptance of two copies of the translation, one for the Empress Dowager and one for the Emperor. Such, at least, is the latest version of the incident. Small things look big in the field of such a powerful lens as the Far-Eastern public now directs upon St. Petersburg.

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MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito has started for another provincial tour. He left his villa at Oiso at 7.58 a.m. on the 14th, and took the train going southward, in company with Viscount Watanabe Kunitake, Baron Suyematsu, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, and Mr. Mori Kwainan, the celebrated Chinese scholar. Alighting at Nagoya, the party was received by Mr. Oki Morikata, Governor of Aichi Prefecture, and a crowd of sight-seers.

A most earnest invitation to Marquis Ito appears in the columns of the *Jimmin*—an invitation to come forward and assume the leadership of the Liberals. The country, we read, is tired of the nondescript relations now existing between the Cabinet and political parties. Marquis Ito is understood to have expressed the belief that a thorough re-organization of the parties is necessary. Let him then undertake the task of re-organization. How can he hope to see the task achieved if he himself stands aloof from it? But if he passes definitely within the pale, he will find the Liberals ready to fall in with his plans. There could be no better instrument for moulding them than Mr. Hoshi. He is, in effect, the handle by means of which the whole Liberal machine may be set in motion. He may seem to some to be a man of rough methods. But in truth he is a close reasoner and careful planner. A false conception of a character is formed by those who, observing only the directness, energy and strong resolve of his procedure, infer that he is a reckless, headstrong politician. On the contrary, he is a deep thinker, endowed with the faculty of seeing and appraising every side of a question. When, however, he has made up his mind, nothing can alter it, nor can any obstacle deter him from pursuing his purpose. With such a lieutenant Marquis Ito could re-model the Liberal Party on whatever lines he pleased. If he consented to become its leader, the Party would abolish its general committee and its consultative committee, and leave everything in his hands.

We lay down this article with a feeling of uncertainty whether its real intention is to advocate its professed object or to eulogise Mr. Hoshi Toru.

BARON NISHI AND MR. YANO.

The Tokyo journals are full of comments on the change of Japan's Representatives in Peking. It is plain that none of them has any definite knowledge of the reasons of the change. They are tolerably unanimous, however, in their remarks about Baron Nishi's aptitude for the post, especially on account of his intimate knowledge of Russian affairs, for, as one of them says, after the Tsung-li-Yamen it is with the Russian Legation that the Japanese Minister in Peking has to do. More than one journal suggest that Mr. Yano committed some error in connexion with the Amoy incident, and that his intimate relations with Count Okuma caused the Progressists to be placed in possession of information which ought to have been kept secret. These assertions, however, seem to be based on mere conjecture. On the whole, journalistic opinion is favourable to Mr. Yano, though there is a doubt whether his quiet ways are well suited for such an arena as that of Chinese politics to-day. The *Asahi* believes that since the deaths of Mr. Yoshida Kyonari and Sameshima, the clan statesmen have no one except Mr. Nishi who is really suitable for diplomatic duties abroad. We may mention another persistently circulated rumour to the effect that Mr. Yano has been appointed adviser to the Tsung-li-Yamen. No confirmation of the statement is forthcoming.

BUSINESS INTRIGUES.

If Japanese business men acquire a bad reputation for intriguing, they have only themselves to thank. Scarcely an enterprise of importance is carried to the point of practical inception in this country without the disclosure of some real or pretended plots on the part of one section of its promoters against another. The question of street railways for Tokyo furnishes an illustration. It is impossible to conceive anything more discreditable to the business capacities of the big town's citizens than their method of treating this question. The interminable delays, the everlasting bickerings, and the absolute inability to arrive at any conclusion about even the most fundamental points, amount to a burlesque. After years of waiting the city does not yet know whether it will itself do the work, or entrust it to private hands, and has not yet determined what kind of motive power should be employed. That is bad enough, and its badness has been accentuated by rumours, circulated from time to time, that improper methods were being resorted to by applicants for the charter. But a worse feature of the case is the line adopted towards a French syndicate which, in an evil hour for itself, stepped into the struggle. The Syndicate did not ask the people of Tokyo to take anything on trust. It sent out a specimen of its motive system, and at great expense set up the cars in Asakusa, where they were worked for public inspection again and again. It further offered, in the plainest and most straight-forward manner, to provide one half of the requisite capital. Here, one would have imagined, was precisely an opportunity such as the Japanese had been eagerly seeking. They wanted foreign capital, and now it was offered to them without any deterrent complications and in connexion with an enterprise which they were deeply concerned in achieving. But instead of accepting it, the men selfishly interested in introducing a different system set themselves to traduce the French syndicate, to persuade people that it was employing illicit means to promote its cause, and even to hold up its Japanese supporters to public obloquy as persons who worked in the interest of foreign speculators against their own fellow-citizens. That is a pleasant experience to have to record in the context of the first spontaneous offer of foreign capital for the purposes of a Japanese enterprise. It is not encouraging, and the moral it suggests is not creditable to Japanese business instincts or methods.

The fore-shore reclamation at Yokohama is another example. If our humble advice had been followed this important and lucrative work might have been in the hands of the foreign residents themselves But that is another story. The point is there are now three syndicates in the field: A syndicate composed of the Japanese residents of Yokohama; a syndicate called the Parliamentary Section (*Daigishi-ha*), because it is composed chiefly of members of the Diet, and a syndicate headed by Mr. Oyamada, of Ibaraki Prefecture, who enjoys notoriety in connection with the bribery-and-corruption affair of last session. This fight, too, has been at once carried into the realm of recrimination and accusation. That politician is to receive so much "recognition" and that statesman so much "consideration," if the affair is arranged in a certain way. Must everything be reduced to that level in Japan? Has it not yet been discovered that persons who persistently attribute evil motives to the acts of others, are invariably themselves directed by such motives? Apart from the moral phase of the matter, we may note that the Yokohama folks are represented at being intensely indignant at the idea of an outsider from Ibaraki Prefecture receiving the charter of a work which they had previously sought permission to undertake themselves, and which they are only too ready to carry out. They declare that if Mr. Oyamada gets the charter, he will find no labourers to work for him in Yokohama, no residents to purchase shares, and no water-works to supply the district he reclaims.

KOREA AND CHINA.

The new treaty of commerce and navigation between China and Korea has been ratified and published. China recovers her old title of the "Middle Kingdom" and Korea figures an an "empire." All that is very pleasant. But in the 8th Article of the Treaty the Chinese negotiators have put their names to a peculiar and one-sided provision. The Article says that the subjects of either Power shall be free to travel for purposes of trade in the dominions of the other, provided that they carry passports. But whereas Chinese subjects are forbidden to conduct stationary commerce in any part of Korea outside the settlements, under penalty of having their stock in trade confiscated and being fined to the amount of double its assessed value, Korean subjects in China are to have most-favoured-nation treatment in this respect. That is a strange kind of reciprocity. It is true that Korean subjects do not make a habit of travelling in China for purposes of trade, and that, according to present appearances, nothing is less to be looked for than a number of Koreans carrying on stationary commerce in China, whereas, on the contrary, the Chinese who "drummed" Korea and peddled wares at small stalls used to be legion. But if those facts indicate that Korea is not likely to gain much as a most favoured nation, they also constitute a plain argument against China's consenting to the insertion of such a proviso. Perhaps Chinese negotiators have not yet learned the art of modern diplomacy—converting a nominally reciprocal bargain into a really partial one—, but the instinct of Empire would have helped them, a few years ago, to safeguard their national interests better than they seem to have done in this new treaty.

The P. and O. *Sutlej*, after discharging the Devonshires at Durban, will be fitted up as a floating hospital with 500 beds.

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THE DAIGO TRIAL.

The second hearing in the trial of Daigo Kakutaro for the shooting of his uncle, confirmed the impression produced by the testimony of the prisoner himself, namely, that the treatment received by his father, his younger brother and himself by the younger branch of the family, in whose favour they had been disinherited, was of a most heartless description. Had the whole household been in a condition of hopeless penury, little comment could be made on the behaviour of the murdered Marquis and his father. But the evidence showed that there was no such grinding poverty, and that the Marquis and his father indulged their sensual appetites in a manner which throws a curious light on their treatment of the other branch of the family. Miss Daigo, who was wounded in attempting to save her father, gave reluctant testimony, and professed herself unable to state details tending to substantiate Kakutaro's story that the bones of Kenjiro—Kakutaro's younger brother, who perished in Formosa, whither he had gone as a transport coolie—lay for two years in her father's store-house, and were finally taken to the grave by Kakutaro, no other member of the family attending. It is a sad and shocking story, redeemed solely by a fact which the testimony seems to establish pretty clearly, namely, that there is a strain of insanity in the Daigo blood. Undoubtedly the conduct of Kakutaro and his father, even assuming that they were maddened by the pain of poverty, showed occasional symptoms of mental derangement. As an illustration of the penuriousness of the title-bearing branch of the family, we may refer to the testimony of a tradesman, who declared that only 25 *sen* a day was allowed to purchase "condiments" for the 15 persons constituting the household, apart, of course, from the Marquis himself, his father, daughter and concubines.

The trial on Thursday had a strange ending. Counsel for the defence applied to have the father of the Marquis summoned in the capacity of witness, as well as a dancing girl who had been intimate with the murdered man, and further asked that the accused Kakutaro, should be examined by medical experts to determine his mental condition. All these applications having been rejected by the Judges, counsel for the defence lodged a formal objection to the Court on the ground of prejudice—*Kibi no moshitate*, as this process is called in Japanese law. The Code requires that where such an objection is raised against one Judge of a collegiate court, the Judges, if in sufficient number, shall determine the question; and where the objection is lodged against the court *en masse*, its justice shall be considered either by a tribunal of independent judges, if such are available, or by a higher Court. The hearing on Wednesday was consequently adjourned.

BUDDHISM.

We wonder what kind of feelings are created in the bosoms of Buddhist believers when they read articles like those which appear from time to time in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*. If there is solid ground for such writing the condition of Buddhism must be very parlous. The *Jiji* evidently thinks that when the laws prescribing celibacy and forbidding the eating of flesh were abrogated after the Restoration of 1867, Buddhism received something like a death blow. The natural inference would be that, in our contemporary's opinion, to marry a wife and to eat meat are acts incompatible with true religion. But that is not the *Jiji's* meaning. We gather, rather, that it attaches little value to the moral restraints imposed by Buddhism itself. In a word, the Buddhist priests, not finding in their faith any effective force that made for good, were restrained from carnal excesses by the vetoes of their own laws, and thus the rescinding of those laws at the beginning of the *Meiji* era "came to them as a boat comes to folks waiting to cross a ferry." They passed over at once from the calm regions of purity and piety to the troubled realm of lust and passion. We can not see how such a theory can be reconciled with the fact that the greatest of all the Buddhist sects in Japan, the Shin, with its immense wealth and its 185,000 temples, has never forced its priests to abstain from marriage and the eating of flesh. Shinran, its founder, maintained, with consummate wisdom, that such restraints were contrary to the instincts of humanity; that they simply condemned men to commit sin by imposing on them impossible tasks, and that not to know the joys of marriage and the love of children was to be excluded from a whole range of sympathies absolutely essential to the completion of a man's moral nature. Thus the Shinshu priests were neither celibates nor abstainers from meat, and surely the conspicuous prosperity of the Sect justified Shinran's prescience. We have not, for our own part, the smallest shred of confidence in a religious creed which can not inspire aversion for all sensual excesses without the aid of written laws, and we believe that if the ten commandments had never been compiled, the lives of true Christians would be just as pure and reproachless as they have always been. There is consequently a deeper cause for the decadence of Buddhism than the mere abrogation of a traditional veto. However, we are not concerned to discuss that cause at the moment, but only to note the *Jiji's* account of the actual situation. It says that while debauchery and excesses of every description disfigure the lives of the priests, as a general rule, nevertheless each sect can boast that its chief prelate is an example of what a virtuous man should be. Even that grain of comfort is denied, however, to the Shinshu followers, for their prelate, a dignitary upon whom the state has bestowed the title of "Count," has become a by-word for debauchery of all kinds, and is obliged to constantly invite subscriptions from the provincial disciples of the creed to defray the cost of his excesses in the capital. In short, if the value of Buddhism as a moral force is to be judged from the lives of its expounders, the men who may be said to sit in the very calyx of the lotus, its days are numbered, and unless Japan is in the unique position of being able to do without any religion at all, she is certainly in urgent need of something worthy of the name.

At Paknam, a week ago, whilst bathing in the creek, a Cuinaman was carried off by a large alligator, and swallowed in sight of a crowd of horrified spectators.

THE QUESTIONS OF THE HOUR.

The sensation of the moment among the Japanese is the question of the Tokyo Street Railway and the Yokohama Foreshore reclamation. As to the former, our readers know that the Municipal Council recently came to a decision in the sense of entrusting the work to a private company on certain conditions which certainly did not to fail to take full account of the interests of the city. But the voice of the city assembly had still to be heard on the subject, and yesterday was the day for the pronouncement to be made. The excitement in Tokyo is said to have been immense, but it did not betray itself in any outward demonstrations sufficient to attract public attention. There is no doubt that had not Count Itagaki stepped into the field at the eleventh hour as an advocate of municipal ownership, the thing would have been settled without any difficulty. If municipal ownership would place the city in possession of more money for the purpose of repairing the streets and draining them, we trust that Count Itagaki's proposal will carry the day. Meanwhile there are happily some indications that the citizens are beginning to lose patience over this endless wrangle. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that what Tokyo wants is railways, not academical discussions, and that the city authorities are behaving like a host who having invited hungry guests to dinner, sets himself to dispute about the bill of fare instead of serving the viands.

Concerning the Yokohama fore-shore reclamation, there appears to be no doubt that the Department of Home Affairs did actually instruct the Governor of Kanagawa to give the charter to Mr. Oyamada. The explanation offered by the Department is that it took no account of the respective priority of the applications, inasmuch as that point did not appear important, and that the two schemes being virtually identical, their relative merits did not influence the decision. But Mr. Oyamada's project had the concurrence of two foreigners for every one that the Yokohama folks' programme had, and since the reclamation would have a large effect upon the district which comprised the former Foreign Settlement, the Home Department considered it right to take foreign opinion into account. Such is the explanation given by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. But the Yokohama projectors are not at all content. They are said to insist that the Foreign Settlement has no longer any existence, and that if the charter be finally granted to Mr. Oyamada, he will find it impossible to carry out the work, or utilize the land if he succeeds in reclaiming it. Mr. Oyamada has offered a sop to Cerberus in the shape of a promise that two thousand *tsubo* of the reclaimed area shall be handed over to the municipality, but the proposal has not placated his opponents in the smallest degree. Meanwhile vehement accusations against Mr. Hoshi Toru continue to be formulated, on the ground that his influence with the Government was unduly exercised to procure the concession for Mr. Oyamada, but it it pretty plain that these attacks have been devised by his political enemies.

The New York silk market is dull, according to a telegram received in Yokohama. Prices have a downward tendency.

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THE TREATY REVISION ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PALACE.

The banquet which is to be given at the Palace on the 28th instant in honour of the accomplishment of Treaty Revision will evidently be a magnificent affair. Several of the Princes and Princesses are to be present, as well as the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and possessors of First-Class Orders. A somewhat singular reservation seems to have been made with regard to the wives of the Ministers of State and other high Japanese dignitaries: only those who have some experience of society are to accompany their husbands. Presumably the reference is to the etiquette of foreign society, but in truth we have never seen a Japanese lady who did not know how to behave perfectly in any society. We observe that Mr. H. W. Denison is among the *invités*.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Count Okuma has told a newspaper reporter that he does not think the war in South Africa will exercise any perceptible influence on commerce. One of his reasons for so thinking is that the Hispano-American War did not at all interrupt the course of trade, although Spain was a more formidable enemy than the Transvaal. We suspect that Count Okuma has been wrongly reported, or, at any rate, that his statement did not take that crude form. It is true that Spain, owing to her possession of a fleet, was more or less capable of disturbing the peaceful conduct of maritime transport, whereas the Transvaal can not attempt any thing of the sort. But from the point of view of the task that America had to undertake *vis-à-vis* Spain, there can be little doubt that the Transvaal is a much more arduous problem. Count Okuma is also represented as saying that the British drink champagne when in the field, organise balls, and go in for other varieties of extravagance. We don't believe that he said anything of the kind.

MILLER.

The Tokyo Appeal Court pronounced judgment in the Miller case on the 14th instant. Practically the decision of the lower tribunal was endorsed, the man being condemned to death for the murder of Nelson Ward, though with respect to the killing of the two women, extenuating circumstances were admitted which would have reduced the penalty for that crime to imprisonment for life. Still, while endorsing the result of the trial by the lower tribunal, the Appeal Court set aside the latter's judgment, on the ground that it alleged incompleteness of proof as to certain points, which defect had now been removed by the confession of the accused.

An excellent translation of the Public Procurator's speech has been furnished to the *Japan Times* by Mr. Kobayashi Beika, who acted as interpreter. The speech shows close reasoning and high powers of analysis.

It seems that Miller will not be represented by such a phalanx of counsel when he appears before the Supreme Court as he had during the trial in the two inferior tribunals. Mr. Akiyama is said to have been more or less disgusted with Miller's obviously partial confession, and for that reason has retired from the case. Mr. Takahashi will still fight for the condemned man, but the procedure of the other barristers is uncertain. Miller has certainly much reason to be grateful for the treatment he has received at the hands of the Japanese Bar. All these gentlemen must have been working for him without remuneration of any kind.

ACCIDENTS.

A landslip at Nakazawa in the Tsukui district has injured the main of the Yokohama water-works, so that the people are again on short allowance of water. Tunnel No 12 is the exact site of the damage, and as a somewhat serious precipitation has taken place, it is thought that some days must elapse before repairs can be effected. Of course the tremendous rain that accompanied the recent typhoon is the prime cause of the trouble.

There has been a bad accident on the Kiushu Railway. At 11 a.m. on the 17th instant, a train was derailed near Yatsushiro, and several persons were injured, one so severely that he is expected to succumb. Apparently the derailed train ran into a building, for a house is reported to have been wrecked.

MISSIONARIES AND THE INCOME TAX.

A missionary correspondent asks for an opinion as to whether missionaries, who draw their salaries from foreign countries, will be liable for income tax. It is a difficult question. The only provision of the Income Tax Law that seems applicable is to the effect that the following incomes are among those not liable to taxation, *gaikoku mata wa kono horitsu no shiko sezaru chi ni okeru * * * shokugyo ni yoru shotoku* (incomes derived from occupations in foreign countries, or in places where this Law is not operative). The missionary's occupation is in Japan but the source from which he derives his income is beyond the purview of the Law. We believe that according to British practice he would be liable, but we are unable to say what view the Japanese Authorities will take of the matter.

GERMANY IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

Mr. James Baker, writing in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, says:—

We have heard a great deal in England about the Yangtse Valley and our sphere of influence; but this German embassy of combined traders went over 1,000 miles up its waters, halting at the towns en route, and looking after business prospects. Other parts of China were studied, and a mass of information obtained on business to be done in Japan; samples of goods obtained, and brought back to Berlin, and two rooms in the German Parliament building (note well the *locale*) were used as sample rooms, where those actually engaged in the various trades were admitted to study them, and afterwards the exhibits were moved to Dresden; but great care was taken that none saw them without a permit from the Society of Industrialists.

This is only an extension of the aim of German traders to secure the trade of the English colonies; as a German merchant assured me five years ago, "we are giving up looking so much for trade in England. It is the Indian and Colonial trade we intend to get"

UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND PRIVILEGES TO FOREIGNERS.

The representatives of the Chambers of Commerce, now sitting in Tokyo, were invited on the 17th instant to discuss the question of extending to foreigners the privileges of engaging in mining enterprise and owning real estate. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro had charge of the proposals so that the eloquence and capacity of their advocate are beyond question. Unfortunately the Chambers, on the motion of Mr. Nakano Buyei, decided that the matter must be discussed in secret session, so we are not in a position to give any account of the proceedings.

YOKOHAMA TONIC SOL-FA JUVENILE CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held on Monday afternoon at 142 A Bluff, the President, Miss Patton, and all the members being present.

The Hon. Treasurer reported a balance in hand of $318.52 after defraying all expenses of the late concert, and disbursing the sum of $140 this year in charitable donations, with an additional sum in making a suitable farewell present to Miss Bloxham.

The President drew the attention of the members to the fact that the Society had been in existence eight years, although none of those now belonging to it were among the original members. In fact it had been entirely renewed three or four times. During the eight years of the Society's existence nine concerts had been given, of which five had been for the benefit of the Society's funds, whereby the members had been enabled to make donations to various charities amounting to the sum of $418, and also to spend a further sum of $56.45 in small presents for valuable services rendered to the Society, and yet they found themselves with the good balance of $318.52 to meet any future demands that might be made upon them. This was a matter upon which the Society might well be congratulated, but unfortunately there was subject for regret also, as the Society had now lost the valuable assistance and co operation of Miss Bloxham, whose best efforts had always been placed at its disposal for the last six years. The members had endeavoured to show their sense of the great obligations they were under to Miss Bloxham, and their deep regret at her departure, by presenting her with a farewell address and souvenir. It was also disheartening to note the diminution in their numbers since the concert in June last; seven members having resigned from various causes, with the certainty of several more leaving before the next annual concert could be given. However, the Society had several times been apparently at such a low ebb in point of numbers that it seemed hardly possible for it to avoid dissolution, but it had always arisen, phœnix-like, and not only preserved its good reputation in the estimation of the public, but had even reaped fresh laurels; therefore the President had very little fear of the future, so long as the few remaining members held firmly together, and were determined to uphold the *prestige* of the Society and of Tonic Solfa.

The meeting then terminated.

Taniguchi Hamao (25), living at Tobe, and in the employ of Messrs. Pollak Bros, has absconded with *yen* 9,100 belonging to his employers. On Wednesday morning Taniguchi was requested to pay into the Specie Bank four cheques on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank amounting to *yen* 12,575. Two of the four cheques, amounting to *yen* 9,000, Messrs. Pollak's cashier omitted to cross, and Taniguchi, taking advantage of this, cashed them at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, paying the remaining two cheques into the Specie Bank. He has since disappeared.

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THE RICE CROP.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has revised its figures, recently published, with reference to the probable yield of rice this reason. Revision has been necessitated by the late storms and floods. The new estimates are based on returns furnished by all the principal rice-growing localities, and they show a reduction of 2,692,393 *koku*, as compared with the Department's former prediction of the total yield. The following table shows the harvests since 1887 and the anticipated harvest for this year :—

	koku.
1887	39 999.199
1888	38,645.583
1889	33 007.566
1890	43,037.809
1891	38,123.548
1892	41,378.474
1893	37.199,663
1894	41.815,714
1895	39 920,882
1896	36.199,771
1897	33.030.293
1898	47 387.666
(Estimate) 1899	39 149 600
Average crop	39,302,901

The average crop is calculated, as usual, by considering the yields for the past 7 years exclusive of the worst and best years. It will be observed that the estimate for this year is 160,000 *koku* below the average.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

Ex-Judge Takano is not satified with his last failure to obtain justice. He has appealed.

The Sanyo Railway Company has declared a divided at the rate of 7.15 per cent. per annum for the past six months.

Professor Ladd proceeded to Court on the forenoon of the 12th, and was presented to the Emperor by the Honourable Colonel Buck.

The torpedo-destroyer *Akebono* arrived at Colombo on the 13th instant, and the destroyer *Sasanami* entered Portsmouth on the same day.

The Department of Communications has issued a notification that cypher telegrams will not be sent over the wires from Japan to any place in South Africa, or to Maderia.

The torpedo-destroyer *Oboro*, built at the Yarrow yard, has passed her trials with entire success. It is also reported by telegraph that the destroyer *Shiranui* has left Hongkong *en route* for Japan.

A telegram from Bombay, received by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that the cotton mills were closed, by mutual agreement, for three days, and that a general meeting of owners is to take place on the 17th instant.

An action has also been brought by Mr. Kaneko Toyokichi against Baron Mitsui Hachiroyemon on the ground that land mortgaged by the former to the latter for a sum of thirty thousand *yen* was sold before the mortgage had matured.

The battalion of engineers despatched from Nagoya to assist in digging an outlet for the flood waters of the Urui River, seem to have been very successful. The men reached the scene of operations on the afternoon of the 11th instant, and began to work at ten minutes past seven in the evening. By nine o'clock, when the "cease working" sounded, they had excavated a trench 140 yards in length and varying in depth from 1 ft. to 11 ft. This is said to have produced an immediate effect, for the water began to fall rapidly.

The appointment of Captain Meunier-Joannet to the Command of the Cochin-China Squadron will be welcome news to many people in Japan, which country the new Commodore has frequently visited and where he is very popular.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* that it is Russia's intention to augment the subsidy to her Volunteer Fleet. Instead of paying one half of the charges levied on the ships in their passage through the Suez Canal, the whole will be defrayed by the Government.

An action has been brought, says the Tokyo News Agency, by Messrs. Oppenheimer Bros., of Yokohama, against Mr. Kato Shumezo, of Tokyo, who has failed to take delivery of 6,000 cases of alcohol, valued at 130,000 *yen*, imported to his order.

Mr. Makino Joseki has instituted a suit for 130,000 *yen* against the Minister of State for Communications, on the plea that reclaimed land owned by the plaintiff at Shinagawa was arbitrarily used by the Railway Department. Mr. Miyoshi Taizo, formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, is counsel for the plaintiff.

The Central Meteorological Observatory has made arrangements for a regular exchange of telegrams with the Observatory in Korea. The service was inaugurated on the 15th instant. Henceforward, therefore, the whole area from Formosa to Vladivostock will be brought within the sphere of the Tokyo Observatory's reports.

Mr. Kasai Yozaburo, Manager of the Hokkaido Life Insurance Company, who was found guilty of assaulting an English officer on the occasion of the River Fête on the 8th of July, 1898, carried the case to the Appeal Court and lost it. He then took it to the Supreme Court, where the verdict of the lower tribunal has been quashed, and the case is to be tried again by the Nagoya Appeal Court.

The Tokyo Municipal Loan of 3 million *yen* is not meeting with much success. The total subscriptions up to the present have been only 2,012,300 *yen*, the highest rate offered being 100.25 *yen*, and the lowest 98 *yen*. The principal subscribers have been the Iwasaki family, 50,000 *yen*; Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, 50,000 *yen*; and the Tokyo Savings Bank, 50,000 *yen*.

The autumnal tints at Nikko being now at their best, the Japan Railway Company has determined to put on special trains, which will leave Uyeno (Tokyo) at 6.30 a.m. and reach Nikko at 9.50 a.m. The return train will leave Nikko at 6.05 p.m. and arrive in Tokyo at 10.30 p.m. A ticket—presumably third class—, good for the journey both ways and covering an interval of three days, costs 1½ *yen*.

The Chinese authorities have had the wisdom to engage a staff of Japanese medical men for service at Newchwang, where the plague prevails. The mission numbers fifteen physicians who are said to have had special training. At its head is Dr. Murata Shosei, a disciple of Dr. Kitasato. Six months is the period of engagement, and 200 taels a month the salary.

The *Jiji Shimpo* continues its crusade against sexual immorality in Japan. Extra-martial relations are the chief target of its attack. The arguments it employs to fortify its case are powerful and admirably stated, but we need not reproduce them here. It is to be earnestly hoped that success will attend our contemporary's efforts. The only effectual remedy for such ills is to create a strong sentiment of wholesome repugnance to them among the leaders of custom and thought.

An employé of the Toto Savings Bank was murdered during the night of the 14-15th instant. He was acting as night guard of the Bank's branch in Yanagiwara-machi, Tokyo, when burglars entered, and, having despatched him, apparently after a desperate struggle in which he received five wounds, attempted unsuccessfully to rifle the safe. A short sword without a hilt was found near the scene of the tragedy. It was covered with blood.

The *Chuo Shimbun* publishes an account of a discovery said to have been made at Wonsan in Korea. It appears that for some time a gentleman has been residing there under the name of Captain Bibelow(?) He represents himself, or has been regarded, as a retired English officer. On a site about 2½ miles distant from the harbour he has been engaged during the past year in carrying on extensive works, which seem to be assuming the character of a dock, and are considered too large and costly to be a purely private enterprise. When Prince Henry called recently at Wonsan, he visited these works, and was seen more than once in conversation with Captain Bibelow. Of course the conclusion has been jumped to that the affair is a German official project and that Wonsan is to be a German Naval station.

Although it was recently reported that the Dojima complication had been amicably settled, fresh difficulties appear to have arisen, for now only has a final arrangement been effected, on the basis that all the transactions in which Mr. Matsutani was concerned shall be cancelled. The sales in question are 160,000 *koku* of rice for delivery in October, at 11.25 *yen* per *koku*, and 22,000 *koku* for delivery in November at 11.30 *yen* per *koku*.

The principal officials of the Japan Railway Company held a meeting on the 16th instant, and decided that the Company should show its sympathy with the sufferers by the Hoki-Bridge catastrophe, by granting a sum of 500 *yen* to the family of each of those that lost their lives by the accident, and sums of from 300 *yen* downwards to each of those injured. The latter are to be divided into five classes for the purposes of their *solatium*; namely, first, those who are maimed permanently so as to be unable to earn a livelihood; second, those whose injuries are likely to render them permanent invalids; third, those whose injuries are likely to interfere more or less with their pursuit of their business; fourth, those whose injuries, though virtually cured, cause them pain from time to time; and fifth, those who are completely cured. It is said that some of the shareholders are likely to raise a fund in addition to the above.

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THE POLITICAL TROUBLE.

IT will easily be conjectured that Mr. HOSHI TORU'S intimation of his desire to be released from the position of member of the Liberal Party's General Committee, creates much excitement. The public wanted a sensation. It had just begun to get weary of the profound calm that reigned in political circles, and this incident comes opportunely. Most conflicting accounts are published. The journals which ought to know best aver confidently that Mr. HOSHI'S step has no political significance whatever. Their explanation is that since his return from America last year, he has been so completely engrossed with politics as to be unable to pay any attention to his private affairs, which have consequently fallen into considerable disorder; and further that, before leaving America, he had purchased many books which his public occupations have hitherto prevented him from perusing. Therefore he wants some leisure. It is not probable that such excuses will carry conviction to many minds. Every man, be he a political leader or a humble servant, has private affairs to look after, and must contrive to regulate them in the intervals of his graver duties. As to literary pursuits, they may be dismissed with the same comment. Mr. HOSHI is an omniverous reader, but so was Mr. GLADSTONE, and if Mr. GLADSTONE had come forward and gravely informed his Party that in order to regulate his domestic affairs and to undertake a course of general reading, he intended to retire temporarily from the sphere of politics, the nation would have laughed heartily. There must be some semblance of equipoise between cause and effect. When men stand in prominent positions, their serious actions have to be based on sufficient causes. Mr. HOSHI has filled a very broad page in the recent history of the Liberals. When he came back from Washington he found the Party in a condition of indecision and impotence, squabbling with the Progressists to whom it had pleged its co-operation, yet apparently unable to break away from them without sinking to a position of inferiority. Mr. HOSHI metamorphosized the situation. It was undoubtedly owing to his astute manœuvres that a schism between the Liberals and Progressists was contrived in such a manner as to add immensely to the influence of the former, and drive the latter out of office with something like ignominy. Since then Mr. HOSHI has been perpetually before the public. After Marquis ITO and Count OKUMA he may be said to be the biggest figure in the political arena, and it ludicrous to suppose that such a man can expect the public to believe him when he pretexts the pettiest of reasons for the most momentous of measures. Incomparably greater credence will be attached to the theory that he resents Count ITAGAKI'S attitude towards the question of the Tokyo Street Railway. The Liberal Party, by resolutions adopted at general meetings and by its action in the House of Representatives last session, stands pledged to the principle of State ownership of railways. Count ITAGAKI thinks that the Party will be stultifying itself if it now agrees to private ownership in the case of the Tokyo Street Railway. Without pausing to consider whether the same principle applies in both cases, we merely note the fact of the difference of opinion, which is beyond all doubt. It was supposed that Count ITAGAKI'S failure to appear at the meeting in the Seinen-kai's Hall, where he had promised to lecture in support of Municipal ownership of the Street Railways, might be interpreted as a sign that he would abandon his position rather than provoke a contest with Mr. HOSHI. But his absence from the meeting is now attributed to the fact that he had never contemplated the degree of publicity which the promoters ultimately gave to the affair, and that as the proper steps had not been taken *vis-à-vis* the police, in view of that publicity, he resolved not to stand upon the platform in an assembly which might at any moment have been suspended on a charge of illegal procedure. That explanation is confirmed by the circumstance that he did actually attend a semi-private meeting of 40 honorary officials of Tokyo in the Nihon-bashi Club on Friday evening, and deliver a speech advocating the construction of the Street Railways by the Municipality. Mr. HOSHI and the Count have thus publicly taken up diametrically opposite opinions on this important question, which means, we presume, *inter alia*, that unfortunate Tokyo is doomed to remain for another weary spell in its present state of uncivilized stagnation.

Foreign onlookers will probably regard the railway question as only the proximate cause of the difference between the Liberal leaders. They will say that there have been two Richmonds in the field ever since Mr. HOSHI'S return from America, and that a collision was bound to come sooner or later. Perhaps the theory has some truth. It is certain that Mr. HOSHI has completely over-shadowed all his colleagues during the past twelve months, and although Count ITAGAKI, the very reverse of a self-seeking or jealous man, might be content for the sake of his Party to sink into a subordinate position, his immediate followers, the Tosa Section, may not find it possible to be equally complaisant. We trust, however, that this explanation will prove incorrect. It is not pleasant to contemplate the political outlook if the Liberals break into two camps. Mr. HOSHI'S following would be very large, but not large enough to command a majority of votes in the House. On the other hand, his secession would leave a wing not averse to coalition with the Progressists. Possibly we should see a complete re-casting of parties. But will this crisis develop to such magnitude? We doubt it.

There is another version of this story about Mr. HOSHI, namely, that it is a fiction, the proverbial grain of truth being nothing more than a casual remark made by him that a short respite from political affairs would be very welcome just now. Curiously enough, this version is put forward with equal assurance by two journals of very different complexion, the *Jimmin* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The former, being generally regarded as the organ of the Liberals, ought to be thoroughly conversant with the facts of such an incident. It denies most emphatically that Mr. HOSHI has taken the step attributed to him by rumour. The tale, it says, has been invented and circulated by the Progressists whose only hope consists in effecting a breach between the Tosa and Kwanto sections of the Liberal Party. As for the *Mainichi*, which, in consideration of its affinities before Mr. SHIMADA SABURO seceded from the Progressists, ought to be disposed to credit the tale, it laughs the whole thing to scorn and lays the blame chiefly on the shoulders of the *Chuo Shimbun*. That journal, it says, in the absence of the editor, Mr. OOKA IKUZO, ran badly off the rails, and allowed itself to be converted into a vehicle for circulating sensational falsehoods. It is difficult to discover in which well the truth lurks, but, on the whole, we are disposed to think that, whether Mr. HOSHI entertained at one time the idea of resigning, or whether he was entirely free from any such conception, he no longer proposes to throw the political world into a ferment on the eve of the Diet's assembly.

The general meeting of the Liberals is fixed for November 15th. It will be attended by all the present and past parliamentary representatives of the Party, and by four members from each of the City and Prefectural Assemblies throughout the country. It does not appear that there are any questions of importance to be submitted to the meeting. It will be asked to sanction the appointment of a committee to inquire into irregularities connected with the recent elections for local assemblies, and of another committee for purposes of general conference with the Government. At present the latter function is discharged by the General Committee, consisting of Mr. HOSHI TORU, Baron SUYEMATSU, Mr. KATAOKA, and Mr. EBARA. If Mr. HOSHI persists in resigning, his place will probably be taken by Mr. MATSUDA MASAHISA.

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CHRISTIANITY AND EDUCATION.

IT is alleged that, as a result of the remonstrances recently made by the principals of the chief Christian Schools throughout the empire, the Educational Authorities have agreed not to make any scrutiny into the affairs of the Schools until April next. A respite of nearly six months is thus afforded.

In connexion with this subject, we observe that the *Japan Times* traverses some comments recently made by us on the action of the Educational Authorities. We said that, "education including religious elements is practically forbidden when it is officially placed at overwhelming disadvantages compared with education which excludes such elements." Our contemporary declares itself unable to discover the "overwhelming disadvantages" referred to by us, and asks us to define them. That there are some disadvantages the *Japan Times* appears to admit, for it says that "the mission schools which have hitherto enjoyed the status of officially recognised Middle Schools will be placed in an awkward situation" by the operation of the new restrictions. But it does not consider that the disadvantage will be serious, inasmuch as the missionaries "can so remodel the curricula of their schools as to suit the exigencies of their system of religious education in a better and more efficient manner than they would have been able to do under the old regime when they had to comply with the officially regulated standard which, we may admit, is far from perfect." In other words, our contemporary claims, if we understand aright, that the advantage of being relieved from the task of adapting their curricula to official standards will compensate the Missionaries for the loss of official recognition. Truly we fail to see what that has to do with the phase of the question under immediate discussion. If the *Japan Times* is right, the Missionaries have been wrong from the first in attempting to satisfy officially prescribed conditions. They would have better promoted the interests of their cause by taking an entirely independent line and shaping their scholastic courses as they deemed most desirable without reference to official standards. Now we wish to point out to the *Japan Times* that there are two aspects of this problem. One is the aspect of the religious propagandist; the other, the aspect of the religious parent. It was to the latter aspect that we explicitly alluded. We spoke of "forbidding Christian parents, or Buddhist parents, or Jewish parents to have the influence [of their respective creeds brought to bear upon the education of their children." The view we advanced was that a cruel obstacle is placed in the path of the Christian parent, and the *Japan Times* endeavours to controvert our view by discussing the position of the religious propagandist. We know that our contemporary is anxious to advocate the wisest lines of policy for Japan, and that its sentiments are thoroughly liberal. We ask it, therefore, to examine the matter in this light:—*C* is a Japanese Christian with two sons. His means are moderate, and his children will have to earn their bread as he is himself doing. He considers the question of the lads' education. "If I send them to an officially recognised Primary or Middle School," he reflects, "they will be secure against conscription until the age of 27; and their graduation certificate will not only confer special facilities for admission to higher scholastic institutions, but will also constitute a valuable credential in any career they may adopt. On the other hand, religious elements will be absolutely abolished from their school life. 'Even apart from their regular courses of study,' as the Minister of Education declares in his instruction, 'no teaching can be imparted to them in religion, nor can they take part in any religious exercises.' If, however, I send them to a school where Christian influences will permeate their education in the degree which I consider essential for their moral well-being, they will, it is true, be equally exempted from conscription, but their graduation certificates will be absolutely worthless, whether as vehicles for assisting them to enter the higher schools, or as certificates of acquirements." Can any one honestly pretend for a moment that grievous violence is not done to the religious convictions of a parent forced to choose between such alternatives? We, at any rate, can not deceive ourselves by any pretence of the kind, and that is why we said that "education including religious elements is practically forbidden when it is officially placed at overwhelming disadvantages as compared with education which excludes such elements."

The *Japan Times*, out of its desire to elucidate this important problem, has asked us a question, and we have answered. Now, in turn, we would ask our contemporary another question:—Why is religious instruction forbidden in private schools which have official recognition? Why are religious exercises forbidden in such schools? We have been told that it is not the policy of the Government to include religion in the programme of State education. The celebrated Instruction of the Minister of Education commences with the words:—"Since it is absolutely necessary that general education should stand independent of religion, &c." That is all right. Every one of us admits that no form of religious belief should be taught in schools which are supported, partially or wholly, by taxes levied upon all subjects of the realm, irrespective of their religious convictions. But why should a private school, supported solely by voluntary payments, be subjected to such a restriction? It is a singular fact that not one of the writers who defend the Educational Department's policy has attempted to assign a reason for it. Will the *Japan Times* do so now.

FIFTY MINUTES WITH THE BRITISH BLUE-JACKET.

Fifty minutes spent on the railway between Yokohama and Tokyo in the company of a number of British blue-jackets is an experience—to a resident of the capital—at once rare, entertaining, and instructive. I will not go so far as to say that he would care to have it as an every day occurrence. I had just settled down to my book when the carriage was invaded by a body of men "on leave" whose first impulse was to break into song with ear-splitting choruses. Then it struck one to look at his ticket.

"Why, this 'ere ticket is for Shinsummat," he remarked.

"Oh, that's all right," replied another, "all the same as Yokio."

"Ah, said No. 1 in measured tones, as if mimicking a superior, "every thing *is* so different in Japan," a refrain which was kept up at intervals throughout the journey, especially when anything exceptional took place, and from which I gathered that the men must have been cautioned to behave themselves in their excursions ashore.

As we left Kanagawa behind, No. 1 informed the company that Black-eyed Susan lived near by. Who was the lydy? "Why, six Japs went for old F———— (naming an officer formerly well known on the China Station) as he was a-walking along the road. She 'id 'im in 'er 'ouse and sent 'im aboard next day. And now everybody knows 'er and she 'as lots of money. They calls 'er Black-heyed Susan." Shades of poor Richardson!

It was now time for a song, so we had

> "Kathleen Mavourneen, the grey dohrn is breaking.
> The 'orn of the 'unter is 'eard on the 'ill."

Then the first speaker—apparently a swimmer of some note—spoke disparagingly of the recent natatorial achievements of the Yokohama amateurs and how he would challenge the best of them on the return of his ship in December. "But" objected No. 2, "the water would be too cold."

"No," asserted No. 1 "the water is never cold in Yoko-ammer, 'ot water comes up from below, ye know, and makes it allus warm."

A young Japanese here entered the already crowded compartment and squeezed himself into a seat between us, much to the disgust of my blue-jacket friends, who, however, simply yelled, "Where's my Charlie, O! *where's* my Charlie?" and then before subsiding into silence for a minute, meaningly added, "Everything *is* so different in Japan!"

Turning to me, No. 1 asked permission to look at the book I was pretending to read—Justin McCarthy's "Modern England," in the "History of the Nations" series. The pictures of the worthies of the Victorian era had evidently attracted his attention. Few of them, however,

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appeared to interest him. Coming to Browning, he enquired:

"Oo's 'e any'ow?"

"A poet," I meekly replied, certain visions of my youth rising strangely before me. "It seems to be a book about writers," he added, but at that moment Joseph Chamberlain's well-known face turned up, and all wanted to see "Joey." Evidently the British Colonial Minister's star is now in the ascendant. Then Parnell's picture recalled some story of that statesman's "double" being still paid £150 a year to keep up the belief amongst the Irish peasantry that Parnell himself is still in the flesh. No. 2 could not help remarking that he wouldn't mind being his "threble" for such princely remuneration, an opinion in which all present cordially concurred.

"Oh! 'ave you forgotten Sweet
Halice, Ben Bolt?"

with its memories of "Trilby" and poor Du Maurier, now rang through the compartment to relieve the serious turn the conversation had taken. But Parnell's name had brought up the memory of another Irishman—a petty officer, I presume—named Paddy, who had been much esteemed for his bluntness and honesty on board ship.

"Paddy was all right as long as you was square, and as good a one as ever lived. When a man was drunk he liked him to be drunk and when he was sober to be sober. It was the 'arf and 'arf 'e couldn't stand no'ow. And oh! lordy, if you was a Moody and Sankey, look out! That was 'im. That was Paddy, as good a one as ever lived, an' if 'e 'ad is own way, I tell ye, boys, we'd all be Hadmirals to-day." Which reminiscence elicited the sympathetic remark, "If we only 'ad more o' the likes of 'im in the sarvice!"

My nearest neighbour appeared to be a bicycle enthusiast, which his *vis-a-vis* was not. The merit of the machine, he explained, consisted chiefly in the fact of keeping him from getting drunk. "Many's the time I'd a been carried aboard 'ad it not been for the bike. Now, you comes ashore, 'as two glasses of hale to squench yer thirst and a gin and ginger to warm you up, and off you goes. Ever 'ave a gin and ginger fust thing in the morning? Splendid, I tell ye; better than a fizz." He had often ridden over the Tokaido between Yokohama and Tokyo, but he had never been by rail before, so he could not enlighten the company as to when they would reach the capital. "It's nothin 'any 'ow," he informed them. He was evidently not in love with this country. No, he wouldn't remain long on this blooming station, and the visions of home raised by this remark, brought forth a suggestion from No. 2 of a trip they would have together when they met in the old country. "Yes, with you," rejoined No. 1, "but, mind you, none of yer feminine genders. They 're too d—partikler with their conversations. No feminine genders for me."

As we approached Tokyo, my neighbour put his head out of the window and shouted to a shipmate in another compartment:

"I say Jack, where's them blooming sangwidges?"

"Errymas," was the laconic response. The train entered Shimbashi and I made my way out amidst a perfectly deafening music hall chorus, which, for once, seemed to startle the policemen from their lethargic pose at the station doors.

M.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Wellsinkers, by ETHEL QUINN: T. Fisher Unwin's Overseas Library; price, 1s. 6d.

THE concluding paragraph of this slim, well-spaced volume aptly sums up the tale: therein we really find the conclusion of the whole matter:—"Leave the time-worn flapping tent with a weary sigh. Leave the tall gums to overlook the weary plains. Leave them all, and close the pages of a disappointing story of a disappointing land." In very sooth this is a disappointing story, pitched in the lowest of minor keys, and saturated through and through with a pessimism that casts grey, lank shadows from the dreary opening sentence to the melancholy close. Yet withal there is a cleverness in the workmanship of the story that cannot be denied: the pity is that the clever pen-craft which the authoress evidently has at command should not have been applied to brighter uses.

The scenes of the story are pitched in that dreary district (according to the book) known as the western division of New South Wales—a district of arid sand, blue gums, snakes, and scanty water. Here a small family consisting of a man, his younger brother, the man's wife and two children are discovered living "forty miles from nowhere" on the extreme edge of an extensive sheep run, the men engaged in well-sinking, the solitary woman in slaving to provide some semblance of domesticity amid the savagery of the desert. And what a grey-toned, harsh, unlovely life these tatterdermalions live! Into their camp one day drop, apparently from nowhere, an impecunious English art student and a young Australian maiden, niece to the elder well-sinker's wife. Naturally a love-interest springs up in which the younger well-sinker also takes a part, but the girl prefers the artist. This young man drifts out of her life, however, and dies in Paris, and the girl, after many dull and sordid years, marries quite a different man from the poor well-sinker. Incidentally the owner of sheep-run is introduced, but only to add to the dourness of the deepening shadows—he dies of a broken heart just as complete ruin overtakes him after it has stalked the poor fellow for years.

Though all these characters are met with it must not be supposed that the story has either a hero or a heroine. It would not fit in with the *fin de siècle* style of the narrative: it would be much too commonplace. Perhaps it would not be too venturesome to surmise that this unconventionality was the sole reason for the story being selected by Mr. Fisher Unwin for inclusion in his Overseas Library.

Kit Kennedy, Country Boy, by S. R. CROCKETT; London, Unwin's Colonial Library, New Set: price, 1s. 6d.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN has now published in the New Set of his Colonial Library, Crockett's last serial story "Kit Kennedy, Country Boy." The tale is fairly pleasant reading, but in our opinion the author did much better work in this vein when he launched Cleg Kelly upon the world. To begin with, his style was fresher in those days and the characters he introduced us to were all new acquaintances, or comparatively so; and secondly a new phase of the canny—or rather pawky—Scottish humour was exploited in a most pleasant manner for the benefit of the ignorant southron. The "Kailyarders" were, in fact, welcomed on every hand, but after a while the natural reaction set in and the public palate has begun to reject the provender set down before it by Crockett and his imitators. Perhaps, on this account, "Kit Kennedy" comes at an inopportune time. The story proceeds along the well-worn Crockett lines, introduces the self-same Galloway Elder, the tyrannical school-master, petty farmer, herd-lad and lassie that we encountered in most of his former tales, and in the end he lays down the old, old lesson that the greatest happiness life has in store for any of us is only to be won by strenuous labour in the cause of right-thinking and right-doing.

Dr. Lönholm's German and French Translations of the Commercial Code.

Dr. LÖNHOLM has conferred another benefit on the public by preparing German and French translations of the Japanese Commercial Code. The translations are embodied in excellently printed and neatly bound volumes which may be procured at the stores of Messrs. Maruya and Company in Yokohama. We can not but admire the industry and public spirit shown by Dr. Lönholm in the extensive work accomplished by him for the purpose of bringing intelligible versions of the new Japanese laws within reach of the foreign community. There is no pecuniary temptation to undertake these arduous tasks, for the market for such translations is very limited, the ordinary foreigner being quite content to remain ignorant of the laws of the country. It is therefore most fortunate that we should have in our midst a man like Dr. Lönholm who to special aptitude adds a spirit of disinterested industry. The Japanese Government has wisely shown its appreciation of his labours by conferring on him the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun.

Wright's Australian, India, China, and Japan Trade Directory and Gazetteer—Fifth Edition. George Wright, Fulton Street, New York; Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Yokohama.

THE majestically clumsy title of this directory is appropriate enough, for the work itself is of colossal dimensions and unwieldy form. It must contain something like two thousand pages of closely printed detail concerning Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, West Australia, Fiji, Hawaii, India, Siam, Java, China, Japan, the Philippines, South Africa, Canada, Newfoundland, South America, Central America, Mexico, the West Indies, Great Britain, and the United States. The information afforded is marvellously complete, and cannot fail to be of great advantage to the business man. We take the plan pursued in the case of Victoria as a sample of the scope of the information. First, there is a general descriptive summary of history, physical features, trade, commerce, industries, forms of national and local government, climate, population, religion, education, &c. Then a list of Government officials and State dignitaries, State Departments, public offices, railways, &c. Then the customs tariff, licenses and stamp duties, commercial and other taxes, and pilotage rates. Then a list of chief towns in the colony, with particulars of trade and population and names of chief tradesmen. This colony alone monopolises some 365 pages of close print, and other sections are equally voluminous. Whether the claim of the publishers that the information is thoroughly accurate and up to date can be generally established we cannot of course pretend to say, but we notice that in the section referring to Japan the information under the heading of tariffs is altogether out of date,

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while, to notice minor points, Mr. Troup is still given as Consul-General for Great Britain at Yokohama, the late Mr. Plaza is referred to as Mexican Consul, and Dr. Stuart Eldridge as Consul for Hawaii. The introductory matter in the case of Japan is also very misleading, being written in true globe-trotter fashion. We learn that:—

> The Government is an absolute monarchy, the supreme ruler being called the Mikado. Formerly the Government was double-headed, a temporal and a spiritual ruler, the spiritual being almost a nonentity; the political ruler was in close intimacy with the nobles, who formed an oligarchy and practically controlled the Government; this, however, with the assistance of some patriotic nobles, was all changed; a few years ago a revolution took place, and the Mikado is now the supreme ruler both in nature and in fact.

It would be really tiresome to count up the number of inaccuracies and slipshod statements in that one sentence, they are so numerous. Here is a sentence curious chiefly from its remarkable use of the English language:—

> Japan recognises the value of woman education by its girl schools.

We must protest against the use of such barbarisms as "woman education" and "girl schools" even in a directory. We read that:—

> Sinto or Shintoo, believed to mean "the worship of good," a sort of high social philosophy, in which the aspirations toward the unknowable future are somewhat vague, is said to be the form of religion. Buddhism . . . is said to be the faith of the masses.

That is pretty indefinite, and so also is the statement that:—

> Postal service of some kind has existed for some years, but of late the European system has been introduced, and there are over 5,000 offices in operation.

In the description of Yokohama occurs the following delicious sentence:—

> The spot on which it is built was, indeed still is, part of an expanse of swamp land in which paddy was and still is grown; it has been partially redeemed, and despite the unfavourable selection it has grown to be one of the great commercial ports of the East.

The brain reels as one tries to grasp exactly what was and what still is in this verbal labyrinth, and the chaos of pronouns makes it difficult to tell whether it is the swamp, or the paddy, or the city that has grown to be one of the great commercial ports. The book is frankly American, as may have been guessed from the extracts given. Type, style, and vastness of design alike proclaim its place of origin, and, as in most American publications, patches of "fine writing" suggestive of the descriptive reporter are to be found cheek by jowl with huge masses of solid fact. But he is fastidious who grumbles over what are at most mere faults on the surface, and do not affect the solid value of a publication such as this. It should certainly be most valuable to every business man who has, or wishes to have, extensive dealings with the outside world.

GREAT BRITAIN'S FORCES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A few days ago, one of our Tokyo contemporaries, in discussing South African affairs, said that Great Britain's forces in South Africa at the outbreak of hostilities were about a thousand men. The following letter sent to *The Times* by a military correspondent at the close of August will show how inaccurate that statement was:—

> Deceptive as figures usually are, they are seldom more misleading than when they relate to armed strength, and especially to that class of armed strength which is represented by land forces in the colonies. The factors which enter into the calculation of a nation's ability to assert itself at short notice in a distant country, even when the latter is under its own rule, are so numerous and perplexing that even for an expert it is difficult to arrive at an estimate with which another expert could not find fault. To take a single illustration, it is always possible that in the colonies one battalion will largely outnumber another simply by reason of its comparative immunity from some prevailing epidemic against which pluck and science alike are powerless to prevent a serious diminution in fighting efficiency. At home, and to some extent in India, corps proceding on active service can be made up to given strengths in various ways. But in South Africa a battalion is just what its sick-list makes it out to be, and, as colonial sick lists are not readily available here for purposes even of official calculations, it would be foolish to attempt exactly to estimate the fighting strength, more especially of the British troops available in South Africa for immediate service.
>
> At the same time it is a satisfactory reflection that, in respect of the following approximations, the probability is that in the majority of cases the figures, where given, are rather under than over the actual mark. It is not only the natural tendency of the British soldier to keep out of hospital when there is a prospect of active service which supports this proposition. There is also to be taken into consideration the fact that for many months past the military authorities have had in full view the possibility of trouble in South Africa, and that consequently much of the weeding-out and hardening process which the local garrisons might have been compelled to undergo in the immediate future was carried out some time ago. It is to the point in this connexion to recall the fact that at the end of last year a notable series of "mobilization manœuvres" was carried out at the Cape, the troops being treated for seven days exactly as though on service. The experiment succeeded admirably, and a number of valuable lessons were learnt in regard to marching order, kit, and mobilization of war equipment generally. In Natal, too, the garrison has had recent opportunities of testing its readiness for active service, and may be assumed to be in pretty hard condition.
>
> Before going into details it will be instructive to institute a comparison between the British garrison in South Africa at the beginning of the year and the same garrison at the present moment. On January 1, 1899, there were in South Africa two regiments of cavalry, three field batteries, one mountain battery, two companies of garrison artillery, one company of Royal Engineers, and six and a half battalions of infantry. To-day there are two regiments of cavalry, three field batteries, one mountain battery, three companies of garrison artillery, four companies of Royal Engineers, six and a half battalions of infantry, two detachments of the Army Service Corps, two detachments of the Army Ordnance Corps, and two detachments of the Royal Army Medical Corps. There are also actually under orders for South Africa at the present moment two more field batteries and two more battalions of infantry.
>
> If the British corps now at the Cape and in Natal were ordered to make an immediate and simultaneous return of their effective fighting strength, a total of about 10,000 would probably be arrived at.
>
> With regard to distribution it will be convenient to discuss our armed strength in South Africa under three heads—(1) Natal, (2) Cape Colony, and (3) Rhodesia and the Bechuanaland Protectorate. In the Army List, of course, the Cape comes before Natal, and the Headquaters Staff at Cape Town is on a higher scale than it is at Maritzburg. The forces in Cape Colony are commanded by a lieutenant-general, those in Natal by a brigadier-general with temporary rank as major-general. But in the event of war with the Transvaal, not only would Natal become an immediate theatre of vigorous operations, but very possibly the decisive blow would be eventually struck from that side. Natal itself has taken the initiative in asking that its garrison should be strengthened, and at this moment has considerably more British troops within its borders than Cape Colony.
>
> The British corps now in Natal are the 5th Lancers and 18th Hussars; the 13th, 67th, and 69th Batteries Royal Field Artillery, No. 10 Battery, Mountain Division; 7th (Field) Company, 8th (Railway) Company, 23rd (Field) Company, and detachment of the 29th (Fortress) Company, Royal Engineers; the 1st Battalion Liverpool Regiment, 1st Leicestershire, 1st King's Royal Rifle Corps, and 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and detachments of the Army Service Corps; Royal Army Medical Corps, and Army Ordnance Corps. The three stations ordinarily garrisoned by British troops are Pietermaritzburg, Ladysmith, and Estcourt, but a recent despatch indicates the possible formation of a new camp in the vicinity of Laing's Nek. The Volunteer force of Natal is "partially paid," and consist of about 1,550 of all ranks, all Europeans, distributed among a naval corps of 90 men, between 800 and 900 mounted riflemen, a field battery, and an infantry battalion. There is also an armed and mounted police force numbering 550 Europeans fully equipped and available for field service. Military training is compulsory on all boys over ten years attending the Government schools, and there are over 2,000 youngsters organized in cadet corps. At this moment there must be over 6,000 British Regular troops and at least 2,000 European police and Volunteers available for service in Natal.
>
> The British garrison of Cape Colony includes the following Regular troops:—Nos. 14 and 23 Companies, Western; 29th (Fortress) Company Royal Engineers; 1st Battalion North Lancashire Regiment, 2nd Royal Berkshire, and four companies of the 2nd Yorkshire Light Infantry, and detachments of the Army Service, Royal Army Medical, and Ordnance Corps. The Cape Mounted Rifles by the latest returns were 1,015 strong, and the Cape Police 1,911. There are also 44 Volunteer corps and mounted rifle corps numbering about 7,000 men with 11 guns.
>
> In the Bechuanaland Protectorate there is a division of the British South Africa Police with ten officers and 130 rank and file, and a force of native police with four officers, these troops being stationed in small detachments at various places in the Protectorate.
>
> It is practically impossible to estimate the military resources of Rhodesia, but there is no question that they are considerable, the population of Bulawayo being, approximately, 5,000, and that of Salisbury, approximately, 2,000, and of these a large proportion not only carries arms but know how to use them. Within the last few days the Government authorities at Bulawayo have been enlisting men and forming a large camp three miles from the town. Colonel Baden-Powell, who recently went out to South Africa on special service, is said to have already organized a useful corps which there is talk of bringing down to Mafeking or some other point close to the Transvaal border.
>
> Besides the above-mentioned forces, which at a moderate computation would provide a total armed strength of some 10,000 Regular British troops and an equal number of well-armed police and Volunteers, a naval brigade could, and, if trouble arises, doubtless will, be organized from the Cape Squadron and pushed forward to the frontier at very short notice.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ORIENTALS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to the opinions quoted in your issue of yesterday by Mr. D. from a work by a French writer, and which I therefore take for granted he adopts as his own, will you permit me to make a few remarks? First the argument on which his deductions are based appears to be a begging of the question. Can he point to a single instance, even in the most elementary society, where, as he says, "sexual union, *without restraint* of law has been the commencement" *i.e.* of social evolution. It may or may not have been so, but for the fact, taken as granted, there is no proof. Rather the proof is all the other way.

Again surely his argument that, because sexual immorality is on the increase as in France, *therefore* the requirements of human nature show that no legal restriction ought to be placed on sexual intercourse, proves too much. Similarly it may be argued that, since such crimes as theft, or forgery, are on the increase in any particular country or generally, therefore legal restraints on these crimes are useless or hurtful, running counter as they do to that human instinct which leads men to desire the acquisition of another's property.

It is a long time, not, I think, since Voltaire or the "Age of Reason," that European Society has been bidden to look to China to find a model for social imitation, nor, considering all things, does the moment seem opportune for bidding it to do so.

"But custom," he says, "has rebelled against the law" *i.e.* of monogamous relation. What custom? and where? Rather, I should put it, the brutal and unregulated instincts or passions of the man have rebelled against a custom which has the highest moral, nor

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to speak of religious, sanctions and which, as experience shows, has not only won for woman a position among the nations of Europe to which outside of that there is no parallel in either the ancient or modern world, but upon the observance of which alone is any real social evolution and progress possible.

If Mr. D., then, is for free trade between man and woman in the sexual relations we know where he stands and can estimate the value of his opinions. If he has really the good of a Society such as exists in Japan at heart, where both in theory and in practice the position of refined and educated woman, on account of the prevalence of that very custom which he applauds and supports, is so often most piteous, let him consider whether he is well advised in interfering with the work of those, whether Japanese or foreign, who are doing what they can, by persuading men to control that part of their nature which makes them most akin to the brute, to rescue woman from her position as a plaything of the other sex, and to raise her to the state of companionship, equality, and respect which she holds among the peoples of Europe and America.

October 11th. C.

[We do not think that "D" intended to advocate the views expressed in his quotation. The question was whether sexual irregularities were to be regarded as characteristic of Orientals, and "D" simple gave an extract showing that such is not a correct view. So at least, we read his letter.—ED. *J.M.*]

MISSIONARIES AND INCOME TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I would like to ask you or some other well informed person on Japanese law if missionary salaries that come direct from a Board or Society in Europe or America will be subject to income tax in Japan? Missionaries are now classed by the Government as religious propagandists and are subject to similar rules as Buddhist priests. Do the latter pay income tax? Suppose a missionary has a fixed salary and a fourth of it goes to support his children in school at home, will his whole salary be taxed? If these questions are left to the local officials to settle there will doubtless be a variety of opinions and lack of uninformity in interpreting the law. So it will be interesting to many of us if we could know what is to be done.

Yours truly, MISSIONARY.

October 12th, 1899.

THE DUTY OF FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the London *Daily Mail* of this date, appears an article written by its Yokohama correspondent entitled, "A Doubtful Coming-of-Age"; "Why Foreigners view Young Japan with mistrust." Whilst having no desire to make any detailed attack upon the writer of the article, it is, nevertheless, utterly impossible to read his remarks without arriving at the conclusion that, taken as a whole, the views expressed therein are extremely narrow and one-sided, and do not by any means exhibit the true and actual state of affairs and of society in the Empire of Japan, such as would be revealed to a candid and impartial mind. It is manifestly unfair for any one residing in a foreign country, who in giving a description of the inhabitants thereof, selects the lower strata of society as a mirror in which to reflect an approximation of the national characteristics of a people, and the exaggerated statements indulged in by the correspondent referred to, would, by all cultured and right-thinking people, be assessed at their true value and regarded with perhaps more amusement than contempt.

Every country in the world has its own peculiar customs and its recognised code of laws, and it is the duty of foreigners residing in these countries to conform to the one and to obey the other. We who live in England endeavour to carry out the above maxims amongst our English brethren, but it does not follow that we approve of everything as being at its best, but we make up our minds to cheerfully conform and loyally obey. It is a true saying that people who live in glass houses should not throw stones, and the remarks of the writer in question upon the morals of Japan are conceived in a most uncharitable spirit, and the sooner he makes up his mind to confine himself to actual facts, and submit to a broader and kindlier spirit towards those amongst whom he lives, the better for his own reputation and for that of the journal he represents.

SENKWANSEI.

London, 2nd Sept. 1899.

THE MAPLES.

On the 20th inst. there was opened at 85 Bluff an institution which will be at once a great ornament and a great practical advantage to Yokohama. "The Maples," in the establishment of which the promoters have had the advantage of the best medical advice available, that of Drs. Baelz and Munro, is not at present on quite the ambitious scale at first projected, but even as matters are now it cannot fail to be of great service not only for invalids but for all who want a quiet place of residence where the means of hygienic living are all at hand. For "The Maples" is not a place for real invalids, for persons whose health is such as to demand hospital treatment. It is more for those who are simply run down, and to whom fresh air, regular living, cheerful surroundings, special medicated baths, and means of moderate exercise are necessary to restore tone and strength. It must not be imagined that this will be a gloomy place where painful sights of sickness and suffering will be daily visible. It is simply a luxurious private hotel arranged with a view to being sanitary as well as imposing, in which as much attention is paid to the humblest detail of drainage as to the blaze of electric light in the dining room. With an excellent cuisine, comfortable rooms, and the advantage of a delightful situation, there is no reason why "The Maples" should not become a favourite resort of the quieter class of tourists and visitors, many of whom do not care for the noise and pretension of a large hotel.

"The Maples" consists of a large and handsome wooden building designed by Mr. J. Conder, standing on almost the highest ground on the Bluff, and commanding such a fair view of land and sea as can rarely be seen from any one spot. The house and its two annexes have fairly extensive grounds attached, partly laid out in Japanese style, with the consecrated rockeries, fish pond and dwarf trees, while there is a capital tennis lawn conveniently situated. The chief entrance to the main building faces west. On entering the visitor finds himself in a handsome vestibule, with finely grained maple panels. Immediately on the right is the library, a snug little room furnished with some 500 volumes of a very miscellaneous kind, ranging from the Odyssey to "Out of the Hurly-Burly," and including Sir John Lubbock's selection of 100 books. The furniture and decorations are of a lighter and more cheerful character than is generally associated with a library, and one excellent feature is the electric light system, the lights being all adjustable, so as to suit any possible position the reader prefers. The walls are covered with engravings from Sir F. Leighton and other artists, and this remark may also be taken to apply to the other rooms of the house, except that in the billiard room sporting prints are selected as more in harmony with the surroundings. One window of the library opens on the verandah, which runs round two sides of the house, and is fitted with means of heating so that in winter as well as in summer it will be a pleasant lounge. Next to the library is the billiard room furnished with a table by Thurston, and on the other side of the main entrance is the office. The drawing room, papered in pink with a frescoed ceiling, is a very handsome apartment. All the panelling and wood work is in maple, and the effect of the whole is charming, while the view from the windows, which overlook the tennis lawn and command an extensive outlook over the Bluff and the Bay, is equally pleasant. The dining room is next to the drawing room. It is 45 feet by 24; the wall decorations are in light green, with a fresco ceiling. The electroliers are of very handsome pattern, and all the furniture is of heavy carved oak, the side-board being a beautiful piece of furniture. Adjoining is a small service room, with hydraulic lift connected with the kitchen.

Descending to the lower regions one finds a well-arranged and convenient kitchen pantry, glass rooms, lavatories and other necessary adjuncts. The hot water apparatus, by which the whole building is kept at an uniform temperature, also deserves a moment's notice. The chief feature below, however, is the admirable system of baths. In the arrangement of these the advantages of the eminent medical advice under which the establishment has been constructed is at once apparent. The baths are all of marble, and are built on a special pattern, allowing the bather to assume a healthful and easy position, so as to derive the greatest benefit from his immersion. There are sulphur and iron baths, electric baths, hot air baths, hot vapour baths, and a shampooing room. The latter, however, is not yet ready, as the slab of marble required is so large that it had to be specially cut in the quarry, and has not therefore arrived.

On the upper floor are the bedrooms, furnished simply but tastefully, with polished floors and rugs here and there. There are no carpets or heavy hangings to harbour dust and prevent the free passage of air. The rooms open on the verandah, and are fitted with sliding glass doors so that in summer the room can be thrown open completely. The furniture, by the way, is all by Messrs. Lane and Crawford, and is of the best. Still higher one comes to the roof, which is converted into a spacious decked promenade, shaded by a mat roof and commanding a glorious view north, south, east, and west. Fuji and the Hakone hills, the country towards Tokyo, the Harbour, the Bay, Negishi, and Honmoku—whichever way the visitor looks he has charming and restful scenery before him. This roof, it may be mentioned, has been constructed with a special view to safety in case of earthquake, and may be regarded as practically immune from all danger.

Just near the main building is the gymnasium, where visitors have ample means of counteracting the contraction of the chest and the degeneration of the muscles. It is a polygonal structure thirty feet across, and windows admit light on every side. The walls are furnished with mirrors before which exercise can be taken; there is a fine horizontal bar, and several sets of exercisers are fixed to the walls. Dumb-bells of every size and variety are of course provided, and close at hand are shower baths and dressing rooms on the most approved plan. This gymnasium is an admirable idea admirably carried out.

The electric light is generated in a power house situated underground, in order to deaden the sound of working, and the water supply is worked by an oil engine, the tanks being near the top of the building. The whole of the house, including the verandahs, is treated by hot water radiators. It should be added that the stair cases, with their statuette electroliers, are very handsome.

At the present moment the establishment can accomodate from 20 to 24 persons, but the resources of the place as far as room is concerned will probably be increased as time goes on. It is altogether a very interesting experiment, and should, as we hope; prove a sucessful one.

At Saigon, on the 18th September, Lieutenant Sicard, the commander of the French gunboat *Caronade*, killed himself with a revolver-shot in a hack carriage in the street. The deceased had a stroke of the sun, and it is supposed that the suicide resulted from an attack of fever.

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LADIES' INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

The third annual general meeting was held at the Public Hall on Thursday, Oct. 12th, at 2.30 p.m. A few members, the officers and directors were present.

The reports of the Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, and Secretary of the Book Committee were accepted as published.

The President:—This has been a difficult year in one respect, the uncertainty of the position of foreign societies under the new regime. But for that we would, I feel sure, have been able to show even more satisfactory results. We earnestly desired to hand over at the end of this year a scheme, at least, for enlarging our borders, becoming a library indeed, in which all members of the foreign community might be interested. And we have assurances that many of the men are ready and anxious to do their part by supplying the necessary funds for this object, but at the same time they feel it best to wait a few months till affairs are generally adjusted before assuming new obligations. We would like to feel that subscriptions alone would give us funds to carry on this extended work, but there is an uncertainty about that, as at once expenses would be greatly increased, larger accommodations than we now have would be necessary, two reading rooms and a room for a circulating library at least, with a much more efficient librarian than we are now able to afford. About rooms, we are almost assured that the Committee of the Public Hall are willing to add to their building for our use as soon as we are ready to do our part towards it. And this should not be difficult when we remember, and indeed it should never be forgotten, that this library was organised by the efforts of one woman, who, with the aid of a little band of girls, raised the funds to entirely equip the room, and, with the very low annual subscription of one dollar, carry it on for one year, and then present it to the community with the sum of *yen* 800.00, firmly established. Realising this, we feel sure that all must have a personal pride in carrying on and developing its future.

You will have noticed that our funds have only enabled us to provide magazines and papers, our books being mostly donations, and those that Mr. Cox has kindly loaned. Of course we cannot expect these donations to always continue, therefore we propose raising subscriptions from *yen* 3 to *yen* 5 and from *yen* 5 to *yen* 7 respectively that we may from time to time add new books to the library, our donations being mostly not up to date. And the retiring Directors ask your consent to this that the new Board may begin their year unhampered as to ways and means. The recommendation of your Committee is to reduce the number on the present Board—that instead of having 4 Officers and 20 Directors, the Board shall consist of 4 Officers and 8 Directors, as from experience we now see that the work can be done more compactly.

Unanimous consent was given to the recommendations of the Board of Directors to increase subscriptions to *yen* 5.00 and *yen* 7.00 respectively, and to reduce the number of Directors.

On the suggestion of the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Lowder, it was decided to employ the services of a Collector for the annual subscriptions due after Oct. 1st.

The election of officers followed. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and several Directors not offering themselves for re-election, the ballot resulted in the election of:—President, Mrs. Gowey; Vice-President, Mrs. Bonar; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Sale; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Lowder.

Directors, Mrs. Manley, Miss Averill, Mrs. Merriman, Mrs. Strahler, Mrs. Scidmore, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Wheeler, and Mrs. Morris—as a permanent Director serving without re-election.

The new Officers and Directors took their places, and after votes of thanks to the retiring President and Board the meeting adjourned.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

The latest return of the tonnage of Japanese vessels gives a total of 734,622 tons, more than five times the tonnage in 1885. Vessels above one thousand tons number 149, and their total tonnage is 380,619, more than half of them belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

According to investigations made by the Financial Department, the foreign trade during September and also from January to September of 1898 and 1899, was as follows:—

	Sept. 1898. Yen.	Sept. 1899. Yen.
Exports	14,668,191	20,972,354
Imports	21,927,132	21,436,222
Total	36,595,323	42,408,576
Excess of Imports..	7,258,941	463,868
	Jan. to Sept. 1898. Yen.	Jan. to Sept. 1899. Yen.
Exports	112,657,601	150,961 395
Imports	219,715,155	153,532,009
Total	332,372,756	304 493 404
Excess of Imports..	107,057,554	2,570,614
	Sept. 1898. Yen.	Sept. 1899 Yen.
Exports of gold, coins and bullion	3,257,209	916,360
Exports of silver, coin and bullion	3 555.383	156,176
Total	6,814,592	1,072,536
	Jan. to Sept. 1898. Yen.	Jan. to Sept. 1899. Yen.
Exports of gold, coins and bullion	39 917 961	1,096,032
Exports of silver, coin and bullion	37,125,213	1,842,415
Total	6,814.592	1,072,536
	Sept. 1898. Yen.	Sept. 1899. Yen.
Imports of gold coin and bullion	3,241,306	488,291.
Imports of silver coin and bullion	5.072	2,756
Total	3,246 378	491,047
Excess of Exports..	3,568,214	581,489
	Jan. to Sept. 1898. Yen.	Jan. to Sept. 1899. Yen.
Imports of gold coin and bullion	30,851,428	19.254.881
Imports of silver coin and bullion	5.519,625	77,185
Total	30.371,053	19,332,066
Excess of Exports..	40.672,121	—
Excess of Imports..	—	16,392,619

The exports of *habutai* for the past three years were as follows:—

	1896.	1897.	1898.
Tan	446,598	642,801	787,117
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Value	7.052.217	9.530,676	12,055,505
Per tan	12.659	14.827	15.423
	Up to Sept. 1898.	Up to Sept. 1899.	
Tan	515,689	571,115	
	Yen.	Yen.	
Value	7,611,597	10,103,268	
Per tan	14.76	17.69	

Concerning the export of Japanese *sake* to Fusan during the last five years the following figure are interesting:—

Year.	Koku.	Yen.
1894	1,447	23.145
1895	1,482	27,848
1896	1,526	35.040
1897	1,967	48,628
1898	1,634	46,198

The number of post office orders issued during the fiscal year 1898 was 6,342,850, the total sum remitted being *yen* 56,314,110.

The revenue of the Osaka Railway for the last ten days of Sept. was 18,387 *yen*, or 4 *yen* 590 *sen* per mile per day. Compared with last year there is a decrease of 2 *yen* 967 *sen* per mile per day.

The chief subjects to be discussed at the eighth combined Chambers of Commerce meeting are, land ownership by foreigners, the subsidy of the N. Y. K., revision of the Election Law of the Lower House, &c.

The revenues of the Government railways in September were as follows:—

	Sept. 1898. yen.	Sept. 1898. yen.	Increase. yen.
Tokaido	915,486	722,407	193,079
Hokuriku	76,159	63,742	12,417
Shinetsu	109,860	67,676	42,114
O-u North	14,185	10 914	3.271
O u South	11,017	—	—
Total	1,126,707	864,709	261,998

The net profits of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha during July, August, and September were as follows:—

Revenue	169,609.354	252,350,348	196,809,651
Subsidy	83,993,779	81,169,496	81,074,928
Total	253.603.133	333.519.844	277,884,579
Expenditure	190,148.375	183,509,177	187,069,761
Net profits	63,454 758	150,010,667	90,014,818

The tea trade of Yokohama up to the 30th Sept. for 1898 and 1899 was as follows:—

	1898. kin.	1897. kin.
Sent in	19,760,500	21,208.700
Sold	18,962,300	20,805,400
	yen.	yen.
Value	5,490,225,407	5 367,260,451
Average per 100 kin	yen. 28 953	yen. 25.797

The revenue of the Kobu Railway for the first ten days of October was 13 464 *yen*, or 49 *yen* 886 *sen* per mile per day.

The following table of direct exports of raw silk shows that Japanese traders now export about one-fourth of the staple:—1880 81, 5,080 piculs; 1881-82, 3,740 piculs; 1882 83, 6 740 piculs; 1884 85. 5.631 piculs; 1885-86, 3 930 piculs; 1886 87, 3.760 piculs; 2887-88, 3,680 piculs; 1888 89, 2 830 piculs; 1889 90, 2,500 piculs; 1890-91, 2,710 piculs; 1891-92, 4.400 piculs; 1892 93, 4,940 piculs; 1893 94. 5.450 piculs; 1894-95, 6,840 piculs; 1895-96, 9.450 piculs; 1896 97, 8,230 piculs; 1897-98, 11,800 piculs; and 1898-99, 12,165 piculs. The direct export of raw silk has been chiefly to the U.S. The principal houses engaged in the trade are the Seishi Gomei Kaisha, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and the Doshinsha.

The revenue of the Sanyo Railway for the first ten days of this month was 70.300 *yen*—25,102 *yen* per mile per day.

The exports and imports of rice from last November have been as follows:—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
Nov. (98)	977,271	259,070
Dec. (98)	2.503.900	119.987
Jan.	2,237,025	189,641
Feb.	1,935.993	128,884
March	1,286,897	291,842
April	1,651,672	131.527
May	427,817	278,844
June	£72,894	209,820
July	238,721	262,909
Aug.	229.511	138.535
Sept.	153.983	202,946
Total	12,051,689	8,212,808

"The Fighting Fifth," who were cut up at Laings Nek in the last Boer Campaign, and the King's Royal Rifles and the Gordon Highlanders, who suffered serious loss on Majuba Hill, are to have an opportunity of retrieving their laurels in the approaching campaign. The Northumberlands sailed on the Union liner *Gaul*, and were due at Durban on the 12th inst., and the Rifles sailed from Calcutta on the 18th September.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The French are employing Chinese workmen for service in the Soudan.

The British Admiralty has ordered 12 torpedo-boat destroyers from private firms.

Two torpedo-boat destroyers have been ordered to join the Italian squadron on the China station.

Since the commencement of the trouble in the Transvaal upwards of 25,000 people have left the Rand.

The Interport cricket match takes place at Yokohama on Monday and Tuesday next week, and the baseball match on Wednesday and Thursday.

The U.S. hospital steamer *Relief* has been condemned by the Government inspectors at San Francisco as unsafe to carry passengers across the Pacific.

Considerable sickness is reported to have been caused amongst the crew of H.M.S. *Waterwitch* at Pagoda Anchorage by drinking Chinese-made aerated water. In one case death resulted.

Mr. Stewart Coats, the millionaire thread manufacturer of Paisley, has just been received into the Roman Catholic Church by the Rev. Sydney Smith, the well-known Jesuit reviewer and controversialist. He afterwards received confirmation at the hands of Bishop Turner.

Judgment in the case brought by Mr. Toritani, a Japanese of Kobe, against Mr. A. J. McGlew, an American merchant, for the recovery of balance of account for tea shipped on consignment by the plaintiff for America, through the defendant, was given in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Wednesday. The judgment was entered against the defendant, Mr. McGlew, with costs. The full text of the judgment will be published later.

The fête given by the foreign residents of Kobe to the principal Japanese took place on the Recreation Ground on October 10th. After being twice postponed on account of rain the promoters were at last favoured with fine weather. The programme consisted of Japanese magic, dancing, bicycle feats by Mr. Vaughan, of Yokohama, geisha dances, &c. After supper dancing was indulged in on an open air stage to the strains of the Osaka Garrison Band and M. Rizzotti's Band.

The *Inushima Maru*, a vessel of some 600 tons and 7 knots (contract price 110,000 *yen*) built for the Osaka Harbour authorities, was launched on Saturday at Uraga. Considerable interest attached to the event, as this is the first vessel constructed by the Ishikawajima Company, and there was a large attendance of officials and business men from Tokyo, Yokohama, and the immediate district. The ceremony was fixed for noon, but for some unexplained reason the vessel stuck before clearing the ways, and all efforts to float her had failed up to the time of latest advices.

At the Shanghai Mixed Court on the 2nd September before Mr. S.F. Mayers (British Assessor) and Mr. Weng (Magistrate), a Chinaman was charged with attempting to drown a little girl by holding her head downwards in a pool of water. Mr. George, of the Waterworks Company, who was the means of obtaining the scoundrel's arrest, said that the unfortunate child must have been held under at least three minutes before he was able to rescue her. Inspector Bourke informed the Court that in this particular pool there was at least ten feet of water. Prisoner, a callous looking wretch, was sentenced to receive 500 blows, a month's cangue and be deported.—*China Gazette.*

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says that lack of water is a question which is agitating the public mind in Tsintau. Many schemes have been mooted by experts; the one about bringing water from Laoshan could not be considered owing to its costliness; the other recommending the damming of the valleys at different points is feasible, but time presses, and in the meanwhile some thirty wells are being sunk in the immediate neighbourhood of the port. This it is thought, will tide over a water famine.

We are given to understand that the charges against four of the officers of the *Tamba Maru* have been dismissed, and that the case against Mr. Kent, the third officer, is adjourned *sine die*. On the other hand, the man Umeseko Toyomatsu, quartermaster on the ship, who brought the charge against the five officers, has been charged by the Public Procurator with assaulting Mr. Kent. The latter gave evidence as to the manner in which he was bitten by Umeseko, and exhibited the trousers he was wearing at the time. His wound was examined by a physician. It is of course satisfactory to know that Mr. Kent is apparently out of a disagreeable situation, but the fact that the case against him has proved so flimsy makes his arrest all the graver a mistake on the part of the police.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd Company is about to commence a new fortnightly direct service to Europe, avoiding the necessity of transhipment at Hongkong. The *Koenig Albert*, the pioneer steamer, has left Bremen for this port and is expected here on November 25th. She will be despatched, as announced in our advertisement columns, from Yokohama Pier on the return voyage on December 2nd. The *Koenig Albert* is the largest steamer, we believe, that has even been out so far East as China or Japan, or, at least, that has touched at Chinese or Japanese ports. She is a ship of 10,000 tons register, and, needless to say, her fittings are as perfect as her size is exceptional. The *Prinz Hemrich*, 6,263 tons, will follow her on December 16th. When the new service has got into working order the *Hohenzollern* will disappear.

A Naval Court of Inquiry was held on Tuesday morning on board H. B. M. cruiser *Aurora* to hear a charge against a Chinaman named Ah Sing, a fireman on the steamer *Petriana*, of wilfully disobeying the lawful commands of the chief engineer and also of assaulting him. The Court consisted, Commander Henry J. L. Clark, R.N., Lieut. Chas, S. Willis, R.N., Mr. E. M. Hobart Hampden, H. B. M. Vice-Consul at Yokohama, and Mr. Sidney de B. Lockyer, Master of the P. & O. steamer *Rohilla*. The date of the alleged offence was stated to be the 10th inst., 11.15 a.m., while the steamer was on the high seas. After hearing the evidence the Court found the prisoner guilty of the charge preferred against him and ordered him to proceed to his post on board his ship. The Court also reprimanded him and ordered him to pay a sum of *yen* 19.60, a portion of the costs, this amount to be deducted from his wages.

In the course of a report to a Pittsburg Company, Consul-General Gowey, writing from Yokohama, says:—The efforts made to produce sheet copper in Japan, I am informed, have not been encouraging, and the Press has lately reported the failure of one of the largest concerns in this line of trade at Osaka. Japanese copper, while of fine appearance, has produced much dissatisfaction as sheathing on vessels—salt water destroying it in a very short time. An American vessel was sheathed at this port with copper purchased from a prominent Tokyo firm during the past year, and in about two months thereafter the metal was discovered to be entirely eaten through in so many places that its removal was made necessary, and Muntz metal substituted. For the latter article, or its equivalent, there is undoubtedly a growing market in the Orient.

The Yokohama Choral Society held the first meeting of the season at the Van Schaick Hall on Monday evening. Mr. J. T. Griffin, the president, spoke briefly of the projects for the season, saying that as there was no time to send for a new work it had been decided to give the "Rose Maiden" at the first concert. That work had been very successful and popular before, and it would bear repeating. The first concert, it was proposed, should be given about December 15th. A number of members desired to work up an opera, and he saw no reason why one of Gilbert and Sullivan's works should not be given in the spring. The speaker then introduced the new conductor, Mr. Karl W. Vincent, of whom he spoke in high terms. Mr. Vincent thanked the members for the confidence they had reposed in him. He trusted they would have a very successful season, but to make the season really successful he must ask for their best support.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held last Friday at the Van Schaick Hall, when Mr. Cahusac presided over a small attendance. The election of officers was at once proceeded with, the following being appointed: President, Mr. N. W. McIvor; Vice-President, Rev. E. S. Booth; Secretary, Miss Thomas; Treasurer, Mr. Joline; Literary Committee, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Doering, and Mr. A. B. Brown; Music Committee, Mr. Mason, Mrs. Poole, and Mrs. N. W. McIvor; Refreshments Committee, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Bagnall, Mr. Sachs, and Mr. Clarence Griffin. In the course of an informal discussion it was resolved to recommend to the incoming committee a suggestion that once or twice during the season a short debate on the paper presented during the earlier part of the evening should be attempted. A hearty vote of thanks, on the proposition of the Rev. E. S. Booth, seconded by Mr. A. B. Brown, was passed to the outgoing officers, particular mention being made of the Rev. John L. Dearing.

Nothing is sacred to the statistician, not even the men and women who have been sainted and and beatified by the Church of Rome. An Italian newspaper gives a very interesting and suggestive table of those who have thus been exalted during the last four centuries. Thus, of actual saints who have lived and died between the year 1500 and the present day, there are ninety-six, while during the same period no less than 320 mortals were beatified. The following table shows the nationality of the sainted and beatified members of the Church militant:

76 Italians	28 sainted	48 beatified.
66 Spaniards	17 sainted	49 beatified.
37 Portuguese	1 sainted	36 beatified.
14 French	6 sainted	8 beatified.
13 Dutch	12 sainted	1 beatified.
5 Belgians	4 sainted	1 beatified.
4 Germans	2 sainted	2 beatified.
2 Poles	1 sainted	1 beatified.

The majority of these pillars of the Church are men, only fifty-eight women being among them. And where are the British in this galaxy? It is just the reverse of Max O'Rell's story of the Scotch picture of the Resurrection; in which John Knox occupied the most prominent position on the right hand side, with Burns next and a whole gang of Free Kirk elders near by, while on the left hand side stood scores of Popes, foreign Kings, and a few Englishmen, but not a single man born north of the Tweed.

An amusing story about the Kaiser comes to the *Christian World* from Berlin. It is well known that his Majesty during his annual trip on board the *Hohenzollern* to the Norwegian fiords is in the habit of conducting divine service every Sunday morning. He usually reads a short liturgy and follows the prayers with a sermon, not of his own composition, but from the collection of some well-known German divine. During his recent trip the officers of the *Hohenzollern* noticed that a sailor during divine service, either overcome by the heat or from some other cause, had fallen fast asleep. Their consternation was great, and they were relieved when the imperial sermon came to an end and the sailor wakened with a start. After the service the captain called the sailor before him, gave him a sound rating, and sentenced him to two days' arrest. Now it happens that on Sunday afternoons on board the *Hohenzollern* it is the Kaiser's custom to hear the captain's report of the events of the preceding week. If any sailor

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has distinguished himself the Kaiser shakes hands with him or says a few kindly words; if a sailor has been punished the Kaiser hears the details. The captain reported the incident of the sleeping sailor and the punishment inflicted on him. "Was he on watch the night before?" asked the Kaiser. "He was, your Majesty." "Then let the poor devil off. Besides, it wasn't much of a sermon anyhow."

M. Paul Déroulède, who is on trial before the French Senate sitting as a High Court of Justice, on the charge of conspiring against the Republic, is a poet of ability, an accomplished dramatist, a dashing soldier, with a record of daring made in the Franco-Prussian war, a man of elegance in society, a conversationalist with a reputation for brilliancy, much travelled, and above the average in wealth. In the battle of Sedan he saved his wounded brother's life and was severely injured himself. He escaped as a military prisoner from Breslau and served through the remainder of the war and against the Commune. A fall from his horse compelled his retirement from the army after he had won the rank of Lieutenant and the Cross of the Legion of Honour. M. Déroulède achieved prominence politically by founding the League of Patriots in 1882. This had become a powerful organization when it championed the cause of Boulanger at its height. Through the efforts of the League Boulanger was returned as a Deputy for Paris in 1889 by a great majority. The Government regarded the League as so dangerous that its dissolution as an illegal organization inimical to the State was ordered. It was revived when the Dreyfus affair reached an acute stage, M. Déroulède having been a bitter opponent of revision, and was again suppressed when, on the day of M. Loubet's election as President, Déroulède and Marcel-Habert urged General Roget at the head of his brigade to march to the Elysée and "save France." They insisted upon accompanying the General and his troops to their barracks, which they refused to leave when ordered, preferring arrest. In the eyes of many Frenchmen M. Déroulède's most serious offence then was that he made himself ridiculous. M. Déroulède was born in Paris, September 2, 1846. He is Deputy for Angouleme, Charente. His most famous poems are "Chants du Soldat," published in 1872, and "Nouveaux Chants du Soldat," 1875.

CHINA NOTES.

We take the following extract from the *Manila Times*:—Naval Constructor Richmond Pearson Hobson, in his report upon the work of repairing the Spanish ships raised from Manila Harbour and now at Hongkong, urges the necessity of a large dockyard in the Philippines. He discusses the increasing shipping at Manila and the prospect that Manila will succeed Hongkong as the emporium of the East, but says that Chinese labour must be employed in all branches of industry. He says the three Spanish ships when completed will be worth to the Government about $610,000, and he contemplates trying to raise three more now at the bottom of Manila Bay. The cost of refitting the three now at Hongkong will be about $300,000.

The Dutch Indies seem likely to become the chief suppliers of petroleum in the Far East, especially as it is feared that the action of the Russian Government in connection with the Batoum oil-fields will confine the carriage of the oil to ships flying the Russian flag. The Shell Transport and Trading Co. have, however, sources of oil at Kotie and other places and will thoroughly push their wares.

It is stated, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, that the Empress Dowager has given orders to destroy the list of the names of members of the Reform Party drawn up at the time of the *coup* last year to afford reference regarding the strength of the movers of Reform. It seems that the Empress Dowager has abandoned all hopes of exterminating the reformers and is reported from other quarters that she has strong inclinations to re-organize the Chinese navy, which will be definitely decided upon after Kang Yi has succeeded in augmenting the revenue of the Canton and Szechuen provinces.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says that Prince Henry went to Kiaochou on the 23rd September and turned the first sods of three railways, one in the direction of Waishieng, one to Tapatur, and the other to Tsintao. At the end of the ceremony Prince Henry said:—To this work which human intellect has planned and which laborious and industrious hands will accomplish, may God give his blessings. My wishes are that this work will contribute to the honour of the German Empire and will further strengthen the good relations existing between Germany and China.

In an article headed "Singular Decree," the *Echo de Chine* draws attention to the fact that the Sacred Edicts of Yun Chêng and Kia Ching, which the Empress Dowager has just ordered to be carefully studied in the colleges and schools throughout the Empire, and read in public by the local authorities for the education of the masses, contain most violent denunciations of Christianity. The writer in the *Echo* asks if the Empress Dowager has already repented her famous pro-Christian edict of April last. The *N.-C. Daily News* does not imagine that there is any anti-Christian intention in the issue of this new order. It is merely another instance of the chaos into which the government of China has fallen under the rule of the Empress Dowager.

A private letter from Chang Yenmao to a gentleman of high standing in England has been forwarded to a contemporary. He writes:—"The Peking newspaper correspondents say that I am anti-foreign and anti-English. I do not know a single newspaper correspondent, and do not think that any of them know me. I, therefore, am at a loss to explain how they can bear the responsibility for their statements, obviously aiming at inflaming the spirit of the British Government and public against me. The fact is that I am a Chinese who loves his country and is loyal and grateful to his dynasty, and who, moreover, thinks it his duty to stand by them in times good and bad. That I am anti-English is absolutely wrong. Many years of observation and connection with foreign affairs have given me the conviction that the British nation at large is fair and considerate in the treatment of China, and that the preponderance of British trade and enterprise are ties which for the good of my country and its independence should be strengthened, for, in my humble opinion, they are, nowadays, the only solid base for intimacy among nations which will tell in the hour of need. If the above sentiments deserve any attention whatever, I would ask you to note them as those which will actuate me as long as my Emperor will think me worthy of representing some of his interests."

Says the *N.C. Daily News*:—According to the historical records of the present Manchu dynasty the year on which the *Keng-tze* cycle with its 8th intercalary month falls has always brought disaster to the country in some shape, either through extreme drought, widespread inundations or rebellions, or the death of an important member of the Imperial House. This cycle spelt disaster centuries before the Manchus entered China, but when it fell in the second Manchu Emperor Kang Hsi's reign (1660), thinking that under the changed condition of the House the fatal 8th intercalary month could be ignored, his Majesty made no change in the usual sequence of the months. The result was disastrous and myriads of the people of China suffered. The lesson was taken to heart by subsequent Emperors, and when the *Keng-tze* cycle fell during the reigns of Yung Chêng (1720), Chien Lung (1780), and Tao Kuang (1840) the 8th intercalary month was eliminated and some other month intercalated instead. The usually fatal cycle passed off in peace with the arbitrary changes made, and the Imperial Astronomers who warned these Emperors of the impending disasters threatened by the cycle were satisfied. The *Keng-tze* cycle is now again at hand and falls in 1900. Had the liberal-minded Kuang Hsü still been in power he would doubtless have laughed at the ill-omened prophesies of the grave and superstitious Imperial Astronomers who begged to be allowed, a few days ago, to recommend a change in the intercalary month of next year, and would probably have replied by ordering an entire change from the lunar to the solar year in order to be in keeping with the months and dates of Western countries. Unfortunately the Conservatives are in power and Kuang Hsü is powerless. The consequence is that the 8th intercalary month of next year will probably be changed to the 4th or 5th intercalary month.

Hon. E. H. Conger, the U.S. Minister to China, arrived at Hongkong on the U.S. cruiser *Princeton* on the 28th ult., on his way to Canton, and was visited on board by Consul-General Wildman. He was to resume his voyage the following day, calling upon His Excellency the Governor before he left.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Readers of the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press last week must have been greatly puzzled after reading to the bottom of column 3, page 394, and then turning to the opposite page to continue the subject. They found that there was no connection, and it arose in this way. By a most unfortunate blunder the printer transposed two pages, placing on page 396 matter that should have appeared on page 395.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

We extract the following passages regarding the U.S. policy in the Philippines from speeches recently delivered by President McKinley—the first at Ocean Grove, N.J., the other at the welcome-home of the Pennsylvania Regiment:—

"Peace first; then, with charity for all, establish a government of law and order, protecting life, property, and occupation, for the well-being of the people, a government in which they shall participate under the Stars and Stripes."

* * *

"The first blow was struck by the insurgents. Our kindness was reciprocated with cruelty, our mercy with a Mauser. The flag of truce was invoked only to be dishonoured. Our soldiers were shot down when ministering to the wounded Filipinos. Our humanity was interpreted as weakness, our forbearance as cowardice. They assailed our sovereignty, and there will be no useless parley—no pause until the insurrection is suppressed and American authority acknowledged and established."

* * *

"Peace brought us the Philippines, by treaty cession from Spain. The Senate of the United States ratified the treaty. Every step taken was in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution. It became our territory and is ours, as much as the Louisiana purchase, or Texas, or Alaska. A body of insurgents, in no sense representing the sentiment of the people of the islands, disputed our lawful authority, and even before the ratification of the treaty by the American Senate were attacking the very forces who fought for and secured their freedom."

A leading financial paper in the States says:—Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt's death has had little influence upon the market for securities, although the greater part of his large fortune consists of the securities of the railroad properties with which his family have for three generations been identified. For nearly three years his own active participation in the direction of

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the New York Central and its allied corporations has been virtually suspended by the illness which has reached a fatal termination. Eminently conservative in temperament, and representing in a striking degree the best that can be found in the personnel of modern American business life, the late Mr. Vanderbilt, during the years in which, as the head of his family connection, he exercised the chief direction in the affairs of such vast railroad and financial interests, brought to the Vanderbilt roads and the Vanderbilt securities a degree of public confidence which they had not before enjoyed, but which they seem now unlikely to lose. Whether the policy of expansion, or rather of acquisition and consolidation, which has now been adopted in regard to the Vanderbilt railways would have inaugurated and pursued with such vigour while he retained the active position in their management is immaterial. The deceased certainly was an effective though unobtrusive factor in the work which, begun by his grandfather, Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, and continued by the latter's son, William H. Vanderbilt, has given the country such a system of transportation lines as the New York Central and its adjuncts.

H. W. Poor & Co. have issued a circular pamphlet showing the increase in the use of the telephone in the United States. The figures are somewhat astounding. In 1880 there were in use under rental of the Bell Telephone Company, 60,873; in 1881, 132,692, an increase of 71,819. In 1898 there were in hands of licensees 1,124,846, an increase over the preceding year of 205,725. In 1885 the miles of wires used by the overhead, underground, and submarine systems were 137,223. On January 1, 1899, there were in use 1,158,900 miles of wire. Not only was the telephone the invention of an American, but nearly all the appliances and improvements are of American origin. The entire expenditure of all the companies using the Bell telephone at the close of 1898, for construction, reached the enormous figures of $111,159,309.26.

Railroad building in Canada seems likely to attain an activity parallel to that which now exists in various portions of the United States. It is true that the two great railroad corporations of the Dominion, the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk, have no very important projects for extensions of their respective systems in immediate contemplation. A number of important Canadian railroad projects are, however, now under way, the most striking of which involves the possible creation of another transcontinental line from Quebec to British Columbia. It is stated that a syndicate has been formed which has acquired certain old or partially constructed lines in western Ontario, and that active construction work will be undertaken upon a system of lines extending into the province of Manitoba and a portion of the state of Minnesota, with a view to opening up a large and hitherto undeveloped timber country, as well as what are described as important iron ranges and gold mining districts. As already indicated, the intention of the projectors after the link from Lake Superior to Winnipeg is completed, is to push the line westward into the valley of the Saskatchewan and thence over the mountains to the Pacific upon a more northerly parallel than the C.P.R. The project is certainly an ambitious one, but, in view of the success of the Canadian Pacific, it can hardly be dismissed as either an impossibility or an impracticable scheme.

A remarkable work is being done is Chicago by Munroe F. Clark, a full-blooded Negro, twenty-three years old. Three years ago he established a home for his newsboys, now numbering fifty, the great majority of them Negroes. He couldn't bear, he says, to see the little fellows "going straight to the reformatory and to the penitentiary," so he renovated a rented barn, and provided there board, lodging, and recreation. He is ambitious now to build a good house for his boys. He has the money and is only waiting to secure the right piece of ground. "It eats up a good deal of my profits," he says. "It costs me more to feed and clothe these boys and send them to school in winter than it would to hire them and let them shift for themselves. But I'm not very hungry for money—never was."

The August receipts of the New York Post Office, amounting to $665,706, show an increase of $67,776 over the receipts for August of last year. This is the largest aggregate increase at any of the large cities, the increase at Chicago being $37,714, at Philadelphia $25,367, and at Boston $27,709. The total receipts of the fifty principal offices for August are $3,299,350, an increase of $243,875 over the August business of last year, or an increase of 7.9 per cent.

In eight months of the year Alabama and Tennessee are reported to have sent forth 1,026,726 tons of pig iron, an increase of 187,354 tons over the total of shipments in the same period of time last year. During this period the two states named exported 115,115 tons of cast-iron pipe, or 32,528 tons more than was sent out in the eight months of 1898 These figures represents record-breaking shipments of iron, for never before in the history of the two states has so much iron been sent from their confines—that is, during the length of time under consideration—eight month. Should the present ratio be maintained it is not unlikely that the movement for the year will be in the neighbourhood of 1,500,000 tons, or, in other words, 250,000 tons more than the total for last year.

It is estimated that the yield from the Klondike mines this year will be a third less than last year's output, say about $8,000 000.

YOKOHAMA AUTUMN REGATTA.

The Autumn Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held on Saturday afternoon. After their ill-luck of last week, the promoters were fortunate in regard to weather, the conditions on Saturday being perfect, the water smooth, the sky clear, and the temperature comfortably high. The sport, too, was excellent. One unavoidable alteration in the programme was the omission of the Senior Pairs, owing to the indisposition of a member of one of the crews, and this race will be rowed some day during the present week. Carst's success was one of the features of the afternoon. He won both the Senior Double Sculls and the Senior Fours and also rowed third oar in the Open Fours. This, we believe, is the first time he has stroked the Club Fours, and the capital form he showed is highly satisfactory. Abbey's work was also excellent; he stroked the winners of the Junior Fours and the Junior Pairs respectively, and was also in one of the crews in the Senior Fours.

As far as the social side of the function was concerned, the afternoon was most enjoyable. The upper room at the Boathouse was prettily decorated with flags and bunting, and the handsome prizes, many of them being ornate specimens of the silver smith's craft, were on view in one corner. Refreshments were served during the afternoon, and the Town Band played a selection of popular music.

1. Boccacio March.
2. Overture, Fra Diavolo.
3. Kornthner Lieder March.
4. Overture, die Weise Dame.

DANCES.

1. Waltz.
2. Polka.
3. Waltz
4. Lancers.
5. Waltz.
6. In the Barn.
7. Waltz.
8. Two Step.
9. Waltz.
10. Washington Post.
11. In the Barn.
12. Galop.

The officers of the day were as follows:—H. C. Litchfield, President; F. J. Hall, Captain; Dr. Wheeler, Rev. E. C. Irwine, James Walter, H. Rose, P. S. Bent, H. E. Hayward, W. Goddard, E. H. Irwine, Committee; W. Sutter, starter; R. Hay, time-keeper; G. C. Allcock, Hon. Treas.; E. Levedag, Hon. Sec.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¾ Mile.

1.—"TERN."

Bow. H. Y. Irwine, 149lb. .....
Stroke. J. J. M. Carst, 170lb. ..... } 1

"PEARL."

Bow. G. C. Allcock, 157lb. .....
Stroke. E. Levedag, 185lb. ..... } 0

Time, 6m. 11sec.

The boats got away well together, each pulling 35 to the minute. There was little to choose between them until the P. M. wharf was reached, when Carst put on steam, and he was leading by a length at the breakwater. At this point a sampan going in leisurely fashion across the harbour entrance made matters a little awkward for *Pearl*, which narrowly escaped a collision, but this incident had little or no effect on the race. *Tern* maintained a slight lead, and though the other crew rowed well up to the finish Carst had no difficulty in winning by something over a length.

JUNIOR FOURS.—¾ Mile.

"DARTER."

Bow. W. O. Hall, 112lb. .....
2 T. White, 160lb. .....
3 C. H. von Dorp 155lb. ..... } 1
Stroke. J. Abbey, 109lb. .....
Cox. H. Gorman .....

"SEAMEW."

Bow. A. G. Price, 126lb. .....
2 C. S Marshall, 165lb. .....
3 O. Strome 185lb. ..... } 0
Stroke. J. E. Moss, 130lb. .....
Cox. W. Carst, 126lb. .....

Time, 6m. 7¾secs.

From a good start both boats went away at a steady stroke, each rowing about 36 to the minute. They kept on pretty equal terms up to half distance, when *Darter* began to forge ahead, and at the P.M. Wharf she was leading by about half a length, the pace having now fallen to 34 to the minutes. The lead was thence increased by every stroke and at the finish there were three lengths to spare.

SENIOR FOURS.—1 Mile.

"SEAMEW."

Bow. J. A. Hayes, 145lb.....
2 C. H. van Dorn, 155lb. .....
3 A. L. Manley, 159lb. ..... } 1
Stroke. J. J. M. Carst 170lb. .....
Cox. W. Carst, 126lb. .....

"FLAMINGO."

Bow. M. F. Stephens, 140lb. .....
2 H. A. Poole, 165lb. .....
3 O. Strome, 185lb..... } 2
Stroke. W. Squire, 144lb. .....
Cox. W. O. Hall, 123lb. .....

"PELICAN."

Bow. H. Y. Irwine, 149lb. .....
2 H. D. Curtis, 186lb. .....
3 B. J. Jackson, 173lb. ..... } 3
Stroke. H. E. Hayward, 142lb. .....
Cox. —— .....

"DARTER."

Bow. J. E. Moss, 130lb. .....
2 H. Goddard, 134lb.....
3 G. C. Allcock, 157lb. ..... } 0
Stroke. W. Goddard, 128lb. .....
Cox. H. Gorman, 123lb. .....

"SWAN,"

Bow. J. Abbey, 109lb, ...
2 E. Levedag, 185lb. .....
3 H. K. A. Onderdonk, 190lb..... } 0
Stroke. C. S. Thwaites, 140lb. .....
Cox. C. V. Schmidt, 130lb.....

Time, 7m. 32¾secs.

Some difficulty was experienced in getting a start owing to a big junk getting across the course. *Flamingo* went away with a slight lead, with *Swan* and *Pelican* close behind, and *Seamew* next, *Darter* being last. The position was little changed for the first half mile, but Carst then quickened his stroke and passed *Flamingo*, while *Pelican* drew ahead of *Swan*, which fell into last place. From this point Carst had it all his ownway, and was never troubled, winning by three lengths; about four lengths between second and third.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¾ Mile.

"TERN."

Bow. J. White, 160lb. .....
Stroke. A. L. Manley, 159lb. ..... } 1

"PEARL."

Bow. W. O. Hall, 112lb. .....
Stroke. D. Curtis, 185lb. ..... } 0

Time, 6m. 37secs.

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Tern went away with the lead, Manley rowing a faster stroke than Curtius, who had taken the place of Strome, while *Pearl's* chances were further diminished by Hall catching a crab. The race very soon resolved itself into a very uninteresting affair, for Manley was never seriously troubled, and though *Pearl* seemed like making up some of the distance at the break-water she fell behind again, being three lengths to the bad at the finish.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—⅝ Mile.

"WIDGEON."

Bow.	T. White, 160lb.	1
Stroke.	J. Abbey, 109lb.	
Cox.	W. M. Carst, 125lb.	

"MALLARD."

Bow.	O. Strome, 185lb.	0
Stroke.	H. K. A. Onderdonk, 190lb.	
Cox.	H. Gorman, 123lb.	

Time, 7m. 50⅘secs.

The lighter crew had easily the better of it, Abbey rowing a much prettier stroke than Onderdonk. *Widgeon* went away from the start with a slight lead, and though for half the distance Onderdonk struck to his task well the race was after that a certain thing for the other crew, who eventually won by four or five lengths.

OPEN FOURS.—1 Mile.

"SWAN."

Bow.	H. Y. Irwine, 149lb.	1
2	H. A. Poole, 165lb.	
3	J. J. M. Carst, 170lb.	
Stroke.	H. E. Hayward, 142lb.	
Cox.	W. Carst, 125lb.	

"SEAMEW."

Bow.	J. E. Moss, 130lb.	2
2	A. L. Manley, 159lb.	
3	O. Strome, 185lb.	
Stroke.	W. M. Squire, 144lb.	
Cox.	A. L. Mottu, 135lb.	

"DARTER."

Bow.	H. Goddard, 124lb.	0
2	F. H. Abbey, 138lb.	
3	G. C. Allcock, 157lb.	
Stroke.	W. Goddard, 128lb.	
Cox.	H. Gorman, 123lb.	

Time, 8m. 19secs.

Swan had the best of the start, and got a fair lead of the other two, Hayward setting a stroke of 32 to the minute. By the time the P. M. Wharf was reached *Swan* was lengths ahead; the other two were about on level terms, but shortly after *Seamew* got into second place, and Squire, putting on a good spurt, reduced much of *Swan's* lead. *Swan* won by three lengths; a length between second and third.

SCRATCH FOURS.

Five crews took part, stroked by Carst, Hayward, W. Goddard, H. S Goddard, and Mottu. Carst's was first, W. Goddard's second, and Hayward's third.

CRICKET.

MR. F. E. WHITE'S TEAM v. MR C. M. DUFF'S TEAM.

While the "wet-bobs" were holding their regatta on Saturday afternoon, the "dry-bobs," mindful of the approaching interport match, got up a game between teams captained by Mr. F. E. White and Mr. C. M. Duff respectively. The game resulted in a win for the former. Score:—

MR. F. E. WHITE'S TEAM.

Mr. E. W. Kilby, b. Kingdon	13
Mr. T. Forrest, not out	55
Rev. F. S. Tyng, c. Read, b. Kingdon	0
Mr. H. S. Simon, b. Edwards	1
Mr. F. H. Bagbird, c. Duff, b. Kingdon	2
Mr. F. O. Stuart, b. Kilby	4
Mr. P. B. Clarke, b. Crawford	38
Mr. F. Pollard, b. Crawford	0
Mr. G. Braess, c. Kingdon, b. Crawford	3
Mr. J. H. Bathgate, c. and b. Crawford	2
Mr. H. A. Stewart, c. Duff, b. Crawford	0
Extras	3
Total	121

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	M'dens.	Wkts.
E. B. S. Edwards	84	48	3	1
A. Kingdon	65	26	3	3
H. W. Kilby	10	14	—	—
K. F. Crawford	43	20	1	5
E. B. Clarke	12	11	—	—

MR. C. M. DUFF'S TEAM.

Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Forrest, b. Stuart	0
Mr. H. W. Kilby, run out	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. E. W. Kilby, b. P. B. Clarke	12
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. P. B. Clarke, b. Braess	18
Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, c. Braess, b. Stuart	13
Mr. C. M. Duff, st. E. W. Kilby, b. Stuart	0
Mr. E. B. Clarke, b. Braess	2
Mr. W. Y. Showler, not out	2
Mr. A. W. Read, b. Stuart	3
Mr. E. Powys, b. Braess	7
Extra	1
Total	61

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	M'd.	Wkts.
F. O. Stuart	45	34	2	4
P. B. Clarke	30	16	1	1
G. Braess	29	10	1	3

THE TANSAN LABEL CASE.

The detailed judgment in the case of J. Clifford Wilkinson against the Ishimichi Company is published by the *Kobe Herald*. The decision, it will be remembered, rejects the application of Mr. Wilkinson. It is as follows:—

The plaintiff is a mineral water marchant owning the mineral water called Tansan, which is well known. The plaintiff sent an application for the label used with his water on 4th January, 30th year of Meiji. The label was registered on the 6th April of the same year, with No. 8,574 as the registration number. The label bears the word "Tansan" and other matter. The plaintiff used this label and sells the water to which the label is affiixed. The demand for the water is increasing day by day, and the sale has gone up to about yen 10,000 per month. The defendant applied for registration of a closely copied label on 22nd December, 31st year of Meiji, and registered it with No. 12,227 on the 5th April of the 32nd year of Meiji. The defendant uses this label for waters manufactured by him. The plaintiff informed him several times that he was violating the Trade Mark Regulations, but the defendant did not stop the sale of his water. Consequently the plaintiff applied for cancellation of the registration of the defendant's Tansan label to the Patent Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on 31st August of the 32nd year of Meiji. The Patent Bureau cancelled the registration of defendant's label. The decision of the Patent Bureau has already been delivered to the defendant. The defendant may appeal to the Court of Cassation against the decision of the Patent Bureau within sixty days of the decision. We can not find any reason to think that the decision was made contrary to law. The plaintiff and the defendant have been fighting for the monopoly of the label. The defendant can only appeal to the Court of Cassation on a legal point. The defendant will continue the use of the unjust label which it was decided could be used by the plaintiff only. The plaintiff will thereby suffer loss. This is a clear point. The plaintiff has suffered great loss. The amount of water which was sold by the plaintiff had been increasing at the rate of 20 or 30 per cent. per day, but it began to decrease. This has injured the name of the plaintiff and it will damage his business. This is very clear.

The plaintiff thus sustained a great loss, but the actual amount can not be ascertained. The plaintiff is about to sue for damages, but, as his customers are scattered all over the eastern ports of Asia, he states that he applied for interdict while he engaged in investigating his loss. The defendant is also a mineral water merchant and he is entitled to a label No. 12,227 which he registered on 4th April, 32nd year of Meiji, to be used on his mineral water bottles. The plaintiff applied to the Patent Bureau, Agricultural and Commercial Department, to have the defendant's label disallowed as it bore a strong likeness to his label No. 8,474. Consequently the defendant's label has been cancelled by the Patent Bureau, as it bears a likeness to another. The above account agrees with the statement of the plaintiff, but the decision of the Patent Bureau is not yet confirmed. The defendant can appeal to the Court of Cassation within sixty days, and he is entitled to his label until the decision of the Patent Bureau is confirmed. It is a fact that the defendant is taking steps to appeal to the Court of Cassation. The defendant claims, firstly, to be entitled to use his label as he has a right to do so, and this case is neither of such an urgent character or of such a nature as to cause great loss to the plaintiff and there is no necessity for interdict. Secondly, the decision of the Patent Bureau cannot be held effective as regards the past, and the plaintiff cannot claim recompense from the defendant if the decision which declares the defendant's label to be null is confirmed. Therefore the interdict with the view of preventing future loss must not be allowed, and it is accordingly rejected.

THE REASONS.

It is an acknowledged fact that the label registered by the defendant at the Patent Bureau of the Agricultural and Commercial Department was pronounced void and that the decision of the Patent Bureau awaits confirmation. The defendant is entitled to use his label which he registered legally until such time as the decision rendering his label void has been confirmed. The plaintiff declares that the use of the defendant's label has caused him considerable loss, but Fukami Shukichi, sole agent for the defendant's water, and a sworn witness, stated in Court that the weather is now becoming cold and that there is not much demand for Tansan water. Thus it can not be admitted that a great loss is likely to be sustained by the plaintiff if the defendant uses his label. The statement of the plaintiff relating to his loss becomes only a matter of the past and it will not affect him in the future. Moreover, the time for confirmation of the decision of the Patent Bureau is drawing near and there is practically no necessity to enforce the interdict applied for by the plaintiff. A decision was delivered accordingly. It is not necessary to explain the second protest by the plaintiff seeing that it has been decided that this application is unreasonable on the ground stated above.

TAMAKI SHIGEO,
Chief Judge of 1st Department,
Kobe District Court.
SHIMOYAMA KIGORO, Judge.
HIYAMA HIKOJURO, Judge.

10th October, 1899

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Oct. 14th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15,045,605
Amount of convertible notes issued	211,804,407
Government deposits	55,464,164
General deposits	3,774,626
Exchange liability	20,503
Total	316,109 305

CR.	
Discount notes	45 373 994
Foreign discount notes	11 909,507
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	70,826,136
Exchange liability	2,610 561
Government bonds	57,422,477
Property	1,948.202
Bullion and Specie	104,018,425
Total	316,109 305

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	208,742,032
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	103,099,685
Silver	—
Total	103,099 685
Securities:—	
Government bonds	28,019,455
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	6,145,702
Commercial notes	49,477,189
Total	105 642,347

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	430,310
Silver	—	—
General loans	15,454,100	—
Government deposits	14,753,340	—
General deposits	—	1,063,685

Three deserters from the German sailing ship *Columbia*, now in Yokohama Harbour, have been arrested by the Kagacho Police on warrants issued by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho at the request of the German Consul. They are at present detained at the German Consulate.

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LIFE AT DARTMOOR.

From an article on "The Convict-Capital of Dartmoor," in the September *Chambers' Journal*, we gather a few facts about the well-known penal establishment. To-day there are in residence nearly nine hundred men, who are attended by between two and three hundred warders. Every man has, of course, a cell of his own. Books are allowed to any extent if approved by the chaplain, and some of the prisoners are omnivorous readers of history, travel, and fiction. Each man is shaved once a week by a prisoner known to be an ex-barber, "though for a razor he is only permitted to use a species of small-toothed clipper." Three months before liberation, however, beards are allowed to be grown.

The prison fare consists of three meals a day—a pint of tea and half a loaf of bread for breakfast; eleven ounces of roast beef or mutton for dinner, and a pint of cocoa for supper. For his dress the convict wears a dull yellow cap of the "Scotch" order, upon which a brass letter is fastened, one letter for each period of servitude the wearer has endured. The thick rough jacket and trousers are of the same yellowish hue; but after a year or two the "good conduct" men are privileged to exchange these for garments of dark blue and a red collar. A favourite form of insubordination is to tear to pieces these yellow suits, the punishment for which is that the "tiger" appears in the quarry next day arrayed in board-like black canvas.

Convicts sometimes attempt to regain their freedom, but are hardly ever successful. The most celebrated escape of the past—some say the only one—dates from many years back, when a convict lived for three weeks in a peat-cutter's cottage almost under the shadow of the prison walls. The grandmother who lived in the house was dangerously ill; but before the warders came to search the house she got up from her bed and gave it, together with her nightcap, to the convict, who most ably sustained the *rôle* of an asthmatical old woman of ninety. When the excitement had subsided he quietly left the house at night in the peatcutter's clothes, and escaped to America. On Tuesday mornings some of the convicts are usually seen on the platform of the South Western station at Tavistock, clothed and bearded. They are on their way to Pentonville Prison, where they will be photographed; and then, with £2 17 in their pockets, will regain their freedom.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, October 13.

Mr. Schreiner, Prime Minister of Cape Colony, has strenuously enjoined upon all the Dutchmen of the Cape to remain quiescent and prove their loyalty to the Queen.

President Kruger, telegraphing to sympathisers in New York, says that if the two Republics have to belong to Great Britain it shall be at a price which shall stagger humanity.

There is no news of any fighting.

The Free State Boers have seized a Natal train bound for Harrismith.

The Netherlands Consul in London is charged with Transvaal interests and the American Consul in Pretoria with British interests.

Shanghai, Oct. 14.

President Steyn has issued a proclamation to the effect that the Orange Free State will assist the Transvaal.

The leaders of the Opposition in Great Britain are agreed that the Transvaal's ultimatum closes all party polemics.

Mr. Conyngham Greene and his staff have left Pretoria.

A state of martial law has been proclaimed in the Transvaal.

A considerable force of Boers have entered Natal viâ Laings Nek.

Shanghai, Oct. 16.

Martial law has been declared at Orange Free State.

Bloemfontein. All British subjects have been ordered to leave.

The Boers have derailed and destroyed an armoured train near Vryburg. The crew maintained a brisk fire for four hours, but were eventually overpowered by the enemy's artillery, and were taken prisoners.

The British Admiral at Simond's Town has ordered the immediate landing of a strong naval brigade.

General Sir Redvers Buller has started for the Cape.

General White advanced with twelve guns from Ladysmith to attack the Boers, who were advancing with eleven guns. He failed to draw the Boers into action, however, and returned to Ladysmith without fighting.

[Note.—From this telegram it is evident that the report of actions at Ladysmith and Mafeking, of which a brief announcement was telegraphed on Sunday, was inaccurate. According to this, the latest news from South Africa, and therefore probably the most reliable, no fighting has taken place at Ladysmith.—Ed. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, Oct. 17.

Arrangements have been completed for embarking 14 Battalions by the 23rd inst. for the Cape.

The Boers under Commandant Viljeon have advanced to the South of Newcastle. The other Commandants have remained in the passes of the Drakenburg Mountains at Tintwa and Valeenans.

[The last two words have been mangled in transmission.—Ed. *J.M.*]

General Joubert is believed to be at Laing's Nek which he is fortifying.

Major Marchand has sounded the French Government as to whether he would be allowed to offer his services to the Transvaal Government. The French Government has discouraged the idea.

There is no news from the front.

Shanghai, October 18.

The non-combatants have evacuated Dundee.

Parliament has opened. The Opposition in both Houses, while deploring the war, and criticising Mr. Chamberlain's conduct of the negotiations, agrees that the ultimatum addressed to Great Britain by the Transvaal left the British Government no option. Opposition leaders promise the Government their hearty support.

Lord Salisbury, referring to the future, declared that he must insist upon England's Sovereign power being recognised.

It is reported that the Boers have been repulsed at Mafeking with heavy loss.

The Free State Boers are entrenching the passes in the Drakenburg Range.

Shanghai, October 19.

The Queen's Speech to Parliament announces that the Militia is to be embodied, and also that the Militia in Ireland is to be called out.

Mr. John Dillon, Nationalist member for Mayo, moved an amendment to the Address to the Throne in the sense that war with the Transvaal would be a violation of the Convention of 1884, and asking that arbitration should be resorted to on the basis of the Hague Conference. The amendment was rejected by 322 votes to 54, most of the Liberal members, including the Opposition leaders, voting with the Government.

The Basutos have risen against the

THE GREAT YACHT RACE.

Shanghai, Oct. 13.

The America Cup Race is again off on account of fog.

Shanghai, Oct. 17.

The *Columbia* has beaten the *Shamrock* by half a mile.

Shanghai, October 19.

The *Shamrock* yesterday broke her topmast and abandoned the race.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

WAR COMMENCED.

Saigon, Oct. 13.

The Anglo-Boer war has commenced. A numerous force from the Transvaal has invaded Natal.

The majority of the foreigners in the Transvaal have set out for the frontier to cöoperate in defending it.

THE FRENCH COCHIN-CHINA SQUADRON.

Captain Meunier-Joannet has been nominated Commodore of the French Naval Division in Cochin-China, and will hoist his flag on the *Triomphante*.

Saigon, Oct. 14.

A telegram from the Cape of Good Hope says that the Boers have destroyed an English train bound for Mafeking, between Vryburg and Mafeking. It is feared that the victims are numerous.

The Boers, when they effected the destruction of the train, were making dispositions for an attack on Mafeking.

GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN CERAM

A telegram from Java says that an earthquake has taken place in Ceram destroying the town of Amahay and killing 4,000 persons.

[Ceram is an island of the East Indian Archipelago, with a population of 195,000. It belongs to the Dutch. Amahay is a town on the south coast, situated on a bay of the same name.—Ed *J.M.*]

Saigon, Oct. 15.

A telegram from Vryberg says that 15 English soldiers were killed in the train wrecked on the way to Mafeking.

The Boers commenced the attack on Mafeking on Friday at midnight, and the battle is still going on.

A telegram from Durban says that a battle is reported to be going on near Ladysmith between 3,000 English troops and 3,000 Boers.

Saigon, Oct. 16.

The intelligence received from South Africa is somewhat confused, and does not contain any salient facts.

The news that a battle had taken place near Ladysmith is denied.

THE TRIAL FOR HIGH TREASON.

Saigon, Oct. 17.

The examination of the persons accused of high treason is continuing in the High Court of the Senate. Nothing remarkable has occurred. The majority of the accused refuse to answer any questions.

The news from South Africa is that the Boers are besieging Kimberley, where Mr. Cecil Rhodes is.

The telegraph and the railway are cut.

People in England are waiting with anxiety for news from Mafeking and Kimberley.

THE VOULET AFFAIR.

Saigon, Oct. 18.

The French Colonial Minister has received a telegram from Lieutenant Pallier,

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announcing that he has taken command of the Voulet mission. He confirms the assassination of Colonel Klobb, and adds that he has found Lieutenant Meynier, who will survive his wounds. The telegram says nothing about Captains Voulet and Chanoine.

Saigon, October 18.

An official telegram announces that Captains Voulet and Chanoine met with the punishment they deserved. They were shot by their own troops.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Parliament has met in London, and the Queen's Speech announces that in addition to calling out the Army reserves the Militia are to be embodied, and Militia Reserves to be called out.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 1	M. Oct. 23
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 2	M. Oct. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 3	M. Oct. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Oct. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 2
America	T. K. K.	Am rica Maru 4	Th. Nov. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Nov. 13

1 Left Hongkong on the 15th inst.
2 Left Vancouver on the 11th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Oct. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 23
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Oct. 25
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Oct. 27
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu, Oct. 31
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Nov. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	E. Nov. 3
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 3
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Nov. 13

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday, beginning on 2nd Nov.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 441.

By A. Napoleon.

From "Caissana Brasileira," a collection of Problems of Brazilian composers.

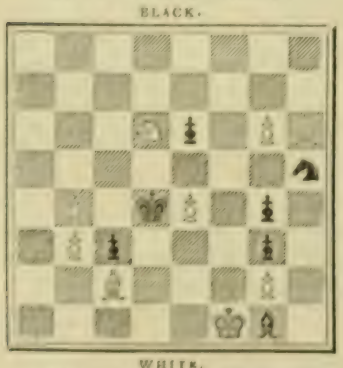
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K R 4	1—K to B 4
2—Kt to Q 3 ch	2—K to Q 5
3—Kt to B 3 mate	if 2—K to Kt 3
3—R to R 6 mate	
	1—Kt to K 3
2—Kt (Kt 5) takes Kt	2—P moves
3—R to R 6 mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, and L.M.A.

PROBLEM No. 444.

By S. Steiner, Revesinje.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 560.

"NAPOLEON AT CHESS."

We take this game and comments from the *The Times*, Philadelphia:—

"It is well known that the great Napoleon played Chess and frequently, too. The table is still shown at the Café de la Regence, where the Sub-Lieutenant Bonaparte had his daily game during the Reign of Terror, and of his latter games as Consul and Emperor three specimens are preserved. The following, the last of the three, was played at St. Helena:—

White—Napoleon. Black—Gen. Bertrand.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—Kt takes P
4—Kt takes Kt	4—P takes Kt
5—B to Q B 4	5—B to B 4

"The conqueror of Marengo and Austerlitz plays for a rapid development.

6—P to Q B 3	6—Q to K 2

"General Bertrand had not read the modern analysis of this opening.

7—Castles	7—Q to K 4

"White's last move was of a subtle nature and the KP a Greek gift, for Napoleon is ready to pin if the P be taken.

8—P to K B 4	8—P takes P ch
9—K to R sq	9—P takes P

"The conclusion shows that Napoleon had all the genius of a modern brilliant player.

10—B takes B P ch	10—K to Q sq

"If he takes, then P takes Q, discovering check.

11—P takes Q	11—P takes R (Q)
12—B takes Kt	12—B to K 2

"If R takes B, Q to Kt3 follows.

13—Q to Kt 3	13—P to Q R 4

"Of course, General Bertrand could have improved his last move, but perhaps he wasn't feeling quite well, or knew that Napoleon didn't like long games. Well, be that as it may, the Emperor now forced a brilliant mate in five moves."

THE SARATOGA TOURNAMENT.

NEW YORK WINS INTERSTATE MATCH.

The twelfth annual midsummer meeting of the New York State Chess Association began at Saratoga on August 28th. In the match for the *Staats Zeitung* Cup, Lipschuts won. In the Interstate match, Massachusetts failed to send a team, so that the old rivals—New York and Pennsylvania—had it all to themselves. New York was represented by Lipschutz, Halprin, Marshall, Hanham, Karpinski, Weeks, and Roething. Pennsylvania sent Kemeny, Voigt, Bampton, Stuart, Young, Shipley, and McCutcheon. The score stood:—

New York.		Pennsylvania.	
Lipschutz	6½	Kemeny	4½
Marshall	4½	Shipley	4
Halprin	4	Bampton	4
Weeks	3½	Voigt	3½
Roething	3	D. Stuart	2½
Karpinski	2½	Young	2
Hanham	2½	McCutcheon	2
Total.....	26½	Total.....	22½

Lipschutz won first prize, Kemeny and Marshall divided second and third prizes, and Shipley, Bampton, and Halprin divided fourth and fifth prizes.

In 1897, New York won by a score of 25½ to 23½, while last year Pennsylvania made the astonishing score of 30 to 19.

GAMES FROM THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

GAME No. 561.

Schlechter Tries "Brill" on Lasker.

GUIOCO PIANO.

White—Schlechter. Black—Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	13 QxKtP(e)	R Bsq
2 KKt B3	QKt B3	14 Kt×Kt(f)	Q B3(g)
3 B B4	B B4	15 KR Ksq ch	K Q-q
4 P B3	Kt B3	16 Q×Qch	R×Q
5 P Q4	P×P	17 R K2	P KR3
6 P×P	B Kt5ch	18 QR Ksq	P B3
7 Kt B3	KKt×P	19 R K8ch	K B2
8 Castles(a)	B×Kt	20 Kt B7	R B2
9 P Q5(b)	Kt K4	21 R R8	P Kt4
10 P×B	Kt×B	22 QR K8	B Kt2
11 Q Q4	P KB4(c)	. Resigns	
12 B Kt5(d)	Kt×B		

Notes from the *Hereford Times*.

(a) Mr. Steinitz invented this variation in the Giucco Piano opening, and Mr. Lasker has before now exposed its weak points.

(b) This is, however, quite new. It must be noted that in the state of the score Herr Schlechter was compelled to play for a win, and he therefore played desperately.

(c) A less astute adversary might have tried to save the piece, and perhaps have lost the game in the end. By giving back the piece Black remains with a pawn a head, and a safety game.

(d) The only move to maintain any attack. If 12—Q takes Kt, Black would reply 12 ..... Q to B 2

(e) Now correct, as if 13—Kt takes Kt ch, 14—P takes Kt, and Black could no longer save the game.

(f) If 14—R to K sq ch, Kt to K 3; 15—P takes Kt, P takes P; and Black should win.

(g) The only move, and which proves that there was certainly some method in White's rashness. But the attack now collapses.

SHORT AND FULL OF SNAP.

GAME No. 562.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

White—Tschigorin. Black—Schlechter.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	10 BxKt	PxB
2 P KB4	PxP	11 Kt Q5	B R4
3 B B4	Kt KB3	12 PxP	QxP
4 Kt QB3	Kt B3	13 Kt Kt5	Q Kt3
5 Kt B3	B Kt5	14 KtxKBP	RxKt
6 Castles	Castles	15 Kt K7ch	KtxKt
7 P K5	Kt Kt5	16 BxRch	QxB
8 P Q4	P Q3	17 RxQ	Resigns.
9 P KR3	Kt K6		

NOTES.

Members of the Yokohama Chess Club and others interested in the game will hail with satisfaction the news that arrangements have been made to hold the meetings this season in the Green Room of the Public Hall. This move should be appreciated by residents on the Bluff and in the Settlement alike, and we hope that members will freely avail themselves of these central quarters during the winter. The first meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd Nov., from 5 to 11 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

A correspondence match between twelve players representing Kings County, N. Y., and twelve of Cook County Ill., known as the Brooklyn-Chicago match, has been finished after two years' play. Brooklyn won by the score of 6½ to 5½.

Miss Marry Rudge is Woman champion of the World.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

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LESSON II.

The Notation.

To acquire a thorough knowledge of a strange language it is not only necessary to practice it by conversation. One must also learn the alphabet and the spelling, so as to be able to study the language from books, thereby gaining access to its treasures of literature and poetry.

The same applies to Chess. No amount of practical play will give anyone a thorough insight into the intricacies and beauties of the game without some study of the openings, end-games, parties by celebrated masters and the many fine problems that delight the heart of every true chess enthusiast. To that end it is necessary to make oneself acquainted with the notation, of which various systems are in use in different countries. The notation adopted by all English speaking nations and Latin races is the one we will treat of in this lesson.

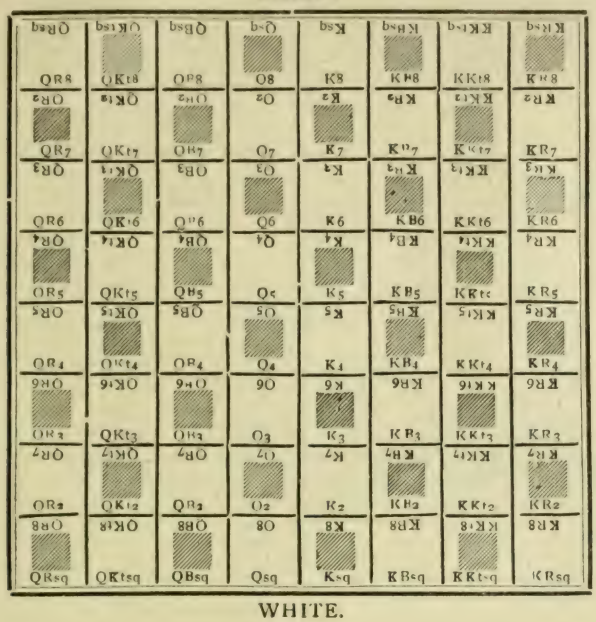
The vertical divisions on the chess board are called "files" and the horizontal divisions are called "rows." The eight files are: the QR's file, QKt's file, QB's file, Q's file, K's file, KB's file, KKt's file and KR's file, being named according to the pieces occupying the first square in each file.

The rows are numbered from one to eight, beginning with the row on which the pieces stand at the commencement of the games. It follows that White's first row is Black's eighth; White's third row Black's sixth; White's fourth row Black's fifth, and so on.

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The appended diagram will serve to show the designation of the various squares :—

BLACK.



WHITE.

QB2 means the square in the second row of the QB's file; White's QB2 would be Black's QB7, and vice versa. KR3 means the square in the third row of the KR's file; White's KR3 would be Black's KR6, and vice versa. KKt1 (or KKt sq.) means the square in the first row of the KKt's file; White's KKt sq would be Black's KKt8 and vice versa, and so on with all the remaining squares.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Matsushima Kan (30), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Capt. Sukenji Hosoya, 12th Oct.,—Yokosuka, 12th Octobhr.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, G. W. Gordon, 13th October,—London via ports, and Kobe, 11th October, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 13th October,—Kobe, 11th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 13th October,—Yokkaichi, 12th Oct., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 13th October,—Yokkaichi, 12th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 13th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 10th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, R. Nunome, 13th October,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 11th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 13th October,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe, 7th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Petriana, British Tank steamer, 1,148, Barnwell, 13th October,—Singapore via Hongkong, 23rd September, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

W. M. Bawden, American schooner, 695, K. Fjeren, 14th October,—Port Townsend, 23rd August, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bros.

Omba, British steamer, 1,908, H. Barnes, 14th October,—Liverpool. 16th August, General.—Mitsui & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 14th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, 9th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 14th October,—Hakodate, 11th Oct., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, ——, 14th October,—Kobe, 12th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa. 14th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 13th October, General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aurora, British cruiser, 6,500, E. H. Bayley, 15th October,—Nagasaki.

Haliotes, British Tank steamer, 1,046, S. P. Blari, 15th October,—Singapore via Kobe, 13th Oct., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 15th October,—Otaru via ports, 10th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, A. Christiansen, 16th October,—Kobe 14th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 16th October,—Yokkaichi 15th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Woosung, British steamer, 1,109, M. Dawson, 17th October,—Cebu, 6th October, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 18th October,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 29th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 18th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 17th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 18th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,677, G. E. P. Cook, 18th October,—London via ports, and Kobe 17th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 18th October,—Kobe 17th October. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 19th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 17th October, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Decima, German steamer, 1,125, C. Christensen, 19th October,—Hongkong, General.—Becker & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 16th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 18th Oct., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 19th October,—Otaru via ports, 14th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 13th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 13th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 13th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senator, British ship, 1,612, Johanson, 13th Oct., Royal Roads, Ballast.—American Trading Co.

Matsushima Kan (30), Japanese cruiser, 14th October,—Capt. S. Hosoya,—Yokosuka.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 14th October,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 15th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 15th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 15th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Candia, British steamer, 4,195, W. H. Houghton, 15th October,—Marseilles and London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 16th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,908, H. Barnes, 16th October,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui & Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Joseph Pulford, 17th October,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, ——, 17th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 17th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 17th Oct.,—Jinsen via Kobe and Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, R. Nunome, 17th October,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 18th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 18th October,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, G. W. Gordon, 18th October,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 18th October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 18th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 18th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Petriana, British Tank steamer, 1,148, Barnwell, 18th October,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 19th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. E. L. James, 12 Japanese, and 2 Chinese, in cabin; Mr. Nhee, Mr. Bee, Mr. Chee, Mr. Tuck, Mr. Quong, Mr. Woo, Mr. Chee, 11 Japanese, and 12 Chinese, in second class; 195 Japanese, and 14 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mrs. Scheu, Miss Helen Hyde, General Franz Wolf, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Ambler, child and infant, Mr. Mark Myers, Mrs. A. B. Hoff, Miss C. J. Neeley, Rev. A. W. Cooke, Miss L. Mead, Rev. P. A. Davey, Mrs. M. A. Darford, Mr. and Mrs. M. Berol, Mr. H. B. Taylor, Mrs. S. J. Taylor, Miss M. B. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Kilworth, Miss Della Clayburg, Mr. R. A. Mulkern, Mr. John Anderson, Mr. A. Paulsen, Miss A. K. Wellman, Mr. and Mrs. S. Osaki, Miss A. T. Wall, Miss J. Ryde, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Bramhall and daughter, Rev. K. St. G. Tucker, Miss Agnes Cooley, Rev. J. J. Chapman, Miss Shibayama, Miss G. C. Paulson, Rev. J. A. Welbourn, Miss C. E Woodrich, Mrs. W. W. Foote and maid, Miss Bertha Foote, Miss Enid Foote, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Rohmann, Miss A. S. Eckfeldt, Mrs. Flora Ellon, Miss Vera Ellon, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Trotter, Mr. L. Dahl, Mrs. R. L. Wollman, and Miss W. R. Wollman in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss Ella Gardner, Miss M. Newling, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Worley, and Rev. E. M. Coole in cabin. For Nagasaki :—Mr. S. O. Friede and Mr. J. E. Means in cabin. For Shanghai :—Rev. E. L. Ancell, Miss N. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Mates, Miss Meta Barlet, Miss C. Warnock, Mr. E. A. Toplin, Rev. C. F. McKea, Mrs. A. Tylor, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Sweet, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Crowfoot, Dr. T. L. Brander, Mrs. E. B. Cunningham and 2 daughters, Miss Helen Bolt, Mr. and Mrs. V. de Crosse and child, Rev. W. Kelly, Miss E. L. Narchet, and Mrs. J. B. Weal in cabin. For Hongkong :—Miss A. L. Derrick, Mrs. C. M. Graves, Mrs. E. L. McAdwry and 2 children, Miss Louise Brink, Mrs. H. B. Stafford, Mrs. F. Bowen, Mr. Antoldi, Miss K. H. Booker, Dr. Annie K. Scott and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dobson, and Miss L. N. Duryee in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, from London via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. Benn, nurse and child in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Fuchs, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. W. A. N. Stolterfoht, Baron de Ginzburg, Mr. P. R. Guedkoop, Lt. A. S. Key, U.S.N. and servant, Mr. A. Welch, Miss Bravarsky, Dr. Gerlach, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Vehling, Miss Walter, Mr. Grosser, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. Lyons, Mrs. Euchs, 2 children and amah, Mrs. S. Komar, child and amah, Mr. O. Joost, Mr. Loomis, Miss Condit-Smith, Mrs. A. S. Key and amah, Miss Welch, Master Vetz Kaya, Miss Nankivel, Mrs. Lightfoot, Mrs. Wehling, Mr. J. M. Dow, Mrs. Grosser, Mr. Thos. Dott, Mrs. Donnenberg, and Mrs. F. H. Loring, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. Hsii York Kai and servant, Mrs. Loo Chang She, Mr. Lee Cho, Mrs. Loeng Hung Him, Mr. Wong Tin Chong, Miss Loo On, Mrs. Shang See, and Mr. Lin Coon Chuck, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. B. Apple, Mr. Alfred H. Gould, Major C. L. McCawley, U.S.M.C., Mr. Turnbull White, Rev. W. B. Harrison, Mr. M. W. Franklin, Mr. J. M. James, Mrs. J. M. James, Lt.-Col. A. B. Bayless, U.S.V., and Mrs. W. B. Harrison, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Sydney and Melbourne via ports:—Dr. F. C. Rieloff, Major Duerr, Lieut. K. Lublenthand, Mr. C. Machida, Baron S. Ozaki, Mr. C. Omiwa, Mr. S. Nakamigawa, Mr. Y. Asabuki, Mr. J. Matsushita, Prince Sanjo, Lt.-Col. Takenouchi, I.J.N., Engineer Y. Mayehara, Lt.-Col. J. Uyehara, I.J.N., Major K. Yamaguchi, I.J.N., Captain J. Nakao, Mr. C. F. Davis, Mr. Y. Shimada, Mr. T. Masuda, Mr. R. Naya, Mr. K. Wakano, Mr. M. Tanimura, Capt. B. M. Koehler, U.S.A., Consul and Mrs. Kumase, Masters Kumase (3), Major G. D. Deshon, U.S.A., Mr. H. L. B. Brindlay, Mr. M. M. Elliott, Miss H. Lewis, Mrs. Irons, Mr. and Mrs. Goodale, Mr. A. H. Massey, Mrs. E. C. Whaley, Dr. A. C. Nathan, Mr. A. E. Lightbody, Mr. W. Lightbody, Mr. Tatte Ohtake, and Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Steel, in cabin; Mr. Y. Murakami, Mr. S. Kusumoto, Mr. M. Hayami, Mr. P. H. Powers, Mr. K. Nakamura, Mr. J. Kashiwabara, Mr. K. Matsuda, Mr. John J. Mahlonann, Mr. F. Howard, Mr. K. Hirasawa, Mrs. M. Shirai, Mrs. K. Iwagawa, and Mr. G. Iguchi, in second class.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Hugh Bancker, Mr. and Mrs. N. Bentz, Mr. Hyde R. Bowie, Mr. J. W. Butterworth, Mr. E. J. Cowan, Mr. W. Deland, Mr. E. Einehr, Mr. J. F. Farrall, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. W. Nolker, Mr. K. Takashima and servant, Mr. K. Gadalius, Mr. C. Godaffroy, Mr. James Green, Lieut. J. Javal, Mr. John May, Mr. R. Kluge, Mr. H. Komada, Mr. O. K. Davis, Mr. Mr. Louis de Jose, Mr. John R. McArthur, Dr. and Mrs. B. B. McCartes, Mr. R. W. Mordin, Mr. B. Novoa, Mr. J. P. O'Neil, Miss M. L. Paterson, Mr. G. W. Pease, Mr. W. Pillmann, Major L. L. Sanford, Mr. P. B. Shelmerdine, Mrs. C. H. Smith, Mr. M. M. Trepionsk, Mr. E. P. Vaughan-Morgan, Captain W. H. Whiting, U.S.N., Mrs. W. H. Whiting and child, Mr. F. L. W. Warren, and Mr. R. H. Wright, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. H. Law, Mr. Kwong Man Wing, Mrs. Yong Lip, Mr. E. H. Jonsberry, Mrs. S. E. Levy, infant and servant, Mr. F. G. Lane, Mr. Yun, and Mr. Kwong Yue Pon, in cabin; 1 European, and 12 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Java*, for London via ports:—Mr. M. Marshall, Mr. S. G. Price, Mr. Reginald Cutfield, Mr. F. L. Taverner, Mr. William Ellison, Mr. Robert Merritt, Mr. Chas. Williams, Mr. Ged Hardy, Mr. Ged Wellington, Mr. Stephen Hausmond, Mr. E. F. Quaintance, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Mitsu and Miss Hana Mori, Mr. J. J. Tomley, Mr. W. Sprich, and Mr. Stechlow, and Mr. K. Ito, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. J. Such, Miss Wilson, Mr. Glover, Mr. J. H. Means, Lieut. R. T. Toke, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Crofoot, Mr. E. B. Taplin, Dr. Brander, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Estes, Miss Berlet, Miss C. Warnock, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. F. Brown, Mrs. McAdory, Mrs. H. T. Stafford, Miss Duryee, Miss H. Holt, Miss A. Tyler, Mrs. V. De Gross, Rev. W. Kelly, Miss M. J. Morrow and two children, Rev. B. L. Ancell, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Whitley, Mrs. Cunningham, Miss Dunn, Miss Stewart, Major and Mrs. S. S. Long and child, Mr. S. O. Friede, Mr. Peter Barr, Mr. S. Arnfeldt, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Dobson, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Sweet and child, Mr. Anderson, Miss Gardner, Rev. and Mrs. John Worley, Miss Borchet, Mrs. Graves, Mrs. Scott, Miss Scott, Miss Brink, Miss Booker, Miss N. Nelson, Mr. V. De Gross, Mr. and Mrs. G. Brockelbank and child, Rev. E. M. Cable, Rev. C. V. MacRae, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burnett, Miss Burnett, Miss M. Nivling, Miss Whiley, and Mr. and Mrs. Bass, child and amah, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following are silk shippers per P. M. steamer *China*, for San Francisco, October 14:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	295
Bavier & Co.	125
Nabholz & Osenbrüggen	84
Sieber & Co.	62
Herbert Dent & Co.	51
Otto Reimers & Co.	51
Vivanti Bros.	40
Middleton and Smith	38
China and Japan Trading Co.	100
Kiito Kaisha	412
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	193
Doshinsha	53
Total	1,513

Following were silk shippers per N.Y.K. steamer *Riojun Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., October 10:—

	Bales.
Varenne & Co.	120
Vivanti Bros.	115
Sieber & Co.	113
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	54
Ulysse, Pila & Co.	25
Otto Reimers & Co.	25
Total	452

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 371 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 135 bales.

Following are silk shippers per N. P. steamer *Monmouthshire*, which sails for Tacoma, Wash., to-day:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	310
Vivanti Bros.	30
Otto Reimers & Co.	25
Total	365

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A fair business has been done recently in cotton yarns, but in shirtings there is still no general movement. There is some enquiry for fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 34½ yds. 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Clothis—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.00 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$38.00 to 40 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43 00 to 5 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	50.00 to 54 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	91.00 to 94 00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	115.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	88.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	104.00 to 107.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	133 00 to 137.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.00
Indian Broach	20 00
Chinese	23 00

METALS.

Little business is doing.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	5 80 to 6 00
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11 30 to 12 60
Wire Nails, assorted	7 50 to 7 75
Tin Plates, per box	8.75 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.80 to 2.90
Hoop Iron (¼ to ¼ inch)	6.50 to 6 75

KEROSENE.

A further rise has taken place in quotations.

American	$1 90
Russian	2.85
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 4 50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6 80
White Java and Penang	6 80 to 8 60
White Refined	7.70 to 9 40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Active market. Prices strong. Large business doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal.
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1140 to 1150
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1200 to 1320
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1090
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1170 to 1180
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1070 to 1080
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1050 to 1060
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1060 to 1070
Re-reels—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 2	1020 to 1030
Re-reels—No. 3	.....
Kakedas—Extra	1060 to 1070
Kakedas—No. 1 (101)	1050 to 1040
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No 2 (102)	1000 to 1010
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

Good qualities scarce. Strong demand at full rates.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$105 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Stocks are not large, and comparatively little has been doing. Prices are firm. The total settlements up to the middle of this month were 208,843 piculs against 193,440 piculs at same date last year.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 19.

Breweries—a few shares are offering at *yen* 185. Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230. Club Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 80. A few more shares may be had at the same price. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 90. Offers for Laundries are wanted. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms are steady at par.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs changed hands at *yen* 108; offers for Oriental Hotels are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	220 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	185 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	230 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $103	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9 25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50	50 Sa.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100	150 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	50 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund —1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,887.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Credit Working Acc.

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A. C HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 19.

Japan Breweries have sellers at *yen* 190. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 235. Laundries can be had at *yen* 60. Y. U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108.

Punjom Mines have local buyers at $10.25.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...220 Sales.
Grand Hotel .....235 Sellers.
Club Hotel..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sellers.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 19

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ higher, no change from China and local rates keeping all steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0 $\frac{5}{16}$
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 $\frac{3}{8}$
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 $\frac{1}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 $\frac{1}{16}$
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight...	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand .	49 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 4 months' sight...	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight...	213 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	5% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight.....	6% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 10 days' sight ...	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
On India—Bank sight	151 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 30 days' sight ...	154
Bar Silver (London)	26 $\frac{1}{16}$

Tokyo, October 19.

Redemption Loan Bonds.....	97 80
War Loan Bonds	97 80
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	445.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50.....	63.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100 .....[illegible]	289 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	72 00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	70 50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100.....	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25.....	27.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	76.00
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	61.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	26.30
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45 ... . 1...	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25 ..... 1...	83 50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47 ..... 1...	68.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	49 50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50 .. .. 1...	64.40
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40 .. ... 1...	50.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	105.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'w y, and issue-paid up yen 28	86 90
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50.....	95 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50 . ..... 1...	48.50
Poso Railway—paid up yen 50.....	32.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50.....	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	43 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	24 80
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25.....	11.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13..... 1 ..	23 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50.....	223.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50..... ..	192.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50.....	74 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10	12 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	29 80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	41 80
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20.....	33.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60.....	33 00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16 50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	240.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	222.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	141 00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25...	88 50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	68 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50 ...	25.00

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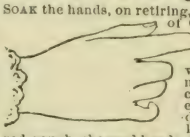
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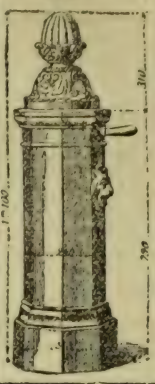


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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 28TH, 1899.

MARRIAGE.

In New York City, N.Y., June 28th, by the Rev. Armand C. Miller, JOSEPH WILLIAM SCHERESCHEWSKY, M.D, son of the Rt. Rev. S. I. J. Schereschewsky D.D., to BESSIE PERRY, daughter of Genge F. Conklin, Esq., of Exeter, New Hampshire, U.S.A. No cards. China papers, please copy.

DEATHS.

On the 20th instant, in the morning, at the Imperial University Hospital, Kagayashiki, Mr. ERNST KELLMANN, a native of Hamburg, Germany, aged 44, of heart failure. The funeral will take place from the German Hospital, Yokohama, on Monday, the 23rd, at 3 p.m. Friends are invited to attend.

At 13, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on the 27th instant, ARCHIBALD F. MACNAB, aged sixty. The funeral service will take place at half-past two, on Sunday, 29th instant, at the Tsukiji Trinity Cathedral. Interment at Aoyama cemetery at four o'clock. Friends will please accept this intimation.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Columbia* won the third race by five minutes thus securing the Cup.

THE applications for membership in the Bankers' Club have been 160 so far. Only bankers in Tokyo and Yokohama are to be admitted.

THE War Credit granted by the British Parliament amounts to £10,000,000 sterling.

THE revenue of the Government Hokkaido Railway for the last ten days of Sept. was 6,349 *yen*.

THE Commission of the French Senate has finished the examination of the prisoners accused of treason.

THE British Army Reserves have responded to the call splendidly; over 92 per cent. have answered the summons.

THE Smoking concert given in the Public Hall on Wednesday in honour of the Kobe visitors proved a most enjoyable affair.

A TELEGRAM from Mr. Cecil Rhodes at Kimberley to the War Office urgently demands reinforcements for Kimberley.

THE general meeting of shareholders of the N.Y.K. will be held about the 26th Nov. A dividend of 10 per cent. will be declared.

A TERRIBLE disaster has taken place in the waters of Hokkaido, a whole fleet of schooners being sent to the bottom. The loss of life is very great.

THE Four Articles Exchange and the Rice, Salt and Various Cereals Exchange of Yokohama were amalgamated on the 17th inst.

ACCORDING to official investigations the tobacco crop is at least 13,630 000 *kwamme* this year,—an increase of more than 45 per cent. as compared with last year.

THE Hoshu Railway Company will declare a dividend of 7 per cent. The loss the company suffered from the failure in the coal business was *yen* 180.057 798.

THE Interport Festival has taken place during the past week. Yokohama won the cricket match by one wicket after a most exciting finish. The Baseball match had not finished when we went press.

THE Reserves, Militia, and Militia Reserves have been called out by the British Government, and cruisers are being fitted for sea. It is inferred that this is to meet any possible movement on the part of foreign Powers.

GENERALS WHITE and French have captured the Boers' position at Elanslaage, which lies between Glencoe and Ladysmith. They captured with it all the Boer equipment, horses and waggons. The British losses are believed to be slight.

THE Channel Squadron has been suddenly ordered to Gibralter. It is understood that the cruisers are to convoy transports and the battleships will go to Delagoa Bay, where the whole Squadron will finally assemble. The battleships will land 500 men if necessary.

THE vessels entering the ports of Hokkaido during 1898 made an aggregate of 12,201 860 tons. The cultivated land of Hokkaido amounted to 176,616 cho 1 tan at the end of 1898. The fishery profits of Hokkaido during 1898 amounted to 10 267 75 *yen*.

A FORCE of some four thousand Boers attacked the British Camp at Glencoe on October 20th at daylight. They sheiled the position from the neighbouring heights. After a hard [illegible] British captured an almost inaccessible position and with it took five guns. General Symons was mortally wounded. The British losses were heavy.

THE general meeting of the Tobu Railway Company was held on the 18th inst. The net profits were 45,659 *yen*, which with 242,945 *yen* carried forward from the last term made a total of 69 995 *yen*: 2,283 *yen* was voted to the reserve fund; 42,400 allotted as dividend; and 25,274.093 carried forward.

MESSRS. EBASHI Tanaka, Kato Taki, &c., are forwarding a project for the reclamation of the foreshore at Honmoku. The idea is to raise a capital of 3.500.000 *yen* in hundred *yen* shares. The promotors have applied to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office for sanction to the scheme.

MESSRS. BERRICK BROS. through Mr. Akiyama, have prosecuted Yoshida Juntaro (32), one of the bantos in the employ of the firm, on a charge of having embezzled a large sum of money belonging to his employers. The matter is in the hands of the Public Procurator. The alleged defaulter has absconded.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Finance Department the foreign trade of Japan for the first half of this month was as follows:—

	Commodities. Yen.	Gold & Silver. Yen.
Exports	10.475.450	1,254,521
Imports	8 112,730	114,381
Excess of exports.	2,362.720	1,140,140

THE following table shows the revenues of private railway companies for the first ten days of this month.

	Total. Yen.	Per mile per day. Yen.	I. or D. compared with last year. Per mile per day. Yen.
Kobu ...	13 464 470	49 868	—
Kwansai.	35 243 000	23.790	I. 7.890
Osaka ...	18,313 240	40.427	I. 2.151
Sanyo ...	7.119 395	26 368	I. 8 275
Sanyo ...	70.300.560	25 102	—
Nankai..	15,341.819	39 388	—
Hoshu ...	4 117 360	14 818	—
Naniwa..	2.499.010	11 990	—
Hantan .	3.785 280	12 211	I. 1 781
Chugoku	4,451.470	12 718	—
Kansu ...	543 770	8 949	—
Kyushu..	113,815.560	36 178	D. 1.892

THE foreign residents at Kobe are as follows:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
English	329	154	483
American	71	52	123
German	107	27	134
French	26	8	34
Portuguese	48	20	68
Spaniards	5	6	11
Danish	9	4	13
Dutch	6	—	6
Swedish	3	—	3
Norwegian	6	—	6
Russian	1	—	1
Swiss	5	—	5
Italians	6	4	10
Austro Hungarian.	5	3	8
Turks	3	—	3
No nationality	—	1	1
Total	630	280	910

There are beside 1 535 Chinese residents: male

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THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Sunday, Oct. 22.

On October the 2nd the telegraph told us that General Joubert with his staff and 4,500 men had arrived at Volksrust, a town in the Transvaal a few miles beyond Laings Nek where the main road crosses the Drakensberg range and enters Natal. The same telegram said that a camp had been formed at Vryheid and that a great force of Boers was to be mobilized there. Vryheid also is a town a little beyond the border, to the south-east of Volkrust. The distance between the two places is about 70 miles. If the reader draws a right-angled triangle with the right-angle downwards, and puts Vryheid at the right-hand corner of the hypothenuse, Volksrust at the left-hand corner, and Glencoe at the right angle, he will have a very fair idea of the situation.

Three days later (October 5th), Reuter wired that the Free State troops had occupied Fathos Pass, near Newcastle; that 5,000 Boers with 23 guns were at Landspruit, and that 4,000 were at Muller's Farm. Newcastle lies direct north of Glencoe. It is the most northerly town of any importance in Natal, and its distance from Laings Nek is 25 miles.

Thus the situation on the 5th of October was that the Transvaal Boers were concentrating on the north and east of Glencoe, and the Free-State troops on the West, while Glencoe lay nearly at the point where the three concentrations would converge, in the event of any combined southward movement, and Newcastle would have been enveloped by such a movement.

Under these circumstances, it was not surprising to learn, on October 6th, that the British were preparing to evacuate Newcastle and abandon Natal from the frontier to Glencoe, in view of a general advance of the Boers which was said to have commenced on that day, with infantry and artillery.

On the 7th, however, it appeared that the Boer advance had not yet commenced; that, consequently, Newcastle had not been evacuated, and that several British transports had arrived at Durban on the 5th instant from India, rendering the situation in Natal comparatively secure.

At the same time (October 7th), the telegraph said that the principal Boer concentration was taking place at Volksrust, and that the numbers assembling there were supposed to be from eighteen to twenty-two thousand, but that the figures were probably exaggerated. These were obviously Transvaal Boers. If we assume their force to have reached nine thousand when the concentration was complete, and if we add the Vryheid contingent, we arrive at the conclusion that some twelve thousand Transvaal Boers were preparing to invade Natal from the north and east, and that a Free-State force of four or five thousand was threatening invasion from the west. We are here taking minimum figures, on the assumption that the Boer forces were divided on the Mafeking and Laings Nek borders; that is to say, on the west and east frontiers, respectively.

Things remained thus until the 16th. By that time the Boers, both Transvaalers and Free-Staters, were evidently believed to have begun their advance, but to be moving slowly in order to preserve contact. General White was at Ladysmith, and on the 16th he made a reconnaissance in force from that place, with the evident object of unmasking the Boers' movement, and, if possible, drawing a section of them into action—the Free-Stater section, we presume. In this he failed. The Free State Boers were still in the passes of the Drakenberg range, which they were fortifying, and the time had not come for them to engage. It would appear, however, that General White's information of the enemy's doings induced him to withdraw the troops from Newcastle, and to concentrate at Glencoe, which lies between Ladysmith and Newcastle, and is, as we have seen, the point where the invading columns might be expected to converge.

On the 17th, news arrived that the Boers under Viljeon had advanced to the South of Newcastle, and that the other commanders were still in the passes of the Drakenberg. That is perfectly consistent with the idea of a general advance. Viljeon's men were in the van, the main body was probably between him and the mountains, and a force was left to hold the passes so as to secure the line of retreat.

Then comes the news of the combat at Glencoe. It seems to have commenced at daylight on the 20th. The two telegrams hitherto received give very different estimates of the Boers' force, one putting it at 9,000, the other at 4,000. The former number is more consistent with the figures set down above, but the latest telegram, *via* Saigon, confirms Reuter's original statement of 4,000.

What are we to conclude from the fact that the Boers went into action with only 4,000 men? Had their mobilization broken down badly, or did they despise their enemy? The latter supposition is not incompatible with much that we have heard lately. A prominent Boer official recently said to *The Times'* correspondent at Pretoria:—"Don't you fear. We've beaten them twice and we'll give them such a thrashing this time as they never had before." It may be, then, that the Boer plans were not actuated by any profounder motive than a desire to cross swords with the British as speedily as possible, in order to gather the fruits of an initial success, namely, to draw recruits to their ranks and deter any hostile enterprises on the part of their native neighbours. But on reading the telegrams carefully it appears to us doubtful whether the Boers were not forced into a premature combat—premature from their point of view. The first intelligence represented them as having advanced to attack the British camp at Glencoe, and as having shelled the place from the heights. Now in choosing a position for a camp a General adopts one of two courses: he either selects a spot which is not within artillery range of commanding heights, or he adopts measures to prevent the enemy from crowning any heights that happen to be within range. We may be quite sure that General Symons did not neglect that principle. It follows that he went out of his camp to seek the Boers; in other words, that he forced them into action when their advanced columns had occupied an apparently impregnable position, where they intended to wait quietly until the main body should close up. It was a dashing operation, well deserving of success. Moreover, the tactical part must have been excellently managed, for, under ordinary circumstances, the numbers of casualties ought to have been reversed; the English assaulting a difficult position crowned by artillery should have lost 800 men, and the Boers, defending it, should have escaped with a loss of 280. Evidently the Boers can no longer shoot in their old style. That is a comfortable discovery, which adds not a little to the satisfaction of the victory.

Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Affairs in the Transvaal are assuming almost the complexion of a fiasco. That the Boers should be beaten does not surprise us, for, however brave they may be, and whatever their physique, they are, after all, poorly disciplined and without experience in warfare, whereas the British Generals pitted against them are veterans who have learned their duties in more than one campaign. England is most unfortunately condemned to an almost perpetual state of fighting. Scarcely a year passes without her being obliged to draw the sword in some part of her wide dominions. Wretched as the fact is from a humanitarian point of view, it has a good result in a military sense, namely, that few English officers reach the rank of General without having received valuable object lessons in the art of war. Between such men and the Boer commanders it is hardly a fair match. Still the world did expect that the Boers would shoot straight, and that to capture strong positions held by them in force and defended by artillery would be a task difficult for any troops, and certain to cost heavily. But they have now lost two positions, reported to be of great strength, and they have exacted from their assailants a total payment of only 430 men. Of course it may turn out that 430 casualties represent a large proportion of the British forces engaged in the assaults. But it is scarcely conceivable that General Symons at Glencoe can have gone into action with a force of great numerical inperiority to that of the Boers. According to all the ordinary rules of war, he ought to have had a considerable numerical suferiority. Assuming, however, that his troops were equal in number to those of the enemy, his casualties were 1 in 15, whereas the Boers lost 1 in 5. The latter is a terrible record, and, moreover, it argues very poor marksmanship on the part of the Boers. And now comes the news that the British have captured the position held by the main body of the Boers, and have taken prisoner the principal members of their head quarter staff, including General Joubert himself. It is certainly rather early in the day for Joubert to find himself in British hands. We can not but recall how big he talked while the war-cloud was still on the distant horizon. If these are the incidents previous to the arrival of the main British expedition, it does not look as though President Kruger would be likely to make good his promise of startling the world by the losses inflicted on Great Britain.

If Reuter's agents are rightly informed, the attack on the Transvaal is to have Delagoa Bay for a basis of operations. We entertained a strong hope that something of the kind was contemplated when Laings Nek was abandoned by the Boers, for we could not possibly persuade ourselves that the British Authorities would have wantonly set their troops the task of capturing such a position. The choice

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of Delagoa Bay and the negotiations that must have taken place with Portugal may have threatened to involve complications which led to the calling out of the militia and inspired the somewhat ambiguous utterances of Her Majesty's Ministers in connexion with that step. Portugal is not likely to have offered any serious opposition to the project, but it may have brought other Powers into the field. According to present appearances there will be two expeditions: one against the Free State from Hopetown, and one against the Transvaal from Delagoa Bay.

Meanwhile every one is wondering what has happened at Mafeking and Kimberley. It is pretty certain that the Boers have not gained any marked successes in that quarter, for, although they have cut the telegraphs beyond the border, their own lines are still intact, and they would surely have given to the world news of any victory gained by themselves. Nevertheless this state of suspense is not agreeable.

Wednesday, Oct. 25.

It has been suggested that Reuter's telegram of the 23rd instant, which described the affair at Elandslaagte, did not refer to General Joubert as among the prisoners, but to Commander Joubert, the General's nephew. The word actually sent across the wires was "newhew," but it seems very probable that the original was "nephew."

The latest detailed news from England, dated Sept. 22nd, said that the total force at Mafeking and Ramathlabama was then only 600, of whom 500 were Colonel Baden Powell's volunteers, but that the Munster Fusiliers, 1,000 strong, were daily expected. Kimberley was garrisoned at that time by the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, and was considered to be fairly guarded. All the big rubbish heaps there had been turned into forts. At Durban men were working day and night on the railway, fitting up trucks for conveying troops, and it was said that the line was already prepared to transport 2,000 men daily. Two armoured trains were nearly completed in the workshops. Each consisted of an engine and four eight-wheeled wagons, entirely armour-plated with thick steel. Sixty men could be accommodated in one wagon, and it was provided with loopholes enabling all to fire at once.

An estimate, apparently founded as good information, put the total available force of the Free State at 6,000, and that of the Transvaal at 15,000. The Free State's standing army was said to consist of 250 men, 80 or 90 horse artillery, from 15 to 200 guns, and 2 or 3 Maxims.

Thursday, Oct. 26.

It is plain that our conjecture as to the nature of the operations which have been taking place at Glencoe was correct. The first fight, on the 19th instant, was not brought about by an attack from the Boers, but was forced by the British. It would appear that the van of the enemy's forces had moved into the vicinity of Glencoe on the north, and taken up a position which seemed impregnable, and which it was their intention to hold quietly, or by fighting if necessary, until the main body of their troops arrived, and until their left wing could be pushed round to the south of Glencoe. But they made the mistake of supposing that these proceedings would be permitted by the English; or, what is more likely, they believed that any attempt to interrupt them would end in disaster for their opponents. The fights on the 19th and 20th undeceived them, and must have seriously dislocated their arrangements. But the important point is that these combats did not bring the main body of the Boers into action. It is evident that the principal part of their forces were not then within striking distance, and that the remnants of the 4,000 men dislodged from their mountain position above Glencoe on the 19th, and of the 2,000 driven from Elandslaagte on the 20th, merely fell back until they had effected a junction with the main body, after which the whole advanced again to the assault of Glencoe. Obviously their original programme included the cöoperation of the Free State Boers, who, by threatening Ladysmith and the British line of communications between that place and Glencoe, were expected to hold General White's troops in check while the main body of the Transvaal Boers operated against General Symons' forces in Glencoe. General White, according to the latest telegrams, understood their strategy, and has attacked the Free State Boers, clearing them from his path so that he might be free to move to the support of Glencoe. It is, however, a very critical time, for the Boers have probably ten thousand men against not more than half of that number on the British side.

Fraiday, Oct. 27.

We need scarcely explain that the printer is responsible for making us say that the Boers probably muster *two* thousand men for their present operations against Glencoe. What we wrote was *ten* thousand. On Monday last, when the news of the first fight at Glencoe reached us, we said:—"If we assume the force of the Transvaal Boers to have reached nine thousand when the concentration at Volksrust was complete, and if we add the Vryheid contingent, we arrive at the conclusion that some twelve thousand Transvaal Boers were preparing to invade Natal from the north and east, and that a Free-State force of four or five thousand was threatening invasion from the west. We are here taking minimum figures, on the assumption that the Boer forces were divided on the Mafeking and Laings Nek borders; that is to say, on the west and east frontiers, respectively." Now our exchanges by the last mail bring intelligence that a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, wiring from Newcastle in Natal, said that the Boers, having arrived at the conclusion that the real danger of a British attack lay on the Natal side, "had recalled men previously sent in the direction of Delagoa Bay and Rhodesia and despatched them towards Standerton and the Sand river, where General Joubert had about 15,000 men." Joubert's forces may have been augmented since Oct. 4th. In all probability they were augmented not only by the recall of some of the men detached for service in the direction of Delagoa Bay and Rhodesia, but also by fresh levies. On the other hand, it is pretty certain that the Transvaal can not muster more than sixteen or seventeen thonsand, of all arms, and even if we assume that the greater part of that force is now engaged in the north of Natal, our conclusion is that, when casualties—at least a thousand have been put *hors de combat*—, guards for mountain passes, and troops for other inevitable duties, have been deducted, Joubert can not put more than some ten or, perhaps, twelve, thousand into his fighting line. The difficulty is to know what force the British commanders have available. We can not make out more than six thousand regulars at the outside, and from these a considerable number must already be deducted on account of casualties. Evidently the position is highly critical. If the Boers are ever to score a success, this is their time. If they fail in these operations, what will be the result? They are virtually staking everything, it seems to us, on the chances of the first campaign. Defeat, even though it is not very signal, will radically change the situation. The Transvaal, of course, will not be immediately threatened, whatever disasters overtake the Boers in Natal, for General White can not possibly undertake any operation of invasion with the scanty force at his disposal. But the confidence of the Boers will be shattered. It must have already received a severe shock, and if, with an immense superiority of numbers on their side, they fail to win a marked success, they will lose the belief that has hitherto sustained them, the belief in their own prowess. It is, moreover, in the presence of disaster that undisciplined troops fall to pieces, and the Boer commanders must be well aware of that fact. Possibly at this moment of writing news of the final issue of the fighting at Glencoe is coming along the wires, but our expectation is that the operations will be protracted for two or three days at least, for General White, supposing that he maintains his position, has not sufficient strength to assume the offensive, and the Boers, on the contrary, are too strong to accept a single reverse as conclusive.

We still adhere to the opinion that an expedition is to be sent direct from Capetown against the Orange Free State. It will probably be commanded by Buller, White retaining the command of the Natal army. We can not suppose that Sir George White will be second in command to Sir Redvers Buller, both officers being full Generals. Everything points, so far as we can see, to a joint invasion, the attack on the Transvaal being made from Natal to Delegoa, and the attack on the Free State from Hopetown and Kimberley. To reach the Transvaal through the Free State would be a long business, but the Free State has to be dealt with, and hostile enterprises on the Western frontiers have to be guarded against.

The telegraph speaks of the Channel Squadron being ordered to Delegoa. That seems scarcely credible. The Government would surely not employ the Channel Squadron on such distant service, unless, indeed, its place is to be taken by a reserve squadron, concerning whose mobilization news ought to have been sent at once. We must await for further intelligence about this feature of the war. Meanwhile it is pretty evident that the Cabinet in London sees more contingencies to be dealt with than the resistance of the two South African Republics. England could scarcely adopt stronger measures if she were going to war with a great European Power. At first it was understood that not even the Army Reserves would be called out, but now the summons has been extended from the Reserves to the Militia and even to the Militia Reserves. The mobiliza-

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tion of the Volunteers and that of the Reserve Fleet are the only steps not taken. It is an excellent thing to seize the opportunity of testing the working of all this machinery, but we doubt whether that object alone is contemplated.

It must be confessed that the writing of the Continental press of Europe has betrayed on this occasion an incredible fervour of hatred and hostility towards England. We should be sorry to think that whether France, or Germany, or Russia was about to enter into a campaign, any respectable English newspaper would be found so wholly wanting in a sense of dignity and of its international duty as to indulge in abuse of the kind now poured out in the prints of Paris, Berlin, and St. Petersburg.

Since writing the above, we have received Reuter's news of the abnormal activity at the Portsmouth Dockyards. Possibly these preparations point merely to the mobilization of a fleet to take the place of the Channel Squadron, supposing the latter to have been really sent to Delagoa Bay. But the situation is not rendered brighter by such intelligence.

Reuter certainly made an excellent showing as compared with the "direct London service" in connexion with the bogus victory at Glencoe. Here are the two telegrams :—

Reuter.	The "Direct Service."
It is reported that a brilliant British sortie from Glencoe has resulted in a second signal victory for the British.	London, Oct. 23. A third engagement took place between the British forces and the Boers near Glencoe, in which the British were again victorious.
The Boers have retired in a demoralized condition.	The losses on both sides are reported to be very heavy.
Same Day, Later. The news of the new victory at Glencoe is untrue.	Several prominent Boers were killed during the battle, including General Viljoen, who has been looked upon as successor to Commandant-General Joubert, who was taken prisoner in the last engagement.

Reuter sent the news as a mere "report," refrained from details, and wired a contradiction the same day. The London service gave the intelligence as an absolute fact; even stated that Viljoen had been killed, and left the whole *canard* uncontradicted.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

Kobe seems to be peculiarly circumstanced with regard to telegraphic news. For some reason, which we fail to understand, the English newspapers at that port do not subscribe to Reuter's Special Service. The *Kobe Chronicle* says that "a Japanese newspaper holds the monopoly" and that it is "very apt to make mistakes in transcription." Possibly this term "monopoly" is used in the sense of its recent employment in Yokohama. Every newspaper has a monopoly of telegrams for which it pays, just as it has a monopoly in its editorial matter and ordinary items of news. It is most improbable that the Japanese paper or the syndicate of Japanese papers, which receives Reuter's telegrams in Kobe, would be unwilling to give the *Kobe Chronicle* the benefit of the service, if the latter were anxious to participate. However, the *Chronicle*, in conjunction with a small number of contemporaries—how many we do not know—has instituted a "direct" service from London at a cost of 600 *yen* monthly. An attempt was recently made to obtain subscriptions from the residents in order to raise the amount to 800 *yen*, but it appears that the project encountered some opposition on the ground that it would amount to assisting a particular newspaper. The *Kobe Chronicle* scoffs at that idea, but facts are stubborn things, and no rational person can doubt for one instant that when individual subscriptions are put up to procure a service of telegrams which one paper only is to have the privilege of publishing, special and exceptional assistance of a very substantial nature is afforded to that paper. To pretend that such is not the case is to laugh at the public. The thing has been done here in Yokohama; and the subscribers have now the pleasure of being responsible for the daily publication of a deliberate falsehood, namely, that the newspaper which they thus aid "is alone enabled to produce telegrams from abroad on the evening of the day they are received in Yokohama."

However, the point to which we desire to draw attention is the relative value of the two services. It is claimed for the London service that "for the first time in the history of the Far East, Japan has been placed by this new telegram service in direct communication with London, instead of the messages filtering their way through from port to port, as had been the case hitherto." Now that is a very misleading statement. It creates the impression that some serious loss of time is entailed by the "filtering" process. But there is no loss of time. The telegrams come over the same wires, and the process of tapping Reuter's messages at intermediate ports is so arranged that no delay whatever is caused. Since the two services began to run side by side, there has been just one item, and only one, which seemed to come more quickly by the London service than by Reuter's. That was the item relating to the first of the *Columbia-Shamrock* races, and, in point of fact, it arrived at least as quickly by Reuter, but was not considered worthy of special issue by the papers receiving it, so that it appeared in their columns later than in the newspaper which has been helped by subscriptions to obtain the benefit of the "direct" service. On the other hand, scores of interesting and important items have been sent by Reuter which were omitted from the "direct" service. And that is almost inevitable, as will be seen when we say that for every 5 words wired direct from London at press rates, 23 words can be wired from Shanghai, the rate from Shanghai being 25 *sen* per word and the rate from London 115 *sen*. There is, in fact, no possibility of competition under such circumstances. Reuter, by organization and co-operation, the most civilized factors in business enterprise, is able to distribute news at least four times as copious as that procurable under any system which has not the aid of those factors. If Kobe can not procure Reuter's telegrams, then certainly the so-called "direct" service is the only good alternative. But it can not be a service comparable with that of Reuter, and it is not comparable. At the same time, we think that Reuter might do considerably better than he does, so far as Japan is concerned at any rate. He ought to be able to send us at least 3,000 words a month, instead of some sixteen hundred, as at present. But that calculation is based on the amount paid to him for the Japan service alone; an amount probably much larger in proportion than he receives anywhere else, and, inasmuch as Japan can get only the telegrams that come to Shanghai and Hongkong, her liberal payment brings her no corresponding advantage. What we have here set down shows that, as a matter of inevitable necessity, Reuter's service must be many times fuller than the "direct" service, and since both deal with practically the same items of news, though on a very different scale, the result of the subscription system is simply to obtain duplicates of a few of the messages sent by Reuter, or an occasional item which Reuter rejects or neglects.

BUDDHISM.

The decay of Buddhism has constituted a frequent topic of discussion in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* during the past few months, and we can safely affirm that in almost every one of the articles devoted to this subject our contemporary alluded to the question of meat eating and marriage. The impression produced upon our minds—inevitably produced—was that the *Jiji* attaches much importance to these particular practices. It does not indeed consider, nor have we interpreted it as considering, though it takes us to task for doing so, that the removal of the vetoes against eating meat and marrying wives is the chief cause of the decadence of Buddhism—if, indeed, it be in a decadent condition—, but we have asserted and do assert that no one reading the *Jiji's* articles could fail to find in them a condemnation of these practices in the case of Buddhist priests, and, consequently, a constructive suggestion that to allow the priests to eat meat and to marry wives is to expose them to fatally demoralizing influences. Even now, with the *Jiji's* assertion before us that it does not attribute the decadence of Buddhism in Japan to the removal of the interdict against these practices, we are at a loss to understand what part it assigns to them in the story. In former times, a priest who violated the interdict was subjected to public obloquy. That ceased from the beginning of the *Meiji* era, and the priests now live as they please so far as their diet and their relations with women are concerned. Is it wrong that this liberty of life should be granted to them? Most assuredly the *Jiji* thinks it wrong, if words have any meaning, and if an act be wrong, then to sanction it is to create a demoralizing influence. Our view is that no acts which are legitimate aud sinless when performed by laymen should be forbidden to Ministers of the Gospel, whether it be the Bible, or the Sutras, or the Koran or what not. It is impossible to deny that the pure upright lives led by Christian missionaries bear strong testimony to the vitality and enobling power of their creed, and we construe the laches laid to the charge of the Buddhist priests as a sign that the active influence of their faith has temporarily ceased to be effective, not as a sign that the removal of the old restraints have loosened their moral fibre.

The Russian Pacific squadron will this year be reinforced by two armoured battleships and a gunboat.

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THE QUESTION OF THE TOKYO STREET RAILWAY.

Saturday October 21.

A stormy session was expected when the Tokyo city assembly met on the afternoon of the 19th instant to discuss the much vexed question of the street railway. There was talk of *soshi* and intimidation, and schemes to interrupt the proceedings, but all these evil forecasts remained unverified. The only "incident" was when Mr. Hasegawa Shinzo moved that as Mr. Toshimitsu Tsurumatsu was an active promoter of one of the railway schemes, he should be disqualified for voting on the question. This demurrer elicited cries of *morokujiji* (dotard) and *baka* (fool), but the affair ended there. The Assembly decided that the vote as to municipal versus private enterprise should be a closed ballot, and the result was that 38 votes were cast for private enterprise and 18 for municipal. Thus that great problem is finally disposed of. Concerning the question of motive power, the bill before the Assembly indicated electricity or compressed air, provided that the consent of the City Council should be obtained before selecting either. The Assembly struck out the proviso, and voted that one or other of the two systems must be employed, leaving freedom of choice between the two to the projectors. Then came the discussion of the royalty to be levied by the Municipality. The proposal submitted was that after the Company has paid a dividend of 6 per cent., and appropriated a sufficient sum for its reserves, one-half of its remaining net profits should be paid to the Municipality. Against this it was urged that to make the net profits a basis of calculation was to open the door to various abuses, and that the wiser plan would be to deal with gross earnings. The Assembly adopted that view, and decided that the royalty should become payable so soon as the gross receipts amount to 40 *yen* per mile daily, and that the payments should be according to the following scale :—

40 to 50 *yen* per mile daily...1 per cent. to					Municipality.
50 to 75	do	do	...2	do	do
75 to 100	do	do	...3	do	do
100 to 125	do	do	...4	do	do
125 to 150	do	do	...5	do	do
&c.,	&c.		&c.,	&c.	
250 and over			...10	do	do

As for the remaining proposals embodied in the Bill, they were passed with slight amendments, the most important of which were that no limit was fixed as to the amount of the Company's capital, and that instead of reserving to the City the right of acquiring the lines after 30 years "at their then market value," they are to be purchasable "at a proper price." The work has to be commenced within 6 months and finished in five years.

The journalistic atmosphere is thick with recriminations about the Tokyo Street Railway's affairs. We scarcely recognise our usually sober friend the *Kokumin*. It hints in the bluntest manner that the City Assembly was governed by motives very different from considerations of public good. The Assembly, according to our contemporary, gave the Triple Union Company a great deal more than the promoters themselves asked for. This statement is based on the following calculation :—The net annual profit from the railway at the rate of of 100 *yen* daily per mile would be 2,063,800 *yen* after deducting 10 per cent. interest on capital, the whole of which would go to the Municipality if the enterprise were in the hands of the city. Now, when private ownership was proposed, the first scheme was that half the net profits, after paying a dividend of 6 per cent., should be paid to the Municipal Treasury. That would have given the city 1,031,900 *yen* annually, and it was understood that the projectors would have agreed. Then the City Council altered the terms in the sense that one-third of the net profits, minus a dividend of 7 per cent., should be handed over to the Municipality, thus reducing the latter's receipts to 637,933 *yen*. Finally, when the scheme went before the City Assembly, a sliding scale was established, according to which the city will receive 292,000 *yen* when the earnings are 100 *yen* a mile *per diem*. Then, again, the Company was willing that whatever system of motive power it adopted should be approved by the City Council, but the Assembly struck out that proviso, thus leaving the Company's hands entirely free, and showing much greater consideration for the projectors than they themselves had asked for. It is very plain that, according to the *Kokumin's* view, such concessions would never have been made had not the Triple Union Company's interests found many selfish supporters in the Assembly. The *Mainichi* is even more irate. It avers that this Triple Union Company is simply an association of speculators. They have no serious intention of building the railway. Their sole idea is to acquire the stock at par and to sell it at a big premium, leaving the enterprise to take care of itself. The *Mainichi* reminds the public of the fate that overtook the Company formed with such a flourish of trumpets to construct iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works, and recalls also the ending of the Formosan Railway Company. The Tokyo Street Railway Company will add another item to the list of failures, our contemporary thinks.

We may refer here to a point which has been raised, namely, the "motive" of the *Japan Mail* in advocating the Serpollet system. It is inevitable that people who never adopt any course or promote any undertaking unless they see their own account in it should be unable to credit others with a less selfish line of conduct. That has to be expected. As to the Serpollet, however, the considerations that influence us are very simple. We are strongly and totally opposed to electric railways with over-head wires for use in a city. There can be no question that electricity is a splendid motive power; the best now within apparent reach. But over-head wires are not only unsightly in the last degree, but also highly dangerous. At any moment they may be the cause of a terrible accident. If there were any intention of putting the wires underground, as has been done successfully in Europe and America, we should not hesitate to endorse the scheme. But there is no such intention. To the weighty net-work of wires already over-hanging the city the cables of the Street Railway are now to be added. We regard that as a most unhappy blunder, which every intelligent person should endeavour to prevent. If the Municipality, instead of straining to obtain for itself a dividend of a few hundred thousand *yen* annually, would attach prime importance to the comfort and safety of the citizens, and grant a charter accompanied by only one paramount condition, namely, that the wires must be laid underground, it would deserve public gratitude. But that, too, is not to be hoped. Thus the question of an alternative system presents itself. Compressed air appears to be out of the reckoning. Evidently there is no serious idea of employing it. Nothing remains, consequently, but the Serpollet. The Serpollet may have its faults, but, so far as we are aware, nothing that can be said against it deserves to be weighed against the objections to electric railways with over-head wires. Therefore we advocate the Serpollet, the more heartily because we admire the courage and enterprise of the French gentlemen who have taken the great risk and expense of bringing out a specimen of the plant and setting it up in Tokyo for all the world to examine. That is what we call straight-forward business, deserving the good word of every newspaper.

The *Jiji Shimpo* vehemently denounces the notion that the question of motive power should remain unsettled pending further examination by official experts. It wants to know what officialdom has been doing for the past ten years, during the whole of which time this matter has been upon the *tapis*. The *Jiji* further scoffs at the contention that the over-head trolly system would disfigure the city. Cheap transport is what the people want, says our contemporary. Appearances are a trivial affair. To put the wires underground would involve a large increase of initial outlay and a corresponding addition to the fares. We advise the *Jiji Shimpo* to lay by carefully a copy of its issue containing these recommendations. The perusal, a few years hence, will be more wholesome than pleasant.

The Liberal Party is receiving some hostile criticism in connection with the affairs of the Tokyo Street Railway and the Yokohama Reclamation. It is a black day for a political party, say the critics, when its solidarity begins to be threatened by the clashing of its members' personal interests. This breach of concord may be bridged over, this rent in the garment of unity stitched up, but the reputation of the Liberals will have suffered permanently.

The share-titles of the Tokyo Street Railway are already selling for 11½ *yen*. Apparently the public is quite convinced that the charter will go to the Triple Union Company.

The question of the Tokyo Street Railway does not appear to have been yet settled. At a meeting of the City Council, held on the 25th instant, Mr. Taguchi moved that the City Assembly be again convened to re-consider the problem. It will be remembered that the Council proposed to take one-third of the Company's net profits after 7 per cent. had been deducted and that the City Assembly adopted a different system which would have the effect of materially lessening the Company's liability to the municipality. Now, according to the provisions of the Local Government Law, an Urban Council has power to call upon an Urban Assembly to re-consider any decision which, in the Council's opinion, is opposed to public interest. On that ground Mr. Taguchi

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moved in the meeting of the Council on Wednesday that the Assembly be invited to re-consider its vote about the payment of a royalty to the Municipality. Mr. Hoshi Toru strongly opposed the proposal, but the Council finally resolved to appoint a committee of five to consider the matter. Mr. Hoshi and Mr. Taguchi are both members of the Committee, and each has a supporter among the remaining three members, so that, in effect, the decision of this important question rests with the one member who possesses the casting vote.

JAPANESE IN FAR EASTERN ENTERPRISES.

There is a very palpable contrast between the acts of foreigners and Japanese in the Far East. Various enterprises connected with mining, with railways, and with manufacturing have been started by foreigners in China and Korea, and we hear perpetually of new projects and new plans, in which British subjects are chiefly concerned, Germans following in order of activity, and Russians and Belgians coming next. But no Japanese subjects are visible on the list. It is obvious that if the Japanese possessed the capital and the spirit to engage in this competition, they would have many advantages on their side. But somehow they never get down to the Pool of Bethesda though they have been placed by a kind Providence on its very verge. Recently we heard of a gold mine discovered by a Japanese at Unsan in Korea; a mine so rich that working it was described by the familiar Japanese metaphor of grasping millet with wet fingers. But the concession was secured by an American citizen. Then came the talk of a coal mine in the Yangtsze Valley, the mineral of fine quality and the facilities of transport excellent. This went to an Englishman. What is the matter with the Japanese? The *Jiji Shimpo* is perturbed when it observes this lethargy on the part of its countrymen. They seem to imagine that the Government should do everything for them, and they even allege that they fear to engage in enterprises abroad, being unable to rely upon the strength of their country's foreign policy. But the *Jiji's* asks them to consider Englishmen, who give themselves no manner of concern about the Government until they are in a position to claim its protection. They go ahead, start their enterprises and embark their capital, and they take very good care that their Government shall not be invertebrate when a stiff back is necessary.

That is all very true, but, at the same time, we strongly suspect that the foreign policy question is more responsible than our contemporary consents to admit. If Englishmen were not quite sure that they can depend upon the protection of their Government whenever and wherever their rights are assailed, their spirit of enterprise would not be what it is. The Japanese Government has not won its spurs yet in that field, and can not be counted a really trustworthy champion.

Mr. Kato, Japan's Representative in London, a man of quite exceptional capacity who will certainly make a big mark in the history of his time, has been talking somewhat in the same strain during a visit to the capital of Korea. He evi-

rapid increase of the population, every man finds work to do, and every man regards hard work as his business in life, whereas in Japan, since the war with China, a spirit of speculation and indolence seems to have arisen. Mr. Kato doubted whether the moral education of the country's youth was altogether wholesome. They were taught to believe in the superiority of their land and their nation to all other lands and all other nations, and such teaching seemed to have the effect of disturbing their moral equipoise, and unfitting them for genuinely practical life. It appears to us that Mr. Kato's diagnosis is thoroughly correct. The mischief that has been wrought in this country by the little band of men who unfortunately take the lead in educational questions, is very great. But that is a topic we have often discussed already. The *Nippon* shows a disposition to traverse Mr. Kato's arguments. It contends that Englishmen do not owe much of their success to education, being, in point of fact, inferior to most of the nations of Continental Europe in book learning. They get their education in the field of action, and then supply the deficiencies of their scholastic career by diligent reading of newspapers which post them acurately in the affairs of the world. But surely the *Nippon* misses Mr. Kato's point altogether. Mr. Kato does not contend for any new standard of scholastic education, as we understand him. What he denounces is an injurious element in the ethical instruction imparted at the schools. Perhaps it is natural that the *Nippon* should saddle the wrong horse in such a matter.

RUSSIA IN KOREA.

The latest statements circulated are that Russia has succeeded in purchasing three lots of land at Masampo, making a total area of 170 acres, and that it is her intention to move thither the stores and so on that she now has at Inasa in Nagasaki. Rumour further alleges that the Korean Government has determined to construct a dock at Masampo, and has entrusted the conduct of the enterprise to Mr. McLeavy Brown. Mr. Brown has engaged the services of a Japanese engineer, Mr. Takeno Shota.

FOREIGN AND JAPANESE EMPLOYES.

Tokyo newspapers contain a statement which illustrates the often repeated truth that the class of Japanese who seek employment in foreign houses in Yokohama are the very dregs of the population. Sekiguchi Shozo, who attempted, some time ago, to assassinate a maid servant in the employment of a well-known British resident, proved, on investigation, to be an escaped criminal who had committed seven murders in Osaka and been sentenced to penal servitude for life. How a man who had perpetrated such a series of crimes failed to pay the penalty with his life, and how he happened to be at large, we are not told. The story goes on to say that the gentleman whose household had been thus disturbed—we omit names—subsequently engaged a man named Abe Sojiro in the place of the ex-assassin, and took the precaution of reporting the fact to the police. The latter, on inquiry, found that Abe was an ex-gambler, who had been sentenced, four years ago, to 5 months' imprisonment. Pleasant people to shelter in the "bosoms of our families."

This reflects upon the case of Taniguchi Haruo (or Hamao) who has just disappeared with 9,125 *yen*, the property of Messrs. Pollak Brothers, being part of a sum which the man had been sent to pay into the Specie Bank in the form of cheques. In this instance the opportunity for theft seems to have been created by the omission of Messrs. Pollak Brothers' cashier to make the cheques payable to the Bank only, but as a general rule it may be said that the trust reposed by foreigners in Japanese employés about whose antecedents and character they have little, if any, knowledge is very remarkable.

A similar tale is published by one of our Tokyo contemporaries about an adventurer who tried to make a crafty coup by playing off two Departments of State and a Legation against each other. He proceeded, in the first place, to the War Department, and showing a map of Mokpho in Korea, alleged that the Russians were trying to purchase a quantity of land there, and that it was of the utmost importance for Japan to anticipate them. The War Department, being already in possession of much better maps of Mokpho, and being also thoroughly well informed, sent the gentleman about his business. He then visited the Foreign Office and tried the same game, with the result that the Foreign Office forwarded the map to the War Department, where it was at once recognised. Meanwhile the individual had made a trip to the Russian Legation, and given "secret" information that the Japanese Government was in treaty for land at Mokpho, and that Russia should hasten to step in. The Russian Legation, much too wily to be caught by such a device, took the map and subsequently presented it with a smile to the Foreign Office, thus completing the circle in the centre of which stood the discomfited traitor.

YOKOHAMA FORESHORE RECLAMATION.

It is confidently asserted that the charter for the fore-shore reclamation work in Yokohama has been given to Mr. Oyamada. It was sent, in the first place, to the Governor of Kanagawa and forwarded by him to Mr. Oyamada through the Governor of Tokyo. It remains now to be seen what kind of composition Mr. Oyamada can effect with the Yokohama projectors.

The Oyamada people are now engaged in *pourparlers* with the Yokohama Municipality. It is, of course, a matter of compromise. The successful applicants for the charter of the fore-shore reclamation have offered to hand over to the Municipality an area of twenty thousand *tsubo*. This proposal seems to have mitigated the tempest of the Municipality's indignation, but has not entirely calmed it. There is a general belief, however, that, if the Oyamada faction raise their offer to thirty thousand, the Municipality will strike its flag. Thirty thousand is a pretty large mouthful. It represents nearly one-third of the area to be reclaimed, and may be estimated at a value of 1½ million *yen*. The total area in question is a hundred thousand *tsubo*, and the cost of reclama-

upon the fact that in England, despite the

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tion is expected to be 30 *yen* per *tsubo*, on the average. A gentleman who is intimately *liê* with Mr. Oyamada—supposed to be his chief of staff, indeed—has been talking very frankly about the matter. He hints broadly that none of the applicants, including Oyamada himself, has either the financial ability or the competence to carry out the work. All are merely speculating on being able to sell their shares, and, unless some of the great capitalists step into the breach, there will be a replica of a familiar story.

It seems probable that the affair will cause much friction among the Liberals. Even the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has taken up the question and writes about it in a serious strain. We gather that Mr. Hoshi Toru is believed to have declared that the granting of the concession to Mr. Oyamada was the result of a promise made in connection with the purchase of votes during the last session of the Diet. Our contemporary avows its conviction that nothing of the kind actually took place, or could have taken place with the cognisance of a Ministry headed by Marquis Yamagata. But many of the Liberals are reported to be very angry that such a slur should have been cast upon the Party by a reckless statement emanating from one of their leaders. A strong anti-Hoshi movement has therefore been set on foot. The *Nichi Nichi* says very plainly that the Department of Home Affairs does not appear to have exercised proper discretion in granting the concession. From the moment that the Yokohama Town Assembly stepped into the field, its views should have been taken as representing those of the majority of the citizens, and the Department should have deferred any definite step until the concurrence of the Assembly had been obtained. It is altogether a very ugly business. What we (*Japan Mail*) find difficult to credit is that Mr. Hoshi made any such statement.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

By examining statistics for the past five years, the *Jiji Shimpo* finds that the average age of students graduating from the Imperial University is 26 years and one month. The discovery causes our contemporary much disquiet. It says that young men in Europe graduate at 22 or 23. On the other hand, the Japanese mature at an earlier age than Europeans do, and their lives of robust activity are shorter. In Western Europe a man is considered be in his prime at 50, and at 60 and even 70 he occupies the most important posts and discharges the most arduous duties. In Japan, on the contrary, a man is thought to have lost his capacity for usefulness at 50, and is expected to step aside, and make way for his juniors. So it would seem that there is a difference of 10 years in the length of active life, and a difference of about 5 years in the time of concluding the scholastic career, the total loss on the Japanese side being 15 years. Such figures naturally alarm our contemporary, and it appears to think that the only feasible plan is to reduce the standard of education. Beyond all doubt some means should be taken to enable youths to finish their university course at an earlier age. If 26 years is the average age of graduation, there must be many men of 30 studying in the University. But is it quite correct to say that active life is over in Japan at 50? A large number of the leading merchants and statesmen of the present day are nearer 60 than 50.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* takes up the old question of natural *versus* artificial ability, and denounces the public schools as institutions for promoting the latter at the expense of the former. There is absolutely no elasticity in the curriculum of a public school. A lad must qualify in all the subjects or be plucked. Private schools, however, which the Government's policy tends to crush, make allowances for a lad's idiosyncracies, and, if he has special talent in one field, do not destroy his scholastic career because he is incompetent to acquire some branch of learning for which nature has not fitted him. This is, of course, an excellent argument in favour of private schools and special schools, but it has little force when applied to the general education which a school supported by public funds is bound to furnish. Individuals are doomed to suffer more or less under a system founded on the greatest good of the greatest number.

The educational question occupies the attention of two such strong advocates as the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The former's statistics, showing that 27 is the average age of graduation from the Imperial University, have elicited from the Educational Authorities an explanation that the fault lies with the students. The official programme is this:—A child enters an ordinary primary school at the age of six and studies there 4 years; then he passes to an Upper Primary School for 2 years; then to a Middle School for 5 years; then to a High School for 3, and finally to the University for 3 or 4. Thus his whole scholastic career covers seventeen or eighteen years, and he ought to graduate from the University at the age of twenty-three or twenty-four. But it is justly pointed out that this programme can seldom be carried out exactly. There are two difficulties. The first is that the accommodation available at the Middle and High Schools is insufficient, and many students have to wait a long time before gaining admission. The second is that each school, instead of taking up a student's education at the point where it ended in the lower institution, considers it necessary to go over much of the old ground. Even apart from those objections it seems to us that a programme of education which can not possibly be concluded before a youth reaches the age of twenty-three is quite extravagant. The *Nichi Nichi* contends, with much force and reason, that the present system is altogether too general, and that the curricula of the public schools should be so arranged that, at whatever point a youth stops his scholastic career, the knowledge he has acquired will be of practical value to him.

DEATH OF MR. GREATHOUSE.

Mr. C. R. Greathouse expired in Söul on the 21st instant. Intelligence reached Japan a fortnight ago that he was in a dying condition, but as to the nature of his malady we have no information. It is curious that such a short interval should have separated his demise from that of General Le Gendre. Both gentlemen were in the service of the Korean Government in high positions, General Le Gendre as adviser to the Foreign Office and Mr. Greathouse as adviser to the Home Office, and both had served in the Consular corps of their own country, General Le Gendre as United States Consul at Amoy, and Mr. Greathouse as United States Consul-General at Yokohama. Their appointment to posts in Korea may be regarded as the outcome of the policy mapped out at the Ito-Li conference of 1895, when it was decided that Korea's foreign advisers should be selected from the nationals of a plainly neutral state. They were men of exceptional ability, and they devoted it with no little zeal to promote the cause of Korean independence. But Korean independence is a consummation not achievable by any natural agency now in sight, and it must be said of the two Americans that they died *re infectâ*. It seems to us very sad that the careers of two such men should have closed under circumstances so discouraging. The epitaph that might be put upon their tombs would be one of the most pregnant verses in the modern epic of the Far East.

Successors to the late General Le Gendre and Mr. Greathouse are beginning to be spoken of. A Tokyo journal says that Russia is in the field—ubiquitous and admirably alert Russia!—, and urges that the posts ought to be obtained for Japanese subjects if possible.

THE DAIGO TRIAL.

The Tokyo Local Court has over-ruled the objection raised by counsel for Mr. Daigo Kakutaro, who is on trial for the murder of Marquis Daigo, his uncle. Counsel had applied for the summoning of several witnesses to give evidence as to the sanity of the prisoner's father and uncle, and as to his own mental condition at the time of the crime's perpetration. Application had also been made to have the prisoner medically examined in order to determine whether he is in the possession of his right mind. The Court refused these applications, whereupon Counsel formally challenged the impartiality of the judges, and the proceedings were suspended for the purpose of considering the justice of the demurrer. It has now, as we have said, been dismissed, on the grounds, first, that the witnesses in question could not give any testimony amounting to direct proof that the crime was due to insanity, and secondly, that most of them had already been examined by the tribunal of first instance. The application for a medical diagnosis was dismissed for the same reason, namely, that it could not establish a direct connexion between the crime and the criminals mental condition. We quote this judgment as it appears in the columns of vernacular newspapers, but we greatly doubt the correctness of the report, for as the judgment stands, it appears to us to be one of the strangest ever delivered.

Counsel for the defence of Daigo Kakutaro has appealed against the ruling of the Court which rejected his demurrer about partiality.

There is talk of the establishment of a China-Japan Bank (*Tou-a Ginko*) with a capital of ten million *yen*. The projectors are some Chinese merchants of Cantonese origin in Yokohama and some Japanese capitalists.

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FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS.

MUST PARTNERSHIPS FORMED BY FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN REGISTER AS "KWAISHA"?

There is an opinion current among foreigners that partnerships established by foreigners in Japan need not register as *kwaisha*, because they are identical with the Japanese *kumiai*. This is wrong. *Kumiai* is an institution of the *general* law which in the Japanese system is sharply distinguished from *commercial* law. The provisions regarding *kumiai* are contained in the *Civil* Code in the chapter relating to ordinary contracts, such as gifts, hiring, deposit, loans. An agreement of *kumiai* is itself such an ordinary contract, creating rights and duties only between the parties themselves and not as to third persons. The contract of *kumiai* is defined by Art. 667 of the Civil Code to be a contract where each of the parties agrees to join in a common undertaking and make a contribution thereto. This may be for any purpose, for pleasure, science, profit, charity,* &c. Partnership in English Law (Partnership Act of 1890, Art. 1) is the relation which exists between persons carrying on a *business with a view of profit*. Now for a *kumiai* there is not required the carrying on of a business nor the intention to make profit. By an agreement between A and B to have a picnic together in Honmoku and to contribute $5 each a *kumiai* comes into existence between A and B, but it is no partnership, for there is no business and there is not the least hope for profit. I do not see the advisability of carrying on a great firm in the same way as a pleasure club. For a commercial firm there must be a firm-name and there must be the possibility to sue and to be sued as a *firm*. But a *kumiai* can neither have its firm-name registered and thereby protected against its use by others, nor can it sue or be sued as a *kumiai*. This alone is sufficient to make it extremely inconvenient to do business as a *kumiai*. Besides, there must be for a commercial firm special provisions about the relations of the partners among themselves, about the representation of the firm as to third persons, about its dissolution, about the time when a partner is allowed to retire, about the duration of the responsibility of a retiring partner, about his inability to do business of the same kind as that of the firm on his own account, etc. Nearly nothing of that kind is provided for in the articles of the Japanese *Civil* Code relating to *kumiai*, but you find all these matters clearly and distinctly regulated, and this in a very similar manner, in the English Partnership Act of 1890 and in the Japanese *Commercial* Code in the provisions relating to *gōmeikwaisha*.

For clearness' sake I will give some instances of how *kumiai* and how *gōmeikwaisha* would work.

1. Suppose a man retires from his firm after twenty years' hard work in the Far East. He has saved £50,000 and goes home to enjoy the rest of his life in easiness. After four years the firm becomes bankrupt in consequence of a transaction entered upon before the partner retired. In this case if the firm were a *kumiai*, the partner would remain liable to the creditors; he loses perhaps his whole property and spends his last years in poverty. If the firm is a *gōmeikwaisha*, he is free, for his responsibility is extinguished after *two years* (Art. 73 of the *Commercial* Code). I do not know whether many of the foreign residents will be able to retire on their earnings, but it is a hope cherished by every one of them that the day will come when he can go on board ship, "bound for home."

2. Suppose a member of a *kumiai* tells his "partner" that he will go out of the business the same day, and thereby throws the business into a state of utter confusion. No law prevents him from doing so; but in case of a *gōmeikwaisha* a partner can retire only at the end of a business year. Now one might say: "But this may be easily avoided by a special agreement made beforehand." Of course it may, but how many people will make such agreements beforehand?

3. Suppose a member of a *kumiai*, without obtaining the consent of the other "partners" does on his own account business of the same kind as that of the *kumiai*, and by doing so snatches some lucrative transactions out of the hands of the concern. Such a person may perhaps be excluded from the *kumiai*, but he will keep for himself any profit to be made out of such transactions, while in the case of a *gōmeikwaisha* the other partners may simply take such transactions away from him by declaring that they consider them as done on account of the *kwaisha*. (Art. 60 of the Japanese Commercial Code. See also Art. 30 of the Partnership Act.)

These instances, to which might be added dozens of others, show sufficiently that a great mercantile firm in the East cannot efficiently carry on business as a *kumiai*, and that by doing so it would lose many of the advantages enjoyed hereto under the Partnership Act. It would be the same as though a man should choose to go to Kobe in a sampan, when he had the opportunity of going by an Empress steamer.

Now it is said that a partnership is different from a *gōmeikwaisha*, because the latter is a *legal* (juridical) person and therefore a "corporation." How futile this objection is, is clearly shown by the fact that also *Scottish partnerships by law are legal persons* (Partnership Act., Art. 4,2; Bell, Pr. in Scottish Law § 387). The foundation of partnerships, whether they are legal persons or not, is the *personal confidence* between the partners and the right of each partner to manage and to represent the partnership, unless there is an express agreement to the contrary, and the direct and unlimited liability of each single partner to the creditors of the firm. In a "corporation" these points are not *essential*, and therefore a *gōmeikwaisha*, being based upon these principles cannot be called a "corporation." Anyhow this is only a fight for words. There will always be a difficulty and very often an impossibility to express the conceptions of the law of Japan or of any other civil law country in the technical terms of English law. The real question is what is in Japanese law that most nearly corresponds to and practically subserves the ends of an English partnership. And there cannot be the least doubt that this is the *gōmeikwaisha*. If the latter is not to be considered the correlative of a commercial partnership, the astonishing fact would remain that the Japanese Commercial Code, contrary to all other Commercial Codes of the world, does not contain one single provision about the most frequent and most important kind of commercial business associations! That the framers of the Code considered the *gōmeikwaisha* to be the correlative of commercial partnerships is known to me by their own statements, and besides is clearly shown by the arrangement of the Japanese Commercial Code, when compared with its model, the German Commercial Code, the order of the different matters in the two Codes being as follows:

German Code.	Japanese Code.
Traders.	Traders.
Commercial Registration.	Commercial Registration.
Trade Names.	Trade Names.
Trade Books.	Trade Books.
Trade Assistants.	Trade Assistants.
Agents and brokers.	Agents.
Ordinary partnerships.	*Gōmeikwaisha.*
Limited partnerships.	Gōshikwaisha.
Joint stock companies.	Joint stock companies.
Joint stock limited partnerships.	Joint stock limited partnerships.
etc.	etc.

The Imperial Ordinance No. 272 takes the same point of view when it prescribes in Art. 5 that any associations of foreigners having "independent property"* must register as *kwaisha*. That an English partnership established under the Partnership Act of 1890 has "independent property" cannot be doubted. Independent property —*dokuritsu no zaisan*—means, as it says, property separated from the private property of the single partners and set apart for the purposes of the business only. Now Art. 20 of the English Partnership Act of 1890 says:— "All property and rights and interest in property originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property and *must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership.*" No better explanation of *dokuritsu no zaisan* could be given! To translate *dokuritsu no zaisan*, by "corporate property" would make the whole sentence contradictory, as "Student" himself acknowledges; but instead of perceiving that the fault lies in his wrong interpretation, he throws the fault upon the Japanese Government and charges it with making contradictory laws!†

If anybody should still remain in doubt, I may add that the framer of the above mentioned Ordinance, Prof. Dr. Ume, who is rather surprised at the strange translation of the expression *dokuritsu no zaisan* as "corporate property," has authorized me to state that he fully endorses my interpretation above given, and that he himself and the Committee

* "Student" in the *Japan Mail* who attempts to interpret Japanese law from the point of view of English law, contends that I had given two different definitions of *kumiai*, saying in one that it may be for any purpose and in the other that it is for business only. If he will peruse the two statements once or once more, he will find out at once that he is mistaken. I never said that *kumiai* is for business purposes only. "Student" refers to a note to my translation of Ordinance No. 272 (*Japan Mail*, June 14th, 1899), but in this note I do not explain the meaning of *kumiai* but the meaning of Art. 5 of the Ordinance, stating that such article refers to associations—*kumiai*—for business purposes only, not to other kinds of *kumiai*, like clubs. The wording of the note is explained by it cannot be any serious doubt about its meaning.

* Also the translation of "property of its own," which is criticized by "Student" is of course absolutely correct, as anybody who has the slightest knowledge of Japanese will understand at once, provided he is not prejudiced by wrong ideas about the meaning of the whole Ordinance.

† *Japan Mail* of September 11th, 1899.

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used such expression with the direct intention to bring commercial concerns *not* having *corporate* property within the scope of the Ordinance, especially partnerships established under English law. Hence it follows that under this Ordinance every partnership of foreigners established in Japan must become *gōmeikwaisha*, resp. *gōshikwaisha* and must register as such within six months.

"Student" asserts that Japanese firms do not register, and that foreigners could not be treated differently from Japanese. However, he forgets that the Commercial Code only took effect a short time ago. It took years in Germany before the general registration of partnerships was completed, and it will take years in Japan. There are also hundreds and thousands of marriages in Japan not registered, although Art. 778 of the Civil Code provides that a marriage is invalid, if the parties omit to have it registered. There may yet exist a lot of commercial concerns not having complied with the provisions of the law, and it may even be that many small shopkeepers will go on doing so for any time to come. But it is quite wrong to believe, as "Student" does, that all the great Japanese commercial firms calling themselves *shōkwai* or *gumi* are *kumiai*. These concerns very often have kept their old names even after changing their organization, or they have been using the expression "shōkwai" or "gumi," although the business in fact was owned by one person only. For instance, "Student" asserts that the two great Japanese business houses *Takata-shōkwai* and *Okura-gumi* are *kumiai*. If "Student" would himself have made enquiries at their offices as he advises other people to do, he would at once have discovered that they are not *kumiai* at all, but that Takata-shōkwai is owned by *one* person, while Okura-gumi is a *gōmeikwaisha*!

I have always feared that it would be difficult for foreigners in Japan to understand the fundamental principles of Japanese-German Law, and that attempts would be made to interpret it from the point of view of English law, which has been done before with a disastrous effect by Japanese lawyers as to the Constitution; but I never thought that it would be possible that such matters as those now in question could become the subject of a serious dispute. It is the old story which we experienced some years ago with the now famous "superficies." If an advantage granted to foreigners appears in a form not known in the old country, it is stoutly objected to. If partnerships of foreigners would be treated as *kumiai* and not as *gōmei-kwaisha*, a loud outcry against such injustice would arise, and with full reason, as I explained before. Now the Japanese grant such a right, and at once people come forward who object thereto. I know that there is a very strong feeling of personal liberty among Englishmen, which makes them dislike anything looking like official intervention in private matters. But it must be borne in mind that by the registration of firms as provided by the new Code one of the greatest complaints of foreign merchants will be removed, namely the uncertainty as to who is the real owner of a Japanese firm. Up to now foreign merchants have very often done business with a quite irresponsible person and only discovered it, when it was too late. In the future a simple copy of the Commercial Register, which anybody may have on paying a small fee, will at once give the names of the owner or the responsible managers of a Japanese business. The only drawback as to registration is the necessity of reporting the amount of the Capital to be set apart for the business, and I think it was not a happy idea to make such a provision; but as I have already pointed out in my report to the International Committee, this amount may be fixed at will by the partners.

The fact that English, German and French partnerships must register as *kwaisha* is so absolutely certain that I strongly advise all foreign firms not to hesitate any longer, but to take the necessary steps at once, for although the Japanese authorities will perhaps not rigidly enforce the rule that registration must be made not later than December 16th, it is in the interest of the firms themselves to protect their firm-names in the manner provided for by law, and to acquire the legal standing of *kwaisha* as soon as possible. Foreigners ought to be able to understand that it is of no use to stick to the law of the old country under circumstances, where the doing so is as unjust as it is imprudent.

DR. L. LOENHOLM.

Tokyo, October 12th, 1899.

KANG YU-WEI.

The celebrated Kang Yu-wei arrived in Yokohama on the 24th instant by the *Empress of India*. He did not land. In fact he seems to have lain *perdu* both during the voyage and while the ship was in port. It is said that from the time of the *Empress'* arrival in Yokohama until the time of her departure he remained in the Captain's cabin. What he intends to do is not clear, but the general impression is that Hongkong is his destination. Strange rumours have been circulated to the effect that he would have landed in Yokohama, but that an order from the Department of Home Affairs prevented him; that he sent messengers to various leading men seeking assistance, and that Count Okuma, receiving one of these appeals, delivered himself of opinions not at all favourable to the present Cabinet. It is confidently alleged that the Cabinet decided not to allow him to land, but we have our doubts as to that—very strong doubts.

The Government's course with regard to Kang Yu-wei has put into the hands of the Opposition a weapon which they are using with effect. We did not ourselves believe that the Government had really vetoed the landing of the refugee, but it appears that we were wrong. The Cabinet had considered the matter, and decided that Kang's safety would be best consulted by continuing his voyage. Kang had not intended, it is alleged, to remain for any length of time in Japan. Hongkong is his destination, and he merely desired to land in this country for the purpose of waiting until he could take a direct steamer. By proceeding in the *Empress of India* he will have to call at Shanghai, where he dreads official enterprises against his person. But of course, if he chooses to stick to the ship, the Chinese police can not take him from under the shadow of the British flag. Still the refusal to allow him to land is open to much misconstruction, and what the effect of it will be greatly misconstrued we have no doubt.

As we go to press a news agency sends us a report that Kang Yu-wei left the *Empress of India* at Kobe, and took passage by the *Kawachi Maru* direct for Hongkong. It is added that his return to the East was prompted by a telegram announcing the serious illness of his mother, but while in Yokohama he ascertained by wire that his mother had not been sick at all, and it thus became evident that the original telegram was a device on the part of his would-be assassins. He desired, therefore, to abandon his idea of going to Hongkong, and to proceed instead to Hawaii, but, leave to wait in Japan until a steamer should start for Hawaii having been refused, he had to push on to Hongkong. This story sounds exceedingly apocryphal.

TERRIBLE MARITIME DISASTERS.

A terrible maritime catastrophe is believed to have occurred, involving the loss of nine schooners. The vessels sailed from Hokkaido on the 18th instant, laden with salt salmon and other fish, and in the neighbourhood of Esashi they encountered a gale which is said to have sunk them all. They were foreign-rigged vessels and their names and tonnage are given as follows:—*Hanao* (99 tons); *Sambo* (124); *Yeitoku* (145); *Fukushima* (137); *Miyoji* (14); *Seiun* (146); *Kinryo* (76), and *Otafuku* (102). The news has been confirmed by later despatches, the number of drowned being placed at 90.

The *Toyokawa Maru*, a steamer of 248 tons, is also supposed to have been lost. She was chartered by the Authorities at Kure Dockyard to carry timber, and on the 23rd of last month she sailed from Toyohashi with a full cargo, but has not since been heard of. The cruiser *Amagi* was sent to search for her on the 19th instant, but returned after three days without any success. A quantity of wreckage has been seen, however, in Yenshu Bay, and very little hope is entained of the ship's safety.

It appears that the fleet of schooners caught in the gale of the 16th and 17th instant off Hokkaido numbered 13, and that 3 escaped.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

The exact facts as to the casualties connected with the railway accident at the bridge over the Hokki River seem to be now known. The total number of fatalities, including those that died subsequently of their injuries, is 20. Thirty-four persons were carried for treatment to the hospital of Utsunomiya. Of these, 24 have recovered completely and left the hospital: 4 are making rapid progress, and the remaining 6, though badly hurt, are expected to be soon convalescent. The number who escaped without injury was 16. Thus the total passengers were 70. The Company's pecuniary loss is estimated at forty thousand *yen*.

Marquis Ito arrived in Kanazawa on the 18th instant and was enthasiastically received. On the 20th he addressed a meeting of six hundred of the leading residents, and spoke for about an hour, his topics being international competition,

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and the necessity of strong armaments. The Marquis Ito had a splendid reception at Nanao in Noto, and the people, not content with cheering for him alone, paid the same compliment to each of his companions individually, Viscount Watanabe, Baron Suyematsu, and Mr. Kaneko. Marquis Ito was at Fushiki when last heard from. He had a grand reception at the little port of historic memory.

The Bombay cotton mill owners do not seem to have been able to arrange for a simultaneous closing of their mills in order to reduce production. A telegram published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that their meeting on the 19th instant to discuss the matter proved abortive, and that another meeting, fixed for the 30th instant, is expected to end similarly. Meanwhile the price of raw cotton in Egypt is said to be declining.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the Emperor's approval of a law passed by the Diet last session for granting larger aid from the Treasury to education. The amount involved is not mentioned. It is to be fixed by the Budget each year. Well informed people allege, however, that it will be about half a million *yen* annually.

The new Representative of Siam at the Court of Japan was received in audience by the Emperor, for the purpose of presenting his credentials, on the 19th instant. Mr. Inagaki Shimesu was also received by His Majesty on the same day, preparatory to Mr. Inagaki's return to Bankok in the capacity of Japanese Minister.

At present, the Government spends 1,580,141 *yen* annually on the support of the Universities, High Schools, Middle Schools, and Normal Schools, and contributes 820,000 *yen* towards the salaries and allowances of teachers in the communal schools and towards other items of their expenditure. If we assume that half a million is to be added next fiscal year, it results that the total contributions of the State to purposes of elementary education will be something less than 1½ million *yen* from the year 1900. The Communes, on the other hand, spend 11½ millions, and the students' fees aggregate 3½ millions, so that the total outlay by the people themselves is 15 millions; namely, ten times as much as the State's contribution. In European countries, as the *Jiji Shimpo* points out, the State is much more liberal. In Germany 34 per cent. of the total cost of elementary education is defrayed by the State; in Holland and Belgium, 39 per cent. each; in France, 48 per cent., and in Switzerland 30 per cent.

Mr. Yamada Sakuro's suit for 170,000 *yen* against Mr. Yasuda has been decided by the Court in favour of the plaintiff.

The Emperor and Empress have sent a sum of 500 *yen* for the relief of the sufferers by the tidal wave in Shizuoka.

A man called Sato Suyekichi has been arrested in the Tokyo Yoshiwara, on suspicion of being the murderer of Mr. Ishikawa, of the Tokyo Savings Bank.

Count Okuma gave a garden party at Waseda on the 19th instant to the leading Chinese residents of Yokohama, Kobe, and Osaka. On the 18th, the Count had entertained a number of Japanese friends, to commemorate, as usual, the anniversary of his partial escape from the bomb of 1889. To his Chinese guests, the Count, while complimenting the Chinese on their business abilities, said that mercantile enterprises conducted by associations of capitalists were greatly impeded by the system of Government in China, and it appeared to him that the best way out of the difficulty was to promote partnerships between Chinese and Japanese subjects. Such partnerships, if registered in Japan, would be able to enjoy the security and freedom guaranteed by the laws of this country, and evidently an essential step towards the consummation of mercantile and industrial unions was to promote a mutual knowledge of the Japanese and Chinese languages. It was for that reason, among others, that the Count was so anxious to assist in establishing suitable schools for the nationals of the two countries.

The Tokyo Police have summoned all the barbers of the capital and conveyed to them strict instructions with regard to cleanliness and the use of disinfectants, as well as the duty of not shaving persons that are suffering from skin-diseases or other maladies of a contagious nature. The Chief of Police has also instructed the constables serving in the city to observe the conduct of *jinrikisha*-men, and to interfere at once if they detect any attempt to importune citizens, or to behave rudely towards persons that refuse to employ *jinrikisha*.

The *Asahi* has discovered another mare's nest. By arrangement between H.E. Shêng and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, our contemporary says, a Japanese mining expert was sent to examine and report upon a deposit of coal in Anhui, which had been discovered by one of his countrymen, the understanding being that, in the event of the report's proving favourable, a concession for working the mine should be granted to the Mitsui firm. The expert reported a seam of excellent coal from 1 to 3 metres deep, inclined at an angle of 22° or 30°, and therefore most advantageously situated for working. Some doubt having been thrown on this report as too optimistic, an English engineer was despatched, and the final issue was that the concession went into English hands. The *Asahi* abuses the Foreign Office roundly and is equally uncomplimentary to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. We are sometimes tempted to speculate what kind of Government would suit a journal with our contemporary's views as to the scope of official functions.

Russia is said to be negotiating the purchase of two lots of land at Masampo; one of 2½ acres at a place called Wŏl-yŏng, and another of 8 acres at Ung-chyŏng. The latter spot is reported to possess a remarkably fine spring of fresh water. The British Consul also has applied for a space of 12½ acres to build a Consulate. The place selected by him is Ryong-thak in the Chhang-wŏn district, and his negotiations are believed to have been practically concluded.

Mr. Suzuki Manjuro, a member of the Diet, who, with ten others, was apprehended on a charge of violating the Law of Elections on the occasion of the recent elections for Local Assemblies, has been remanded for trial. Against one of the accused no case has been established, but the other nine are to be placed on public trial, like Mr. Suzuki.

A telegram to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* announces that the last instalment of the new Japanese loan has been paid up by the Syndicate.

It is stated that the marriage of the Prince Imperial is fixed for next spring. There was some idea of an Occidental trip for the Prince before the ceremony, but the present plan is understood to be that the marriage shall take place first.

The stone-masons in Yokohama are organizing a strike. They receive 70 *sen* daily at present and they want 90 *sen*. Twenty years ago their pay was 30 *sen*. It seems to us that the labour question is going to be a big problem for Japan.

On the 23rd of September the warship *Maya* proceeded to Ulneung Island, having on board a Japanese Consular official, Mr. Takao. The object of her visit was to warn the Japanese residing on the Island that they must take their departure by the 30th of November, at latest. There are over a hundred of these people, natives, for the most part, of Shimane and Tottori Prefectures.

A Tokyo journal recently contained a statement, which we translated, that the invitations addressed to Japanese ladies for the Imperial banquet on the 28th instant were conditional on the recipient's acquaintance with the etiquette of foreign society. We learn that there is no truth whatever in the statement.

The Japanese Government has decided, it is said, to send Captain Hiraoka Hachiro as well as the Military Attaché of the Japanese Legation in London, to South Africa for the purpose of observing the operations against the Boers. It was at first intended to despatch the Military Attachés from the Legations in Paris and London, but their knowledge of the English language was not considered sufficient.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha are thinking of increasing their fleet. It is said that when the *America Maru* arrived at San Francisco on her last voyage, she found a full cargo already engaged for her, and quantities of goods shut out. The Company think that there is ample room for two or three steamers more.

The Liaotung Peninsula is to be administered by a chief who will also be Commander of the Russian naval and military forces on the station. The territory will be under the Ministry of War in St. Petersburg; Port Arthur will be the seat of Government and there will a Diplomatic Agent and a Financial Commissioner. The judicial procedure organized in the reign of Alexander the Second is to be enforced throughout the whole territory. In a word, Liaotung is to be part and parcel of the Russian dominions.

The Prince Imperial left Prince Arisugawa's villa at Maiko on the morning of the 24th, and proceeding to Kobe, embarked in the *Takasago* for Ujina. He is expected to arrive there on the 25th, and landing at once, will take up his quarters in the mansion near the barracks of the Fifth Division. There-

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after the programme is:—27th instant, visit Kure Docks; 28th, visit the Eda-jima Naval College; 30th, return to Maiko.

Mr. Fujii Kaiyu, the head priest of the temple Kosaiji at Yoita-mura in the Mishima District of Niigata Prefecture, asks us to mention an enterprise which has occupied his attention for the past four years, but cannot be carried to completion without public assistance. Some twenty-three thousand Japanese lost their lives in the war, whether from injuries received on the field of battle or from sickness contracted during the various campaigns. It occurred to Mr. Fujii that an image of Amida should be constructed and dedicated to the memory of these men who sacrificed their lives for their country. He set about the work vigorously, planning an image 19 feet high, built up with a composition having for its chief ingredient paper on which the names of the deceased, together with texts from the *sutras*, were written by eminent men. Inside the big Amida he proposed to place the mortuary tablets of the dead, the head being reserved for the tablets of their Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa and Kita-shirakawa. The image is now completed with the exception of the gilding, and it appears that the resources of the projector are not equal to purchasing gold foil for that purpose. Each leaf of foil costs 5 *sen*. He therefore invites all that sympathise with his object to send him the price of a leaf, or of half a leaf, in postage stamps or coin.

The auriferous district, recently discovered in the north-westerly corner of Hokkaido, is said to measure a hundred square *ri*, or 625 square miles. It is situated in Kitami Province, and includes the three districts of Esashi, Soya and Mombetsu. In the centre is a mountain called Horo-noboru, on the south-east is the Horobetsu River, and on the West the Tombetsu River, the two latter forming natural boundaries. The dust is found chiefly in small streams which have their sources in the mountain Horo-noboru, and are tributaries of either the Horobetsu or the Tombetsu, the latter category including the Peichan, the Piraka-nai, the Shupurei-nai and the Usotan-nai; the former, the Pankenai, the Omushubetsu and others. Formerly the village of Esashi was a fishing hamlet with only 450 inhabitants, most of whom had deserted the place before the discovery of gold, their fishing operations having been unsuccessful. It is now a flourishing town. There are some 7,000 persons engaged in washing. Attempts have been made by the police to put an end to secret washing and compel every one to take out a license, but the force of ten constables detailed for the duty is quite inadequate. There seems to be a great deal of uncertainty about the quantity of gold obtained. One account says that the nine dust-buyers who have established themselves in Esashi, received a total weight of 1,670 lbs. during the first nine months of the current year.

The latest canard—for we can not regard it as anything else—is that the Russian Representative in Peking has addressed a remonstrance to the Chinese Government with regard to three points; first, the despatch of Chinese students to study in Japan; secondly, the employment of Mr. Yano in the capacity of adviser to the Tsungli Yamên; and thirdly, the engagement of Japanese officers to drill Chinese troops. Where the grain of truth may be in this tale we can not detect, but, inasmuch as Mr. Yano's appointment to the post of Chinese adviser is understood to be a pure fiction, the basis of the whole story must be infinitesimally small. If Russia proposed to interfere in such matters, she might as well assume the administration of China's affairs altogether.

The *Hokuriku Maru*, which went ashore some time ago in Tamsui harbour, can not be floated, it would seem. The weather has been greatly against salvage operations, and she is now almost completely covered with sand. She is a vessel of 616 tons, and there are insurance policies aggregating 28,000 *yen* in Japanese companies.

The *Official Gazette* announces that telegrams received at Aden for or from South Africa will be subject to military supervision.

The high price of sulphur at present is said to be attracting attention to sulphur mining. The *Asahi* believes that if mining privileges were extended to foreigners, American capitalists would at once seek a concession in the Kuriles, where sulphur is waiting to be dug out.

It is proposed to resuscitate the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society this season if possible. The Society had many successful *réunions* in the winter of 1897-8, and there is no apparent reason why it should not repeat the pleasant experience this witer.

Transactions on the Dojima Rice Exchange have been suspended by official order. That seems a natural outcome of recent events.

The Donin Club is an association having for its chief members Viscounts Tani and Soga. That it is a strongly conservative body goes, therefore, without saying. In fact it may be regarded as the head quarters of the *Nippon-to*, or "Japan Party." On the 24th instant it held a meeting which was attended by 18 members. They proceeded to discuss the problem of extending mining and land-owning privileges to foreigners, and their almost unanimous decision was that such privileges should be withheld. They then passed to consider the causes which divert capital from industrial enterprises in Japan, but the subject was too wide to be settled in one sitting. Of course it was never to be expected that the members of this Club would endorse the idea of allowing foreigners to exploit mines or own land in Japan.

The *Mainichi* thinks that its nationals are pretty nearly as corrupt at present as the Koreans or the Chinese. It is not alone in that opinion. Much indignation is evidently felt in many quarters with reference to recent revelations of political jobbery. Rumour may have been engaged in its proverbial game of magnifying, but all this smoke could not ascend without some fire.

The Committee for revising the Criminal Code is said to have decided, at its last meeting, that the system of police surveillance after a criminal's release should be continued, as should also the system of imprisonment without labour in case of the non-payment of a fine. Concerning the question whether a provision should be inserted for allowing an interval between the passing of judgment and the execution of sentence, the Committee did not arrive at any decision.

We hear again of the herb *gen-no-shoko*, or *tachimachi-gusa*, which is said to be so very efficacious in curing dysentery. The eminent physician, Dr. Iwai Teizo of the Red Cross Hospital, is said to recommend it strongly, and Tokyo newspapers contain an advertisement that supplies can be obtained by applying to Mr. Kusumoto Masao, whose somewhat formidable address is Wakayama Ken, Hitakagori, Higashi-Uchihara-mura, Ibaraki-aza.

The Government, it is stated, contemplates submitting to the Diet, in the approaching session, a bill for amending the Game Law. One of the amendments is the insertion of a provision for game preserves (*riyoku setchi*), the area of one preserve being limited to 125 acres, and the yearly tax to be 15 *yen*. With regard to shooting-licenses, a sweeping change is contemplated. A marked distinction is to be made between shooting for sport and shooting for a livelihood, and whereas the license in the latter case will cost only 2 *yen*, the license in the former will be 20 *yen*. Our readers are probably aware that the fee for a sporting-license at present is 1 *yen*, if the licence pays less than 3 *yen* annually of Income Tax or 40 *yen* of Land Tax; 3 *yen* if he pays more than 3 *yen* of Income Tax but less than 200 *yen*; and 10 *yen* if his Income Tax exceeds 15 *yen* or his Land Tax exceeds 200 *yen*. The proposed change would therefore be a very large increase, but, on the whole, the change would be beneficial, we think, for under the present arrangements every lad that can hold a gun is out shooting birds of all kinds.

General Viscount Nozu is to command the troops at the Review on the Emperor's Birthday.

When Marquis Ito was journeying by train from Fukuoka to Takaoka, clods of earth were thrown at the carriage window. It is probable that the thrower did not know anything about the occupants.

There is to be an official opening of the Tokyo Water Works, and hopes are entertained that the Emperor may consent to be present.

The *Official Gazette* announces the organization of two new sections of the Appeal Court in Tokyo to deal with questions where foreigners are concerned. The personnel of the sections consists of two Chief Judges and fourteen Puisne Judges, who are all taken from the Bench of lower tribunals.

Steps are being taken to arrange the preliminaries for starting the Colonization Bank, as voted by the Diet last session. The Government is to put up 250,000 *yen* of the capital, and the remaining 750,000 *yen* will probably be offered to the public from November 10th to January 25th.

Mr. Kamano Bunzo, a Doctor of Law and a practising barrister, died of consumption on the 26th instant.

Success is said to have attended the experiments recently carried on in wireless telegraphy between Yetchiujima and the Shinagawa Forts. The Communica-

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tions Department has therefore decided to employ the system for telegraphing between Izuno-misaki and Miko-zaki, a distance of 9 English miles.

PRIVILEGES TO FOREIGNERS.

Our readers are aware that the admission of foreigners to membership of Japanese Chambers of Commerce was one of the questions to be considered by the United Chambers now in session. Kobe favoured admission, but Nagasaki objected and went so far as to submit a proposal that it should not be allowed. The proposal was ultimately withdrawn, not, however, because the Nagasaki people were won over to liberal views, but because they concluded that each locality should be suffered to decide the matter according to its own convenience. It appears that the Nagasaki objection is not based on principle, but only on an apprehension that, in view of the relative numbers of foreign and Japanese merchants at the Southern port, the former would swamp the latter in an united chamber. A strange objection surely as coming from Nagasaki of all places in Japan, for the foreign merchants in Nagasaki have always been supposed to be in a hopeless minority. But we must assume that the Nagasaki men understand their own affairs. In Kobe no objection of the kind is said to exist, but in Yokohama it has as much potency as in Nagasaki. So, at least, the Japanese appear to think. For our own part we should have supposed that in a Yokohama mixed chamber of commerce, there would be two Japanese votes for every one foreign. At all events, by the withdrawal of Nagasaki's proposal, the question is left for each locality to decide as it pleases.

The *Nippon*, true to its character, tries to discredit the movement for extending to foreigners the privileges of land-ownership and mining. It appears that the debate on the proposition has been temporarily postponed by the United Chambers of Commerce, and our contemporary interprets the fact in a peculiar manner. It alleges that Government officials are at the bottom of the movement, but that they are unwilling to appear openly inasmuch as they took much credit for having negotiated treaties not containing these privileges, and inasmuch as they pleaded the difficulty of obtaining such concessions from the Foreign Powers as an excuse for delay in the negotiations. Hence they can not now stand forward publicly as advocates of a radical change, and they have accordingly inspired some of the "spurious business-men" (*kyogyo-sha*) to agitate in the desired sense. Even if we sympathized with the object the *Nippon* has in view, we should denounce such writing as miserably mean. Why does not our contemporary honestly discuss the measure not the motive?

CORRESPONDENCE.

FIFTY MINUTES WITH BRITISH BLUE-JACKETS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your paper of this date, under the above heading, your readers' attention is drawn to the behaviour of some British blues from the ships of war in port. The writer "M" has done his best to ridicule the most talented and educated class of seamen the world has seen, and tries to bring discredit upon the noble service in which they have the honour of serving. Who is "M?" How old is he? And to what does he belong that he can talk of *poor Richardson* and Black-heyed Susan; does he not know that the Blues of those days have long since joined the majority; or, at all events, have ceased to sing "Halice Ben Bolt" in railway carriages. Now, Mr. Editor, I have been in every corner of this earth where the British flag flies, and travelled with British blues under all conditions, but have *never* been fortunate enough to meet the class of men your correspondent endeavours to portray, for the simple reason—they do not exist. If you ever have the good fortune to converse with our Blue-jackets you will find them *quite* as well informed as men holding better positions, and they could no doubt give "M" points. No, sir, the blue-jacket here depicted exists only in the fertile brain(?) of "M," who no doubt is one of those who like to rush into print to vilify and make fun of his fellows thinking to please your readers It is a mistake, as all right-thinking men will admit; they will further admit that, being capable of such an uncalled for attack, he would have been more fortunate with his *nom de plume* had he chosen

C. A. D.

Tokyo, October 20th, 1899.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 20th you give an account of a supposed journey taken in company with the British Royal Naval Seaman of today, evidently written by a would-be Kipling.

Shades of prose, that such a pen should attempt such a task, until he had read "A Fleet in Being" by that author, or that you in a weak moment should have allowed such twaddle to appear in your paper.

To allow your readers to rest under the impression that the language set out in your correspondent's letter is the language used by the British Blue would be an insult to their intelligence and a grave travesty of the characters of the most intelligent body of seamen the world has ever produced. Especially by a man who is ashamed to publish his name.

The men he has attempted to ridicule are men he has to look to for protection and safety (presuming him to be English). They have to face stress of weather, variation of climate, exposure, and often short commons, that such men as he may go to bed in peace and security. Yet forsooth he professes a repugnance to spend another fifty minutes with them. It would be to his advantage to spend a much longer time in their company, as he would find such things as loyalty and gratitude common amongst them; and that truth formed part of their creed.

When he next writes let him ask himself these questions, in how much, and in what way, is he better than they? Is it because he wears a stiff collar. Or is it because he wears fashionable clothes? Or is it that his study of the poets has caused his mind to run away with his senses, if he ever possessed any? Be the reason what it may, let him remember that the men he maligns are men infinitely above such insults as your correspondent thinks fit to give them. Thanking you in anticipation for insertion, I remain

ONE OF THE BLUES.

Yokohama, October 21st.

NEXT LEAP YEAR.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's list of sailings has reached me with notice of ships designed to sail on February 29th, 1900. As no doubt you are aware there will be no such day, next year not being a Leap Year, just as A.D. 1800 was not a Leap Year. In case anyone should be making his arrangements and plans for the year 2,000 it may be well to take note that that will be a Leap Year. Of course the reason of this variation of the calendar once in a century is plain enough, for the solar year is a very few minutes short of 365 days, 6 hours, so that if we always added a day every four years, in the course of the century we should be very nearly a day wrong.

But the practical point is that if such a wide-awake company as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is issuing its lists without having taken this fact into account, there may be much good money and temper wasted by the issuing of lists and making of engagements which will have to be recalled and revised unless the press calls attention to the fact in good time.

Yours, X.

THE ARBITRAMENT OF HEAVEN.

The Transvaal crisis has elicited some very interesting accounts of the Boers, showing, among other things, that they retain in all its old strength their belief in the Bible and in the active interference of Providence in human affairs. More forcible than any of these writings in proving that point was the speech delivered by President Kruger in the First Raad on the 7th of September. We quote the concluding paragraphs:

The President said that he also obtained his secret reports, and could not but deduce from them that in England probably a majority was in favour of justice. Some of them there had spoken in favour of speculators and about Majuba and Colley to be avenged, but if he, the President, viewed the matter in the proper light he was bound to say that England's action in that respect was a noble deed done to them. "The annexation was an impious action, but when England saw that she had been misled no more troops were called out by Mr. Gladstone, but the country was returned to us. This will be a noble action recorded in England's book of judgment. It was a righteous and honest action. The Lord will govern His own, and when we ponder the history of our country and see in what manner the Lord has led us we shall also see that only the Lord will be our final arbitrator, for He has the hearts of Kings in his hand." Mr. Chamberlain stood on yonder side, his Honour on this side, they could not agree, but God would be the final arbitrator; He would in justice decide. "We need have no doubt," continued the President, "that our misdoings are indeed many, and that we are being punished for them, but, where God in the Bible punished the Israelities, we never read that He gave His people over to their enemies. Let us, therefore, not doubt."

This President again expressed the hope that the Volksraad would wait until a reply had been received from Mr. Chamberlain to the Republic's last despatch. A conference might then take place, as proposed by Mr. Chamberlain himself in his last despatch, in order to devise plans to remove the present tension. Mr. Chamberlain would become convinced that they would not forgot that the Lord had the hearts of the people as also the heart of Mr. Chamberlain in His hand. The Lord could change things and let right carry the day without bloodshed. They must leave matters in the hands of the Lord but the Lord awaited the voice of the people. When Israel was under Pharaoh it was oppressed so long as the people's voice had not gone out to the Lord. When afterwards in their anguish they called upon Him the Lord said, "The voice of the people has come to me." This was sufficient proof that the Lord reigned, and for that reason he must say, "Brethren, fly unto the Lord and the Lord will decide for us. He carries all hearts in His hands, those of the people of England and of all nations on the earth. Perhaps the people of England will rise to resist where Chamberlain acts wrongfully." The President hoped that Mr. Chamberlain's heart would turn and that he would see justice.

The *North-China Daily News* of Oct. 21, has the following note:—

We have the pleasure of recording a very graceful act that has been done by H.M. the German Emperor, who has conferred on Mr. Joseph Welch, who, as Acting Chairman of the Municipal Council, received the *Iltis* memorial on the 21st of November last from the hands of Dr. Stuebel, the order of the Red Eagle. The order was presented to Mr. Welch last evening at the German Consulate-General by H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, and Mr. Welch had the honour subsequently of dining with his Royal Highness.

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THE INTERPORT FESTIVAL.

CRICKET MATCH.

The Cricket Week began on Monday under circumstances not too auspicious for Yokohama. In the first place the weather was not all that could be desired, for though the morning opened bright it began to cloud up by noon, and after tiffin a discouraging drizzle and a dreary sky made matters unpleasant for spectators; while the wet wicket operated very unfavourably against Yokohama. The visitors did nothing very brilliant, their innings yielding only 126, but the local team fared much worse, and at the end of the day found themselves with but a poor 70 for eight wickets, and all their best bats disposed of.

The pavilion, scoring box, ladies' tent, &c., had been very prettily decorated under the direction of Mr. C. M. Duff. The exterior of the pavilion was festooned with English, American, and Japanese flags, while floral designs, cricket and baseball bats, stumps, and other emblems were tastefully arranged. In the centre was the Club's shield with the motto *Sua cuique voluptas*, above it "Yokohama's Heartiest Welcome to the Kobe teams," and below "May the pleasures of sportsmen never know an end." The refreshment tent was prettily done up with bamboo foliage and Chinese lanterns, and the scorers sat in a very inappropriate bower of beauty, for the scoring box had been decorated in a way quite inconsistent with its sternly practical nature. It should be mentioned that the arrangements for the tea tent were in the hands of Mrs. Bonar, Mrs. Blake, Mrs. Kilby, and Mrs. Merriman, assisted by other ladies. Unfortunately, owing to the weather, there were fewer lady visitors than usual. Another point that ought not to be omitted is that Mr. Walford presented a bat for the highest individual score in either innings.

The Band of H.M.S. *Aurora* by kind permission of Captain Bayly was present during the morning and part of the afternoon and played the following selection of music:—

Overture....."Tancredi"....Rossini
Selection....."Belle of New York"....Rerker.
Waltz....."Eton Boating Song"....Raps.
Dance....."Buds"....Edenberg.
Selection....."Pinafore"....Sullivan.
Selection....."Geisha"....

MONDAY MORNING'S PLAY.

The Kobe Captain won the toss, and sent in Godrej and Lucas to bat, Edwards and White sharing the attack, the latter from the pavilion end and the former from the north end. The play was for the first half hour most uninteresting, the batsmen being of that steady unadventurous order that are the despair of bowlers. The first two overs were maidens; Edwards's second over produced a single, the first of the match, scored by Lucas. Two more maidens followed, then Lucas broke the monotony by prettily placing White to leg, and Godrej, in Edwards' next over, opened his account by neatly slipping a full pitch ball. A hit to long leg by the same batsman should have been stopped by Kilby, but in his eagerness the fieldsman missed it. Then, after a bye, more unexciting play ensued, maiden after maiden being sent down. The score had only reached ten after half an hour's play. Then Lucas scored four by driving Edwards to the boundary. With the score at 14 Braess took the ball from Edwards, and the rate of scoring slightly improved, both batsmen aspiring to a little freer hitting, and Godrej, after scoring several singles, despatched Braess to the boundary by a good late cut. More uneventful overs followed, nothing more than a single or two being scored, till at length, with the score at 27, Braess beat Lucas with one of his leg balls. One for 27. Gillingham then partnered Godrej, and shortly after his arrival scored two off by Braess by a late cut, a single by a hit behind the wicket, and four off Edwards by a drive to the boundary on the on side. At 34 E. W. Kilby relieved Braess, play having been then in progress an hour. The third ball of the new bowler's first over Godrej hit up. Duff just missed it, but it was taken by Edwards in the slips. The retiring batsman had been at the wicket more than an hour for his 13. Two for 34. Wilkinson followed, and opened his account with a fine cut for two off Kilby, following it up with a draw to leg for a single. With the score at 40 Gillingham skied a ball from Kilby, but Kingdon at long leg failed to hold it. The mistake, though Kingdon could hardly be blamed, proved an expensive one, for Gillingham in the same over hit Kilby to the boundary and scored a single—making seven for the over. At 46 P.B. Clarke took the ball from Edwards, who had been bowling ever since the opening of play. The new bowler's first two overs were maidens. Gillingham despatched Kilby to the boundary by a hit to long leg, and fifty went up after an hour and half's play. The last ball of Clarke's third over beat Wilkinson completely. It was a very pretty delivery, and in fact Clarke's feat of three maiden overs and one wicket was a creditable exhibition. Three for 51. Page succeeded, and, with nothing further added, another change of bowling was tried, Braess taking the ball from Kilby, who had proved rather expensive. The change did not work, however, and at 57 Kingdon went on, but only to have four hit off his first over. Clarke had equally bad luck, being driven to the boundary by Page, while the same batsman sneaked a single for which he had chiefly to thank the bad fielding. Kingdon sent down another over off which two singles were scored, and the first delivery of Clarke's next over Gillingham, running out to meet the ball, had his bails neatly taken off by Duff. The outgoing batsman had contributed a correctly played 26, included in which were three fours, and three twos. Four for 68. Edwards then partnered Page. He made several vigorous hits off Kingdon, but only a single resulted from this display of energy, and Clarke's second ball he skied an easy catch into the hands of the bowler. Five for 72. W. Braess was the next batsman, White now replacing Kingdon at the Pavilion end. The change was a happy one, for the new trundler's fourth ball beat Page. Six for 73. Lightfoot followed, but after making a single was dismissed by White. Seven for 75. Thompson was the next arrival, and signalised his appearance by promptly cutting Clarke to the boundary, Kingdon failing to stop the ball; while shortly afterwards he placed the same trundler to long leg for three, Kingdon this time managing to save a boundary. Another boundary, this time by Braess off White, brought up the score to 90, and the same player immediately after again dispatched White to the off limit. White, however, had his revenge; for with his next ball he took Braess's wicket, bowling him off his pads. Braess had hit two fours and a two. Eight wickets for 94. Buckley was the next bat, and at once began hitting vigorously, making four and two off White in one over, and bringing up the score to the century after two hours and half's play. Buckley's score was then 6, and Thompson's 8. An adjournment was here made for tiffin.

TIFFIN.

Tiffin was served in the upper room at the Pavilion by Clausen's Hotel. Mr. Flint Kilby, President of the Club, presided, with Mr. J. Dodds in the vice chair. At the conclusion of the repast the Chairman proposed the health of the Kobe team. He said they were greatly pleased to welcome the Kobe Club to Yokohama, but they would have been glad to see them in their full strength. He was sorry to observe the absence of Mr. Murray. They wanted him there, because if they were beaten they wanted to be beaten by the strongest team that Kobe could muster, and if they beat they wanted to beat Kobe's strongest team (applause). Mr. Kilby then alluded to the sad death of a well-known Kobe resident, Mr. Kellmann, and said that as he was that afternoon being taken to his last home it would be only proper to stop the game for a quarter of an hour as a mark of respect. Mr. Kilby concluded by proposing "The Kobe Team."

Mr. Wilkinson, the Kobe captain, acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms, and proposed the Yokohama team. Both toasts were drunk with great enthusiasm.

THE AFTERNOON'S PLAY.

On resuming play Edwards and White shared the attack, and during the former's first over Thompson cut him to the boundary. White's first over was marked by a smart piece of fielding by Crawford in the slips which saved what would probably have been a boundary. Scoring was now proceeding at a fair rate, and several twos and singles were added, Buckley making one fine drive for two off Edwards. At 112 Braess replaced White at the Pavilion End, but he proved pretty expensive, Buckley sending him to the boundary, and the other batsman scoring a single; and at 116 Kilby replaced him. This had no effect in lessening the rate of scoring, however, and both Kilby and Edwards were pretty badly punished, Buckly hitting three twos in quick succession. Shortly after, however he returned a ball to Kilby, an easy catch. The dashing nature of the retiring batsman's play is evident from his record, which included two fours and seven twos. Nine for 126. Hudson joined Thompson, but before he had a chance of doing anything Thompson was taken at the wicket off Clarke, the whole side being thus out for 126.

YOKOHAMA'S BATTING.

H. W. Kilby and Crawford commenced batting for Yokohama, Edwards and Buckley trundling, the former from the Pavilion end, and the latter from the northern end. The first over was a maiden, but Buckley's fourth ball Kilby glanced to leg for a single. Immediately after, off a full pitched ball from Edwards, Kilby was taken by Gillingham in the slips, with only one scored. Clarke succeeded. Crawford here opened his account with a single off Buckley. Clarke imitated his example, and at the end of twenty minutes' play these three singles were the only result. The fact that rain had been falling since tiffin, however, has to be taken into account, the ground being very treacherous and obliging the batsmen to be careful. A boundary hit to long leg by Crawford off Edwards relieved the monotony. Clarke then made two boundaries, one of which might have passed for a bye, the other being neatly put away to leg, and a bye was scored in the same over—ten in all. At 21 Buckley got Crawford caught by Lightfoot on the leg side just near the wicket. Two for 21. White came in, and Gillingham replaced Buckley with the ball. The first over was a maiden, but in the next White opened his account with a two. Clarke followed this up a little later by a capital drive off Buckley which all but reached the boundary, scoring three. Next ball, however, brought misfortune, for White was taken at short square leg by Godrej—an excellent catch. Three for 27. Duff then partnered Clarke, and signalised his appearance by hitting Buckley to the boundary on the leg side, and afterwards sending the same bowler to long leg for two.

A MARK OF RESPECT.

At this point the game was broken off for a quarter of an hour as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Kellmann, of Kobe, whose funeral was then taking place.

On resuming, after a two and one or two singles, Gillingham beat Duff with a yorker. Four for 40. Forrest then partnered Clarke. Lucas took the ball from Buckley, and Clarke had the satisfaction of sending his last ball to the boundary by a good leg stroke. Play was without incident for a while, till at 47 Clarke was caught by Lightfoot off Gillingham behind the wicket. He had batted carefully and well for over a hour and a half, and his total of 28 included four fours, one three, and three twos. Five for 47. Edwards then joined Forrest, who almost immediately after the former's arrival was dismissed by Lucas. Six for 51. E. W. Kilby followed, but after two runs had been added he had to retire, having knocked off his own bails. Seven for 53.

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Kingdon then came in, and after he had added a single Edwards was smartly taken by Braess off Gillingham at cover point. It was a splendid catch, Braess first catching the ball, then half dropping it, and finally falling to the ground, but still holding the leather. Eight for 55. Brady was the next batsman, and Kingdon greeted him by hitting a four off Gillingham. After Brady had very ceremoniously added a single Kingdon again visited the boundary, this time by means of a slash to the off. An over later he sent Gillingham again to the boundary by a fine on drive. At half-past four stumps were drawn with the score standing at 70.

SECOND DAY'S PLAY.

Tuesday opened brilliantly as far as weather was concerned, the morning being cold, clear and sunny. The attendance was better than on the opening day, and there were more ladies present. The cricket, too, was much more interesting, as well as more cheerful for the Yokohama partisans.

The *Aurora* Band played the following selection during the day :—

March..... "Thunderer" .....Sousa.
Overture..... "Rich D'or" .....Herman.
Selection..... "Iolanthe"..... Sullivan.
Waltz..... "Over the Waves" .....Rosas.
Dance..... "Mexican" .....Bishop.
Galop..... "Malay"..... Vassallo.

THE GAME.

The last night's not outs, Kingdon and Brady, commenced batting shortly after ten, Gillingham bowling from the Pavilion end and Lucas from the North end. Two or three maidens were bowled, until at last Kingdon broke the monotony by neatly putting Gillingham away to long leg. After another single had been scored Lucas took Brady's off stump. Nine for 72. Braess followed, and opened his account by putting away Lucas to long leg for a single; Kingdon following this up by a capital late cut for three, all but a boundary, while Braess added two singles in the same over. A single sneaked here and there made the score gradually mount up, and Kingdon, neatly sending Gillingham almost to the boundary, put on two. The next ball, however, the first of Lucas's over, took Braess's off stump, the whole side being thus out for 84. Kingdon, who carried his bat, played a capital innings, which did something towards retrieving the ill-luck of the earlier bats. His total of 27 included three fours, one three, and one two.

KOBE'S 2ND ESSAY.

At 11 o'clock the visiting eleven opened their second innings, Godrej and Lucas facing E. W. Kilby at the Pavilion end and P. B. Clarke at the north end. Runs came slowly, only four being scored in the first quarter of an hour's play, but Lucas then broke in by cutting Clarke very prettily almost to the boundary for two, and afterwards drove him for two on the on side. At 12 Braess took the ball from Kilby, and three runs later Lucas was run out in trying to sneak a single. One for 15. Gillingham filled the vacancy, and some vigorous hitting succeeded, but the fielding was too keen for many runs to result. Kingdon especially distinguished himself by smartly saving a boundary from a hit by Godrej and Crawford was very quick at point. Gillingham was in for twenty minutes before he opened his account with a single off White who had succeeded Braess with the ball at the top end, while Edwards had superseded Clarke at the North end. Gillingham now began to hit out, and hit a boundary and a three off Edwards in one over, the former behind the wicket and the latter by a neat cut. E. W. Kilby badly fumbled a hit from Gillingham off White, which, if smartly returned, might have cost the batsman his wicket. A few more runs resulted, but at 29 White took Gillingham's wicket. Two for 29. Wilkinson then partnered Godrej, and the play again settled down to the dreariest humdrum, Godrej displaying a rather depressing amount of caution. Up to 12 10, out of 38 overs bowled, no fewer than 21 had been maidens. Wilkinson livened things up by hitting a loose leg ball of White's to the boundary, and repeating the stroke next ball for a single. At 38 Kingdon went on in place of White, and Clarke replaced Edwards. The play now began to grow rather faster, Godrej scoring two couples in quick succession, while Wilkinson despatched Kingdon to long leg for three and Clarke to square leg for a boundary. Kilby at cover point gave Wilkinson a single through a slip in fielding and Godrej made his first boundary bringing his score to 19. In four matches against Yokohama this is Godrej's highest score. Wilkinson drove Kingdon to the boundary and brought the score to 59, at which figure tiffin was taken.

On resuming E. W. Kilby commenced the attack from the Pavilion End, and off the last ball of his over Wilkinson by a fine off drive, which Brady could not reach, scored a boundary. E. B. S. Edwards went on at the north end, and sent down a maiden. In his next over Kilby was very nicely late cut for two by Wilkinson and well placed to leg for a single. An over later, however, Kilby had the satisfaction of disturbing Godrej's stumps. The retiring batsman had been at the wicket from 11 a.m. to 1.50 p.m., and the plodding nature of his play is evident from the small score of 19 resulting from his protracted stay. Three for 66. Page succeeded, but succumbed to Kilby's first ball. Four for 66. W. D. S. Edwards filled the vacancy, and signalised his arrival by putting Kilby away to the off for a single. Wilkinson hit two twos and a boundary off Kilby in one over, one couple being an early cut, the other a hit behind the wicket, and the four a splendid late cut. An expensive over. Edwards bowled a maiden, but in Kilby's next over Wilkinson off drove him for a single and splendidly late cut him for two, Forrest smartly saving the latter stroke from reaching the boundary. Edwards once more sent down a maiden, and Kilby also escaped punishment beyond a single. In Edwards' next over Wilkinson hit a single, and Edwards a boundary to square leg. Kilby's over worked a welcome diversion, for with his third ball, breaking from leg, he disposed of Wilkinson. The Kobe captain had played capital dashing cricket and had given no chances. He hit five fours, three threes, and four twos. He was heartily cheered on retiring to the pavilion. Five for 87. Braess succeeded, but Kilby, repeating his tactics beat him first ball. Six for 87. Lightfoot filled the vacancy. Edwards hit up a ball from his brother to the long field, but fortunately for him there was no one there to hold it. At 92 Clarke went on *vice* Edwards, and tried a few slows, one of which Edwards missed rather dangerously. Scoring went on by singles and twos, and a change of bowling, Braess taking the ball at the Pavilion End, did not mend matters. The century went up at 2 30, but two later Clarke got Lightfoot caught at long slip by Edwards. Seven for 102. Thompson was the newcomer. "Mr. Extras" figured largely in the score just at this point, no fewer than eight being added through byes. Edwards, too, suddenly commenced to hit out. First making four off Clarke, he proceeded to drive Braess to the boundary on the on side, and immediately afterwards off drove him twice following for four, once straight over the wicket and the other time to the off. At 124 Brady relieved Braess at the Pavilion end, and succeeded in sending down a maiden over. Clarke had three hit off him, and the previous day's score was passed at 2.35 p.m. At 133 Edwards was taken by his brother off Clarke in the slips. Eight for 133. Buckley succeeded, and at once commenced to hit out, sending Clarke to the boundary and also registering a single in his first innings. His career, however, was short lived, for he driving a ball from Clarke, he was cleverly caught by H. W. Kilby. Nine for 140. Hudson was the next batsman. E. W. Kilby relieved Brady, and with the last ball of his first over dismissed Hudson, the leather breaking in from leg. All out for 141.

YOKOHAMA'S SECOND INNINGS.

The Yokohama Captain sent in Clarke and A. Kingdon, Edwards, and Lucas sharing the bowling, the former taking the Pavilion end. The first over was a maiden, and Kingdon then broke his duck with a single off Lucas, following this up with a second single, while Clarke also scored one in the same over. Clarke hit Edwards for two to square leg and glanced him behind the cricket for three in one over. At 16 Gillingham relieved Edwards and Clarke off drove his first ball for three. Kingdon gave two chances, but fortunately no one was near enough to secure the ball. Clarke sent Lucas twice to the boundary, once with a very neat hit to square leg, and afterwards hit him to long leg for three. At 32 a change of bowling was tried. Edwards going on at the north end. Kingdon greeted him by hitting a three to square leg. In his next over Kingdon sent Edwards to the boundary via the slips, drove him on the side to the boundary, and made a single—eleven for the over. Clarke not to be beaten, sent Gillingham to the limit with a fine straight drive, sending up 50 at 4 15. At 52 Godrej went on at the north end vice Edwards and his first ball caught Kingdon on his hip, causing that unhappy player some inconvenience to judge by his agonised writhings. The over was a maiden. The last ball of Gillingham's next over Clarke hit up to Braess at third man, an easy catch. The outgoing batsman had contributed a capital 37, included in which were four fours, three threes, and four twos. One for 52. Forrest now partnered Kingdon, and opened his account with a two off Gillingham. A maiden by Godrej followed but the third ball of Gillingham's next over sent back Forrest taking his leg stump. Two for 56. White succeeded, and announced his presence by despatching Gillingham to the boundary by a beautiful cut, sending up 60, at which figure stumps were drawn with two wickets down for 60.

THE CRICKET DINNER.

The annual cricket dinner was held on Tuesday evening in the banquetting hall of Keil's Building. Mr. E. Flint Kilby, President of the Y.C. & A.C. was in the chair and was supported by about sixty members; the vice-chairs being filled by Mr. F. E. White and Mr. H. A. Stewart. On either side of the President sat Mr. F. E. Wilkinson and Mr. C. H. Lightfoot. The flags of Great Britain, the United States of North America, and Japan were flung wide upon the walls, while below were the Club Flags of Kobe and Yokohama. An excellent repast was provided by Host Clausen, and after full justice had been done to it, the Chairman proposed the Rulers of our respective Countries. In doing so he said that he thought it could be drunk with a little more enthusiasm than usual. Most of those present that evening were either Britishers or Americans —at any rate members of the great Anglo-Saxon race.— (Hear, hear, and applause.) Both of these great nations had armies in the field at present. They (his hearers) had seen the men who had fought for America and realised the good work they had done, the hardships they had encountered and how well they had surmounted them. And in regard to the British arms, good news was coming from the front which made them proud of their countrymen. Both armies had done well and they were all proud of their good deeds.—(Hear, hear.) And while they drank to the Rulers of their respective countries, they must not forget to drink in equal honour to the Ruler of the country of their adoption —(Applause.)

Mr. Clarke after the toast had been drunk, sang "The Soldiers of the Queen" amid great enthusiasm.

The next toast was "The Kobe Cricket Club," given by the Chairman in an excellent speech. First of all he returned thanks to the Governor of Kanagawa Ken for the new arrangements which His Excellency had been kind enough to make with the Club, and which secured them the ground for some long time to come. And in this connection he also wished to thank Mr. Bonar, a member of the Committee, for the way he had helped them all in the negotiations. He (the Chairman) would like to see the trees to the south of the ground cleared away and the cleared spaces handed over to some responsible Japanese Athletic Clubs for conversion into baseball grounds and so allow of the place being turned to more practical use than at present.—(Hear, hear.) Another point which he wished to

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mention was the Interport qualification of players. This had been arranged between the representatives of the two Clubs and it had been decided that a member who had played with a Club six months of the year and then removed to the sister port was at the call of that year's visiting team. For they always wanted to meet the strongest team, and it must be allowed that a visiting team was always at a disadvantage. After a passing reference to the regretted absence of Murray, the Chairman suggested that it would be an incentive to sport if a match between Born in Japan and the Rest of the Clubs could be arranged every year. In Yokohama they had a good many members now who could make up a team of Born in Japan, but they were not quite strong enough to play the Club, but they could call on Kobe and a very good team could be made up. If such a match—an interport match—could be arranged, it would, if played on a Saturday, only mean absence from office a day and a half. He was sure it would ensure to the benefit of cricket. Regarding the toast itself, the Chairman said he believed he was actually the oldest member of the Kobe Cricket Club present that evening. He was a member of the K.C.C. before some of the players who had taken part in the match that day were born.—(Laughter and applause.) He proposed the toast of the Kobe cricket team and regretted the baseball team were not present also.

The toast was drunk with musical honours. After a song from Mr. Brady, Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, and Mr. Lightfoot responded, the first for the Cricket and the latter for the Baseball teams. Mr. Wilkinson then gave the toast of the Y.C. & A.C. in hearty terms, to which Mr. Duff responded in felicitous words, and was ably supported by Mr. Blake. To Mr. H. A. Stewart fell the toast of "The umpires, scorer and all who have kindly assisted," to which Mr. Dodds replied.

The speeches—which we regret pressure on our space renders impossible to give in full—were racy and to the point and were all vociferously applauded, while the vocal contributions of Messrs. Brady, Hudson, Somerton, Morse, etc., were highly appreciated.

THIRD DAY.

A Win for Yokohama.

The attendance was much larger than on the opening day, and in the afternoon thsre were a large number of people, including many ladies, present.

The cricket was most exciting. Yokohama had overnight two wickets down for 60 runs, and had to make 124 to win. Misfortune came early in the dismissal of White, one of the not outs of the previous evening, for six, and Kingdon, who had batted well overnight, also succumbed Duff and Crawford were a useful partnership, putting on 27. The great stand, however, was made by Edwards and Crawford, who made 50 between them before they were parted, Crawford being run out. When this wicket had fallen matters looked black for Yokohama, the remaining bats being of no great strength. The whole burden fell on Edwards, and he, it must be said, acquitted himself splendidly. A defensive game would have been fatal to the local team's chances of tieing or winning, and Edwards simply hit for all he was worth, nearly every hit being a double, a three, or a boundary. When Brady was out and eight wickets had fallen 13 were wanted to win, and every time the newcomer, Braess, faced the bowler a nervous thrill ran through the spectators. Braess, however, acted strictly on the defensive and kept his wicket up, while Edwards punished the bowlers. At last a single from Edwards equalised, and a moment later, amid roars of applause, a leg hit from him settled the business. Edwards made the highest individual score of the match, thus winning Mr. Walford's bat

The match was won by batting, for Yokohama was, with one or two exceptions, notable among whom was Crawford, decidedly weak in the field. The Kobe team, on the other hand, were exceedingly smart fieldsmen, Braess showing himself a capital catch, while Godrej was a tower of strength. He must have saved scores of runs during the match, and the catch by which he disposed of H. W. Kilby was brilliant. It would be well if Yokohama players turned more attention to fielding and bowling, and possibly if fewer boys were used to field balls at practice, smartness in the field—so important a feature—would be better developed. In the excitement of the finish the Kobe fieldsmen made some errors, but on the whole they were excellent. Of the Yokohama bowlers, E. W. Kilby in the two innings disposed of seven wickets for 45 runs, thus winning the ball; P. B. Clarke of seven for 64; and White of 4 for 34. Lucas did best for for Kobe, taking nine for 73, while Gillingham captured 6 for 123.

The Game in Detail.

The not-outs, Kingdon and White, commenced batting at 10.15, Lucas and Gillingham doing the trundling. Lucas' first ball Kingdon put away to leg for a single, and White also snatched a rather risky run from a cut. In Gillingham's next over White sneaked another single which exposed Kingdon to even greater danger, but fortunately Lightfoot bungled the throw-in. Another single from Kingdon, and with the last ball of Gillingham's over White's leg slump was taken, the leather shooting in a rather perplexing manner. Three for 64. H. W. Kilby filled the vacancy. With nothing added Lucas got Kingdon caught off Braess at cover point. It was a very smart catch, the fieldsman losing his feet, but managing to keep hold of the ball. Four for 64. Crawford succeeded. Play for some time ruled very slow, maiden after maiden being sent down, till at length Kilby neatly put Gillingham away to the long field for two. Crawford also broke his duck off Lucas, and Kilby followed it up with a couple to leg. Seventy went up after three-quarters of an hour's play. In Lucas' next over Kilby very nicely despatched him to the boundary via long leg, and also scored a single, while Crawford contributed a single off the same over. With one or two singles added Kilby hit up a ball to point, and Godrej, whose fielding had been remarkably smart all the morning, ran up and secured it with his left hand. It was an extraordinarily good catch. Five for 76. Duff succeeded, and Crawford greeted him by sending Gillingham post-haste to the boundary by a fine hit to long leg, repeating the stroke next ball with a similar result. Duff scored two off Lucas by a glance to leg, and sent his next ball to the on boundary, sending up 90. Crawford then put Gillingham away to long leg for four, and Duff sent Lucas almost to the boundary, but owing to smart fielding only a single resulted. At 96 Edwards replaced Gillingham at the Pavilion end. At 98 Duff hit Lucas up at long on, the ball being skied to a great height. Gillingham ran for it, but just missed. It was a very near thing. A neat late cut by Crawford off Lucas, resulting in two, sent up the century, and Duff responded with a glance behind the wicket for two. At 103 Duff was out l.b.w. off Lucas. Six for 103. Edwards then partnered Crawford, and broke his duck with a boundary off his brother by a hit to long leg. At 108 Gillingham took the ball from W. Edwards. In his second over Edwards off drove him to the boundary and sent the next ball through deep square leg for four. Singles and an occasional two brought up the score to 120 at 11.50. At 123 Godrej went on at the Pavilion end *vice* Gillingham, who had gone off somewhat, naturally enough, as he had bowled 16 overs during the morning. Both batsmen seemed now to be well set, and each added couple after couple. Edwards also drove Lucas to the on for three, and sent up 140 Singles and twos followed, and then Edwards by a capital hit off Lucas to the on boundary sent up the 150 amid great applause. At this point lunch was taken.

Play was resumed at 1.45, 32 runs then being required to win. Edwards had scored 34 and Crawford 32. Gillingham took the ball from Godrej at the Pavilion end. Crawford sneaked a rather risky single off Lucas, but escaped thanks to bad fielding, but two or three later, in attempting a run for a hit to leg, he was run out by Gillingham, the bowler. He had played good correct cricket, had given no chances, and his 33 included three fours and three twos. Seven for 153. With 27 to win, E W. Kilby partnered Edward, who signalised his coming by hitting a boundary to long leg off Gillingham. At 158 Kilby, without scoring, was put out leg before. Eight for 158. Brady came in and Edwards with a fine late drive put on a two, sending the score up to 160. Another ball of Lucas Edwards again late cut for three, thanks to a mistake in the field—five for the over. Another single off Gillingham by Edwards left Yokohama 20 to get to win. A hit to the on boundary from Edwards off Lucas was loudly applauded, and a few more singles were added. Brady gave one chance in the slips which made the hearts of all Yokohama spectators come into their mouths, but fortunately survived Gillingham's over. Edwards then late cut Lucas for three, sending up 171, and leaving 13 to be got to win. Two balls later, however, a howl went up as Brady was taken behind the wicket by Lightfoot. Nine for 171. Braess was Yokohama's last hope. Just after he arrived Edwards on drove Gillingham for a double and immediately after made a double by a snick behind the wicket. The latter, however, was a very near thing, Edwards' wicket being thrown down while he had only an inch to spare. Another fine drive was capitally stopped by Gillingham. A single by Braess was added by a fieldsman's mistake, leaving only seven to tie. Edwards hit up another ball of Lucas to the boundary, sending up 180, and next hit a two to leg; leaving only two more to win. Intense excitement was felt as each ball was sent down, and when Edwards made another single to mid on the cheering was immense. Gillingham sent down three balls off which nothing was scored, but off the fourth Edwards made the winning hit to long leg, making his own score 64 and the score of the whole side 184, the home team thus winning by one run. Edwards was most enthusiastically cheered, as indeed he deserved, being the saviour of the game. His 64 was the result of capital, almost faultless cricket, and the steady though dashing manner in which he played in all the excitement of the latter end of the game was worthy of all admiration. His total included seven fours, three threes, and eight twos. He won the bat presented by Mr, Walford for the highest individual score.

The full score follows:—

Kobe.—(1st inning.)

Mr. M. B. Godrej, c. Edwards, b. E. W. Kilby	13
Mr. S. E. Lucas, b. G. Braess	11
Mr. J. R. Gillingham, st. Duff, b. P. B. Clarke	26
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, b. P. B. Clarke	4
Mr. W. M. Page, b. F. E. White	12
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. and b. P. B. Clarke	4
Mr. W. Braess, b. White	12
Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, b White	1
Mr. H. S. Thompson, c. Duff, b. P. B. Clarke.	15
Mr. A. J. Buckley, c. and b. E. W. Kilby	25
Mr. L. S. Hudson, not out	0
Extras	3
Total	126

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
E. B. S. Edwards	115	32	11	—
White	70	24	8	3
G Braess	50	19	2	1
E W. Kilby	40	19	3	2
P. B. Clarke	63	22	4	4

Runs at the fall of each wicket.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27	34	57	68	72	73	75	91	126	126

Yokohama.—(1st inning.)

Mr. K. K. Crawford, c. Lightfoot, b. Buckley.	6
Mr. H. W. Kilby, c. Gillingham, b. Edwards.	1
Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Lightfoot, b. Gillingham	28
Mr. F. E. White, c. Godrej, b. Buckley	2
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Gillingham	7
Mr. T. S Forrest, b. Lucas	2
Mr. E. B. S Edwards, c. Braess, b. Gillingham	4
Mr. E. W. Kilby, hit wicket, b. Lucas	1
Mr. A. Kingdon, not out	27
Mr. G. G. Brady, b. Lucas	1
Mr. G. Braess, b. Lucas	3
Extras	2
Total	84

Runs at fall of each wicket.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	21	27	40	47	51	53	55	72	84

Bowling Analysis.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maiden.	Wkts.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	35	14	5	1
Mr. Buckley	45	17	1	1
Mr. Gillingham	100	37	5	3
Mr. Lucas	66	14	6	4

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KOBE—(Second innings).

Mr. Godrij, b. E. W. Kilby	19
Mr. Lucas, run out	9
Mr. Gillingham, b. White	9
Mr. Wilkinson, b. E. W. Kilby	40
Mr. Page, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Mr. Edwards, c. Edwards	40
Mr. Braess, b. Clarke, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Mr. Lightfoot, c. Edwards, b. Clarke	2
Mr. Thompson, not out	5
Mr. Buckley, c. H. W. Kilby, b. Clarke	6
Mr. Hudson, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Extras	11
Total	141

RUNS AT FALL OF EACH WICKET.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	29	66	66	87	87	102	133	140	141

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. E. W. Kilby	90	26	8	5
Mr. P. B. Clarke	105	42	7	3
Mr. G. Braess	45	19	3	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	100	20	12	—
Mr. F. E. White	40	10	3	1
Mr. A. Kingdon	20	9	1	—
Mr. G. G. Brady	15	4	1	—

YOKOHAMA—(Second Innings),

Mr. Clarke, c. Braess, b. Gillingham	37
Mr. Kingdon, c. Braess, b. Lucas	19
Mr. Forrest, b. Gillingham	2
Mr. White, b. Gillingham	6
Mr. H. W. Kilby, c. Godrej, b. Gillingham	10
Mr. Crawford, run out	33
Mr. Duff, l.b.w. b. Lucas	12
Mr. Edwards, not out	64
Mr. E. W. Kilby, l.b.w. b. Gillingham	0
Mr. Brady c. Lightfoot b. Lucas	0
Mr. Braess not out	1
Extras	0
Total (for nine wickets)	184

RUNS AT FALL OF EACH WICKET.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
37	56	64	64	76	103	153	151	171

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
W. D. S. Edwards	65	28	5	—
Lucas	260	86	23	3
Gillingham	194	59	18	5
Godrej	65	11	7	—

LADIES' MATCH.

A match was afterwards played between ladies and gentlemen, the latter using only the left hand and batting with a stump. The ladies won easily.

THE SMOKING CONCERT.

One of the most enjoyable smoking concerts ever given under the auspices of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club took place at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening. The exciting win of the Yokohama team early in the afternoon and the arrival of the remainder of the Kobe Baseball Team undoubtedly added a zest to the affair that could not be gainsaid. The programme, which we give in full, speaks for itself. Mr. G. G. Brady, the ubiquitous and inimitable, gathered in a whole armful of fresh laurels; the thought-reading of Messrs. Adel, Sharpe and Lagrange was "a skit" capitally planned and admirably carried out; while the sympathetic voices of Messrs. Hayward and Somerton have seldom been heard to better effect.

The dancing numbers and living pictures were also decidedly good.

The programme, printed on "a greenery-yallary" paper of pronounced artistic hue, was adorned with able sketches of cricketers, smokers, and "Ranji," all drawn by a local artist. Details:—

PART I.

Song....."Not the Sort of Girl I care about" ...*Runaway Girl.*
Mr. L. PLUMMER.

Banjo Solo.
Mr. WEBB

Comic Song } "They're always taking me for some one else" .. ..
Mr. BRADY.

Dance..... Sailor's Horn Pipe. .....
Mr. DRUMMOND.

Song....."The Promise of Life" .....*Cowen.*
Mr. SOMERTON.

Vocal Duett } .....Air d' Opera.....*de Mare Gras.*
Mdlle ADELINA PATTI & Mr. CLAUDIAN
MEPHISTO.

Character Song } ..."E can't take a Roise out o' oi"...
Mr. BRADY.

PART II.

LIVING PICTURES.

Song..... "Our Warriors."....
Mr. HAYWARD.

Thought Reading, &c. "Mistress of Mysteries"
Messrs. ADET & SHARP & LAGRANGE.

Coster Songs } ..... (*a.*) "Our Court Ball," .....
..... (*b.*) "I've got 'er 'at."....
Mr. BRADY.

Song....."My Honolulu Lady" ...*Coon Song.*
Mr. IRWINE.

Sketch..... The "Wandering Minstrel" *as he is. Sullivan?* (Rats.)
Mr. WEBB.

Song..... The Stormfiend .....*Rosckel.*
Mr. SOMERTON.

Dance.....A Few Steps ..... *Original.*
Mr. ADET.

Comic Song } ..."It Suddenly dawned upon me."....
Mr. BRADY.

NOTES ON THE "SMOKER."

ONE OF THE LAST TO LEAVE writes:—I think you can afford a few lines for some short observations on Wednesday evening's smoking concert, especially in view of the fact that the Committee of the Y. C. & A. C. have decided to repeat it shortly for the benefit of the ladies. To begin with, I think Messrs. Brady and Sharp can compliment themselves on the perfect manner in which the thing went off. I understand that these gentlemen were mainly responsible for the programme, and so I hasten to thank them first of all—and they have my hearty thanks. Undoubtedly it was the brightest affair of its kind that we have had in Yokohama at any time.

I felt very sorry for Mr. L. Plummer when, in the absence of the gentleman who should have "led off," he had to open the ball. But he got through his song most creditably and put us all in good humour with ourselves and with the management. By the time Mr. Webb's banjo solo was finished—and its encore, too—the house was well-filled, though many late comers had still to arrive. Then Mr. Brady appeared and took the foremost place by natural (and acquired) right. He bore two labels which set the house agog at once. One bore the legend, 1st Innings, 1; 2nd Innings, 0—the tale of his contribution to the cricket score. What wonder then when an encore was demanded of him that he sorrowfully declared that he would be happy to oblige, but there were many better cricketers yet to be heard! And, as it would be wearisome to your readers to take the "bill" seriatim, I will say here that of all Mr. Brady's contributions on Wednesday the one that pleased me best was his character song "'E can't take a Roise out o oi." He was made up as an old Somersetshire (Zummerzet) peasant of fourscore years or so, who had never been out of the sight of the smoke of his own village in all his life, and the burden of the song dealt with the old man's incredulity when such things as the phonograph (funnygraft) are described to him. The make-up, characterization, and dialect were perfect. Higher praise cannot be written, I am sure. One of the highest pleasures of the evening was the hearing of Mr Somerton's sympathetic, cultured voice. I hardly know which of the four songs he gave that I like I best. The "Storm Fiend," on due reflection, I think he did fullest justice to. Mr. Kennard Davis and Mr. Sharp, each in a different way, made excellent showmen; while the stage effects produced in the Living Pictures would be hard to beat for comicality. Of the dancers, Mr. Drummond was good and Mr Adet amusing, while the absurdity of the "Air d'Opera" sets me off laughing still. The get up of the Wandering Minstrel (Mr. Webb) was clever—a Japanese street samisen player. He deserved his encores. And now a word of thanks to the accompanists, Messrs. Plummer, Griffin, Vincent, &c.; to Mr. Hayward for his song, and to Mr. Lagrange for his imitation of a phonograph, and, with renewed thanks for your courtesy in lending me space, I am done.

THE BASEBALL MATCHES.

The Interport baseball matches took place on Thursday in glorious, bright autumn weather. There was hardly the faintest of zephyrs blowing and for an hour or two in the forenoon the bright sun was rather powerful: towards the late afternoon, however, it grew chilly, but the games finished with plenty of light to spare. As is usual at these matches, there was a considerable attendance and in the afternoon the ladies were well to the fore. It will be seen by a glance at the score that Kobe won the morning game but lost the afternoon match, so the rubber will have to be played off to day. There can be no doubt that Kobe put in the strongest team the sister port has ever had: hard hitters and splendid fielders every one. Yokohama was a little off colour. Nearly all of her players have done better work in ordinary matches than they did on Thursday, and the fielding at times was very poor.

Tiffin was partaken of shortly before one o'clock, the Captains of the respective teams supporting the President of the Y.C. & A.C. on either hand. The Kobe visitors were toasted and then they drank the health of their hosts. Mr. E. Flint Kilby announced his intention of giving a presentation club to the player with the best average of bases.

Mr. Putnam was umpire, Mr. Mendelson scorer.

FIRST GAME.

Play started at 10 20 o'clock, Kobe sending Chalfont to bat. The first two balls were fouls, the third a grounder, but the striker failed to reach first base. Wheeler, second man in, placed his second ball in the field well over second base's head and then stole down to second. Briggs reached second, Merriman fumbling a hard ball, and Barto took first, thus filling all bases, Wheeler made the first run for Kobe two minutes after the start of play. Thorne by a smart catch put out Braess, well earning the applause that rang out, but Briggs got home safely in the interval. Edwards, after one or two fouls, sent a ball well over towards McChesney in the left field and got round to second. McGlew, next ball, put up a fly to Thompson and the side were out.

Kobe 3
Yokohama ... ... —

Ellis opened the batting for Yokohama at 29 minutes past 10, and took the first base on balls. Then Thompson brought Ellis home with a drive to the left field. First run for Yokohama. Blake filled the plate and sent down a ball to second base, which was stopped and Thompson put out. Blake was next forced off second by a bit of smart fielding. Vaughan got down to second and McChesney to first, bringing Cameron to bat. A pretty hit to the long field by Cameron brought Vaughan home and McChesney to third, but, Merriman being given out on strikes, the side retired.

Kobe 3
Yokohama 2

Lightfoot, with his opening ball, was put out on first, and then Gillingham put up a fly which McChesney almost managed to hold. He sneaked the next base, and then Chalfont rushed down to first. Wheeler, the next to bat, brought Gillingham home and Chalfont to third, with a drive to right field. Luck attended Briggs and he reached second on a grounder, Chalfont moving on to third; but Barto went out on first. Braess, next man in, went out in similar fashion, and the side were relieved.

Kobe 6
Yokohama 2

The second innings for the home team was started by Read, who had his first base given him on balls, but Thorne went out on strikes. Ellis skied a ball, but, not being held, brought Read home. Then Thompson with a safe grounder got down to first and Ellis moved to

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second. Blake succeeded in placing a fly straight into Chalfont's hand, and the plate was filled by Vaughan, who made a three-bagger, and Ellis got home. Next ball Vaughan was brought home by McChesney, who drove a swift grounder down to the left field. Cameron being put out on strikes, the side retired.

Kobe 6
Yokohama 6

Both teams were now thoroughly settled down to work. Edwards opened the third innings by being caught by Cameron, short stop; McGlew went out on strikes, but Lightfoot made the first base on balls, sneaking his next. Gillingham, the next bat, was given out on strikes, a mistake on the part of the umpire, but was immediately sent back to the plate, and after two more balls missed a strike and retired.

Kobe 6
Yokohama 6

A base on balls fell to Merriman; but Read went out on strikes. Thorne filled the plate, only to be put out at first; next Ellis retired in similar fashion, leaving Merriman on third, and the inning closed with equal scores for both teams.

Kobe 6
Yokohama 6

Chalfont succumbed to his first ball, and Wheeler after a lengthy stay at the plate failed to reach first. Briggs put up a difficult fly which McChesney fumbled in the left field, and had moved round to third before Barto reached first. Braess brought both men home with a grounder into right field, and made two bases himself. Then Edwards was caught by Thompson and the team retired.

Kobe 8
Yokohama 6

Thompson opened with a grounder to left field and moved on to second next ball, but Blake was forced off first, and, a few balls later, Thompson had similar ill-luck at third. McChesney, succumbing at first, left Vaughan at second, and the side retired without scoring.

Kobe 8
Yokohama 6

The fifth innings began to 11 15, when McGlew made his first with a grounder to left field. He sneaked his second and made the third from an overthrow, the fielding having become very wild. Lightfoot going out on first by a fly to Blake, Gillingham filled the vacancy, but was forced off first, though McGlew got home. Then Chalfont was forced out at first, and the side retired.

Kobe 9
Yokohama 6

A pretty hit by Cameron opened proceedings for Yokohama, but Merriman went out on strikes and Read was forced off on first. Next Thorne had a base given him on balls, bringing Ellis to bat. He brought Cameron home and Thorne to third. Next ball Thorne got home and Ellis followed from a ball splendidly played by Thompson. Blake, favoured by the field, got to second, and than Vaughan made a three-bagger. The runs were piling up, by the help of the hard hitting and errors in the field. Cameron brought McChesney home, getting down to second himself, with a strike to the fence. Then McGlew smartly held Merriman and the side were out; but seven runs had been added to the score.

Kobe 9
Yokohama 13

Play opened smartly in the sixth innings. Wheeler, a safe hitter, was smartly stopped by McChesney, then Briggs was held by Thompson at first, but Wheeler managed to improve the shining hour by sneaking to third; next ball Barto succumbed at first, and Braess filled the vacancy. He brought Wheeler home. Then Edwards, with a three-bagger, brought Braess in amid thunderous applause. McGlew being stopped at first, the innings closed.

Kobe ... ...
Yokohama 13

Read began by sending the ball into centre field; Thorne scored a base on balls, but Ellis was capitally held by Braess, short stop, who, smartly sending the ball to third, put out two men—Read and Merriman. After this the fielding; ball off a hit and Thorne got home followed by Thompson. Blake was next man to get right round. McChesney brought Vaughan to third, but next ball Cameron put up a foul fly, which pitcher held, and the side were out.

Kobe 11
Yokohama 16

Lightfoot began by a fine display in cricketing form and the cry of foul was continually on the umpire's lips. He eventually retired after placing the ball safely back into pitcher's hands. Gillingham made a base, and then Chalfont brought him to third, after which Wheeler made a base on balls. Briggs, next man in, brought in two men, Merriman fumbling the ball at second base. Then Barto went in to bat and though he got to first, Wheeler was forced out at the plate, by a smart bit of fielding. Braess going in next went out on strikes and the side retired.

Kobe 13
Yokohama 16

The home team lost Merriman at first base. Read, succeeding, had a base given him, but Thorne went out on strikes. Ellis sent up a fly which Chalfont failed to reach, but he retrieved his name next ball by holding Thompson.

Kobe 13
Yokohama 16

A two-bagger by Edwards was the opening play in the eighth innings. Then McGlew put up an easy fly which Vaughan ran in and held. Next minute Edwards sneaked down to third and narrowly escaped disaster. Lightfoot made a short stay and retired on strikes. Then Gillingham went to bat and Edwards stole in—an earned run. Getting down to first easily, Gillingham sneaked to second and stole third, and then Chalfont brought him home with a ball that passed just out of Merriman's reach. It was now close on midday. Wheeler brought Chalfont home, and the score was tied in runs. Briggs went to second and Wheeler came home. Next moment Braess beat the field and took Barto to third, getting to second himself. Then Barto and Braess got home and the applause rang out loud and long at the expense of the fielders. McGlew succumbing to strikes, the side retired, having piled up six runs.

Kobe 19
Yokohama 16

The second half of the eighth innings opened badly, Blake going out at first; then Vaughan followed suit, and similar treatment was accorded Thompson, so the side went out without scoring.

Kobe 19
Yokohama 16

Lightfoot began the ninth innings with being forced off at first; Gillingham followed suit, and then Chalfont went to bat, and made a three-bagger. Wheeler had a base presented, bringing Briggs to bat. He put up a fly which Blake held, and the side went out without altering the score.

Kobe 19
Yokohama 16

At 12.15 a.m., Cameron went in to open the last innings for the home side. He reached first, and then, by a mistake on the part of the pitcher, Cameron got to second safely and Merriman to first. A minute later Cameron, leaving his base rather over-confidently, was forced off at third; next Ellis was caught by Edwards in the centre field, and prospects looked very gloomy for Yokohama. Merriman got in, and Thorne made a base on balls, to sneak the next. Two balls later Ellis went out on strikes and the game concluded with cheers for the winners and the losers.

Kobe 19
Yokohama 17

YOKOHAMA.		KOBE.	
Ellis	C.	Chalfont	R. F.
Thompson	1 B.	Wheeler	P.
Blake	A.	Briggs	2 B.
Vaughan	3 B.	Barto	C.
McChesney	L. F.	Braess	S. S.
Cameron	S. S.	Edwards	C. F.
Merriman	2 B.	McGlew	1 B.
Read	C.	Lightfoot	L. F.
Thorn	R. F.	Gillingham	3 B.

THE SECOND GAME.

Some slight changes were made in the Yokohama team's positions. Cameron went to pitch instead of Blake, and Morse took Thorne's place; Kobe also made a change in dispositions, Chalfont going to 3rd base, and Wheeler pitching. Yokohama began the batting. Ellis, being hit by pitcher, took a base and then Thompson got down to first, giving place to Blake, who was put out at first base. Vaughan followed at the plate, only to be put out third ball. Ellis was put out at second, and the side retired without scoring.

Yokohama 0
Kobe 1

Chalfont drove Cameron's first ball over short stop, and managed to reach first base. Then Wheeler made first and sneaked second. Briggs reaching first, all bases were filled, Chalfont getting home. Barto was the next to bat and make a base, and Braess went to bat. A bit of bad fielding resulted in Wheeler and Briggs getting home, bringing Barto to third. Edwards was the first Kobe man to go out, putting up a fly which Blake held. Then McGlew was let off by the fielders and in the end got home. Lightfoot after a close shave at first worked round to third, and then Gillingham went out on strikes. Next moment Lightfoot ran in. The scoring was very fast, Yokohama being rather rattled all round. After a while Chalfont was put out on strikes and the side retired.

Yokohama 0
Kobe 7

McChesney opened for the home side and reached first base with a ball to left field. A pretty catch by Chalfont put out Cameron, and then Morse went under at first base. Read reached first, bringing Merriman to bat. Read stole a couple of bases, getting round to third before Merriman took his first. Next moment Ellis played a ball right into Edwards' hand, and the side went out.

Yokohama 1
Kobe 7

Wheeler went out at first, Vaughan returning the ball smartly to McChesney. Briggs met a similar fate, Blake fielding capitally: then Thompson caught Barto in the left field—the score being unchanged.

Yokohama 1
Kobe 7

The innings opened with a safe hit by Thompson; then Blake put up a fly which Braess held, and Vaughan went to bat. He brought Thompson to third, the ball just missing Chalfont. Next ball Thompson ran home, Vaughan getting to third, and McChesney to first. A fly from Cameron fell into Lightfoot's hands; then Chalfont made an attempt at holding Morse, but failed; next second Gillingham caught the batter and the innings closed.

Yokohama 2
Kobe 7

Braess was the first to lose a base; he was followed by Edwards, who had similar luck, Read stopping the ball very smartly. McGlew, the next batter, worked round to second, and then was brought home by Lightfoot, who made second, but, Gillingham going out on strikes, the side retired.

Yokohama 2
Kobe 8

Read started with a free bit outside the line, and then missed two strikes, to be put out two balls later by the catcher. Merriman fell to a catch by Chalfont, then Ellis placed a foul tip straight into Barto's hands. The score was unaltered.

Yokohama 2
Kobe 8

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Chalfont opened with a three bagger, and Wheeler received a base from pitcher. Briggs lost first base, but Chaltont and Wheeler got home, owing to an overthrow. Barto, making two bases, saw Braess put out at third, and then Edwards caught by Thompson in the far left field, and was left there.

Yokohama 2
Kobe 10

A slide just saved Thompson the first base, then Blake went to bat and placed the ball into Lightfoot's hands—a nice catch. Vaughan made a base, and Thompson went to third and a second later got home on a miss in the field. McChesney received a base on balls, Vaughan moved to third—and a second later McChesney had got to third. Then Cameron made a three-bagger, at which the cheers rang out, McChesney getting home. A ball later Cameron made his run. Read was put out at first.

Yokohama 6
Kobe 10

Blake relieved Cameron at pitching, and McGlew began by placing a fly in catcher's hands. Then Lightfoot, making an unexpected hit, was forced off at first. Gillingham made a safe first, Cameron being slow at returning the ball. Chalfont secured first and Wheeler went to bat. He drove the ball almost to the fence, bringing Gillingham home and Chalfont to third. Briggs brought Wheeler home only to be put out at the bag a second later.

Yokohama 6
Kobe 13

The sixth innings began shortly after 3 o'clock. Merriman, with the aid of a grounder and a wild throw by the pitcher, made second base. Ellis received a base on balls, and Thompson went to bat. He brought Ellis and Merriman home and got reund to second. Then Blake skied a ball straight above him and Barto held it—"'twas dropping into a well." Vaughan brought home Thompson, then McChesney received a base and Cameron went to bat. He was held by Briggs, who sprang high to reach the ball. Then Morse brought Vaughan in—by a narrow shave. McChesney was next man home, Morse getting to third and Read to second: Merriman was put out on strikes and the innings closed.

Yokohama 11
Kobe 13

Barto, much to his surprise, was put out by catcher, just to enliven matters, but Braess got down to first. The next bat was Edwards, and he had a lively time knocking up "fouls," only to be given out eventually on strikes. McGlew, favoured by an error by Merriman, made his first base and Braess got home. Then Lightfoot went to first, McGlew reaching third, the fielding being anything but bright. Next McGlew was put out on the plate by Ellis, the ball being smartly returned by Vaughan.

Yokohama 11
Kobe 14

The light was beginning to fail now. Ellis put up a fly for the catcher, and retired. Thompson followed and reached first, and then Blake made a two-bagger. Vaughan brought Thompson home and Blake to third. McChesney, next man in, brought home Blake; and next minute, Vaughan and Thompson ran in, the fielders for the moment being rattled. Kobe's total had now been passed. Cameron made a base, and next ball Morse with a free hit got down to first. Read moving off the plate, all bases were filled. Cameron got home, but Merriman was caught by Edwards. Ellis being struck by the pitcher, all the bases were again filled, but Thompson, being forced off third, the side retired.

Yokohama 16
Kobe 14

Chalfont signalised his entry by putting up a fly for Thompson in the left field. Then the pitcher struck Wheeler, and his substitute took a base. Briggs made a three-bagger, bringing in the man. The next minute Blake made a splendid catch, holding Barto and preventing Briggs from getting home. Braess brought Briggs in next moment. Then Edwards was put out by Blake—another good bit of work. Scores were now equalised.

Yokohama 16
Kobe 16

Blake opened the eight innings by sending a ball past Chalfont. Vaughan next sent the batter to the fence, and McChesney went to bat. He was caught by Briggs and by some clever double play Blake was forced off third. Vaughan had similar luck at the same base.

Yokohama 16
Kobe 16

McGlew was let off by Read and made his base, but next minute Lightfoot was held by the same fielder. Then McGlew, attempting a steal, was forced off third, while Gillingham went out on strikes.

Yokohama 16
Kobe 16

The ninth innings began shortly before 4 o'clock, Morse beginning for Yokohama. He got down to first, McGlew missing the ball. Then Read brought Morse to third. Merriman sent a fly to Lightfoot, but Morse got home. Ellis went out to strikes. Thompson brought Read home; Blake made a base hit, Vaughan brought Thompson home, and Blake moved to second. Then Briggs missed McChesney and Blake got home and Cameron brought in Thompson. Morse was put out on fist and the innings closed, six runs having been made.

Yokohama 22
Kobe 16

Chalfont led for Kobe and made a base; he sneaked a second. Then Wheeler was put out at first, but Briggs made a three-bagger Barto made a base, though the ball was capitally fielded by Cameron, and sneaked his second. Braess went out at second and Edwards went to bat; but, being hit by the pitcher, he took a base and brought Barto in. McGlew made a base, Edwards getting to third: then Lightfoot was caught and the game concluded.

Yokohama 22
Kobe 19

YOKOHAMA.		KOBE.	
Ellis	C.	Chalfant	3 B.
Thompson	L. F.	Wheeler	P.
Blafie	S. S.	Briggs	2 B.
Vaughan	3 B.	Barto	C.
McChesney	1 B.	Braess	S. S.
Cameron	P.	Edwards	C. F.
Morse	C. F.	McGlew	1 B.
Read	2 B.	Lightfoot	L. F.
Merriman	R. F.	Gillingham	E F.

A LETTER FROM ITHACA.

Ithaca, N.Y., Sept. 12th, 1899.

The news of the death of Prof. Yatabe, by drowning at Kamakura, has been received with profound regret by his friends in Ithaca and Cornell University. He spent several years in this city, and being one, with Mr. Toyama, of the first Japanese who came to study in this part of the country, he naturally attracted more attention that those of his countrymen who came afterwards. His fellow students are of course scattered over the world, but there are several of the professors in Cornell who remember him well and regret his untimely loss.

When the Japanese first came to America they naturally settled at New Brunswick, N.J. This town is the ecclesiastical and educational centre of the Reformed Church in America, which is made up so largely of the descendants of those who from the Netherlands first settled the Middle States, and who, until the time of the Revolution, held pretty closely to the Dutch language, traditions, and culture. This body of Christians claims to have had the first fully organized Protestant Church on this continent. The missionaries of the Dutch Reformed Church in Japan, including the late Dr Guido F. Verbeck, were among the first to advise young Japanese to study in America. In New York a society of ladies and gentlemen in the Reformed Churches was formed to help with money, during the civil war in Japan, those students who had been financially stranded in a foreign land. It is no wonder, therefore, that the numbers of Japanese in New Brunswick increased from two to a dozen, and from a dozen to three, and then four score; so that it almost looked like a colony from the Mikado's Empire set down in America. Soon, however, they discovered that there were other schools and colleges beside Rutgers and they began wisely to scatter.

Looking over the thirty-two years since the first students began their educational preparation in America, we can now see that while Amherst, Cornell, Williams, Harvard, Chicago, and other colleges have had a fair share of patronage from Japan, yet in the long run New Haven has led them all. In this City of Elms, in Connecticut, there is always present a contingent of students from Japan, who not only attend the preparatory schools or are in the classes of Yale college, but in the Divinity school also, there are usually several who are studying theology.

In that solid ground which lies between things novel and promising but still untried, and that which is old but ready to pass away, Yale has always stood fast and firm. The election of Prof. Arthur Hadley shows in the clearest manner how tenacious the Yale men are of their superb traditions, but also how ready they are to be ever like the well instructed scribe and wise householder that brings forth from his treasures, "things new and things old." It is also as highly befitting, as it is thoroughly wise, in those Japanese educators who wish to keep education from being either the mere engine of the State, or from becoming the trooping ground of the faddists, to invite Prof Ladd of Yale, who has visited Japan before, to come out and lecture to them from his stores of psychological and pedagogical knowledge.

Although the students were the first pioneers among their countrymen in the eastern part of the United States, yet the "merchants" and "shop keepers" (we use these terms in America but the sharp distinction and depth of meaning implied in the British use of the terms are hardly known among us) were not slow in following. I remember well the first modest beginnings of Mr. Toyo Morimura, who opened a "shop" (as they say in Great Britain) and a "store" (as we call it here) for the sale of his country's wares in Sixth Avenue near 16th Street. While your correspondent was writing "The Mikado's Empire" he often dropped in to chat with his neighbour from Tokyo, who lived around the corner on Sixth Avenue near 16th Street. With a capital of less than a thousand dollars, Mr. Morimura did all his own work; but when his business increased, he took his brother into partnership and soon there was a factory in Tokyo and a wholesale house on Broadway. Now it is doubtful whether there is a single large city in the United States which has not a Japanese firm in active business, while almost every town and village in the country is visited during the cool months of the year by peripatetic traders who usually rent some unoccupied room on a business street, or arrange to be temporarily a "department" of some other store. They dazzle the eyes of passers-by and attract within hundreds of people. While temptation is carried into the pockets of people, the homes, both elegant and more modest, are brightened with the proofs of Japanese taste and love of colour—both flamboyant and refined.

While spending a few days at the seashore this summer, I found that, in Atlantic City alone, there was a population of about one hundred Japanese. Less than half of these were in the seven or eight well-stocked bazaars, some of which had a very high class of goods, while in others the cheaper grades predominated. The end of the season being near, the auction was in order and the attendance upon sales was excellent. In most cases, the native of Nippon was his own auctioneer, having learned thoroughly the tricks and phraseology of the auctioneer. The Japanese Tea garden, which covers several acres, employed in its various departments about sixty men,—garden-

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ers, carpenters, artists, salesmen, accountants and those who furnish amusement, including several young girls who were able to give the usual performance of the *Geisha*. The conservatories were very well furnished. Beside the tiny artificialities in the form of ferneries and dwarf pines, there were floral beauties that tenderly recalled to the quondam resident of Fuji's land the beauty and glory he had left behind, and which made him at night dream of the scenes long ago familiar.

It is threatening to be a fashionable fad in New York this winter to have the dwarf pine in parlour and conservatory. Already fancy prices are paid for trees which are supposed to combine the greatest antiquity with the smallest possible dimensions. With that liberality in the use of chronology for which the Japanese are noted, and which remind us of some of the older vagaries of the wild geologists, I notice that several vegetable products in the garden were labeled in a way to inspire awe as well as to touch the pocket nerve. Yet we must not despair, but hope that some day not only will the commercial reputation of the Japanese be equal to that of any nation in the world, but that we shall even have an honest history of Japan that does not pretend to be omniscient as to what happened ages before the Christian era.

For the most part this has been a quiet summer. Despite drought in some portions, the crop of maize, wheat, and other cereals has exceeded that of any previous year. We have had nothing startling to read in the newspapers. The chief subject of conversation, almost rivaling for an initial subject that of the weather, has been the Dreyfus case. The return of a regiment from the Philippines, with appropriate municipal and popular receptions, has occasionally varied the mild run of events. The president's movements and speeches long or short, have been watched with unusual interest. In this early autumn, however, the decorations and celebrations blossom out with all the gaiety, excitement, and fuss of fires in old Yedo. I was in Philadelphia a few days ago, when the city looked like tulip gardens at Haarlem. The red, white and blue, were everywhere, and some of the decorations were as tasteful as they were brilliant. The Grand Army of the Republic, consisting of veterans of the civil war, met for their 27th encampment, and, with the present high officers of the Government and of the battleships and cruisers of the Navy in Delaware, there was no lack of noise, show and joy. During the year past seven thousand veterans have fallen out of the ranks and have joined the great host whose bones lie at Arlington, Gettysburg, and in the fifty or more national cemeteries so beautiful and so tenderly guarded.

I spent two days on the wonderful battlefield of Gettysburg, during August, and though I had read much of this field on which the Southern Confederacy reached its "high water mark," and, retreating, moved to its death, I felt that the half had not been told. Nearly six hundred monuments in granite, marble and bronze, some of them in the finest expression of art, adorn the field and mark the points of advance and retreat. Many of them are costly, having required tens of thousands of dollars to erect. Superbly made carriage roads extend the length of the whole field. These cover nearly sixty miles of length, so that one can spend a day in driving over the Confederate and Union lines. Very much as in the days of the battle, the cannon are mounted both along Cemetery Ridge from Culp's Hill to Round Top where the Federal army was posted, while on the other side runs Seminary Ridge, on which the Confederate cannon and divisions were arrayed. This, the southern side, also, is now receiving the attention of the Government and is being marked, so that on iron tablets and from steel towers and behind lunettes and besides cannon of bronze and steel (in the mouths of which the birds now love to build their nests) one can witness again in imagination the grand combat. Nature seems to have done almost as much as art in the making of this historic field, and it is said that a British officer visiting Gettysburg about 1825 and looking over the plain flanked on either side by a range of hills exclaimed, "What a grand place for a battle."

Certainly one must note in our country a wonderful development of artistic taste and power, since the era before the war, which has manifested itself especially in military monuments. The preparations for Admiral Dewey's reception in New York show this, as well as the more permanent proofs that exist in our cities. Yet all the glory does not go to the fighter on land or sea. While spending a week in Washington, during August, I noticed that beside new tributes in bronze to generals and admirals, there were others to inventors, discovers, and men of the healing art. On the Treasury grounds, at the head of Pennsylvania avenue, rises a granite pedestal which is to be surmounted with a bronze effigy of that son of a German clergyman who became both major-general and treasurer of the United States, and whose autograph was more familiar at one time than that of any other living man,—the late Francis Elias Spinner. His fearful signmanual, though perfectly easy to read, certainly to decipher, was playfully compared to the diversions of an alligator when enraged. This statue is to be reared and paid for by the women of the United States, for it was General Spinner who first gave them employment where they are now, by the hundreds, and, in their own lines of work without superiors, in the Treasury building.

The speech of President McKinley at Pittsburg on the return of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment of Volunteers of the Philippines has cleared the situation. Unless all signs fail, the Philippine Islands will remain an integral part of the possessions of the United States of America.

W.E.G.

NOTES ON BUSINESS TOPICS.

The following table shows the rate of dividends earned by various Japanese companies:—

	Paid up per share. Yen.	Current price. Yen.	Rate of dividend. Per cent.
Nippon Railway	50	75 50	9
Sanyo Railway.....	47	58.50	7.5
Kwansai Railway.....	50	49	5
Kyushu Railway	50	64.50	7.5
Tanko Railway.....	50	105	13
Kyoto Railway	33	24	1
Hokuetsu Railway ...	50	43	3
Tobu Railway	22	24	4
Kobu Railway	45	124	12
Sobu Railway	50	95	12
Nippon Ginko.....200		445	12
Specie Bank.....100		279	15
Industrial Bank	50	62 70	6 6
Formosa Bank.....	25	41.50	8
The 15th Bank.....100		104.50	7
The First Bank	50	70 50	9
The Third Bank	50	70.50	10
The 100th Bank 100		325	10
Imperial Commercial Bank	25	29 50	10
Meiji Commercial Bank	20	22.50	10
Tokai Bank	30	43	12
Tokyo Commercial Bank	25	20.50	8 4
N.Y.K.	50	74	10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha	25	26.50	9
Toyo Kisen Kaisha...	25	30	10
Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory	50	61.50	15
Tokyo Spinning Factory	50	58	10
Tokyo Fire Insurance Co.	12.50	12.10	9
Imperial Sea Insurance Co.	50	50	10
Tokyo Building Co...	25	32	20
Tokyo Beer Co.	50	51	10
Nippon Beer Co.....	40	89	15
TokyoStock Exchange	50	220	30
Tokyo Rice Exchange	50	141	25
Tokyo Commodities Exchange	25	87.50	25

The Osaka Railway Company is about to extend its line 3 miles from Sakuragawa to Hase at a capital expenditure of 200 000 *yen*.

The average revenue of the Kwansai Railway since last July has been 20 *yen* per mile day. The company will declare a dividend of 5 or 6 per cent.

The following are returns of the trade of different ports:—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
Yokohama	12,943,936,270	6,820,128,550
Kobe	5,342,793 050	12,665,363 960
Osaka	617,660.100	553,907 150
Nagasaki	511,922.210	534,658 600
Hakodate	322,779 800	436 335 660
Other ports	1,301,176 630	515,900.240

	Customs Dues. Yen.	Tonnage. Yen.
Yokohama	482,301.404	6,815 350
Kobe	401,487 209	10,831.200
Osaka	26,685 665	70.950
Nagasaki	34,742 966	5.267 700
Hakodate	51.455.956	526 250
Other ports.....	49,652 610	10,992 600
Total	1,046,325.810	54,504.050

	Miscellaneous Revenue.	Total.
Yokohama	5,425 586	494.542.340
Kobe	7,719 686	420,038.095
Osaka	1,436 359	28,192.974
Nagasaki	2,153 063	42,163 729
Hakodate	599.350	52 581.556
Other ports.....	1,506 250	62,151 460
Total	18,840.294	1,099,670.154

During the fiscal year 1898-1899, 471 miles and 60 chains of Government and private railways were opened. Compared with the last fiscal year the increase is 30 miles and one chain. The following table shows the rate of Japanese railway increase since 1872:—

	m. c.		
1898-1899 ...	3.430.50	1885-1886...	358.41
1897-1898 ...	2,948.70	1884 1885...	262 37
1896-1897 ...	2.507.11	1883-1884...	244.54
1895 1896 ...	2,290'43	1882-1883...	170 66
1894-1895 ...	2,118.24	1881-1882...	122.20
1893 1894 ...	1,938 52	1880 1881...	98.25
1892-1893 ...	1,870 77	1879 1880...	73 22
1891-1892 ...	1.716.11	1878-1879...	65 11
1890-1891 ...	1.399 14	1877-1878...	65.11
1889 1890 ...	1,136.34	1876-1877 ..	65 11
1888-1889 ...	912.19	1875-1876...	38 27
1887-1888 ...	593.67	1874-1875...	38 27
1886-1887 ...	430 64	1873-1874...	18 00
		1872 1873...	18.00

According to investigations made by the Finance Department, the foreign trade of Japan during September was as follows:—

EXPORTS.

	Non-dutiable Articles. Yen
Home production 20,577,966 380	
Foreign production	143.241.630
Total 20,721,208.010	

	Articles for ship use. Yen
Home production	319,060 050
Foreign production	—
Total	319,060 050

IMPORTS.

	Dutiable Articles. Yen	Non-dutiable Articles. Yen
Foreign production..12,285,965.490		10,196,693.760
Home production ...	2,111.160	41,523 750
Totals 11,288,076 650		10,238,217 510

Imports exceeded exports by *yen* 486,026.100, while imports and exports together totalled *yen* 42,566,562.220.

	Gold currency and bullion. Yen.	Silver currency and bullion. Yen.	Total. Yen.
Exports...	916,859.590	157.467 670	1,074,327.260
Imports...	488,290 440	3.815 970	492,106 410

Exports exceeded imports by *yen* 582,220.850.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The first meeting of the Literary Society will be held on Friday, November 10th.

Dr. W. G. Grace fitly finished his cricket season this year with a match for charity. He took fifteen wickets, forty-eight runs, and nearly a hundred pounds.

The Prince of Wales has intimated to the Grand Lodge of Freemasons that he has appointed Lord Kitchener District Grand Master of Egypt and the Soudan.

The Konorah Company had another good house on Thursday, when they gave their farewell performance in Yokohama. The mysterious proved as attractive as ever.

The following notice appeared affixed to the gates of the Commercial Exhibition in Rokasumachi, Nagasaki, last week:—"The Museum has taken an extraordinary holiday to-day"!

The sequel to "Three Men in a Boat," for which Mr. Jerome's readers have been waiting so long, is now written. It will be printed serially in *To-Day* under the title, "Three Men in a Forest."

Prof. Ladd gave an address to a very large meeting in the Kobe Church, Shimo-yamatedori, on Monday. His subject was "Impressions on the present prospects of Christianity in Japan."

Rear-Admiral Kane, formerly captain of H.M.S. *Calliope*, which in 1888 steamed out of Apia in the teeth of the terrible hurricane which destroyed the American squadron, has voluntarily retired from the navy.

A student, named Imazaki Takeyasu, aged 18, belonging to the Hakuyukwai school, Yokohama, has committed suicide at Kitagata, by drinking a large quantity of carbolic acid. He is supposed to have been insane.

Baron von Siebold has just finished a history of Treaty Revision under the title of "The Entry of Japan into the Comity of Nations," which has been published in the Japan monthly journal *Ostasian* in Berlin. It will appear shortly in pamphlet form.

There has been a good deal of fighting in the neighbourhood of Manila, particularly on the south line, says the *China Mail*, where one officer was killed, several seriously wounded, and a number of men killed and wounded. The U.S. troops suffered from the heat.

A terrible disaster is reported from Lentscheck, a town in Poland, and about 80 miles from Warsaw. At a Jewish synagogue meeting a lamp was accidentally upset. The flames caused a panic, and in the rush that ensued 32 women and children were trampled to death.

About 2.10 o'clock this morning fire broke out at Kumoicho Itchome, Yokohama, seven houses being completely destroyed and four partially burned. Among the houses burnt was the bath-house from near which the great fire of August 12th originated.

When orders were received for his battalion to proceed to South Africa, Major W. A. Scott, Second-in-Command of the 2nd Batt. Gordon Highlanders, was shooting ibex in Cashmere. Telegrams were despatched to him, but he failed to reach Calcutta before his battalion left, so he had to follow in another transport.

According to the annual report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade the proportion of unemployed was lower in 1898 than for several years previously, while there was an upward tendency in wages, amounting to an aggregate rise of over £95,000 per week.

The British steamer *Monghut* (Captain Major), from Bangkok, took into Hongkong on Oct. 14 the U. S. Government steam launch *On Lee*, which was picked up by the *Loosok* but afterwards broke adrift. The launch was picked up on the 12th October.

All the sentences of death for offences against military discipline in the U.S. army in the Philippines have been commuted to life sentences. In one case, remarks a Hongkong contemporary, General Hall was assaulted by a drunken soldier; in another, two coloured soldiers were convicted of disgusting assaults on native women.

Miss Coote, an English lady, has just made a successful ascent of the Wetterhorn. She left Grindelwald on a Friday, spent the night at the Gleckstein hut, and climbed from the hut to the summit (a height of 12,165ft) in five hours, returning safely to Grindelwald on the Saturday afternoon. Miss Coote proposes shortly to cycle round the world.

The death occurred on 10th Sept., at her private residence, of Mrs. Margaret Satow, mother of Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister to Japan. When Sir Ernest was in London last year Mrs. Satow was very ill, but he had to return at the expiration of his leave. Her death was not altogether unexpected, although she rallied somewhat when Sir Ernest came home.

The North Western Railway Company have just lost a veteran engine-driver with a marvellous record, by the retirement of Mr. George Pearson. Mr. Pearson has driven a passenger engine, generally the Irish mail between Euston and Holyhead, for forty-five years and during the whole of that time, during which he covered something like three million miles, he caused no injury to a single passenger.

The run on red, which was so noticeable in titles of books a few years ago, has for some time been interrupted. But there is promise of a ruddy revival. "The Red Rag of Ritual," a story based upon the Church's difficulties, is about to appear; while Mr. Joseph Hocking has called his new book "The Scarlet Woman," and Mr. G. Manville Fenn promises "A Crimson Crime." Other shades of red will probably follow.

The following has appeared in the General Orders issued in connection with the Hongkong Volunteer Corps:—"Services, Transvaal.—The following telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies is published for information:—To Governor, Hongkong. Referring to your telegram of September 21st, Her Majesty's Government desire to express high appreciation of loyal and spirited offer by Hongkong Volunteer Corps, but are not in position to accept. (Signed) Chamberlain."

Mr. William Conyngham Greene, late British Agent at Pretoria, whose name in connection with the Transvaal negotiations has been very much to the front, is an Irishman. His mother is a sister of the late Lord Plunket. His paternal grandfather, the Hon. Baron Greene, was a distinguished Irish judge, and his maternal grandfather, the third Lord Plunket, was a son of the illustrious Irish Lord Chancellor and a Queen's Counsel. Mr. Greene is married to a daughter of an Irish peer, the Earl of Courtown.

Judgment in the libel suit brought by Mr. C. Pronndes against Mr. Rozario, of the *Kobe Shipping News*, was delivered in the Osaka Appeal Court on the 18th. The decision of the Kobe Chiho Saibansho was quashed on the ground that the reasons given in the decision were not sufficient. The Court, however, considered that the article in question was libellous, and the defendant was condemned to detention for eight days, the same sentence as imposed by the Kobe Court. Mr. Rozario gave notice of appeal to the Court of Cassation.

The following incident reported by the native press affords another illustration, says the *Daily Press*, of the lawlessness existing in the Kangtung province. On the night of 7th inst., between eleven and twelve o'clock, a gang of about a hundred and forty robbers made an attack upon a large pawnshop in a market town of the Sunui district, being armed with swords and revolvers. Some resistance was offered, but the robbers effected their purpose, broke open the shop, and carried away money and goods to the value of over $10,000. Several persons were killed.

A reviewer in a weekly paper has found the following record sentence in a new novel:—"And after a few miserable years, she returned to her father's house, with her little infant daughter, only to linger a few short months, fading gradually away, day by day, until she was laid to rest in the little churchyard, by the side of her mother, who, in her day, had been a great beauty, and a 'Toast' among all the neighbouring squires, who vied with each other to gain even a passing glance from the beautiful daughter of the impoverished Earl Stow, who had suitors and enough for her hand, empty as it was, and which she finally bestowed on Matt Darcy, to the great grief of many sporting sons of Mars, who had seen her undefeated in many a good and trying run with her father's well-known pack."

Now that Sir George White has won a decisive victory in Natal it may be interesting to recall the deed which gained for him his Victoria Cross. In the engagement at Charasia during the Afghan War the artillery and rifle fire failed to dislodge the enemy from a hill, which it was necessary to capture. Major White, therefore, resolved to head an attack upon it in person. Advancing with two companies of his regiment, and climbing from one steep hill to another, he came upon a body of the enemy strongly posted and outnumbering his force by about eight to one. His men being very much exhausted, and immediate action being necessary, Major White took a rifle, and, going on by himself, shot down the leader of the enemy. This act so intimidated the rest that they fled round the side of the hill, and the position was won, and Sir George obtained his V.C.

A JAPANESE IN BURNS'S COUNTRY.

The Nagasaki *Press* has the following interesting paragraph:—We learn from a recent issue of an Ayrshire journal that Mr. Kobo Nagamoto of Nagasaki, who has been making a stay of some duration in Ayr, has, on the eve of his departure for his native country, been the recipient of a handsome gold medal with suitable inscription: he has also been the subject of a high eulogium at the hand of Mr. Alexander Maclean (of the "Sun" Inn) who expatiated upon Mr. Nagamoto's virtues in the course of his speech on the occasion of the public presentation of the testimonial, and we have it on Mr. Maclean's indisputable authority that Kobo—we mean Mr. Nagamoto—is a "thoroughly good foreign gentleman." The ceremony, which took place in the Drill Hall, had all the pomp and circumstance of a public function, and, the presentation over, the evening was beguiled with "harmony and sentiment." It appears from Mr. Maclean's remarks that Kobo—we should say Mr. Nagamoto—has won the hearts of the inhabitants of Ayr by means of "genial intercourse," doubtless not unmixed with toddy. Possibly of an evening Mr. Nagamoto was wont to favour the habitués of the "Sun" Inn with the ditties of Dai Nippon, many of which have a strong Scotch flavour about them. Mr. Nagamoto is not only a gentleman, but also a "gentleman's gentleman," having left his native shores as *valet de chambre* to a certain well-known foreign resident. Possibly on the strength of having become a public character he will relinquish the charge of his master's wardrobe and seek some more exalted sphere of labour where his genial qualities will find a larger scope.

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A MILLIONAIRE'S LIFE.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, head of the Vanderbilt family, died at his residence in New York on the morning of Sept. 12th, from a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Vanderbilt was in his fifty-sixth year. At his bedside when he died were his wife and children, Gladys, and Reginald. No physician was in attendance. The attack was very sudden and entirely unexpected, and it was impossible to reach any medical man before death occurred. We take the following sketch of the deceased millionare's life from a Californian paper :—

Cornelius Vanderbilt was the oldes of the third generation of the family and it was tthe wearing care of the Vanderbilt millions that brought him to a comparatively early grave.

Cornelius J. Vanderbilt, "old commodore,"as he was called, and first of the Vanderbilts to achieve prominence, died on January 4, 1877, at the age of 83, after a long illness. He left a fortune of about ninety millions.

William H. Vanderbilt, son of the commodore, expired suddenly on December 8, 1885, less than nine years later, at the age of 64, and his wealth was estimated at about two hundred millions. Cornelius Vanderbilt, grandson and namesake of the commodore and oldest son of William H., was aged 56 years, and while the Vanderbilt fortune has possibly not doubled as it did between the first and second generations, it has certainly increased tremendously.

To call one who inherited between eighty and eighty-five millions a self-made man seems a misnomer, yet Mr. Vanderbilt's early history bears a close resemblance to that of the boy who, almost friendless and without advantages of books, hews his fortune with his own hand. He was the oldest son of William H. and Maria Louisa Vanderbilt, and was born at Newdorp, Staten Island, November 27, 1843. His mother had been Miss Maria Louisa Kissam, daughter of Rev. William Kissam of the Dutch Reformed church. It was doubtless from his mother that Cornelius Vanderbilt inherited those traits which made his life stand for integrity, piety and public-spirited kindness. William H. Vanderbilt, during the boyhood of his oldest son, was a farmer, and he had the usual hard lot of a farmer. The old commodore was still engaged in planting seeds for that great fortune of the future. Himself a self-made man, he left his children and his children's children to shift for themselves, so that they might show what was in them.

Cornelius had a common school education, and when he was 16 years old he presented himself to John M. Crane, then the president of the Shoe and Leather Bank, and asked for employment, promising to do his best to please. Mr. Crane read the letter the boy presented. "I see you are a Vanderbilt," he said. "Are you a relative of the commodore?"

"He is my grandfather," was the reply.

"Why don't you ask him to recommend you?" suggested Mr. Crane.

"Because I don't want to ask him for anything." The young man obtained a place.

When the grandfather heard of the incident he was much pleased. He asked his grandson why he had not applied to him and received the same reply. Early and late the new clerk toiled in the Shoe and Leather Bank, boarding in the city and going home on Saturday night to spend Sunday. Then and there he formed those habits of method and punctuality that became such a ruling characteristic in after life.

He was thrifty, saved his money, and would not depend on any one. His grandfather had been watching the course of his namesake, and one day he offered to take him to Europe. Cornelius had never taken a vacation. He wanted one. The trip to Europe would have necessitated the loss of two months' salary at $60 a month.

"I can't afford to lose the wages," said Cornelius, and he rose still higher in the estimation of his grandfather. In everything but years the boy was a man.

There had been established in Wall-street by this time the banking house of Kissam Bros., and to this firm early in the sixties Cornelius was transferred when he was 20 years old. Here he worked as diligently as ever. He scarcely ever knew an idle hour.

Commodore Vanderbilt had gone into the railroads and made one of those brilliant strokes that mark the Vanderbilt genius. He bought Haarlem stock in Wall-street at 6, and soon thereafter astonished the world by paying an 8 per cent dividend and sending the stock kiting above par. Cornelius was transferred from the banking house to the office of the Harlem Railroad. Here, with economy his watchword and conservatism his guiding star, he worked for four years. Then he became treasurer of the Harlem Railroad.

It was about this time that Cornelius Vanderbilt married. The Vanderbilts for four generations have married young. Cornelius wa 23 years old when he wedded Miss Alice Gwynne, daughter of a Cincinnati lawyer. At that time he was laying the foundation for a great business career and for domestic happiness. He was also walking in the path of charity and piety. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, leader of a Sunday-school, and a member of the Young Men's Christian Association. He established a rule that no one was too poor to be helped, and in time the demands of charity and philanthropic service took almost as many of his hours as did the care of the vast property that eventually fell to his direction. There was no public-spirited movement in which he did not take part; there was no great charity in which he was not a participant.

Few knew what he did in this field, but now and then by accident the public got an insight into his doings in the field of religion and relief. It was not a mere coincidence that the day his father was stricken the messenger summoning him found Cornelius Vanderbilt attending a meeting of the directors of the Episcopal mission. Nor was it a coincidence that he was sitting with the trustees of St. Luke's Hospital when he was informed of the sudden death of his brother-in-law, Colonel Elliott F. Shepard.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, dying in 1877, left a fortune estimated at $90,000,000, and by his will placed William H. Vanderbilt at the head of the Vanderbilt system, which was already becoming great. Cornelius Vanderbilt was then 43 years old, but he had been in business continuously for twenty-seven years. William H. Vanderbilt became president of the Harlem and New York Central railroads, and Cornelius first vice-president.

Cornelius soon assumed financial control of both properties. In time William H. withdrew from the presidency and created a board of control of the reorganised system and Cornelius became chairman of the boards of the New York Central and Lake Shore and Michigan Central railroads. This meant that, subject to his father's direction, he was ruler of these properties. He had a salary of $50,000. To this may be added the house that had been given him and some stock that gave an income of $10,000 a year, but he was independent of this. Commodore Vanderbilt had left him $5,000,000, and this he doubled by speculation in Wall street. Gradually, as befitting his enhanced fortune, Cornelius Vanderbilt moved into a more imposing home. First he went from Park avenue to Fifth-avenue at Thirty-third street, where he afterwards erected the magnificent mansion in which he died.

Truly there is something very naïve and whole-hearted in the American journalist's admiration for dollars and their possessors.

THE TRANSVAAL AND THE FREE STATE.

The following interesting article appears in *The Times* :—

A representative of Reuter's Agency has had an interview with Mr. Frank R. Thompson, a member of the Cape Parliament and a well-known authority on all South African native questions, who has arrived in England from Cape Town and the Transvaal. Discussing the present crisis he said :—

"I was in the Transvaal eight weeks ago, and in close touch with the leading Boers. I was assured that they do not want to fight, and in this connexion it must not be forgotten that a very large section of the Transvaal Boers are in favour of Imperial rule. Large numbers of Boers who were determined to remain neutral had even then crossed over into Griqualand West. Numbers of the younger men from the Free State have, too, for similar reasons crossed the Orange River into Cape Colony. It is a great mistake to suppose that all Dutchmen in the Republics sympathize with their Governments. They do not, and I am certain that if it comes to war one third of the Transvaal Boers will either remain neutral or leave their country. I must say, however, that I do not even now believe war will break out. I do not think a shot will be fired. I had hoped that by this time the Transvaal would have complied with the terms demanded by the Imperial Government, and I still have hopes that they will accept the conditions. Knowing the Boer tactics, I am, however, startled at their action in sending artillery down to the western border, seeing that from Fourteen Streams to Johannesburg is dead level country, the Vaal only dropping 29ft. in 100 miles.

"I have no fear of the Cape Colonial Dutch joining with the Transvaal. Mr. Schreiner's attitude over the ammunition question is already bearing fruit in the shape of President Steyn's impertinent answer to Sir Alfred Milner. I am dumbfounded at the attitude of the Free State ; their action is beyond my comprehension. I have lived all my life in close touch with the Dutch and their ideas, but I cannot understand why the Free State should run the risk of sacrificing the little State which was the first in South Africa to lead the van of education under President Brand. Messrs. Steyn and Reitz—the latter, by the way is Mr. Schreiner's brother-in-law—are both anti-English, but they must realize what war will mean. It can have but one end—namely, temporary annexations of both Republics, with, probably, responsible government eventually granted to them. For this, among other reasons, I still believe peace will be maintained. The Boers are past masters in the art of bluff, but they will give in. The Dutch themselves are not united. In the matter of the raid they were as one, but the present position is very different. The intelligent burgher argues that the Imperial Government is only demanding what Dutchmen have got without asking in the Cape Colonial Parliament. In Cape Colony we are perfectly satisfied that the Imperial Government has shown the greatest forbearance in this matter. The danger will be, if they hang on much longer, of alienating the sympathetic Boers, as the latter will only interpret this as meaning that the British will climb down as soon as the Transvaal shows its teeth. The dream of fusion between Dutch and English in South Africa is one that, after an experience of a lifetime, I am certain will never be realized. Mr. Rhodes's attitude in the present crisis is one worthy of the highest commendation. Although following affairs closely, he is taking no active part. He told me the other day that he anticipated the confederation of the South African States in four or five years."

Turning to the military position of the two Republics, Mr. Thompson said :—

"The stories current of the immense force which the Transvaal and the Free State could put into the field are simple nonsense. All told the Free State could put 6,000 men in the field, and the Transvaal 15,000 at the very utmost. The Free State standing force consists of 250 men, 80 or 90 horse artillery, 15 or 20 cannons, and two or three Maxims. These are engaged in police work, and are known as the Free State Artillery. They have been trained by European officers and are well armed with up-to-date weapons. The chief garrison is at Bloemfontein, whence they are despatched in small parties of ten to 15 to do police work on the border. During the past two or three months the Free State has been importing enormous quantities of ammunition in view of an early closing of the Delagoa Bay route. I know the Transvaal and the Free State thoroughly, and I have given 15,000 as the *maximum* Transvaal force. You may regard 3,000 as a fair number who may be expected to join from the Northern borders of Natal and the Cape Colony. The Transvaal, I see, claim to put 52,000 in the field, but I do not quite see how they will do that out of a total male population of 40,000. I believe 15,000 to be a very liberal estimate. Pretoria is very strongly protected by about 12 forts with heavy Krupp guns, and the Boer Government have not only enormous quantities of cannon, Maxims, and shells, but sufficient cartridges for a million men. In fact they have so many Mauser cartridges that they are openly selling them at the low price of 16s. per hundred. Quite apart from Imperial troops it must not be forgotten that Natal and Cape Colony can in a very short time raise a force of 20,000 men who will fight for sentiment apart from pay. They will prove the best material in the world, and will, in every respect, be equal to the burghers of the Republic."

Discussing the native question Mr. Thompson said :—"The Transvaal has 600 miles of border exposed at every point, with 100,000 natives waiting for the first opportunity to wipe wipe off old scores. So far as the British are concerned, we need fear nothing from Basutos, Zulus, Swasis, Bechuanas, Fingos, or Galkas. One word from the Imperial Government would be sufficient to restrain these tribes, or to let them loose upon the Dutch, whom they cordially hate. But such a thing could not be tolerated, for black to be pitted against white would be monstrous, and for this reason it might even be necessary if war broke out for hostilities to be suspended in order that we might put the natives in their proper place. I am sorry that I cannot impute the same honesty of purpose to the Boers, who, I know, have during the past six weeks been endeavouring to stir up

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natives in the Protectorate, in Zululand, and in Basutoland. Bordering on the Free State upon its eastern border is the Caledon river, and that is known as the conquered territory. This the Basutos have still hopes of recovering from the Free State Boers, and it will be a difficult matter to restrain them if once they get out of hand, as they lost all their cattle from rinderpest, and if hostilities break out their first act will be to retake their cattle from the Free State. The Basutos are perfectly loyal to us, but will be only too anxious to inflict any injury upon enemies of their 'Queen Mother.' The Swazis on the extreme east of the Transvaal can never forget the fairness meted out to them by Sir Alfred Milner in connexion with the trial of the chief Bunu, when Mr. Reitz did all in his power to annex the country. They hate the Boers, and I doubt if it would be possible to prevent them from raiding the Transvaal. On the north Mr. Kruger will have Mapoch and Malapoch, both of whom are fugitives in Southern Rhodesia, waiting for a chance to pay off old scores. Not a single native tribe is friendly to the Boer. When I was in Bechuanaland three months ago, the natives told me they would jump the western frontier of the Transvaal the moment war broke out. It is well known that the Zulus have for some time been begging to be allowed to attack the Dutch. As I have said, the Transvaal is practically surrounded by hordes of unfriendly natives who are perfectly loyal to us.

"All these consideration," said Mr. Thompson, in conclusion, "and the fact that Mr. Kruger perfectly understands the position, lead me to believe that peace will be maintained, but it must not be in any sense a patching up. No half measure will do. We must get to the root of the matter or in a short time the whole question will be raised in, if possible, a graver form than now."

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 442.

By Valentine Marin.

From Problemes d'Escachs, a Collection of Problems by Spanish Composers.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to R 8	1—Q takes B
2—P to B 3	2—Any
3—Q to R2 mate	
	1—P to K 6
2—Q to R 8	2—Any
3—Q to B mates	
	1—P takes P or RP moves
2—P to B 4	2—Any
3—Q mates	

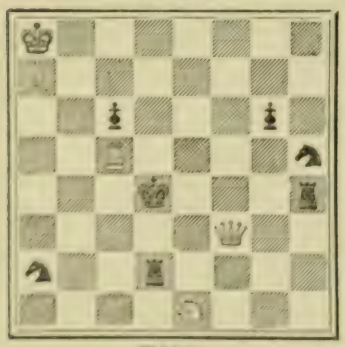
Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Voila, Marco, and L.M.A.

Mariner:—1—Q to Q 2. 2—Q to K sq. 3—Q takes Q or Q takes B mate; this is frustrated by Black's answer: 1—P takes P. 2—P to Kt 7 ch.

PROBLEM No. 445.

By Otto Wurzburg.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 563.

The following is an instructive game for the student. It occurred in the Correspondence Tourney organised by *La Stratégie*, of Paris:

Queens Pawn Opening.

White—M. Clerissy. Black—Count Grabbé.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P KB4	18 KtxB	KxKt
2 P QB4	P K3	19 Q Kt3	K B2
3 P QR3	B K2	20 Kt Q2	Q Kt3
4 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	21 B Q3	Q K4
5 P K3	Castles	22 Q R4	K Kt sq
6 Kt B3	P Q3	23 QxP	K R sq
7 B Q3	Kt B3	24 P B4	R K2
8 Castles	P QKt3	25 QR B sq	Q R3
9 P QKt4	P QR3	26 BxKt	QxB
10 Q B2	P Q4	27 B Q4	P R3
11 PxP	KtxQP	28 R B6	Q K 6
12 KtxKt	QxKt	29 Q Q3	QxQ
13 B B4	Q Q2	30 RxQ	K Kt sq
14 P Q5	Kt Q sq	31 BxQKtP	BxKtP
15 PxP	Q K sq	32 PxB	PxB
16 B Kt2	BxKP	33 RxP	Resigns
17 Kt Q4	Q Kt3		

The seven opening moves are correctly played by White, but 8—Castles is inferior to 8—Q to B 2, the latter move being necessary to prevent Black's threat of 8...P to K 4, of which however, the latter did not avail himself. Neglecting this favourable opportunity, he prematurely advanced 10...P to Q 4, which seriously compromised his game. He should have played 10...Q to K sq, followed by Kt to Q sq. It will be seen that he was compelled to make the suggested moves on his fourteenth and fifteenth move under unfavourable circumstances, whilst had he made them in time he would have had a good game still.

White saw his way of winning eventually the QRP, and consequently selected this simple variation. But he had a more forcible line of play with 20—P to B 4, P to QKt 4; 21—B to Q 5, QR to K sq; 22—R to QB sq, B to Q 3; 23—P to K 4, and Black would be quite helpless.

White, however, won in his own way, so there is no fault to find.

Game No. 564.

FROM THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

The Frenchman Defends the "French."

FRENCH DEFENSE.

White—Janowski. Black—Lee.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	12 Q Q2	P B5
2 P Q4	P Q4	13 B K2	Kt Q2
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	14 Castles	Kt Kt3
4 B KKt5	B QKt5	15 P B4	Kt R5
5 P K5	P KR3	16 PxP	PxP
6 B R4	P KKt4	17 QxP	KtxP
7 B Kt3	Kt K5	18 B R5	Kt Kt5
8 KKt K2	P QB4	19 BxPch	K Q2
9 P QR3	BxKtch	20 Q K 7 ch	Q Q sq
10 KtxB	KtxKt	21 B K8dbl.	Resigns
11 PxKt	Q R4		

MADAME KONORAH AND THE KNIGHT'S MOVE.

We were charmed the other night at the Public Hall with the many clever feats of Professor Berol and Madame Konorah, some of which were nothing short of marvellous. We could, however, see nothing wonderful in the feat of the Knight's move—beyond a good memory for figures.

The professor produces a large chess board, the squares of which are numbered, and Madame Konorah, blindfolded, solves the well-known problem of how the Knight traverses the sixty-four squares without stepping on any square twice. She starts from a square which has been named by one of the audience, and with lightning rapidity calls out the sixty four moves, whilst the professor, equally smartly, marks off the figures on the board.

Now this looks more difficult than it really is; hundreds of chess-players can do the same thing, although not many will do it blindfolded and quite as rapidly as the "modern witch and mistress of mysteries." It must not be thought that the tour of the Knight becomes a totally different one each time the initial square is changed. There are indeed many different variations, one of which will be found below in our third "Easy Lesson." But there exists one particular mode for solving the problem of the Knight's tour which allows of commencing from any given square, without changing the route which the Knight traverses. Commencing for instance at KR 8 the tour would terminate at KKt 6. From KR 8 to KKt 6 being a Knight's move distant, the tour might be commenced anew, it being an interminable one. It follows that any other initial square might be selected and yet the route remain the same.

Thus all Madame Konorah had to remember was a peculiarly arranged row of figures between 1 and 64 which according to the initial square, would one time be, say: 64, 47, 32, 15, 4, 11,.....56, 43, 60 and 51; another time: 4, 11,.....56, 43, 60, 51, 64, 47, 32 and 15, or again: 60, 51, 64, 47, 32, 15, 4, 11,.....56 and 43; and so forth.

Needless to say, Prof. Berol committed a slight inaccuracy in saying that only by repeated trials and pure chance others beside Madame Konorah were able to do the Knight's tour from any given square. First-rate mathematicians and distinguished men like Bernouilli, Willis, Euler, Mairan, Montmort, Demoivre and Dr. Roget have endeavoured to solve this problem and laid down the principles and laws for every possible variation. From Tomlinson's "Amusements in Chess" we learn that as far back as 1840 Dr. Roget communicated a short but admirable paper to the Philosophical Magazine, unfolding a method by which the problem could be solved in any form, that is, by beginning at any given square, and terminating at any other given square of the opposite colour."

Now that is a really difficult thing to do and requires a great deal of study. Had Madame Konorah shown how to solve the problem when both the initial and terminal squares were prescribed, and this blind-folded and in her rapid manner, we should have really thought it a grand feat.

NOTES.

One of the curiosities of the London Tournament is the following: Mason beat Janowski both games, Janowski beat Lee both games, Lee beat Mason both games.

Lasker has sent a reply to the challenge recently issued by Janowski to play him a match for the chess championship of the world. The champion has accepted the challenge, and has agreed to play Janowski for £400 a side. The latter will accept these conditions, and has appointed a second who will meet Lasker's second at an early date in order to discuss details. The champion would like to play this year if possible, but Janowski has a prior engagement at New York. It is not expected that there will be any difficulty on this account; and as both players are ready and willing to play, the match will probably be fixed and settled within a short time. The place of play is left open for mutual agreement, the players being willing to contest the match anywhere provided that they receive sufficient inducement to do so.

Janowski no doubt, will make a stubborn fight; but we fear he will have little chance against the world's champion. Writing from London, Mr. Norman Shelley says:—"Among the chessplayers here the opinion is that no one living can defeat Lasker, except possibly—but not probably—Pillsbury. They consider these two players the finest that have ever lived.

Herr Rosenthal came over during the recent London tournament to consult the masters, and promised one of the greatest chess events of the century for next May during the Paris Exhibition. The patronage of the French Government is expected.

The Montreal Chess Club is not only the oldest club in the Dominion of Canada, but also one of the oldest in the empire. Established in 1844, it is now in its 56th year of continuous existence, and its last annual report shows growth in the number of its members, improvement in its financial position, and successful activity in the Canadian chess world.

CHESS WIT.

Pawn Takes Pawn.—Pledging your watch to get your topcoat out.

A Difficult Problem.—How to make both ends meet.

A Pretty Mate.—A good looking wife.

A Two-mover.—A nurse dandling twins.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON III.

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The Moves.

The Rook (or Castle) moves or captures in a straight line, parallel with the sides of the board, forwards, backwards or sideways—never diagonally. He may take a short move of one square only or move over as many as seven squares at a time if they are unoccupied.

The Bishop moves and captures only diagonally, forwards and backwards to the extent of the board, on squares of his own colour. Each player has therefore one Bishop running on white squares and one on black squares who cannot change their colour throughout the game.

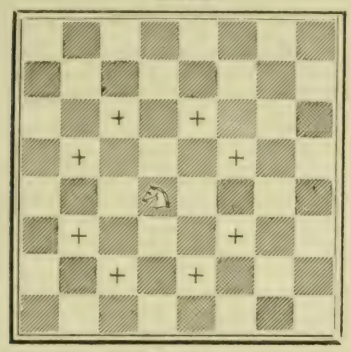
The Queen, which is the most powerful of all the pieces, combines the qualities of Rook and Bishop. She moves and captures in all directions, forwards, backwards, sideways and diagonally to the full extent of the board. Placed alone in the centre of the board she commands as many as twenty-seven squares, besides the one she occupies.

The Knight moves and captures in a peculiar way, being the only piece which has the privilege of leaping over other pieces and Pawns of his own

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or his opponent's colour. The move is one square straight and one square diagonal combined. Thus in the appended diagram, the Knight being on Q 4, has for his first move the choice of eight squares, namely QB 2, QKt 3, QKt 5, QB 6, K 6, KB 5, KB 3 and K 2.

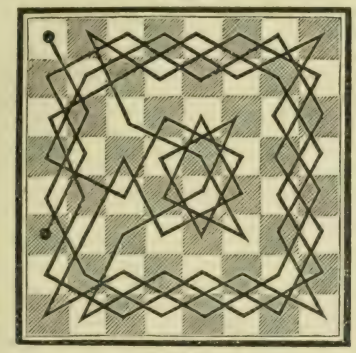
BLACK.



WHITE.

In order to become at once thoroughly acquainted with the movements of the Knight, the student should practice one of the many solutions of the problem, how to play the Knight to the sixty-four squares of the board in sixty-four moves without touching twice any one square. Commence the tour of the Knight on QR 8 and end on QR 3. The diagram below gives the solution.

BLACK.

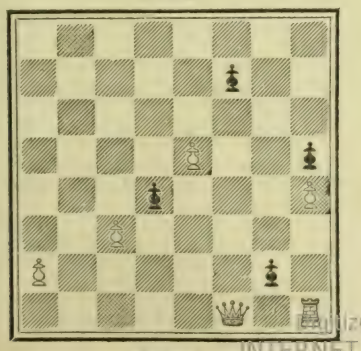


WHITE.

THE KING is the most important piece on the board. He moves and captures in any direction, forwards, backwards, sideways or diagonally, but unlike the Queen, his range extends over the adjoining squares only. Thus the King placed alone on the board at K 4 has the choice of the following eight moves:—K 3.—Q 3.—Q 4.—Q 5.—K 5.—B 5.—B 4 and B 3. He is never actually taken, the game being lost when the King is so situated that he cannot avoid capture (checkmate.) He must never move into check, *i e*, on a square commanded by any of his adversary's men. The two Kings may therefore never be placed on two adjoining squares; one square at least must always remain between them. It is in the End-game mostly, that the King does active work and becomes very powerful, whilst at the commencement he keeps in the background and is carefully guarded by the pieces and Pawns.

THE PAWN always moves forwards along the file on which he stands, one square at a time, except at his first move, when he has the option to advance two squares. He however, captures diagonally, like the Bishop, though only one square in a forward direction. When a Pawn has reached the eight's square, he is promoted to a Queen or any other piece the player may chose, whether already lost or still on the board. Thus in the course of a game a player may have three or more Queens, or Rooks, or Knights, &c.

BLACK.



WHITE.

In the above diagram White may play P to QR 3 or QR 4 according to choice, as also Black has the option of advancing P to B 3 or B 4. White's BP may capture Black's QP, whilst Black has the choice of: QP takes BP or KtP takes either Q or R being then promoted to a Queen or any other piece. The black P and white P on the KR's file cannot move,

Pawn takes Pawn *en passant* is a somewhat complicated move and often misunderstood by young players. When a Pawn in advancing two squares at his first move, passes a square which is attacked by an hostile Pawn, he is liable to being captured by the latter, just as if he had moved only one square; or he may be allowed to remain, if the other player so chooses. For instance in the above position if Black plays P to B 3, White KP may capture him; if he plays P to B 4, White may allow the Pawn to be moved to its full extent or reply KP takes P *en passant*, exactly as if the Black P had moved to B 3.

The student must thoroughly understand, that to capture a piece or Pawn is quite at the option of the players; they are not compelled to do so. The act of capturing consists in removing the captured man from the board and replacing it by the hostile man *i.e.* the piece or Pawn that captures it.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Oct. 20.

The calling out of the Militia was a surprise. 133,000 have applied to be employed.

It has been decided to replenish the denuded garrisons.

The War Credit granted by the British Parliament amounts to £10,000,000 sterling.

The news from Mafeking is doubtful and disjointed.

The latest intelligence indicates that the Boers have been repulsed with heavy loss, but they began bombarding the place again with Krupp guns.

The Boers are making a general advance in Natal, apparently with the object of enveloping Ladysmith. Hitherto there have been only outpost skirmishes.

The Army Reserves have responded to the call splendidly; over 92 per cent. have answered the summons.

The expedition against the Kalifa Kodija numbers 9,000 men.

Shanghai, Oct. 21.

The British have stormed a position held by the Boers threatening Glencoe. The Boers are retreating.

Later.

A force of some four thousand Boers attacked the British Camp at Glencoe yesterday at daylight. They shelled the position from the neighbouring heights.

After a hard fight the British captured an almost inaccessible position and with it took five guns.

General Symons was severely wounded.

The British losses were heavy.

The House of Commons has passed the War Appropriation.

Shanghai, Oct. 23.

Ten officers were killed and 22 wounded at the battle of Glencoe.

General Symons' wound is mortal.

Thirty-one men were killed and 151 wounded on the British side.

Generals White and French have captured the Boers' position at Elantslaage, which lies between Glencoe and Ladysmith. They captured with it all the Boer equipment, horses and waggons. The British losses are believed to be slight.

The Guards' Division has started for the Cape.

The Channel Squadron has been suddenly ordered to Gibraltar. It is understood that the cruisers are to convoy transports and the battleships will go to Delagoa Bay, where the whole Squadron will finally assemble. The battleships will land 500 men if necessary.

Later.

The British loss at Elantslaage was 160. The Boers suffered severely. General Joubert, General Newhew, Commander Kocktiet, and many others have been taken prisoners. Two guns were captured.

[NOTE.—It has since been suggested that the Joubert referred to his Commandant Joubert, nephew of the Boer leader.—ED. *J.M.*]

The Boers' position was on a rocky hill, exceptionally strong, and they held it with the greatest courage and tenacity.

Shanghai, October 24.

It is reported that there has been a brilliant British sortie from Glencoe, resulting in a second signal victory, and that the Boers have retired demoralised.

Later.

The report of another British victory is untrue.

The British losses at Elandslaagte, totalled 257. Five officers were killed and thirty wounded. Thirty-seven men were killed and 175 wounded, while ten are missing.

Large columns of the enemy are advancing on Dundee. The British are falling back on Glencoe. The enemy is in large numerical superiority.

Shanghai, Oct. 25.

The position at Glencoe is watched with extreme anxiety in England.

Yule retired on Glencoe to effect a junction with White. An overwhelming force of Boers is surrounding Glencoe.

General White yesterday fought a successful action with Free State Boers between Ladysmith and Newcastle, and hoped to join hands with Yule.

A telegram from Cecil Rhodes at Kimberley to the War Office urgently demands reinforcements for Kimberley.

A strong Naval brigade has been landed at Simondstown and yesterday hastened northward. Its destination is a secret.

Shanghai, October 26.

The Dockyards at Portsmouth are working overtime preparing cruisers for sea. The reason is unexplained, but it is inferred that the intention is to counteract possible foreign movements.

A large column of Boers is advancing against Kimberley.

A proclamation has been issued annexing Bechuanaland and Griqualand West to the Transvaal, and all territories north of the Orange River to the Free State.

A British counter-proclamation warns British subjects that the status will be unchanged by this action.

The Khalifa has left Gebel Kebir. It has been decided not to pursue him.

THE GREAT YACHT RACE.

The *Columbia* won the third race by five minutes, thus securing the Cup.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Saigon, Oct. 20.

The Military situation in South Africa is unchanged. Some skirmishes have taken

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place near Ladysmith. A battle appears imminent.

Saigon, Oct. 21.

It is announced from London that, on the morning of the 20th (?), nine thousand Boers attacked with artillery the British camp at Glencoe to the north of Ladysmith. The English General Symons was wounded. A despatch to the newspapers says that the position occupied by the Boers was captured by the British after a desperate fight, and that five cannon were taken from the Boers.

Saigon, Oct. 22.

A telegram received in Paris from London says:—The victory at Glencoe is official. The Boers were 4,000 strong and had 5 pieces of artillery. The English bombarded the position of the Boers, which was almost inaccessible, and the infantry then captured it after a long and violent conflict.

Ten English officers were killed and twenty wounded. It is estimated that 250 soldiers were put *hors de combat*. The loss of the Boers is said to have been 800.

Saigon, October 23.

After the conflict at Glencoe the Boers retired in good order, and had a second engagement with the cavalry sent in pursuit of them.

Saigon, Oct. 24.

Two thousand Boers have been beaten at Elandslaagte, to the north of Ladysmith. In this engagement the English had a Colonel and 17 soldiers killed, and 27 officers, and 99 soldiers wounded. The Boers will have lost 500, killed and wounded.

The Boers attacked Glencoe again on the 21st instant, and were repulsed with loss after a sharp fight.

Saigon, October 25.

News of the English victory at Glencoe is not in any way confirmed. The English were obliged to evacuate Dundee, abandoning their wounded. Intelligence from the seat of war is awaited in England with great anxiety.

The English losses at Elandslaagte were 42 killed and 215 wounded.

Saigon, Oct. 26.

The British forces of Dundee have effected their junction near Ladysmith with the troops of General White, the Commander-in-Chief.

THE HIGH COUNCIL OF WAR IN FRANCE.

A Presidential Decree re-organizes the High Council of War in France. Henceforth its members will be chosen exclusively from among the Commanders of Army Corps.

THE ROYALIST CONSPIRACY.

Saigon, Oct. 23.

The Commission of the Senate has finished the examination of the prisoners accused of treason.

(From our own Correspondent)

THE FIRST SNOW.

Hakodate, Oct. 23.

From early this morning snow has been falling here. This is the first snow of the winter.

FIRE AT HAKODATE.

Hokodate, Oct. 24, 10 p.m.

A fire which broke out here at nine o'clock this evening has already destroyed four houses and is still raging.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE TRANSVAAL.

Mr. Chamberlain's despatch of Sept. 11th, in reply to President Kruger's importation of the question of suzerainty into the discussion, deserves to be studied by every one pretending to think that her Majesty's Government has shown any want of patience or moderation in this unhappy affair:—

"I have the honour to state to you in reply to your Note of the 2nd that her Majesty's Government understands that Note to mean that the proposals which the Government of the Republic made in their Note of August 19 are now withdrawn, because the reply of her Majesty's Government contained in my Note of August 30 with regard to future intervention and suzerainty is not acceptable.

"Her Majesty's Government have absolutely repudiated the view of the political status of the Transvaal taken by the Transvaal Government in the Note addressed to me on April 18, 1898, and also in their Note of May 9, in which they claim the status of a sovereign international State. Her Majesty's Government are, therefore, unable to consider any proposal made conditionally on their acceptance of this view. On this ground her Majesty's Government have been compelled to regard the last proposal of the Government of the Republic as unacceptable in the form in which it was presented.

"Her Majesty's Government cannot now consent to go back to the proposals for which those in the Note of the Government of the Republic of August 19 are intended as a substitute, especially as they are satisfied that Law No. 3 of 1899, in which these proposals were finally embodied, is insufficient to secure the immediate and substantial representation which her Majesty's Government has always had in view, and which they gather from the reply of the Government of the South African Republic the latter admit to be reasonable. Moreover, the presentation of the Note of August 19 indicates that the Government of the South African Republic have themselves recognized that their previous offer might with advantage be enlarged, and that the independence of the South Africa Republic would thereby in no way be impaired.

"Her Majesty's Government are still prepared to accept the offers made in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of the Note of August 19, taken by themselves, provided that the inquiry which her Majesty's Government have proposed, whether joint, as her Majesty's Government originally suggested, or unilateral, shows that the new scheme of representation will not be encumbered by conditions which will nullify the intention to give substantial immediate representation to the Uitlanders. In this connexion her Majesty's Government assume that, as stated by the British Agent, the new members of the Volksraad will be permitted to use their own language.

"Acceptance of these terms by the Government of the South African Republic would at once remove tension between the two Governments, and would in all probability render unnecessary any further intervention by her Majesty's Government to secure redress for grievances which the Uitlanders themselves would be able to bring to the notice of the Executive Council and the Volksraad.

"Her Majesty's Government are increasingly impressed with the danger of further delay in relieving the strain which has already caused so much injury to the interests of South Africa and they earnestly press for an immediate and definite reply to the present proposal. If it is acceded to they will be ready to make immediate arrangements for a further conference between the President and the High Commissioner to settle all details of the proposed tribunal of arbitration and the questions referred to in my Note of August 30, which are neither Uitlander grievances nor questions of the interpretation of the Convention, but which might be readily settled by friendly communication between the representatives of the two Governments. If, however, as they most anxiously hope will not be the case, the reply of the Government of the South African Republic should be negative or inconclusive, I am to state that her Majesty's Government must reserve to themselves the right to reconsider the situation *de novo* and to formulate their own proposals for final settlement."

Strength to carry an invalid through illness to speedy recovery is obtained by the use of Liebig Company's Extract.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Oct. 21st:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15,101,827
Amount of convertible notes issued...	213,415,351
Government deposits	55,212,925
General deposits	2,395,301
Exchange liability	23,555
Total	317,148,961

Cr.	
Discount notes	46,453,559
Foreign discount notes	12,497,415
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	71,118,576
Exchange liability	2,445,533
Government bonds	57,422,477
Property...	1,949,279
Bullion and Specie	103,262,118
Total	317,148,961

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	212,650,584
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	102,565,755
Silver	—
Total	102,565,755
Securities:—	
Government bonds	31,692,188
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	6,123,570
Commercial notes	50,269,035
Total	110,084,793

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	53,393
Silver	—	—
General loans	292,493	—
Government deposits	—	251,238
General deposits	—	379,324

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 1	Sa. Oct. 28
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Annam 2	Th. Nov. 2
America	T. K. K	America Maru 3	Th. Nov. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Nov. 6
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	On San	M. Nov. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	Su. Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Nov. 13
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	——	Sa. Nov. 25

1 Left Nagasaki on the 25th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 24 h inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 25th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 24th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu, Oct. 31
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Nov. 1
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Nov., 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. Nov. 3
anada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 3
America	P. M. Co.	On San	Tu Nov 7
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Annam	W. Nov. 8
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Nov. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Nov. 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saint Irene, British steamer, 2,473, W. Attree, 20th October,—Kobe, 18th October, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 20th October,—Uraga Dock, 19th October, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 21st Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 20th October, General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young,

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21st October,—Shanghai via ports, 14th Oct., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Alex. Webster, 21st October,—Java, Sugar.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, J. Barr, 22nd Oct., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 21st October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Indiana, U.S. Army Transport, 2,484, M. H. Morle, 22nd October,—Manila via Nagasaki, 18th October, Troops.—Browne & Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 22nd October,—London via ports, and Kobe, 21st October, General.—Cornes & Co.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, ——, 22nd October,—Kobe, 20th October, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, H. Kirchner, 23rd October,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Plover, British gunboat, 755, Lieut.-Commander Hervey, 23rd October,—Kobe, 21st October.

Poseidon, Austrian steamer, 2,432, A. Leva, 23rd October,—Hongkong, 16th October, General.—Browne & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, G. C. Talbot, 23rd October,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H Going, 23rd October,—Otaru via ports, 18th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 24th Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., 11th Oct., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 24th Oct.,—Kobe, 22nd Oct., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 24th October,—San Diego, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 25th October,—Shanghai, 21st October, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 25th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 24th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 25th October,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 26th Oct.,—Kobe, 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Heidelburg, German steamer, 2,145, Schüder, 26th October,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 19th October, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shanghai, British steamer, 2,163, F. C. A. Lyon, 26th October.—London via ports, and Kobe 25th October, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 26th October,—Kobe, 24th October, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 19th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 20th October,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Haliotes, British Tank steamer, 1,046, S. P. Blair, 20th October,—Shanghai, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 21st October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 21st October,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 21st October,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,781, J. S. Thompson, 21st October,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 22nd October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 22nd October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Woosung, British steamer, 1,109, M. Dawson, 22nd October,—Hakodate, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Saint Irene, British steamer, 2,473, W. Attree, 22nd October,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Columbia, German ship, 2,518, H. Schutte, 22nd October,—San Francisco, Sulphur.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Linnet (6), British gunboat, 756, Commander W. W Smythe, 22nd October,—Kobe.

Decima, German steamer, 1,125, C. Christiansen, 23rd October,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Indiana, U.S. Army Transport, 2,484, M. H. Morle, 23rd October,—San Francisco, Cal., Troops.—Browne & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O P. Marshall, 24th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 24th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C Young, 25th October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, P. H. Going, 25th Oct.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Poseidon, Australian, steamer, 2,432, A. Leod, 25th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Browne & Co.

Aurora (12), British cruiser, 6,500, E. H. Bayly, 25th October,— Nagasaki via Kobe.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, A. Vaquier, 26th Oct.,— Marseilles via ports, Mails and General. —M. M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 20th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 25th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.— —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, G. Oda, 26th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, from Shanghai:—Mr. M. recki, and Mr. Pow-Yong-Chow in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Lay, Mr. McDowall, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Wilson, Mr. Schulze, Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, Mr. M. B. Godrej, Mr. Sethna, Mr. S. P. Wadai, Mr. J. R. Gillingham, Mr. A. N. Hansell, Mr. A. Nagawa, Mr. and Mrs. McIlraith and child, Mr. and Mrs. Norweiler, and Miss Cornfield, in cabin; Mr. Seater; Mr. Y. Kitashima, Mr. Chiba and child, Mrs. F. Chiba, Mrs. Y. Chiba, Mr. U. Suzuki, Mrs. K. Iwakama, Mrs. Araki and child, Mr. Ellis, and Mr. Si Yun Sunn, in cabin; 42 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Sako, Miss Mair, and Mr. and Mrs. Clement in cabin; Miss Grage, Dr. and Mrs. M. Lehmann, Mr. H. Becker, Mr. T. Eckhoff, Mrs. C. G. Kreidner, Miss E. Boedecker, and 7 Chinese in second class.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Inspector Moffatt, Mrs. Kingsell, Mrs. Chusan, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Portersack, Mr. Tozer, Mr. Sarolidis, Mr. Faber, Rev. and Mrs. Andrews, Mr. Holm, Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Melhuish, Mr. Allen, Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Collins in cabin; 2 passengers on deck.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. E. Aepli, Mr. Jno. Aurenback, Mr. W. U. Arbenz, Mr. D. Baldwin, Mr. Geo. F. Baldwin, Mrs. Baldwin, and maid, Master Baldwin, Mrs. D. E. Brown, Mr. T. R. Brownlee, Mr. L. S. Beale, Mr. H. A. Beldin, Miss Bulley, Mr. R. M. Bewick, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Brown, Miss J. H. Brown, Mrs. Brooksmith, Miss Brooksmith, Rev. Dr. J. Butchart, Miss A. Berglund, Mr. G. Bowack, Mr. W. Bull, Mr. H. B. Bristow, Dr. Beswick, Rev. G. and Mrs. Binford, Mr. J. Grant Busch, Mr. and Mrs. Boesch, Miss I. Elofson, Dr. G. W. Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Cameron, Rev. A. W. and Mrs Copper, and child, Mr. J. P. Crerar, Rev. J. Chalmers, Hon. A. Creighton, Mr. Campbell, Rev. G. W. and Mrs. Coultas, Mrs. M. B. Davidson, Rev. F. W. Davis, Lord Elibanks, Mr. Erckens, Mr. L. Poster, Mr. C. F. A. Ferber, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Farrar, Mr. J. Farrow, Miss Gorham, Mr. A. B. Glover, Mr. A. M. Grant, Mr. C. Gsell, Mr. R. E. Gutman, Mr. E. T. G. Hatch, M.P., and Imanservant, Mr. W. H. C. Harrison, Mr. M. Hinkel, Mrs. R. S. Ivy, Miss B Ivy, Master Ivy, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. W. A. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Kunkel, Miss Kirby, Mr. H. Kemna, Mr. and Mrs. Leppelley, Miss Lewis, Mr. Moro, Mr. V. Murai, Mr. G. W. Millward, Mr. Macheda, Mr. J. H. Macoun, Mrs. May, three children, governess and amah, Dr. and Mrs. Machie, and two children, Miss M. Manning, Miss Mackinnon, Mr. R. Miller, Mr. J. Meikle, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Merton, Misses Merton (two), Mr. H. C. Matheson, Rev. C. G McCully, Mr. and Mrs. D. McLaren, Mr. Nutter, Mr. F. Nabholz, Miss Ogilvie, Mrs. G. L. Otis, Miss H. K. Otis, Mr. G. L. Peisse, Capt. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Romeyn, Mr. G. Rizzardi, Miss Ricketts, Mr. E. Rogers, Mr. H. J. Rothwell, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rankin, Mrs. L. Ross, Mrs. Roswell Skeel, Jr., Mrs. Skeer, and two servants, Mrs. Shuelke, Prof. Hamilton Sharpe, Mrs. and Miss Stetson, Mrs. Scott, Mr. R. Shewan, Miss K. Scudder, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, Miss G. C. Smith, Miss Shepard, Mr. J. A. Sullivan, Miss Rae Selling, Capt. Tillett, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Toulds, Mr. D. Thorpe, Mr. G. Tabarai, Mr. G. Thorne, Rev. W. and Mrs. Taylor, and two children, Mr. Wilson Taylor, Mr. T. Tanaka, Mrs. Wertheimer, Capt. J. D. Wildschut, Mr. E. Wurster, Rev. C. M. Warren, Mr. J. R. Woolley, Mr. Yow, and Mr. H. Ziervagel in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakata Maru*, from London via ports:—Baron and Baroness Hayashi, I.J. Minister, Major Tsutaye Ohara, Mrs, Blad, Miss Hilda Blad, Master Blad, Miss Kainzl Mr. P. S. Philips, Misses Dorothy and Ethe. Kilby, Mr. Hideo Ikeda, Mr. T. Amaya, Mr. Kiyoshi Umeda, and Mr. Setaro Tejima in cabin.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, from London via ports:—Mr and Mrs. Wakefield, and Dr. J. I. Cullew, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Capt. W. H. Anderson, U.S.N, Mrs. W. H. Anderson, Dr. B. Apple, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Lord Balcarres, Lt.-Col. A. B. Bayless, U.S.V., Mr. L. Berrick, Mrs. F. E. Beatty and two children, Mr. Thomas Dott, Dr. M. M. Franklin, Mr. T. Griedanas, Mr. Alfred M. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones, Mr. Fred. B. Jones, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mr. Wm. Maxwell, Major C. W. McCawley, U.S.N., Mr. H. Noguchi, Mr. Y. Oki, Mr. A. Ploos von Amstal, Mr. Otis A. Poole, Mr. M. Shibata, Miss Eleanor Poole, Lieut. E. Stevenson, Mr. Trumbull White, Mr. and Mrs. F. Vivanti, Mr. Y. Yoshioka, Mr. Hsu Yuk Kai and servant, Mrs. Loo Chang Shee, Mrs. Lee Cho, Mrs. Leong Hang Hin, Mrs. Shang See, Mr. Wong Tin Chong, Miss Loo Hin On, and Mr. Lin Coon Chuck, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. Chiyo Oda, Mr. J. B. Pocklington, Mr. K. Kinoshita, Mr. E. W. Palm, Mr. H. Naitoh, Mrs. Geo. Brinkworth, and Prof. S. Uchida in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. F. Perkins, Mr. R. G. Shaw, Jr., Mr. H. H. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Russell, Misses Dods and Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Taylour, Mr. and Mrs. W. Barrett, Mr. Mark Myers, Madame The O'Gorman and amah, Mr. T. H. Loring, Dr. and Mrs. Selden, infant & amah, Mr. R. S. Sale, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Mr. W. C. Macdonald, Mrs. Innocent, 4 children and amah, Miss Crawford, Mr. R. Crawford, Mr. R. Tuthell, Mr. A. Dithlefsen, Miss Welch, Mr. A. J. Welch, Mr. Rothwell, Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. Lawless, Mr. Pinxton, Mr. Ralston, Mr. Kirby, Mrs. Crawford in cabin; and 9 German sailors in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *SaikioMaru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. M Oshima, and children, Chief Instr. of Mach. N. Ogawa, Col. and Mrs. J. M. J. Sanos, Miss Sanos, Mr. Emil Schulze, Capt. H. Petersen, Mr. J. Sutherland, Mr. G. C. Hurry, Mr. T. Nakanishi, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Wilson, and child, Mrs. Gromsch, and children, Mr. A. Yamamoto, Mr. and Mrs. M. Inomata, Mrs. S. Komuro, and children, Mr. and Mrs. Ogawa, Mrs. Yetsu Shimatani, Master T. Shimatani, Mr. and Mrs. H. Murakami, Miss T. Hurst, Mr. S. Iseda, Mr. Kiyoshi Matsumaga, Mr. K. Omori, Miss Toyo Hirata, and Mr. Geo. Kercher in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TEA.					TOTAL PACKAGES.
	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Colombo	—	—	—	105	—	105
Amoy.....	—	969	5,326	—	—	6,295
Shanghai	1,824	2,553	571	—	—	4,948
Kobe	200	—	—	—	—	200
Yokohama.....	898	559	1,142	271	—	2,870
Total	2,922	4,081	7,039	376	—	14,418

	SILK.		
	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	10	—	10
Shanghai	—	—	—
Yokohama	424	—	424
Total	434	—	434

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Per British steamer *Saint Irene*, for Tacoma Wash.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	HONOLULU.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Kobe	1,401	2,605	3,194	4,465	—	6,601
Yokohama	4,471	463	2,434	—	—	11,838
Total	5,872	2,468	5,628	4,465	—	18,433

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Hohenzollern*, Captain H. Kirchner, reports:—Left Hongkong the 18th of October at 8 a.m. Passed Ocksen Lighthouse the 19th of October at 2 p.m. Syauki Point the 19th at 11.20 p.m. Akuisi Island the 21st at 1.30 p.m. Siwo Point Lighthouse the 22nd at 7.35 p.m. Rock Island the 23rd at 8.15 a.m., and arrived at Yokohama Road the same day at 2 p.m. Got during the voyage N.E.-N.W. winds, moderate, fine weather. From Siwo Point to W.N.W. winds, strong, fine weather.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For AUSTRALIA and New Zealand (from Kobe), Quick Despatch, the "GUTHRIE."—Browne & Co.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 3rd and 18th at Noon (every month), the "YOKOHAMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 8th and 23rd at Noon (every month), the "OMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG via ports (from Nagasaki), Oct. 30th, the "KOSAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For LONDON via ports, October 31st, at Daylight, the "HECTOR."—Butterfield & Swire.

For HAVRE, Hamburg and Bremen, via ports, about October 30th, the "HEIDELBERG."—C. Illies & Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, Oct. 31st, the "NIPPON MARU."—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Oct. 31st, the "CITY OF DUBLIN"—Dodwell Co., Ltd.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, and Nagasaki, Nov. 1st, at Daylight, the "ROSETTA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For LONDON, viâ Kobe, Hongkong, Straits, Ceylon, and Suez Canal, Nov. 1st, at 8 a.m., the "SHANGHAI."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For SHANGHAI, viâ Kobe, Shimonoseki and Nagasaki, Nov. 1st, at Noon, the "KOBE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Victoria, B.C., Nov. 1st, the "IDZUMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 3rd, the "EMPRESS OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For NEWCHWANG via ports (from Kobe), Nov. 2nd, at Noon, the "SATSUMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about November 3rd, the "AMERICA MARU."—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

For MARSEILLES, London, & Antwerp, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and Port Said, Nov. 4th, at Noon, the "BINGO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For BONIN Islands via ports, Nov. 5th, at 4 p.m., the "SUMINOYE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For VLADIVOSTOK via ports (from Kobe), Nov. 5th, the "TAIREN MARR."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO direct, 7th November, the "OCEANIC."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For MARSEILLES, via ports and Shanghai, Nov 8th, at 9 a.m., the "ANNAM."—M.M.S.S. Co.

For SYDNEY, and Melbourne, viâ Kobe, Moji, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, and Brisbane, Nov. 9th, at Noon, the "KASUGA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO via Honolulu and San Diego, November 10th, the "THYRA."—Butterfield and Swire.

For CHINKAMPO via ports (from Kobe), Nov. 12th, the "OWARI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about November 13th, the "GAELIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For BOMBAY, viâ Kobe, Moji, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, 14th Sept., the "MITKE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For VLADIVOSTOCK direct (from Nagasaki), Nov. 14th, the "HAKUAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, November 15th, the "COPTIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For TIENTSIN via ports (from Kobe) Nov. 16th, at Noon, the "GAGATO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, Nov. 20th, the "EMPRESS OF JAPAN."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For PORTLAND, Oregon, November 24th, the "ABERGELDIE."—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Nov. 24th, at 10 a.m., the "HOHENZOLLERN."—Norddeutscher Lloyds.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Alex. Webster, 21st October,—Java, Sugar.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, J. Barr, 22nd Oct.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 21st October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 22nd October,—London via ports, and Kobe, 21st October, General.—Comes & Co.

Poseidon, Austrian steamer, 2,432, A. Leva, 23rd October,—Hongkong, 16th October, General.—Browne & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 23rd October,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Diana, American schooner, 74, ——, 6th October, 1896,—North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Fritz von Well.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 9th Aug.,—Guam via ports, Copra and Coffee.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

W. M. Bawden, American schooner, 695, K. Fjeren, 14th October,—Port Townsend, 23rd August, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bros.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Plover, British gunboat, 755, Lt.-Com. Cowper, 23rd October,—Kobe, 21st October.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is still no great volume of business, though the demand continues for yarns and there is some enquiry for fabrics.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	$38.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 5.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	50.00 to 54.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	91.00 to 94.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	115.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	88.00 to 92.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	104.00 to 107.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	133.00 to 137.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.60
Indian Broach	20.00
Chinese	23.00

METALS.

The market is still not active in view of the high prices demanded.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	$ 5.80 to 6.00
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.50 to 7.75
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.80 to 2.90
Hoop Iron (⅛ to ⅛ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.85
Langkat	stock No

SUGAR.

The usual steady trade has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6.90
Brown Taikong	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Canton	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.60
White Refined	7.70 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

An active week with very large settlements at advancing prices. Orders are coming in freely both from Europe and America.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal.
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1170 to 1175
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1230 to 1240
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1130 to 1135
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1180 to 1190
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1115 to 1120
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1150 to 1160
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1100 to 1150
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1100 to 1105
Re-reels—No. 1½	1080 to 1085
Re-reels—No. 2	1040 to 1050
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1150 to 1160
Kakedas—No. 1	1080 to 1090
Kakedas—No. 1½	1010 to 1050
Kakedas—No 2	1010 to 1025
Kakedas—No 2½	1000 to 1010

WASTE SILK.

The market remains active and strong. Europe wishes to buy under quotations ruling this side, but without success, and the tendency is upwards.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$105 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Business has been dull during the past week. Quotations are nominally as last given.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 26

There is no change in the London price of silver, but local rates on China have undergone some alterations, whilst otherwise quotations remain the same.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2 0½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49½
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	5½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	6⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76
— Private 10 days' sight	77
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	153½
Bar Silver (London)	26⅞

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MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 26.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 185. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels—a few shares can be placed at *yen* 230. Club Hotels—a small lot of shares is offering at *yen* 80. Langfeldts can be placed at *yen* 90. Laundries have sellers at *yen* 55 North and Race have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms are offering at par.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs can be had at *yen* 108; Oriental Hotels, first issue, at *yen* 108.

Osaka Harbour Construction Bonds are offering at *yen* 98 60 cum interest for six months due on 1st December.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	200 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50 ... ... 4...	185 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100 ...	230 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100 ... 1...	80 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100 ... 9...	225 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Pdrs.), $125 ...	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100 ...	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100 ...	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10 ...	9 25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100 ...	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50 ...	50 Sa.
Hiogo Gas Co., Ld., $100 ... 3...	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50 ...	5 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100 ...	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50 ...	30 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100 ...	108 S.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100 ...	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100 ...	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100 ...	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,498 44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 26.

Japan Breweries have sellers at *yen* 190. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 235. Laundries can be had at *yen* 60. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel, Kobe. Y. U. Club Debentures have buyers at *yen* 108.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...220 Sales.
Grand Hotel .....235 Sellers.
Club Hotel,..... 87.50 Sales.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Nominal.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. .....190 Sellers.

Tokyo, October 26.

Redemption Loan Bonds ...	98 03
War Loan Bonds ...	98 03
Tokyo City Loan Bonds ...	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200 ...	445.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50 ...	66.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100 ...	304.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50 ...	72 80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50 ...	72 50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100 ...	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25 ...	30.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	78.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 42 ...	62 00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50 ...	96 80
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45 ... 1...	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25 ... 1...	83.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47 ... 1...	58.90
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	50.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50 ... 1...	66.40
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40... ... 1...	57 50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	106.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	85.30
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	95 70
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50 ... 1...	48.40
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	32.10
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50 ...	28 00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50 ...	43.80
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25 ...	25 90
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25 ...	11.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13 ... 1...	24 60
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50 ...	5 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50 ...	226 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50 ...	127.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50 ...	75.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10 ...	12.50

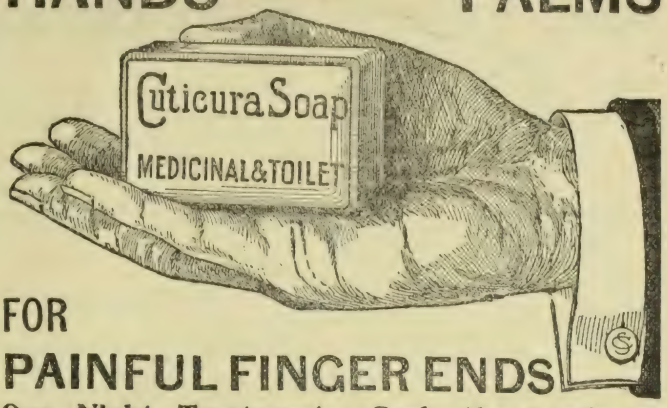
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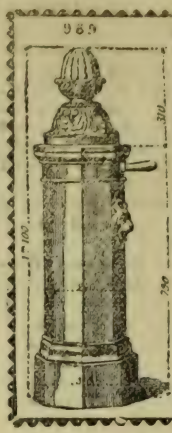


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"FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At No. 1 Bluff, Yokohama, on November 4th the wife of C. H. WILSON (Hongkong and Shanghai Bank), of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

On 31st October, at the Yokohama British Consulate, and afterwards by the Rev. F. Champneys Irwine, M.A., at the Public Hall WILLIAM WOODUS GREENE, Chief Officer in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, to JESSIE MATILDA BOOTH, third daughter of Geo. Booth, of Yokohama.

DEATHS.

At 13, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on the 27th ultimo, ARCHIBALD F. MACNAB, aged sixty.

Died, at his residence in Tokyo on the 2nd instant, at 11.10 p.m., Mr. A. MACMILLAN, aged forty-eight.

The funeral service will take place in St. Andrew's Church, Kiridoshi, Shiba, at half-past two on Sunday, the 5th instant, and the interment will be in Aoyama Cemetery. Friends are requested to accept this notice.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory has amalgamated with the Shibashima Spinning Mills. The purchase price of the latter is 390,000 *yen*.

SIR HENRY NORTHCOTE is the new Governor of Bombay.

OVER 500 Australian troops have sailed for the Cape.

A FRENCH embassy to an Arab chief on the borders of Lake Chad has been annihilated.

THE Tanko Railway Company of Hokkaido won 57,400,000 *kin* of coal during September.

THE Japanese residents at Ginseng at the end of September numbered 4 387—2,587 males and 1,800 females.

GENERAL SIR REDVERS BULLER has arrived at the Cape to take supreme command of the British forces.

THE announcement of the forthcoming marriage of the Crown Prince has been formally made public.

THE continental press, particularly the French, are jubilant over the disaster to the British arms near Ladysmith.

THE number of immigrants to Hokkaido during 1898 was 63,629. Compared with 1897 the decrease was 721.

THE Emperor's Birthday on Friday was suitably celebrated by State receptions, a military review, and a Ball at the Foreign Office.

THE number of parcels post packets dealt with during August was 393,581. Compared with last year the increase is 13 3 per cent.

FIVE transports are due at Durban on the 9th inst. Nothing can arrive sooner. Thereafter the transports will arrive in rapid succession.

Now that the revenue of the Nippon Railway has reached 24,000 *yen* per day the company will be able to declare a dividend of 12 per cent.

THE development of the port of Otaru, Hokkaido, is very remarkable. In 1892 the houses numbered only 3 000, but they have now increased to 13 000

A CHINA JAPAN TRADING ASSOCIATION is being promoted and more than 200 Chinese traders at Yokohama have joined the organisation, as well as many Japanese traders.

THE warehousing business in Yokohama is very dull, goods being taken delivery of as soon as they arrive, very few going into godown; a contrast to former years.

SEVERAL years ago Mike Coal was imported into San Francisco, but it has now been ousted from the market as being inferior in quality to that of Washington State, and dearer in price.

THE Kyushu Beer Brewery to be established at Kokura, will be turned into a joint stock company with a capital of 500,000 *yen*, of which 300 000 *yen* will be supplied by U.S. capitalists.

THE number of applications for Industrial Bank debenture bonds during 11 days from the 10th to the 20th ult. was 33 445 covering 668,900 *yen* face value. The average bid was about *yen* 20.40.

THE headman at Kueiyang, who is charged with the murder of Mr. Fleming, has been arrested and identified. The Chinese are petitioning the authorities at Peking with the view of getting him released.

MESSRS. Kunimichi Kitagaki, Noriyoshi Sakamoto, Kayemon Takashima, Rempei Kondo, Naoteru Kataoka, Teijiro Inagaki, Sanenori Sonoda, Gennosuke Takano, and Okindo Abe were elected managers; and Messrs. Tobei Takemura, Kisaburo Tsushima, and Bunyemon Hirata, inspectors, of the Kanson Railway.

THE Narita Railway Company has published its accounts as follows:—Net profits, *yen* 41,608.433; carried to reserve fund, *yen* 2,085; rewards, *yen* 2,085; dividend, *yen* 37,265 (5.8 per cent.); carried over, *yen* 173.000.

THE Wool Spinning Company held its ordinary general meeting on the 22nd inst. After setting aside 8,900 *yen* as starting expenses and 6,000 *yen* as a reserve fund, the company finds itself able to declare a dividend of over 10 per cent.

THE news from the seat of war this week is very sad for British readers. In an engagement near Ladysmith, owing to the stampeding of the mule batteries, 2,000 British soldiers were surrounded by he Boers and forced to surrender.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Kobe Customs House, the foreign trade of Kobe for the first half of this month was as follows:—Exports, 3,260,702,800 *yen*; Imports, 4,460,660,520 *yen*, Imports exceeded exports by 1,199,057 720 *yen*.

AT an ordinary general meeting of the Osaka Railway Company, the following accounts were presented:—Net profits, 200,109.494 *yen*; reserve fund, 10 000,000 *yen*; dividend, 181,062.000 *yen* (12.4 per cent.); rewards, 8,300,000 *yen*; brought forward, 747,494 *yen*.

THE weaving district of Yonezawa produces about 2 million *yen* of silk stuffs every year. Just now the raw silk trade is so brisk at Yokohama, that the weavers of the district are unable to buy materials, for if they purchased at current prices they would make no profit on their stuffs. They are waiting for a turn in the market.

COUNT INOUYE is said to have laid down 25 points connected with the business of the Kyushu Railway and asked that they be investigated by Messrs. Kataoka and Mezu. They duly gave him their answers, and then the Count put 700 questions to Mr. Sengoku upon the information given him. The Count's decision will not be announced till the beginning of December.

THE privileges of the Kanson Railway Company, whose call on shares has been crowned with success, are said to be so great that more than two-thirds of the whole land for 720 feet on both sides of the line has been granted for nothing. In addition to this grant, the State has given 200 000 *tsubo* for a first class station, 80 000 *tsubo* for a second class station, and 50.000 *tsubo* for a third class station together with all the stone and timber on the land.

A DESPATCH from General White says that the force which met with the disaster on the 30th October consisted of four and a half companies of the Gloucestershire Regiment, six companies of the Irish Fusiliers, and a battery of Mountain Artillery. The mules accompanying the force were stampeded by boulders thrown down upon them and also by rifle shots. They bolted with all the guns and with the reserve ammunition. The British, nevertheless, held the position from dawn until three o'clock in the afternoon under a heavy fire. At last their ammunition was exhausted, and the position, with the survivors, was captured.

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THE TRANSVAAL.

Saturday, Oct. 28.

A squadron of Hussars is an uncertain number, but if we put it at fifty or sixty troopers independently of officers, we shall not be far wrong. There should not, however, be more than four officers with a squadron under ordinary circumstances, yet it appears that nine have been taken prisoner. Altogether it is difficult to decipher the news. If, as may fairly be presumed, the thirty hussars who fought their way through, belonged to the squadron spoken of in the first batch of telegrams received yesterday, then we may conclude that the number of men taken prisoners did not exceed thirty, together with nine officers. It is a disaster, but of a trifling character. In all probability, what happened was that the hussars charged a body of Boers who still preserved their order and were ready to use their rifles effectually. Cavalry is of little use for attacking infantry armed with magazine rifles and not at all in a demoralized condition. The least misfortune to be anticipated under such circumstances is the shooting of the horses, after which their riders are at the mercy of the enemy. The large number of officers is in accordance with what has been happening throughout the campaign. In every return of casualties officers have figured in disproportionate numbers. Whether they are exposing themselves unnecessarily or whether the Boers are deliberately picking them off, we can not tell.

It would now appear as though the British forces had evacuated the northern part of Natal, including Charlestown, Newcastle, Dundee and Glencoe, and fallen back upon Ladysmith. Dundee being to the north of Glencoe, the troops at the former place would naturally have retired to the latter, instead of to Ladysmith, had there been any intention of holding Glencoe. We may look, therefore, for a battle on a large scale at Ladysmith; a battle which will have a considerable effect on the war, for though the loss of one fight by the British at the present stage would not influence the final result, it might draw a great many waverers into the Boer camp and thus increase the difficulties of the campaign. We do not for one moment apprehend defeat if the forces engaged are even approximately equal, but the dimensions of General White's command are just the uncertain element of the situation.

Perhaps it may be well to repeat what we stated when publishing the first batch of telegrams yesterday, namely, that there does not seem to have been anything like a defeat of the British troops, and that the hussars were not captured in connexion with the evacuation of either Glencoe or Dundee. The incident happened after the first fight in which the Boers were driven from a difficult position by General Symons forces, losing, at the same time, 5 guns.

Monday, Oct. 30.

To a military man the explanation at once presenting itself with regard to the first engagement in Natal—at Glencoe on the 20th instant—would have been that the Boers had not entertained any intention of making a serious fight, but were rather seeking to unmask the British position, and that, consequently, their dislodgement from the heights they had occupied was a contingency included in their original programme: in other words, that they were merely making a reconnaissance in force, under instructions not to take any needless risks. Such would have been the conclusion had it not been for the statement that they lost 5 guns, for if their orders had been to avoid anything like a genuine battle, they would have taken care not to imperil their artillery. But the telegraph now informs us that no guns were captured, and that only a few dead and wounded Boers were found in the evacuated position. It is plain, therefore, that they made only a slight resistance. Possibly their courage failed, but the safer conclusion is that they were under instructions not to bring on a general engagement. The fight at Elandslaagte seems to have been a more stubborn affair, and the description given of it suggests that the Boers would have held their ground if they could; but, on the whole, the moral effect of these first engagements must not be over-rated.

We suggested in our last issue that the hussars said to have been made prisoners fell into the enemy's hands on the 20th instant owing to a misjudged attempt to convert the retreat of the Boers into a rout. Our supposition was based on two facts: first, that the telegrams explicitly connected the affair with the attack on Glencoe, and there had been only one so-called attack; secondly, that the arrival of the hussars at Pretoria was announced almost simultaneously with the news of their capture. It is nearly 300 miles from Glencoe, or Dundee, to Pretoria, and unless the Boers showed great celerity in sending off their prisoners, it is difficult to conceive how their journey to Pretoria and the transmission of news about their arrival could have been effected by the 26th, had they been captured in operations subsequent to the 20th. But another hypothesis is suggested by the latest news, namely, that the hussars were engaged on outpost duty at the time when Brigadier-General Yule evacuated Dundee, and that, failing to rejoin him in time, they were cut off by the Boers. Yule apparently arrived at Ladysmith on the morning of the 26th. He left Dundee on the 25th at daylight, so far as we can judge, and covered the 40 miles to Ladysmith in a day and a night. It is possible that the hussars belonged to his force, that they were made prisoners on the 25th and that they were transported to Pretoria on the same night. That hypothesis involves rapid work but receives colour from the fact that the 30 troopers who forced their way through the enemy, reached Ladysmith on the 26th, and they can scarcely have been *en route* from the 20th until the latter day. Altogether the conclusion most consistent with all the circumstances is that Yule evacuated Dundee very hastily, not waiting for his most advanced cavalry videttes to rejoin him, and not attempting to carry away the wounded. The latter fact looks ugly at first sight, but in truth no General with a forced march to undertake would think of carrying off his wounded if he was in the face of a civilized enemy. Such a step would be most inhumane to the wounded. Doubtless nurses and surgeons were left with them at Dundee.

It is evident, then, that General Symons was in the hands of the Boers when he died. Glencoe is little more than a hamlet, whereas Dundee may be called a town. There are probably no hospital facilities at the former place. Hence all those wounded on the 20th,—22 officers and 151 men—were carried to Dundee, and left there when Yule fell back upon Ladysmith. Reuter telegraphs that no Boers were present at the General's funeral, a fact which some may be disposed to interpret as evidence that a proper military funeral was not accorded to the British officer. The true explanation, we imagine, is that there were no Boers in Dundee: they had all pushed on in the hope of effecting what would have been a brilliant *coup*, the isolation of Yule's force and its destruction before it could effect a junction with White. They have failed in that object, and nothing remains for them now except to try conclusions with the whole of General White's command at Ladysmith.

There is nothing disheartening or extraordinary in the series of events up to the present. It is true that the British have had to draw in their advanced posts and concentrate at Ladysmith. But that is an inevitable manœuvre in the face of an enemy possessing great numerical superiority. Retreat of any sort is galling, but a retreat like that of General Yule—namely, a comparatively small detachment recovering touch with the main body in the face of a powerful enemy's attempts to intercept it—is counted by military men a successful operation. On the other hand, against this strategical loss of ground we have to set the fact that the British have been victorious in every encounter with the enemy—victorious at Glencoe; victorious at Elandslaagte, and victorious in the engagement on the 24th instant. They have had heavy losses:—

	KILLED.	WOUNDED.
Glencoe	161	 53
Elandslaagte	42	 205
Engagement on 24th	13	 96
Total	216	 354
Grand Total		570

We have not yet received a statement of the casualties among the officers on the 24th, but at Glencoe and Elandslaagte there were 15 officers killed and 52 wounded. Five hundred and seventy men put *hors de combat* in four days, exclusive of the captured hussars, who bring the total to over 600, is a serious record when we remember that the British forces are small. A "military writer" in one of our local contemporaries estimates General White's command at 12,000. We trust that he is correct, but we can not ourselves account for more than one half of that number. The same writer gives the Transvaal an army of 26,000 men and the Free State an army of 16,000, making 42,000 in all. We can only say that the latest statements made in the columns of *The Times* by apparently competent authorities differ greatly from these figures. They give the Transvaal 15,000 and the Free State 6,000; the total being exactly one half of that stated by the writer quoted above.

Concerning the immediate future, we have said that a general engagement near Ladysmith seems imminent. The Boers can move against Ladysmith by three roads. There are five forts in the neighbourhood of Dundee and Glencoe, defending the routes to the south, but these forts having now been evacuated, the three roads are open. The Boers may also endeavour to cut White's communications with Pietermaritzburg while enveloping him at Ladysmith. To effect that object,

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their plan would be to march upon Greytown, to which there are two roads, one leading almost due south from Dundee, the other lying further east. The former route presents no impediments, the latter is defended by a series of forts. Greytown is 40 miles from Pietermaritzburg and 30 from Weston, an important station on the railway. It is 70 miles, however, from Dundee, and a flank movement involving such a long detour is not probable under the circumstances. Each day is important to the Boers since each day may see transports arrive at Durban, and from Durban 2,000 men can be sent by rail to Ladysmith every 24 hours. It should be the object of the Boers, therefore, to strike without a moment's unnecessary delay, while marked arithmetical superiority is in their favour. Sheer weight of numbers is what they must trust, not strategical manœuvres.

The telegram with reference to French action comes in the form, "French Warvesse lordered South-east Africa." Read literally, the reference is to one vessel only. But why should Reuter telegraph such an event as the despatch of one French war-ship? There are French interests to be looked after in South Africa and the presence of the French war-vessel in those waters would be a natural and proper measure. We refrain from discussing this question pending the receipt of fuller information.

Tuesday, Oct. 31.

It seems very probable that the engagement reported by the Saigon telegram elsewhere was only an affair of artillery. General White's tactics will be to use his artillery as much as possible for the purpose of harassing the Boers and keeping them at a distance until he has under his command a sufficient force to make a general attack, or until the Boers, on their side, assault his positions. Nothing is less probable than that he will attempt any large offensive movement at present. If the Boers try to cut his communications with Pietermaritzburg, he will have to attack them vigorously, and of course he will make every effort to push them back from the region where such enterprises are possible. Indeed the difficult feature of his position is that he has to watch a front of sixty miles from Ladysmith to Greytown, for if the Boers, moving southward, cross the line joining those two places at any point, they may succeed is destroying the railway. Two more transports ought to have reached Durban by this time, but at least a week must pass before any considerable reinforcements can arrive at that place, and, however complete organization might be, it will be impossible to send the men to the front at once. According to present appearances, therefore, White will not be strong enough to attempt anything on a large scale until about November 12th, and before that time arrives something more or less decisive is pretty sure to happen unless the Boers neglect their opportunities strangely. It is very noticeable that the Boers have not yet made as much as one attack. While pushing forward in large members, they have managed to remain all the while on the defensive. Such tactics will never win a campaign. A stroke must be declared sooner or later, and that will be the crucial moment for the Boers. They can not sit down and besiege Ladysmith: there is no time for that manœuvre.

Wednesday, Nov. 1.

The telegraphic news from Natal this morning seems to suggest that it is the intention of the Boers rather to invite than to deliver an attack. They are said to have formed a semicircle on the north of Ladysmith and to be strongly entrenching themselves there. Possibly their idea is that, having invaded British territory, they have imposed upon England the duty of driving them out, and they mean to wait quietly until she undertakes the task, which she will certainly do as soon as her troops reach Natal. In one sense that would be a paltry kind of programme, for the only substantial advantages the Boers can hope to gain must be gained while they are greatly superior in strength to the British. But it is just possible that they have resolved to make the final and conclusive struggle in Natal, and that, if they are defeated there, they will at once sue for peace so as to save the Transvaal and the Free State from being converted into fields of battle. It is out of the question that they should capture Ladysmith except by assault. If they had a powerful siege train, and could proceed against the place by the regular system of sap and parallel, they might, perhaps, reduce it in time. But they have neither the implements nor the leisure for anything of the kind, and unless they take their courage in their hands and go at the British boldly, they need never expect to see the inside of Ladysmith. If the balloon observations had showed a force of seven or eight thousand Boers entrenching themselves, the proceeding would be quite intelligible. The evident interpretation would then be that the van only of the invading army had reached the neighbourhood of Ladysmith, and that it was establishing itself in such a manner as to be able to hold its ground until the main body arrived. But since there are from sixteen to twenty thousand Boers already in position, their entrenching operations can only mean that they intend to make their lines of defence on the immediate north of Ladysmith. Up to the present their conduct of the campaign has been almost pusillanimous. With great superiority of numbers they have not once attacked the British, but have confined themselves to cutting off videttes, capturing mules, and storming abattoirs. However, the telegraph may soon bring us intelligence that they have at length ceased to combine the roles of invaders and defenders, and that they have made one bold stroke for victory.

Just as we are closing these comments, the telegraph brings news that an engagement has taken place at Ladysmith, and that the Boers have been pushed back several miles. Again the British, though heavily outnumbered, have been the aggressors. That seems plain from the wording of the telegram, which speaks of the British returning to their camp. It must be confessed that things do not look well for the Boers even when they are playing their best cards.

Thursday, Nov. 2.

The news from the seat of war to-day is very bad. It would seem that the mistakes of the past are being repeated by the British commanders. First we have a squadron of cavalry cut off among the hills, and captured, with the exception of thirty troopers and a sergeant, and now a similar fate overtakes a body of two thousand men—two battalions of infantry and a battery of artillery. In each case precisely the same error appears to have been committed, namely, detaching fractions of troops to too great a distance from the main body. There is no reason why the Boers should have a better knowledge of the hills about Ladysmith than our own people have, and, as the former have frequently shown that their point of strength is mountain fighting, it might have been hoped that no easy opportunities of that kind would have been furnished to them. However, these reflections may be quite unjust. Confronted by an enemy outnumbering his troops by at least two to one, and fighting in a difficult country, General White may have had sound reason for taking a risk which, since it led to disaster, seems unjustifiable, but would be loudly applauded had it succeeded. We may reasonably expect, at all events, that due allowance will henceforth be made for the remarkable celerity with which the Boers seem to move among mountains. Of course, the ultimate cause of the catastrophe on the 30th was White's insufficiency of force. Had he been able to support the covering column with a strong reserve, there could not have been any question of getting surrounded. If nothing worse happens during this period of great numerical superiority on the enemy's side, there will not be much to complain of, and certainly nothing worse will happen so long at the Boers continue to skulk among the hills.

From the wording of the latter part of the telegram it would seem that the Boers had only one siege gun for bombarding Ladysmith. Indeed it is rather remarkable that they had a siege gun at all, for the difficulty of transporting large ordnance over a country such as that through which they have been advancing must be immense. They probably counted on being able to do great damage at Ladysmith with a long-range piece which could be mounted at a point beyond the reach of any shells fired by British field-artillery. But the quick-firers of the Naval Brigade soon redressed the balance.

As to the nature of the engagement, our previous convictions are confirmed by this telegram. It seems evident that there was no Boer attack, unless we apply the term to their one-gun bombardment. What happened was that General White moved out to assault the enemy on the north and that he detached two thousand men to guard, meanwhile, against any enterprises by the Boers on the West; that is to say, in the direction of the Orange Free State. The offensive movement was entirely successful, the enemy being dislodged and driven back several miles. But the covering column pushed too far into the hills, and allowed itself to be cut off from Ladysmith. It is to be feared that there was great loss of life, and of course the weakening of White's force by two thousand men is a serious matter. But the general plan of the Boers' campaign does not become more explicable than before. Unless they soon deliver an attack upon Ladysmith, the only conclusion will be that their intention is to adopt defensive tactics with their advanced lines on the north and west of Ladysmith.

It will be observed that the French

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telegram gives a very different account of the operations. It represents the British as having failed completely to dislodge the Boers, and as having lost 2,000 prisoners in the attempt. But of course the official statement sent by General White is absolutely trustworthy. The attack against the Boers' positions on the north succeeded signally, but the covering column on the west was cut off.

The Irish Fusiliers concerned in the surrender near Ladysmith were formerly the 87th and 89th Foot, and as such had a famous record in the Peninsular War. They are now known as the Princess Victoria's Irish Fusiliers, and carry her coronet. The first battalion, which was recently in Egypt, was ordered to the Cape this year. It is commanded by Lt.-Col. Carleton; with Major F. H. Munn second in command, and Majors J. S. Standen, C. S. Kincaid, and W. S. J. Barry. The 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment was formerly the 28th Foot. It first saw service at Ramillies under the great Duke of Marlborough, fought at Louisberg, Quebec, was in Egypt in Napoleon's time, went through the Peninsular war, fought at Waterloo; then saw service in the Crimea and passed on to the Mutiny, for which service "Delhi" is emblazoned on its colours. Lt.-Col. E. P. Wilford is in command, with Majors S. Humphrey, H. C. Cure, and W. R. T. Wallace.

Friday, November 3.

Judging from the utterances of some of our Tokyo contemporaries, and from a letter addressed to local journals, there appears to be a sentiment of great admiration for the Boers. They are supposed to have entered upon this war with the conviction that defeat must ultimately be their fate, but supported, nevertheless, by a determination to sell their independence as dearly as possible. Now we do not deny that the Boers deserve admiration. They are made of good stuff and they show it. Neither do Englishmen think, so far as we can see, that the Boer has been acting with deliberately deceitful purpose throughout these complications. He doubtless possesses an honest conviction that the right is on his side, and he is striking for what he believes to be the right. But as to the notion that he has shouldered his rifle and taken the field without any hope of victory, it appears to us to be altogether extravagant. On the contrary, the Boers have declared again and again, and those that know them best confirm their possession of the belief, that they will walk over the British soldier without any difficulty, and that the upshot of this war will be to destroy British influence for ever in South Africa. They have not pledged themselves to any forlorn enterprise. They count confidently on success, and are persuaded that they will emerge unchallenged masters not only of the territories they already occupy but also of large districts now under British rule. We are not accusing them of designs of aggrandisement. They would probably have been quite content to go on in the old grooves had they been allowed to discriminate against the stranger within their gates, and to enforce the uncivilized principle that no British subject should be entitled to enjoy within their borders the privileges ungrudgingly extended to themselves within British borders. It is in defence of that semi-barbarous principle that they have drawn the sword, but assuredly they would have let the principle go by the board had they not been absolutely convinced of their ability to thrash any army England could send against them. Possibly, nay certainly, there are men among them who better understood the real nature of the conflict lying before them, but these prudent observers were swamped by the general tide of defiant assurance, and the Boers went into battle untroubled by any doubts about the result. To sympathise with them on the ground that they have knowingly entered upon a hopeless struggle, and that they are braving almost certain death for the sake of their independence, would be to ignore all their own declarations previous to the war.

It is of course inevitable that the present situation should be misunderstood. There is, in the first place, a strong tendency to accuse Great Britain of unreadiness. On October the 11th, the Boers formulated the ultimatum which destroyed all possibility of a peaceful solution. On October the 15th, they struck the first blow by derailing and destroying an armoured train near Vryburg, and on the same day the British Admiral at Simons Town ordered the landing of a strong naval brigade. On October the 20th, that is to say, nine days after the issue of the Boers' ultimatum, the Second Brigade of the First Division of the Army Corps, under General Hilyard, embarked at Southampton, and on the 23rd of the same month fourteen battalions were to have embarked, and doubtless did so, though the fact has not yet been announced by telegram. It appears, therefore, that within less than a fortnight of the issue of the ultimatum, some sixteen thousand men were *en route* for the Cape. We must not forget that every addition made by England to her garrison in South Africa, prior to the actual outbreak of war, rendered the chances of a peaceful solution more remote. She had to choose between the probability of precipitating an appeal to the sword, and the chance of leaving her troops in South Africa to bear, for some three or four weeks, the full brunt of an attack by an enemy of great numerical superiority. She chose the course that seemed most consistent with a peaceful issue, and the Boers by suddenly selecting war, have exposed her to all the disadvantages of her choice.

In the face of the bad news received on Wednesday, it may be well to consider what the Boers have accomplished. They took the field on October the 13th, assuming the offensive not only on their western but also on their eastern borders. What has happened in the twenty days that have elapsed since then? Take the eastern border first. From Laings Nek to Ladysmith is 80 miles. On October the 13th, a stong force of Transvaal Boers crossed into Natal by Laings Nek and other neighbouring routes. Twenty days have brought them to positions in front of Ladysmith. They have advanced at the rate of four miles a day, and have had five encounters with British forces *en route*. In four of those encounters they were defeated; in the fifth, they were victorious, having succeeded in enveloping a detachment of English soldiers in the hills after the British had lost their reserve ammunition and in reducing them to the alternative of annihilation or surrender. That is the record they have achieved, though they number two at least for every one of their opponents. Certainly it is not a brilliant record. There does not seem to be any assurance that even in one solitary instance the Boers were the attackers; they have invariably waited to be attacked, trusting in the succour of the hills which have always been so faithful to them. Twenty days more should see General White's Army re-inforced by at least twelve thousand men. The Boers have not much time left for their grand *coup*.

Turning now to the western frontier, we find that the one achievement standing to the credit of the Boers is that they wrecked a train on October 13th. The following day, they commenced an attack upon Mafeking, and on October 16th they began a kind of siege of Kimberley. It does not appear that they have reduced either place.

What now seems probable is that the Boers, before the close of this month, will find their republics invaded by a strong British army moving from the West, and will also find their opponents in Natal sufficiently strengthened to assume the offensive. The best that they can hope for is to deliver a crushing defeat to General White within the next fortnight, destroy the railway from Durban to Ladysmith, and then march back to their frontier mountains, having blown up the bridges and otherwise injured the communications on the Natal side. Thereafter, by entrenching the mountain passes, they might guard their eastern border with a comparatively small force, so as to free the bulk of their troops for defensive operations on the other side. But such a programme involves the necessity of a general attack upon the British positions at Ladysmith, and it is from a general attack that the Boers seem to shrink. We begin to believe the things said of them by those that have lived long among them, namely, that while they are splendid men for shooting from behind a rock and over a hill top, they have no stomach for fighting in the open. A very short interval without some marked success will now land them in a signal dilemma.

Colenso, which the Boers are reported to have occupied, is only 14 miles from Ladysmith, and is a place of some importance on the Pietermaritzburg line. The order of the principal stations, travelling westward from Pietermaritzburg, is Weston, Colenso, Ladysmith; and the distances are Pietermaritzburg to Weston 35 miles, Weston to Colenso 40 miles, and Colenso to Ladysmith 14 miles. One of General White's chief sources of weakness is that, with a greatly inferior force, he has to guard a long line of communications which lies nearly at right angles to the enemy's direction of advance, a most unfavourable situation from a strategical point of view. If the Boers were ready to take even moderate advantage of their numerical superiority, the idea of throwing forward their left flank so as to place it across the railway and thus isolate Ladysmith, must have been prominent in their programme. Doubtless there are detachments of British troops in Weston and Colenso, though probably very small bodies of men, and if the Boers have occupied Colenso, they had to fight for it. Since, however, the line from Colenso to Pietermaritzburg is presumably open, the telegraph

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ought to have conveyed intelligence of a combat if one had occurred, and it is perhaps the absence of such information that inspires the War Office's doubts. Our readers will observe, on the other hand, that Reuter has no hesitation at all in declaring the communications to have been cut, and we are therefore compelled to conclude that though the occupation of Colenso may be apocryphal, the Boers have placed themselves across the railway, whether on the east or on the west of that place. The tactics uniformly pursued by them hitherto lead us to think that they have not occupied Colenso, unless it was unguarded, for their evident determination is to avoid fights in the open as much as possible.

Granting that the communications have been cut, what follows? In the first place, it is to be observed that Ladysmith must be the immediate objective point of the Boers. They can not move against Pietermaritzburg leaving White's columns in their rear. Hence we may assume that the line of communications between Pietermaritzburg and Durban will remain open for the present at all events. That is an important point. It means that when the reinforcements arrive at Durban they can be forwarded to the neighbourhood of the scene without delay. In the next place, will the Boers attack Ladysmith? If they do not take the place and eliminate White's force from the field within the next ten days, they will have made a bad failure. But nothing in the previous conduct of the campaign warrants us in expecting that they will attempt to carry Ladysmith by assault. If they change their strategy and do what any disciplined army would have done long ago, the British troops will at length be placed in a position of defence, and the great disparity of numbers will be partially redressed. The fall of Ladysmith and the annihilation of White's columns would be a very serious matter, but nothing short of that can materially affect the situation. The next few days, then, probably the next two or three, will be a pregnant time, for unless the Boers take, by the 7th or the 8th instant, measures much more resolute than distant deployments and railway-straddlings, they will cease to be formidable.

There is another contingency — Sir George White may not consent to remain with his communications severed. He may have strong reasons for not consenting; reasons such as shortness of provisions or of ammunition. Or, even in the absence of imperative reasons, he may refuse to have British troops placed at a great strategical disadvantage. The whole course of the campaign shows him assuming the offensive on every possible occasion. We do not mean to suggest that he has been rash. His plain duty from the first was to thrust the Boers back resolutely, and dispute every inch of ground, pending the arrival of re-inforcements. It has been said that he ought to have remained more on the defensive; that he should not have precipitated a combat on the 30th for example. The criticism seems unjust. What he did was to launch his men against the enemy's centre and left wing in order to push them back from positions menacing his communications. But our fear is that he will not now consent to play a passive role, but may make a dash to recover touch with Pietermaritzburg; a feat which the smallness of his force renders highly perilous. Something of that kind seems to be what the Boers are waiting for, their only chance of success lying in a defensive campaign.

It appears certain from the telegrams that the disaster on the 30th would not have occurred had not the ammunition been lost. Yet the Boers engaged in attacking the two thousand Englishmen must have numbered fully five thousand.

FOREIGNERS AND THE YOKOHAMA WATER WORKS.

The second instalment, namely 400,000 *yen*, of the Yokohama Water Works Loan was offered to both Japanese and foreign subscribers on the 14th Oct. The applications up to the closing day aggregated 525,800 *yen*, of which 160,100 *yen* was offered by 12 foreigners, and 365,700 *yen* by 62 Japanese subjects. As the applications exceeded the required amount of 400,000 *yen*, the Headman of Yokohama adopted the method of proportionate allotment.

It is unnecessary to explain the importance of Water Works to Yokohama or to insist upon the fact that the water should be of good quality. It may be pointed out, however, that the necessity for undertaking new constructions by means of a public loan was due to the comparatively small scale on which the works had been originally planned, namely, to provide for a population of only 100,000 persons, whereas the present population is more than 210,000. Thus enlargement became inevitable. Moreover, the water works first constructed were defective owing to the fact that the sum expended on them was limited by command of the Government. Thus the pipes laid in the hill districts of Tsukui lacked the requisite protection, so that the water supply has been interrupted from time to time owing to natural catastrophes. A part of the money raised by the present bonds is to be used for repairing those defects.

The total sum to be expended is some 3,250,000 *yen*, of which 1,200,000 *yen* will be disbursed by the State Treasury and the rest, 2,050,000 *yen*, will be raised by municipal loans in Yokohama.

The repayment of loans is to be carried out within 29 years, according to the regulations. But the expenses of the Yokohama Water Works, unlike those of the waterworks in Tokyo and other cities, are not defrayed from municipal taxes, but from the revenues of the Works themselves. Hence the term for repayment will doubtless be shortened, for as the revenue of the Works will be fully 300,000 *yen* a year, and the expenditures only 30,000 *yen*, approximately, a sum of 270,000 *yen* will be available for the repayment of the bonds.

The result of the second issue of the Water Works bonds shows, as we have said, that 12 foreigners subscribed the large sum of 160,100 *yen*. This fact is suggestive. Such a happy incident must be ascribed primarily to the credit enjoyed by the enterprise itself. Japanese public works have not found credit with foreigners in spite of the operation of the Revised Treaties, and have failed to attract foreign capital, as a general rule. These subscriptions to the Water Works Loan are the first example of the kind on a large scale, and if they may be taken as a proof of Japan's improved credit on the one hand, they constitute on the other, a testimony to the reputation of the Water Works Authorities. Thus the citizens of Yokohama have the double satisfaction of enjoying the benefit of water works to which foreigners have largely subscribed, and of being the first to succeed in attracting foreign capital. The Water Works Authorities are certainly to be congratulated. They evidently understand how to manage the economy of this enterprise as well as its technique. We hear that bonds for the remaining 1,250,000 *yen* will be issued next April. The Japanese will doubtless subscribe readily, but we expect that foreign money also will be freely offered. As humble consumers, not happy capitalist, we must express our gratitude that the efforts of Messrs. Hiranuma Senzo and Kobayashi Tadayuki, Directors of the Yokohama Water Works, have been instrumental in securing an ample supply of water for the foreign residents as well as the Japanese, and in placing them both on the same footing as to charges, from the very day following the operation of the new Treaties, to the great benefit of foreigners' purses.

JAPANESE IN CHINA.

It is stated by the *Tokyo Asahi* that the Mitsu Bishi are interesting themselves in mining enterprise in China. A coal mine of smokeless fuel in the province of Kangsi is said to be the particular object of exploitation, and the business is to be on cöoperative principles, Chinese merchants being associated with it.

Sooner or later the Japanese are certainly destined to act a large part in the material development of China, but it must be confessed that they are slow in setting to work. The leading journals of Tokyo, notably the *Jiji* and the *Nichi Nichi*, have of late made vigorous efforts to rouse a spirit of enterprise among their nationals. In its latest issue the *Jiji* reverts to the subject, and regretfully notices that whereas half a dozen of the peoples of Europe are competing keenly for concessions of all kinds in China, the Japanese make no show at all. When reproached with want of enterprise the people of this country answer that the fault lies with the Government which fails to procure privileges and facilities for them, and the Government, on its side, retorts that its nationals make no use whatever of the facilities and privileges already procured. It is a useless discussion, apparently, but the attention drawn to the subject will doubtless bear fruit sooner or later.

THE FRENCH IN AFRICA.

With reference to the telegram which we publish elsewhere about a French disaster in Africa, it may be well to explain that the Sultan Rhabat is the chief of a band of men who have established a kind of Mussulman empire in the region lying eastward of Lake Chad. Lieutenant Bretonnet, of whose unhappy fate at the hands of these savages the telegraph brings news, had replaced M. Gentil in the administration of the Upper Ubanghi. M. Gentil, two years previously to handing over the administration to Lieutenant Bretonnet, made an attempt to penetrate to Lake Chad by the route which has now proved fatal to his successor, and concluded with the Sultan Rhabat a treaty which brought within the sphere of French influence the territories lying between the Upper Ubanghi and the Baghirmi.

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BANQUET AT THE PALACE.

On the 28th October at 6 p.m. a large and brilliant assembly had the honour of dining with their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, to commemorate the consummation of Treaty Revision. The company included their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu, and Prince and Princess Kanin; their Excellencies Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Oyama, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, Count Okuma, Viscount Yenomoto, Baron Nishi, Count Kuroda, Count Higashi-kuze; the members of the Privy Council; Admiral Viscount Ito, Baron Sannomiya, Baron Kawaguchi, Viscount Tanaka, Count Toda, Mr. Takehiro, Mr. Akabane, Marquis Nakayama, Viscount Kagawa, Lady Takakura, Mr. H. W. Denison, and a large number of ladies. Altogether covers were laid for ninety-eight. The banquet took place in the principal salon of the Palace, and the Imperial Band played during dinner. The Emperor addressed the guests as follows:—

We entertain no doubt that reciprocal advantages will accrue from the recent completion of Treaty Revision.

In now celebrating, in this manner, the development of the regime inaugurated by the New Treaties, we desire to express our appreciation of the sentiments of justice and friendly conciliation with which the Powers and their Representatives met the proposals of our Government, and our approbation of the satisfactory manner in which our officials performed their duty.

H.E. Baron d'Anethan, who spoke in French, replied on behalf of the Corps Diplomatique:—

The Members of the Corps Diplomatique, profoundly touched by the signal honour that Your Imperial Majesty does them to day, have heard with happiness the gracious words that Your Majesty has condescended to address to them on the occasion of the going into operation of the Revised Treaties, concluded between Japan and the Foreign Powers in a mutual spirit of conciliation and confidence.

We shall be the faithful interpreters of our Sovereign and Chiefs of State in expressing the desire that the relations of amity which so happily exist between our Courts and Governments may be still further strengthened.

Under the auspices of Your Majesty, Japan, continuing to march in the paths of progress, of right and of justice, will command the admiration of the world.

Among the memorable acts accomplished under Your Majesty's reign, acts which will engrave Your Majesty's name on the pages of history, figures the conclusion of Treaties which can not fail to establish a more intimate union between the Empire of Your Majesty and the nations represented in Japan.

KANG YU-WEI.

Saturday, Oct. 28.

The latest intelligence of Kang Yu-wei's doings is that he landed at Kobe after all. The Government in Tokyo sent word to the police in Kobe that if Kang really apprehended danger by calling at Shanghai *en route* for Hongkong, he was to be permitted to land, and carefully guarded against peril until he could embark in a steamer going direct to Hongkong. The police therefore visited the *Empress of India* immediately on her arrival in Kobe, and offered to give protection to the fugitive if he desired to land. But Kang seems to have been indisposed to entrust himself to their care. He desired first to have an interview with the Governor of the Prefecture, Mr. Omori. What he learned at the interview appears to have re-assured him, for he subsequently accepted the offer of the police, and was escorted by them to Tokuyama in Suo, where he will remain until he can take passage in the *Kawachi Maru* for Hongkong. It is confidently affirmed that the message about his mother's illness, which brought him eastward, was a ruse of his enemies.

Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Mr. Shiga, who is connected with the *Nippon*, met Kang Yu-wei in the train *en route* for Moji and had some conversation with him. Kang said that he had regarded Japan as his second country, and that he had been intensely chagrined at the treatment extended to him here on the present occasion. There was no special reason for his visit to Hongkong, and he would have preferred to go to Honolulu, had that been possible, for during his visit to the United States he met with great hospitality, and acquired the fullest confidence in American good faith.

From the policemen who accompanied the refugee, Mr. Shiga learned something about the motives of the Japanese Government in forbidding Kang to land in Yokohama. It had been ascertained that he would be exposed to great danger if he went on shore, and solely with the view of protecting him, the Authorities deemed it advisable that he should not leave the vessel, but should rather remain in her until she resumed her voyage to Hongkong. Then, when it was pointed out that by travelling in the *Empress of India* Kang would have to call at Shanghai, a proceeding which caused him much uneasiness, the Government decided to invite him to leave the *Empress* at Kobe and place himself under police protection, with the view of taking a direct steamer for Hongkong at Moji. Kang's safety, therefore, has been the principal motive of the Japanese Authorities throughout.

EDUCATIONISTS IN A NEW ROLE.

Hachioji has been the scene of a wretched incident. A meeting of the Educational Society held there on the 29th ultimo, was attended by several prominent men in scholastic circles, including the Presidents of Tokyo Schools and several school inspectors. On the evening after the meeting, a social gathering was organized at a restaurant, and five school inspectors, who were taking liquor with fine indifference as to quantity, introduced fists and hotel property into the discussion, and began to smash each other heads as well as the table furniture. They seem to have been inspired by the historical mood of Irish mobs, which always desist from hammering each other in order to maul the constables who try to separate them, for in their inebriated fury, they administered brutally unmanly punishment to a maid-servant who sought to pacify them, and paid similar attentions to a gentleman who entered from the adjoining chamber with the same intention. Four of the intoxicated inspectors were carried off by the police. They will probably turn their talents henceforth to some pursuit other than that of training the young.

FORGERY OF TELEGRAMS IN YOKOHAMA.

Monday, Oct. 30.

It is very justly complained that the telegrams now reaching Japan with reference to the fighting in South Africa are meagre, confused, and unsatisfactory. But there is a much more valid cause of complaint, namely, that some of the telegrams are subjected to a process of expansion which greatly augments the mystification. On October 3rd the agent of the "direct service" forwarded a telegram announcing a third British victory in Natal. We place side by side the versions of this telegram published in Kobe and Yokohama:—

Kobe Chronicle's Version.	*Japan Herald's* Version.
London, Oct. 23.	London, Oct. 23.
A third engagement has taken place between the British forces and the Boers, resulting in a victory for the British.	A third engagement took place between the British forces and the Boers *near Glencoe*, in which the British were again victorious.
Both sides have sustained heavy losses.	The losses on both sides are reported to be *very* heavy.
Several prominent Boers have been killed, including General Viljoen.	Several prominent Boers were killed during the battle, including General Viljoen, *who has been looked upon as successor to Commandant General Joubert, who was taken prisoner in the last engagement.*

Now it has to be remembered that the Kobe newspaper is the original recipient of these telegrams, and that it transmits them to the *Japan Herald* in Yokohama. Consequently the above telegram reached Yokohama exactly as it was published in Kobe. It follows, therefore, that all the italicized portions of the *Japan Herald's* version were inserted by the latter journal. The original telegram gave no indication whatever as to the locality of the engagement; the *Japan Herald* inserted that it was "near Glencoe." The original telegram said that the losses on both sides were "heavy;" the *Japan Herald* made them "very" heavy. The original telegram said simply that General Viljoen was included among the killed; the *Japan Herald* added the words "who has been looked upon as successor to Commandant-General Joubert, who was taken prisoner in the last engagement." The unscrupulous chicanery of this process of forgery does not appear at first sight. A superficial reader might dismiss the matter by saying that it is simply another instance of unprincipled expansion. But it is much more than that. It is theft as well as forgery. The "direct" message said nothing about Glencoe: that item was stolen from a Reuter's telegram published in an extra from this office. The direct telegram said nothing whatever about Commander-General Joubert having been taken prisoner in the previous engagement: that item also was stolen from a Reuter's telegram published by us twelve hours previously. Moreover, Reuter, as we now know, did not telegraph that "General" Joubert had been captured. What he telegraphed was that General Joubert's "nephew" had been captured, but the word "nephew" having been mutilated into "newhew" in transmission, we were misled. Thus it is plain that the *Japan Herald* not only stole an important fact from our telegram and fraudulently inserted it in the body of its own message, but also, most unhap-

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pily for itself, happened to steal an item which had its origin in an error of transmission. The effect of the forgery and theft was to give to the public a telegram containing an explicit and conclusive confirmation of General Joubert's capture, whereas, in fact, General Joubert's capture rested on nothing more solid than a telegraph clerk's mistake. We are not, for our own part, at all surprised at such exhibitions of theft and falsehood, considering the journal by which they are perpetrated, but the public should be warned what to expect.

Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Nothing can be finer than the morality of the journal which is now a pensioner on public charity for its service of telegrams. It solicited subscriptions on the false ground that the newspapers receiving Reuter's telegrams and paying for them without making any plaintive appeals for special aid, were prevented from publishing the telegrams until the morning, and that a "direct" service would consequently enable the Yokohama public to have a few telegrams placed in its hands on the evening preceding the publication of Reuter's messages. Having induced some kind-hearted people to assist it on that plea, it took two further steps. First it published extras containing the telegrams without waiting for its regular hour of issue; and secondly, it set up, in permanent type for daily circulation, a gross and deliberate falsehood, namely, that it alone could publish telegrams on the evening of their receipt, "instead of next day as is done by other journals." The "other journals" however, although they have not gone around cap in hand begging for special subscriptions, publish their telegrams in the form of extras immediately on receipt, should the matter be sufficiently important to call for such a course, the result being that the *Japan Herald* finds its falsehood ruthlessly exposed and the ground cut from under its feet. Now, therefore, it comes forward with a new lament, couched in its own inimitable grammar, the veritable grammar of Mark Twain's ash-bin cats. We can not withhold the gem from our readers :—

Not content with the publication of Reuter's telegrams, the *Japan Mail* and the *Japan Times* on the morning of each day, which is an entirely legitimate procedure, but both the papers mentioned, with the mean object to detract from the value of the telegrams published by us, by endeavouring to anticipate them, now issue extras,—a procedure which neither of them attempted before our telegrams commenced to appear. This move cannot be regarded as legitimate competition. We notice that our evening contemporary has taken to publishing these extras, so by taking that course the telegrams of the *Mail* as well as those of the *Times* illegitimately appear in the *Gazette* some ten or a dozen hours previous to the two papers which pay for them. Such is the ridiculous and we may say immoral result of the greedy procedure of the two morning papers to which we have called attention, and the punishment meted out to both of them, is well deserved, and no doubt will cause them to reflect on the error of their ways. We have hitherto forborne to republish the telegrams referred to, on the same night, but as the dodge is aimed at us, rather than for public information, unless the illegitimate procedure be discontinued, we may render these morning journals' telegrams altogether stale, by publishing them in the *Herald* the night before.

The *Japan Herald* has been convicted of theft, forgery and falsehood, a very pretty little catalogue of crimes, yet with a grand sense of humour it attempts to pose as an exponent of what is "legitimate competition." It publishes its own charity telegrams in the form of extras whenever they come to hand, yet when its contemporaries do exactly the same with theirs, it begins to whine about unfair competition. It obtained donations from a few thoughtless people by making a fuss about Yokohama's being left without telegrams until the morning after their receipt, and now, when Yokohama is supplied without delay, it cries out that its own preserves are poached upon. It threw dust in peoples' eyes by inveighing against a morning monopoly on the part of its contemporaries, and now, when it can not establish an evening monopoly for itself, it is full of fustian indignation. It daily publishes a gross falsehood to the prejudice of its contemporaries, and when they decline to justify its falsehood by holding back their telegrams, it unblushingly threatens to punish them by extending the system of theft upon which it has long battened. A fine record!

Wednesday, Nov. 1.

Convicted of stealing the contents of a Reuter's telegram and fraudulently inserting them in the body of one of its own messages, the *Japan Herald* defends itself by the wretched subterfuge that, had it used a bracket, its sin would have been venial, and further pretends, with almost pitiable prevarication, that a statement about General Joubert's having been taken prisoner was necessary to explain the death of Commander Viljeon! From theft to forgery, from forgery to falsehood, from falsehood to repeated falsehood, this remarkable journal treads its scandalous round. We have heard of frail consciences, but a conscience which sets nothing but a bracket between robbery and honesty, between fraud and fair dealing, is indeed a fragile mentor. Of course our contemporary complains that we use very hard language; "billingsgate" it calls it. Yes, we do use hard language, and its employment is very unwelcome to us. But when a newspaper descends, as the *Japan Herald* has done, to a level where stealing, falsification and falsehood are unblushingly practised, it must expect to be followed by execrations not euphemisms.

THE LATE MR. A. F. MACNAB

Mr. A. F. Macnab died at his residence in Tokyo on the morning of the 27th October. He had a serious illness in the spring of this year, and though he recovered sufficiently to resume his regular duties, his constitution seems to have been much impaired. On the 17th instant, some symptoms of a disquieting character declared themselves, and on the 18th he was struck down with an attack which rapidly developed severity and ended at last in suffusion of blood on the brain. Mr. Macnab had been some thirty years in Japan, during a great part of which time he served the Japanese Government. He possessed all the sterling qualities of his race, supplemented by rare sweetness of disposition, which won for him the warm affection of numerous friends. Until last spring he retained all the vigour of constitution that nature had given him, and it seemed that many years of his eminently useful career still lay before him. But things have been ordered otherwise, and the sad duty devolves upon us of bidding a long farewell to one who "wore the white flower of a blameless life" for more than a quarter of a century in our midst, and who will be remembered in Yokohama and Tokyo as a man whom all were proud to call a friend. He leaves a widow and orphan to whom we venture to offer profound sympathy.

The funeral of the late Mr. A. F. Macnab took place on the 29th October at half-past two in the afternoon. It was attended by a large gathering of friends, including the Representatives of Russia, Spain, Belgium, the United States, and Great Britain, the Secretaries of the French and Netherlands Legations, the President of the Marine Bureau, and many other leading residents of Tokyo. The service in Trinity Church was performed by the Right Rev. Bishop McKim, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Lloyd and the Rev. Mr. Evans, and the service at the grave in Aoyama Cemetery by the Right Rev. Bishop McKim, the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw, and the Rev. Dr. Lloyd. A great quantity of beautiful wreaths and crosses were sent, and among these floral tributes a pair of particularly handsome standard bouquets from the Marine Bureau were conspicuous.

We are asked by Mrs. A. F. Macnab to convey her heartfelt thanks to the many friends who showed so much kindness and sympathy in connexion with the illness and death of her beloved husband, and to add that their attention and helpfulness have greatly mitigated the pain of the calamity she has just experienced.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The accident at Omegawa, on the Hokuyetsu Railway, is said to have been due to a mistake on the part of a pointsman. A passenger train came into collision with a construction train. The official report says that 5 persons were killed and 15 wounded; private reports do not mention any deaths, but say that, out of 300 passengers, 5 were severely injured and 25 slightly. Another accident occurred on the same line the same evening (27th). Two carriages in a train from Nagaoka were upset and one person was slightly wounded.

More railway collisions are reported. One occurred on the 28th ult. at Iwamuta, resulting in the smashing of two goods vans, and two occurred on the same day at Shiraishi near Sendai. There was happily no injury to life or limb in any of the cases.

A telegram from Niigata shows that the Hokuriku districts were visited by a violent gale on the 30th ultimo. The heavy rain caused a land-slide by which one of the railway tunnels was closed, and the service was interrupted.

There is quite an epidemic of railway accidents at present. The latest took place at Uyeda on the Shinyetsu line, on the 29th ultimo. Two engines were involved, but there was no injury to life or limb. A mistake on the part of a pointsman is again said to have caused the accident.

A collision took place on Tuesday forenoon on the Hokuriku Railway near Omigawa, between a passenger train and a goods train. Five persons were injured severely and thirteen slightly.

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THE YOKOHAMA FORESHORE SCANDAL.

Saturday, Oct. 28.

It is no wonder that the people of Yokohama were excited by the news that the charter for reclaiming a portion of the fore-shore had been given, over their heads, to Mr. Oyamada and his coadjutors. Land in Yokohama is becoming immensely valuable. A front lot in Honcho-dori near the office of the Water Works changed hands lately for over 500 *yen* per *tsubo*, and it is easy to see that the reclaimed foreshore, even if it costs 50 *yen* a *tsubo* to fill in, will be a most remunerative property. The Yokohama people imagined that the charter must surely come to them. They had actually allotted the shares, and, difficult of credence as the statement may seem, the mere right to own a share, which represented one *tsubo*, was selling at over 80 *yen* when the news came like a thunder-clap that the Oyamada faction had obtained the charter. It is now expected that a compromise will be effected on the basis of one half to Yokohama and one half to the fortunate holders of the charter. At the rate we have mentioned, the charter is worth eight million *yen*, the area to be reclaimed being 100,000 *tsubo*. In other words, the holders of the charter can sell out their rights for 8 millions, without putting up a *sen* towards the cost of the work. But such a plum is too luscious for one mouth. It will obviously have to be divided, Yokohama swallowing four millions and Tokyo four. The affair has created a great deal of scandal, but the most moderate journals counsel a compromise as the only rational exit from the complication. Meanwhile it is said that Mr. Oyamada has disappeared.

Monday, Oct. 30.

Opposition journals continue their campaign against the Cabinet on the strength of the Yokohama foreshore reclamation scheme. They allege that Mr. Tatsuno Shuichiro—a well-known Liberal member whose oratorical powers have earned for him the name of *yenzetsu tsukai*—intends to move for Mr. Hoshi Toru's expulsion from the Liberal Party and from the House of Representatives. The *Yomiuri* declares that neither Mr. Hoshi nor Mr. Oyamada should be objects of enmity, but that the proper person to impeach is the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Tuesday, Oct. 31.

The commotion about the Yokohama foreshore reclamation continues unabated in political circles. It would appear that the original projectors and the *concessionaries* have come to some agreement about the business part of the affair, but Mr. Hoshi Toru's share in the transaction is vehemently denounced by the Opposition journals. The *Mainichi* makes itself particularly conspicuous. It publishes the opinions of several leading politicians belonging to the Liberal as well as the Progressist camp, and insists that there is a strong movement to oust Mr. Hoshi from his position of eminence. Mr. Hoshi has many enemies. They will pull him down if they can. For our own part, we can not form any definite opinion about the rights or wrongs of this strange business, but it is scarcely possible to doubt that some chicanery has been practised.

Wednesday, Nov. 1.

The fore-shore-reclamation scandal seems to have lapsed into a flickering condition, not without malodorous circumstances, however. The Shinshu section of the Liberals, who, under the leadership of the eloquent Mr. Tatsuno Shuichiro, had constituted themselves the most vigorous assailants of Mr. Hoshi Toru, have quietly stepped out of the lists. Of course the Opposition journals allege that this element of the storm has been quelled by receiving a share of the spoils. They even indicate the exact amount handed over to Mr. Tatsuno and his lieutenants. It is impossible to discover where the truth lies amid these accusations and recriminations, but the whole business is as ugly as need be.

Thursday, Nov. 2.

Marquis Ito has been asked by a representative of the *Kokumin* to state his views about the Yokohama fore-shore affair. His Excellency ridiculed the notion that such a business should be elevated to the position of a great party question, and said that the whole trouble illustrated what he had often said about the demoralized condition of party politics in Japan. As to whether Mr. Hoshi was in the right or whether justice was on the side of his assailants, the Marquis recalled the saying of Mencius that when two armies retreat, one fifty paces the other a hundred, it is absurd that either should claim the victory. Nobody can distinguish the sex of a crow, said his Excellency. Male and female are equally black. But there is one thing certain, namely, that ill-gotten riches never remain with the getter. The Marquis seemed to hint that the time was not far distant when a complete renovation of the atmosphere of political parties must be undertaken.

KOREA, JAPAN, AND RUSSIA.

There is another strange rumour from Söul; namely, that the Korean Government preferred a demand that all Japanese subjects residing outside the Settlements should either leave the country or move into the Settlements. Japan is said to have replied that when the Korean authorities presented a similar demand to other Powers also it might be seriously considered by this country.

There are 25,000 Japanese subjects in Korea, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. Not a few of them reside outside the Settlements, engaged in commercial, manufacturing, or fishing enterprises. It would be a serious matter to these men if they were obliged to move into the Settlements.

A telegram from Söul, published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, says that the Russian Representative applied for an interview with the Sovereign of Korea, but the latter declined, on the plea of ill-health.

The Department of Communications is making arrangements for the telegraphic transmission of money between Japan and Korea. Hitherto postal orders have been the only means available.

Mr. Kato, Japan's Representative in London, who has just visited Korea, seems to have been agreeably surprised by the state of affairs he found there. According to general rumour Japanese enterprise in Korea is not in a very flourishing condition, nor does the country offer many opportunities for money-making. But Mr. Kato's personal inspection of his countrymen's doings convinced him that these reports are very erroneous, and that the Japanese have acquired in the peninsula a very large interest. In a speech delivered just before his departure for Japan, he urged his nationals to continue their exertions, and pointed out that the true principle of foreign policy is for the Government to follow where its people lead. Mr. Mizuno Jun, who accompanied Mr. Kato in his our, spoke much in the same sense, and altogether it would seem from this evidence that the Japanese are going ahead rapidly in Korea.

THE STREET RAILWAY QUESTION.

Wednesday, Nov. 1.

Our readers are aware that an attempt was made, at a recent extraordinary meeting of the Tokyo City Council, to upset the decision adopted by the City Assembly with regard to the amount of royalty payable to the Municipality by the Company receiving the concession for the Street Railway. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi headed the agitation, his contention being that public interests would be injured if the Assembly's vote became operative, inasmuch as the tax levied on the Company ought to be much larger than the figure determined by the Assembly. The Council appointed a Committee of five to investigate and report, and the Committee, after a vehement discussion, has ruled, by a vote of 3 to 2, that Mr. Taguchi's contention is just. The opposition was headed by Mr. Hoshi Toru, who insisted that the amount of royalty fixed by the Assembly would amply suffice. It remains now to be seen whether the Council will adopt its committee's report. If it does, the assembly will have to be again convoked and asked to re-consider its previous resolution. We expect, however, that the Assembly will stand to its guns. But even then the Council has another card to play, if it resolves to exhaust all available expedients. We entirely sympathise with Mr. Taguchi's view, but we note that while the doctors differ, Tokyo remains without railways.

Thursday, Nov. 2.

The fight between the two sections in Tokyo—the Municipal Party and the Company Party, as they may be called—is close and interesting. Our readers know that the Municipalists, led by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, whose high reputation for integrity is always a tower of strength to any cause, have already won two victories. The first was when they persuaded the City Council to appoint a Committee for the purpose of considering the propriety of the terms on which the City Assembly had voted to grant a charter to the Triple Union Company for the construction of Street Railways; the second was when, by 3 voices to 2, the Committee decided that Mr. Taguchi's view was correct, and that the Company should be required to pay a larger royalty. A third success has now to be scored to them. On the 31st ultimo, the Committee's report was presented to the City Council, and the Council endorsed it by a majority of one. The meaning of the vote was that the City Assembly must be invited to re-consider its decision. But when the exceedingly close nature of the division was seen, a motion was introduced by one of the members of the Council that as the question is one of accounts, there should be an adjournment for one

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day, in order to give time for examination. The motion was adopted, and the Council rose, to meet again on the 1st instant. We do not imagine that Mr. Taguchi's position has much chance of being endorsed by the City Assembly, and we are sorry that such should be the outlook.

THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

It may not have been generally observed that the Imperial Household Department has made a new departure this year. Hitherto the possession of a Japanese Order lower than the Second Class did not confer the privilege of an invitation to the Imperial Chrysanthemum Party. No one not thus distinguished could look for the honour of being invited, unless he happened to be in the employment of the Government, or to be a traveller on a visit to Japan. A very singular contrast was thus created. Strangers who had no connexion whatever with the country, nor any claim to special consideration except the fact that their means enabled them to travel for pleasure and that a letter of introduction procured for them the intervention of their Representative, could count on receiving an invitation, whereas men who had long resided in Japan, rendered valuable services to the nation and been honoured by the Sovereign with Orders of Merit, were persistently left out in the cold. This peculiar method of discrimination excited much comment. The impression conveyed was that the Japanese Government felt some hesitation about extending due recognition to its own Orders, though it certainly would have been chagrined had they been similarly slighted by Foreign Governments. Now, however, the Household Department has adopted a course which we venture to think much more rational and dignified. It has announced that all holders of Third Class Orders and upwards will receive invitations on sending their names to the Board of Ceremonies. Thus for the first time Japan undertakes to pay to her own Decorations the respect which she naturally looks to have paid to them by others.

THE CRIMINAL CODE.

The Committee entrusted with the duty of revising the Criminal Code of Japan seems to have a task of considerable magnitude. The first question to be decided was the scope of the revision—whether it should relate to only a portion of the Code or to the whole Code. After exhaustive discussion the committee is said to have decided in the latter sense, and doubts are consequently entertained as to whether the draft of revision will be ready for submitting to the Diet next session. Several important points, however, have been settled. The first is that capital punishment shall not be abolished. The second that no radical change shall be made in the existing system of police surveilance. The third, that political prisoners need not be exempted from labour except by special ruling of a Court of Law. The fourth relates to imprisonment in default of paying a fine. At present this part of the system is governed simply by punitive motives. If a fine can not be paid, the condemned person has to suffer a day's imprisonment for every *yen* of the fine. But the Committee proposes that the procedure shall henceforth be modified so as to make the recovery of the fine the paramount object. Consequently, instead of sending a man to prison in default of payment, he will be detained by the police and required to work until the proceeds of his labour suffice to defray the fine. That is a very novel departure. Finally, the Committee has considered the question of postponing execution of judgments, and has come to the conclusion that no general principle is applicable, but that a special provision must be enacted for each class of crimes. It will be understood, of course, that none of these changes has yet become law, or is even certain to become law at a future date.

BRITISH FORCE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A calculation published in London at the end of September, when Sir George White was just about to sail for South Africa, estimated that the number of the British forces in South Africa shortly after his arrival there—say by October 25th—would be 21,579 men. In this total were included the troops already in South Africa, those then *en route* from Great Britain, the Mediterranean and India, and also the brigade of Field Artillery which was to leave Southampton during the first week in October. The detail was as follows:—

CAVALRY.

All the field units are on what are known as the normal war establishments. Of cavalry there are five regiments which will pass into the divisional control of Major-General J. D. P. French. These are the 5th Dragoon Guards, 5th Lancers, 9th Lancers, 18th Hussars, and 19th Hussars. Each regiment has three service squadrons and a reserve squadron. The field strength of each regiment is 531 officers and men, and 536 horses. With five regiments the total available strength of the mounted arm works out at 2,655 officers and men, and 2,680 horses, or a grand total of 4,215 officers and men, and 3,790 horses, when the reserve squadrons are included.

ARTILLERY.

The field unit of the mobile branch of the Royal Artillery is a Brigade Division. The artillery concentrating in Natal comprises three such units. A brigade division consists of three batteries, and each battery is of six guns. The Field Batteries included in the field schedule are the 13th, 18th, 21st, 42nd, 53rd, 62nd, 67th, 69th, and 75th. The Brigade Divisional Staff of Royal Field Artillery includes 4 officers, a warrant officer, 3 sergeants, and 9 men (servants) with 19 horses and a battery of 4 officers, 8 sergeants, 9 artificers, 2 trumpeters, and 147 men. Hence a brigade division in the field produces a total of 19 officers, one warrant officer, 27 sergeants, 27 artificers, 6 trumpeters, and 450 men, a total of 530, and 409 horses, and the tale of field artillery in the South African command 1,590 officers and men, and 1,227 horses.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

There are two field companies of Royal Engineers in South Africa. Each consists of 212 officers and men, with 63 horses, a total of 424 officers and men, and 126 horses. There is also a railway company, and a detachment of the same corps which include 200 officers and men, and 12 horses which raises the aggregate strength of this arm to 624 officers and men, and 138 horses.

INFANTRY.

A British battalion on a normal war establishment has a staff of 5 officers, one warrant officer, 11 staff sergeants, and 65 of the rank and file (pioneers, band, drivers, wagon men, orderlies, and servants), a total of 82, with 42 horses or mules. Each battalion has 116 officers and men, which brings up its total strength to 1,010 officers and men, with the animals already stated. With 15 battalions, namely—1st Liverpool Regiment, 1st North Lancashire Regiment, 2nd Royal Berkshire Regiment, 2nd Yorkshire Light Infantry, 1st Leicestershire Regiment, 1st and 2nd King's Royal Rifle Corps, 3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 1st Northumberland Fusiliers, 1st Border Regiment, 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers, 2nd Rifle Brigade, 1st Devonshire Regiment, 1st Gloucestershire Regiment, and 2nd Gordon Highlanders, in the field, a total of 15,150 men, and 616 horses is obtained.

RECAPITULATION OF FIGHTING TROOPS.

	Officers and Men.	Horses and Mules.
Cavalry	4,215	3,790
Royal Artillery	1,590	1,227
Royal Engineers	624	138
Infantry	15,150	616
	21,579	5,771

The concentration of the force is taking place in Natal, but its actual field organisation is for obvious reasons not to be made public for the present. As already announced in the *Daily Graphic*, arrangements have been made under which a Naval Brigade could be put ashore in South Africa for land service at a few hour's notice should necessity arise.

LOCAL FORCES.

The Local Forces in Cape Colony consist of permanent troops—the Cape Mounted Rifles, with field guns—and unpaid volunteers who draw a small capitation grant. The latter include the Mounted Frontier Rifles, in which are comprised the Diamond Fields horse of six companies and a battery of guns, garrison artillery, engineers, and field artillery. Of infantry the volunteers have 17 corps of 41 companies in all. There are also two companies of medical staff. Bechuanaland has a permanent force of five troops of military police, about 450 strong. In Natal the permanent local troops are the Mounted Police and a body of partially-paid volunteers, who are organised somewhat similarly to the partially-paid forces of the Australian colonies. They consist of naval volunteers, mounted rifles, field artillery, and riflemen. At Bulawayo Colonel Baden-Powell and Colonel Plumer are engaged in raising the Special Service Corps, the strength of which advices state to be 450 men, but it is believed to be considerably greater.

The above estimate is very liberal. Certainly in the matter of cavalry the numbers are above the mark. Taking the estimate as it stands, however, and assuming that all these troops have arrived, we have to observe that a large proportion of them are required for the Cape and for the points of importance on the Western frontiers of the two Republics, as Kimberley and Mafeking. It is impossible to tell exactly how the troops are distributed, but the total force in Natal would seem to be about nine or ten thousand at present, and if deductions be made for casualties, guards for communications, and so forth, it is probable that the force actually available at Ladysmith does not exceed seven or eight thousand.

MR. & MRS. MASUJIMA'S GARDEN PARTY.

Mr. and Mrs. Masujima's daughter, Miss Kuni, attains the great age of three whole years on the 15th of this month, and according to time-honoured Japanese custom, the little lady will be girdled with a sash for the first time on that day. Her parents have decided to celebrate the event by a garden party to which their Japanese and foreign friends have been invited. But inasmuch as the autumnal tints will not wait for the girdling ceremony, the party is to take place on the 10th, or, should that day be wet, on the 11th. The invitations have been issued on paper bearing delineations of the leaves now beginning to display their pretty contrasts of colours in Mr. Masujima's Azabu garden, and the phraseology as well as script are in the pure old Japanese style. Parents and guardians are invited as well as children, and we observe that the host and hostess ask to have acceptances accompanied by a statement of the number they may have the pleasure of expecting. Perhaps, as the invitation is in Japanese, we may assist our readers by stating that the place is Azabu, Zaimokucho, No. 55, and the time half past-two.

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ANOTHER QUESTION.

In 1896, a company was formed for the purpose of utilizing the water power of the Tamagawa to develop electricity. The project involved the construction of extensive works near the source of this celebrated river, and the experts of Tokyo having reported unfavourably, chiefly on the ground that the city's water supply would be injured, the City Assembly unanimously rejected the scheme. It is said to have been now renewed by the promoters of the Triple Union Company. They look to this source to obtain electric power for driving the street railway, and there are rumours that an active canvass is going on to obtain a different verdict from the present City Assembly. The story may be a fresh attempt on the part of the Triple Union's enemies to discredit them in public opinion, but it finds currency in a majority of the Tokyo journals. Meanwhile, the Triple Union's affairs are by no means as flourishing as they were a few days ago. Mr. Taguchi's successful action in inducing the City Council to oppose the decision of the City Assembly created fresh uncertainty as to whether, after all, the Municipality itself might not undertake the building of the railway. Hence the share-titles of the Triple Union, which were recently selling for 11 *yen* each, do not find buyers to-day at 4 *yen*. Yesterday, however, the City Council, by a majority of one, rejected its Committee's report in favour of calling on the City Assembly to reconsider its decision, so we presume that the charter will go to the Triple Union after all.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

The preliminary arrangements for a special Japanese settlement at Amoy have at length been completed. Mr. Uyeno, the Japanese Consul, seems to have found the new Taotai much more amenable to reason than his predecessor.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the question of extending mining privileges to foreigners has not reached such an advanced stage as recent rumours would suggest. There is a consensus of opinion in official and non-official circles that the time has come for making the concession, but it is not true that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has already drafted a bill for submitting to the Diet. The Department could not take such a step on its own responsibility. The Cabinet's decision would have to be obtained first.

During his recent tour of 14 days—from the 14th to the 27th—Marquis Ito delivered eleven speeches, lasting forty minutes each on the average. He discussed a great number of topics. Doubtless the speeches will be published in book form.

With regard to Japan's application for permission to send military *attachés* to view the campaign in South Africa, the British Government is reported to have replied that the campaign will probably be over before the Japanese *attachés* could arrive.

Count Inouye, in a lecture recently delivered, said that Japan has fortunately been able to remodel her treaties on lines of equality with Foreign Powers, but very unequal conditions still exist in matters of economy. Instead of going cap in hand to Europe to borrow money, Japan's object should be to have Europe coming to offer money for investment here. As steps towards that consummation the Count urged combinations on the part of the various companies with the purpose of increasing their capital and improving their organization, and, further, that goods producible in Japan should not be purchased abroad. He calculated that some 40 *yen* million worth of commodities which Japan herself could easily supply were imported every year.

Prince Konoye arrived a few days ago at Shanghai and proceeded to Hangkow. He is expected to return to Shanghai by Nov. 9th.

Mr. Fukuzawa will give a garden party to celebrate his recovery on the 11th of November, at his villa in Shirokane.

The man Taniguchi (or Tanida), who recently absconded with a sum of over 900 *yen* belonging to Messrs Pollak Brothers, has been apprehended in Sendai.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* enumerates several private schools for the children of the poor which have been obliged to close their doors in consequence of the action taken by the Department of Education. These schools had obtained official recognition as primary schools, and they supplied education for the children of parents who are too poor to pay the fees required at public primary schools but are nevertheless required by law to procure education of a fixed standard for their sons. It is scarcely necessary to say that the schools which have been obliged to close their doors were supported by Christian charity; namely, the Poor School of Choyenji-dani in the Ushigome District of Tokyo; the Poor School of Tamegahashi in the Yotsuya District; the Poor School of Shinano-machi, also in Yotsuya District, and the Airen-gakusha of Shinami in the Shiba District. These Schools had to choose between closing their doors or abolishing all religious instruction and religious exercises from their courses; had to choose, in fact, between conscience and expediency.

Another batch of Chinese students arrived in Japan on the 27th instant by the *Kobe Maru* from Shanghai. They numbered 46, and are understood to be protégés of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung.

It is stated that Mr. Sands, Secretary of the United States Legation in Soul, is to be appointed adviser to the Korean Court with the title of Tutor to the Crown Prince. We trust that the news may prove correct, for it would be welcomed by Mr. Sands' many friends in Japan.

There has been a regular stand-up fight in the Okayama Prefectural Assembly. The fault seems to lie chiefly with members of the Liberal Party, who twice hauled down from the rostrum a Progressist voted to the position of Vice-chairman by his partizans. The Governor, Mr. Takasaki, at length succeeded in restoring order.

A big company has been formed for the manufacture of beer bottles. It calls itself the Tokai Seiton Kwaisha. On the 29th instant, it held its opening ceremony at Hodogaya, several shareholders of the Tokyo Beer Company and prominent business-men of Tokyo and Yokohama being present. The Company can already manufacture from 3,000 to 5,000 beer bottles daily, and, when its two new works are in operation, its production will be ten thousand bottles. Apparently the Japanese are going to be a beer-drinking nation.

The number of persons attacked by dysentery from the commencement of the epidemic up to the 28th of October totalled 100,861, and the number of deaths was 21,105. Compared with last year, the record of sufferers shows an increase of 20,000. The prefectures of Iwate, Aomori, Niigata, and Akita were the most severely visited.

The New Japanese Loan Bonds are now quoted at £87 in London. They recently stood at £86 7s.

Captain Gunji, whose exploits as a recklessly daring colonizer were in everybody's mouth a few years ago, left Shimusho in the early part of last month in a small boat, and has not been heard of since. There are grave fears that he met with disaster in the gale of the 7th ultimo. It should be noted, however, that this story does not rest on any testimony stronger than an extract from a private letter.

It is stated that the Imperial Chrysanthemum Garden Party will take place on the 9th of November.

The Industrial Bank's latest issue of Bonds has been successful. A million *yen* was the amount required, and the subscriptions aggregated 1½ million, approximately. Tokyo and Osaka put up very nearly the same sum each, namely, three hundred thousand. The face value of the Bonds is 20 *yen*, and the highest price offered was 22.05 *yen*, the lowest, 20.05 *yen*.

The *Jimmin* alleges that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company are backing Mr. Yasuda in the various enterprises he has recently inaugurated, or sought to inaugurate. Mr. Yasuda has never hitherto been noted for an enterprising spirit, and it is conjectured that his large schemes of harbour-construction in Tokyo and Nagasaki must have some foreign backing. We trust that our contemporary may be right. It is by such combinations that Japan's resources can be best developed.

It appears that there are two Turks wandering about Japan in a state of destitution. They are said to have been originally merchants in tolerably flourishing circumstances, but losses overtook them. They made their way to Nagasaki in search of employment, and thence pushed on overland to Kobe, for the purpose of presenting a letter of introduction given them by a Japanese. Kobe proving a failure, they walked to Hodogaya, which they reached in a very miserable condition, so miserable that the succour of the police had to be invoked. There is, of course, no Turkish Consul, and it is difficult to see what can be done for these men.

The first part of the Naval Expansion Programme is now nearly completed, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*. Of all the battle-ships and first-class cruisers contemplated, only the *Mikasa* remains to be

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launched. Now comes the question of ships for maintaining the strength and efficiency of the Navy. Count Matsukata's scheme of a reserve fund does not become operative for some years, and in the meanwhile it is suggested that if a sum of 3 million *yen* were set aside year by year, a vessel of the type of the *Garibaldi*, recently built for the Italian Government, might be added to the Japanese Navy every second year.

The movement, so often started and so often abortive, for reducing the terrible toil that the Japanese have to undergo in acquiring the ideographic script, seems to have received a new lease of life. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* recently took up the subject with much vigour, contending that the number of ideographs learned by a youth might be greatly reduced, as many of those taught in the schools are unnecessary. It must be confessed that the *Nichi Nichi's* practice does not tend to strengthen its preaching, for its own leading articles make a most extensive demand on the ideographic knowledge of its readers. The Imperial Educational Society, however, has now taken up the question, and appointed a committee to conduct investigations. It is difficult to entertain any strong hopes in the face of the many failures that have been made, but we note that the Committee consists of such able and representative men as Messrs. Mayejima Mitsu, Tsuji Shinji, Konishi Shimpachi and Goto Makita. The ideograph is a terrible handicap to Japan, though it has served her splendidly in assimilating her new civilization.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha have instituted proceedings against the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to recover the sum of sixty thousand *yen* in consequence of the sinking of the *Miyagawa Maru* by the *Kinshu Maru*.

The torpedo-destroyer *Shiranui* arrived at Saseho on Tuesday.

Tokyo is now rich in beer-halls. The first enterprise of the kind was at Shimbashi. It sold Yebisu Beer, and was so successful that other halls were soon opened in Hongo and Kanda. On Nov. 3rd three new halls were added, namely, in Kyobashi, Nishikuromon-cho (Uyeno), and the Asakusa Park. We should add that the Hirano Beer Hall was opened in the road to the Yoshiwara on the 20th of September. At these four last-named establishments, the Tokyo Beer Company's brew is on tap.

The Imperial News Agency furnishes to its subscribers an item of news which looks so well in its Japanese garb that we reproduce it in that guise :—

PROGRAMME OF DANCES.

1—Katoriiru.	5—Waruts u.
2—Waruts u.	6—Paadei.
3—Poruka.	7—Katoriiru.
4—Ranshiie.	8—Waruts u.
9—Garopu.	

The Bombay cotton-spinners appear to have definitely decided to reduce their production by closing the mills for three days a week from November 1st to March 1st. The telegraph says that 85 mill-owners met on the 30th ultimo, and that a resolution in the above sense was adopted by a vote of 64.

The Appeal Court of Hakodate has reversed the judgment of the Aomori tribunal in the case of Sakuma Dentaro, whose vigorous defence of Mr. Hoshi Toru exposed him to a charge of cutting and wounding. He was acquitted by the Aomori Court, his plea of lawful self-defence being admitted, though he had employed a sword-cane, whereas Mr. Hoshi's assailant carried an umbrella only. The Appeal Court, however, rejected the plea and sentenced him to two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

We observe with surprise that the *Jiji Shimpo* assigns Russian nationality to Mr. Sands, who is said to have been employed by the Korean Government in the place of Mr. Greathouse. Mr. Sands is a citizen of the United States. He was Second Secretary of the United States Legation in Tokyo for some time, and he is now actually Secretary of the Legation in Söul.

Tokyo newspapers state that the Spanish Government has decided to abolish all the Consulates which used to be supported with funds drawn from the Philippines. The Consulates in question are those in Singapore, Hongkong, Amoy, Melbourne, Calcutta, Saigon, Tientsin, Nagasaki, Kobe, and Batavia. On the other hand, a Consulate-General will be established in Shanghai, and two or three Consulates in the Philippines.

The *Jiji Shimpo* announces that it has joined the Kobe Syndicate of newspapers obtaining telegrams direct from London. Thus the syndicate now consists of the *Kobe Chronicle*, the *Osaka Mainichi*, the *Yushin Nippo*, and the *Jiji Shimpo*. The *Japan Herald* in Yokohama appears to be also a member of the Syndicate, and as, according to the *Kobe Chronicle*, the amount put up by the Syndicate is 600 *yen* monthly, each of the members has now to pay 120 *yen* per month.

The Colonization Bank is regarded as an enterprise of great promise. Its scene of operations is Hokkaido, where the demand for money is so keen at present that thirty per cent. is regarded as a normal rate of interest. The capital of the Bank is to be 3 million *yen*, of which the Treasury provides one million free of interest for 10 years. Applications for shares are to be made from the 10th instant to the 30th, at the First, Third, and Twenty-seventh Banks in Tokyo; the Aichi Bank in Nagoya; the Kyoto Shokin Ginko in Kyoto; the 130th Bank in Osaka; and elsewhere. The first instalment of 12.50 *yen* will have to be made by January 25th.

It is reported from Manila that a Japanese subject who was acting as an officer in the army of the Filipinos, met his death in a recent skirmish between the insurgents and the United States troops.

Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, who was charged before the Fukushima Court with violating the provisions of the Imperial Urgency Ordinance relating to Elections, has been acquitted.

The Treasury is to subscribe twenty thousand *yen* yearly for five years towards the conservation of the Nikko temples. The first payment was made on the 30th ultimo.

It is curious to find that the rumour about Mr. Yano's appointment to the post of Advisor to the *Tsung li Yamén* refuses to be dispelled. A telegram from Peking, published by the *Jimmin*, represents a state of considerable excitement in diplomatic circles in that city owing to the prevalence of the rumour, combined with the appointment of Baron Nishi to succeed Mr. Yano as Japan's Representative. The Ministers of Russia and Germany are said to be particularly active, and the general impression conveyed by our contemporary's message is that the Chinese capital has fallen into a state of ferment. We have not been able to discover any confirmation of the story about Mr. Yano, and we do not believe it.

The friction in the Liberal Party's ranks seems to have been smoothed. On the 30th and 31st ultimo the General Committee of the Party held meetings with closed doors, all the members except Mr. Hoshi Toru being present. Finally Count Itagaki and Baron Suyematsu proceeded to Mr. Hoshi's residence, and, the result of the interview having been communicated to the Committee, it addressed to Mr. Hoshi an invitation which he accepted. Nothing is publicly known as to the conditions of the arrangement, or as to the real circumstances which induced Mr. Hoshi to resign his position on the Committee.

There are 28 temples in Japan distinguished as *Monzeki*, that is to say, temples which have had Imperial Princes for priors at some time of their existence. Among these the Rin-no-ji at Uyeno was destroyed in the civil war of 1867, but rebuilt in 1884. The Imperial Household has now made it a grant of 500 *yen* yearly.

The torpedo-destroyer *Kagero*, built at Messrs. Thorneycrofts' yard, has been taken delivery of by Japanese officers in England.

Captain Hiraoka is to be sent to the Transvaal to observe the military operations.

The Dojima Exchange is threatened with bankruptcy. It appears that Mr. Matsutani can not pay the sum of 350,000 *yen* for which the Exchange made itself responsible, and legal proceedings are in sight.

The High Council of Education is holding a secret session in Tokyo, and the *Nippon* expresses great indignation at this exclusion of the public from the Council's deliberations.

CONCERT.

The "smoker" so successfully given during the Cricket Week was repeated on Thursday as a "tea and coffee concert." Certainly it was a happy inspiration to give the ladies an opportunity of enjoying so capital a programme. The cinematograph pictures, shown by the kindness of Mr. Hatch, M.P., were an excellent feature of the entertainment. Naturally Mr. Brady distinguished himself, and displayed his really remarkable gifts as a comedian to the best advantage. The "thought-reading" of Messrs. Sharp and Adet was also great fun, while Mr. Somerton was in excellent form and rendered his two songs most artistically.

THE "AFGHANISTAN."

As will be seen from our shipping news the steamer *Afghanistan*, which went on the spit at Kannonzaki, has returned to Yokohama. She was floated off without sustaining any appreciable damage.

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COUNT MATSUKATA.

COUNT MATSUKATA has been honoured with the Grand Cordon of the Paulowina in consideration of his distinguished services in connexion with finance. He certainly deserves the highest distinctions that his country can bestow on him. In 1881, he assumed charge of the Treasury when the fiat currency was at a discount of 8 per cent., and the air was full of ominous predictions of economical disaster. By 1885 he had restored the currency to par and was able to resume specie payments, without any recourse to either domestic or foreign loans. That was a most remarkable exploit, and it loses nothing of its credit by examination of the astute processes that led to the result. It was Count MATSUKATA also that adopted the gold standard, and even those who, like ourselves, doubted the ultimate wisdom of the measures, are obliged to confess that it has hitherto worked well. Finally, it is to Count MATSUKATA that the country owes the present management of its finances, management which, from all that we can learn, will receive a signal tribute when the next Budget in published. For the Treasury will be able to make the pleasant announcement that the Ordinary Revenue exceeds the Ordinary Expenditure by a very large sum, and not only is the burden of the Extraordinary outlays thus materially lightened, but also the necessity of recourse to loans is diminished. The troublesome work of revising the land assessment was concluded in August, three million *yen* being reduced from the tax-payers' burden, and it is understood that a total yield of 40 million *yen* is now in sight from the additional taxes imposed by the Diet last session. One of the most interesting features of the record is that the military armaments will soon be defrayed by means of the tax on *sake* alone. In other words, an impost which falls entirely on the upper classes and does not inconvenience them at all, is now producing a revenue of 50 million *yen*, whereas, half a dozen years ago, its yield was only some 3 millions. The total military expenditures aggregate 55 millions annually, so the nation may be said to support its army by a tax on the rich man's beverage. Count MATSUKATA may be satisfied with his record, and his country may justly be grateful to him.

THE INTERPORT FESTIVAL.

WIN FOR YOKOHAMA AT BASEBALL.

The Interport Festival of 1899 was brought to a fitting close on Friday afternoon, Oct. 28th, with a win for Yokohama in the baseball contest. It will be remembered that on Thursday the score stood a game all, and to most people the affair looked "very open." When play began, shortly after two o'clock, the odds were all in favour of a close game, despite the fact that some of the Kobe men were beginning to show signs of the hard work they had gone through since Monday. Up to the fifth innings an excellent showing was made by both sides, the fielding being as smart as the hitting was hard. Then Kobe went to pieces unaccountably and the home team piled up 13 runs in one innings alone. After that, despite the pluck of the visitors, it was all over but the shouting.

We reiterate the opinion of yesterday, that Kobe put in a strong team. The cricketting members were an acquisition indeed: hard hitters and splendid fielders. On Friday Chalfont played an excellent game as catcher and it is greatly due to him that the home score is not bigger than it is. Barto sent in some good balls to start with, but his pitching towards the end got wild and uncertain. Edwards, Gillingham and Lightfoot played a good game: and Braess made some excellent catches: Wheeler's and Briggs contributions were also worthy of praise. The Yokohama team played better than on the opening day, still their errors were many and lamentable, and they had a good deal of luck.

Mr. L. C. Putnam acted as umpire and Mr. Mendelson as scorer.

Players and positions:—

KOBE.		YOKOHAMA.	
Chalfont	C.	Vaughan	3 B.
Wheeler	3 B	Thompson	L. F.
Briggs	2 B.	Blake	P.
Barto	P.	McChesney	1 B.
Braess	S. S.	Ellis	C.
Edwards	C. F.	Morse	C. F.
McGlew	1 B.	Read	2 B.
Lightfoot	L. F.	Cameron	S. S.
Gillingham	R. F.	Merriman	R. F.

THE THIRD GAME.

Some slight changes were made by both teams in the batting order, but otherwise the players were the same as on Thursday. Kobe losing the toss, went to bat first, sending out Chalfont at 2.15 p.m. to face the pitching of Blake. He took his first on balls. Wheeler succeeded, but before he could move, Ellis by a smart throw to second, put out Chalfont. Then Wheeler had a base presented him at the pitcher's expense; he sneaked his second, by which time Briggs managed to put up a fly, which Vaughan held. Barto received a base on a dead ball, and moved down to second, but Braess being put out on strikes, he got no further. No runs.

Kobe	0
Yokohama	—

Vaughan opened for Yokohama and made his base off the first ball sent down by Barto. Thompson failed to reach first, and Blake went to bat. He was put out on first, but by an over-throw Vaughan got home—the first run of the match. McChesney placed the ball in pitcher's hands, and the side retired.

Kobe	0
Yokohama	1

The second innings began with a hit by Edwards to centre field; he made first easily and stole second. Next McGlew put up a fly which the pitcher secured, and Lightfoot next ball brought Edwards home—Kobe's first run, Lightfoot had moved to third when Gillingham went to bat, but the latter retired on strikes. Chalfont playing a short ball, Lightfoot was put out at the plate, and the innings closed.

Yokohama	1
Kobe	1

Ellis started with a hit that passed over 1st Base's head; he sneaked his second. Then Morse brought him home with a capital hit to the centre field. Read, next man, put up a fly for Braess, and Cameron succeeded at the bat. Meanwhile Morse worked round to third. "Strikes three, and out" greeted Cameron a minute later; then Morse was forced off at the plate from a hit by Merriman, and the side were out.

Kobe	1
Yokohama	2

Wheeler began with being put out at first. Briggs succeded him and received a base. A hit from Barto smartly fielded by Read put out Briggs at second, but Barto made first. An error in the field enabled Braess to get to second, and Edwards went to bat. He sent up several fouls, only to be splendidly stopped by McChesney at first—and the side went out without scoring.

Yokohama	2
Kobe	1

A safe hit took Vaughan to first, but Thompson lost his opportunity. Blake brought Vaughan home with a hit to the left field, moving to first himself. McChesney just missed first, and Ellis went to bat, to receive a base. Morse then placed a ball in Braess' hands and the latter by smart double-play put out Blake at third.

Kobe	1
Yokohama	3

A long fly into the field by McGlew took him to second; then Ellis caught Lightfoot at the plate. Next moment Gillingham went out at first, and Cameron almost put out McGlew at third. He was not to be denied, however, and next moment got home on a passed ball. Chalfont made his first easily, sneaked the second, and achieved a third on a passed ball. He got no further, for Wheeler went out on first.

Kobe	2
Yokohama	3

A short ball to Barto put Read out at first. The next man in, Cameron, played a ball on to himself and was given out. Merriman had an easy first at the expense of catcher. Then Vaughan sent up a fly for Edwards,—a splendid catch—and the team were out. The score was unaltered.

Kobe	2
Yokohama	3

A capital catch by Thompson in the left field put Briggs out first ball. Barto next put the leather in Blake's hands, and then Braess went out on strikes, not one base being made.

Kobe	2
Yokohama	3

Both teams were now apparently settled down to "good ball," when suddenly a change came over everything, and Kobe getting rattled, Yokohama romped up the runs. Thompson first made a diversion by almost losing second—Briggs fumbled, however, and he was saved. Blake saved his first and Thompson moved to third. Then McChesney made his first and Thompson ran in. Blake, soon after got home on a passed ball; McChesney was the next man in, and meanwhile Ellis got to second and Morse to first. Read receiving a base on a dead ball, all places were filled. A wild pitch by Barto brought in Ellis; then Cameron brought in Morse and Read: the runs were piling up too rapidly for "good ball play." Merriman was the first of the side to retire—on strikes. Vaughan took Cameron to third. Next ball he ran in, on an overthrow, McGlew fumbling the ball; Vaughan got home and Thompson and Blake were the next to move in; then Ellis brought in McChesney on a two-bagger. Morse should have gone out at first, but Briggs was slow at picking up the leather: then Read brought Ellis home, and the twelfth run of the innings was scored. Cameron at length put up a fly which Braess held. Then Merriman brought in Morse, but the next man, Vaughan, went out on strikes,—13 runs for the innings.

Kobe	2
Yokohama	16

Matters brightened for Kobe somewhat when Edwards went in. He reached third, only to be forced off; but McGlew next ball got home. Lightfoot and Gillingham then occupied first and second. Morse missing Chalfont, Lightfoot moved to third, and Wheeler went to bat. Some smart play on the part of the field forced Gillingham off third, but Lightfoot got home. Then Briggs brought Wheeler in. Barto was badly missed by McChesney next ball, and a second later Braess profitted off the same player. Then Briggs was forced out on home and the side retired.

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Kobe	6
Yokohama	16

Braess caught Thompson first ball, then Blake was given out on a batted ball. McChesney made first base, and Ellis went to the plate, only to be given out on strikes. The score was unaltered.

Kobe	6
Yokohama	16

The seventh innings was started by McGlew, who was touched out by pitcher; then Lightfoot put up a fly for Ellis, which was held. Gillingham, missed by Merriman, gave place to Chalfont, who made his first on balls. Wheeler brought home Gillingham and Chalfont, and moved to second. Then Briggs brought Wheeler home, and matters looked much brighter for the visitors. Barto, however, went out at first, and the side retired.

Kobe	9
Yokohama	16

A fly from Morse was held by Braess. Read got down to first; Cameron brought him to third, and Merriman sent him in. Vaughan took Cameron in, and Merriman to third, getting to second himself. Then Merriman, on a passed ball, knotched a run. Thompson playing straight back to pitcher retired before starting for the bag, but Blake received a base. The side retired when McChesney was given out at first.

Kobe	9
Yokohama	19

Merriman held Braess, then Edwards made a base and sneaked the second. McGlew was capitally held by Thompson a ball or two later, and gave place to Lightfoot. Then a wild throw by Ellis enabled Edwards to score his run. The light was failing fast, and a chilly breeze was springing up. Cameron put Gillingham out and the side retired.

Kobe	10
Yokohama	19

Ellis beat the fielders with his first ball. Then Morse sent him round to third. Read brought Ellis and Morse home, the errors of the field materially assisting. Cameron went out on strikes, and Merriman dropped a ball into catcher's hands. Vaughan going out at first spoiled Read's run, and the side were out.

Kobe	10
Yokohama	21

Chalfont went out at first. Wheeler was missed by Merriman and reached first base, Briggs brought him home, the catcher dropping the ball at the critical moment. Briggs next ball, played by Barto, ran in. Then Braess was put out at first and Edwards went to bat; only to go out at first, the game concluding at 4 22 p.m.

Kobe	12
Yokohama	21

The last half of the ninth innings was not played.

SATURDAY'S BICYCLE RACES.

A bicycle meet in connection with the Nippon Bicycle Club was held on Saturday afternoon in cold, dull, and rather disagreeable weather. The racing was excellent, though there was some disappointment as to the poor show made by European riders. Vaughan, who has in the past ridden so well, did not appear to be in good form, for he gave up as against Tsuruta in the lap race, and did not face the well-known Japanese rider in the Championship. Still it has to be remembered that he played a prominent part in the base-ball games of the two preceding days, and was feeling the effects. Tsuruta won both events in capital style, riding better than on any previous occasion on which he has appeared on this track. The Kirin Beer Cup gave rise to a very interesting struggle between Mason (the holder) and Irwine, the latter winning by a very small margin. During an interval Mr. Vaughan gave an exhibition of trick riding, accomplishing some clever feats. Miss Thorn presented the prizes, many of which were of a very handsome nature, to the successful competitors. The arrangements were under the management of the following gentlemen:—Judges, Messrs. E. Flint Kilby, J. L. O. Eyton, and C. M. Duff; time-keepers, Messrs. T. M. Laffin, R. J. Ward, W. H. McGowan, and K. Kingdon; scorers, Messrs. H. A. Stewart, P. Peacock, and H. Arai; clerks of the course, Messrs. L. W. Eyton and George Hood; starter, Mr. J. Eyton; handicappers, the Committee (Messrs. T. M. Laffin, President; K. Kingdon, Captain; L. W. Eyton, 1st lieutenant; H. Arai, 2nd lieutenant; George Hood, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer). Details:—

Lap Race, 5 Laps, 2 Spurting Lines per Lap.—First Prize, presented by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club. Second Prize, presented by Mr. W. H. McGowan. Third Prize, presented by Mr. B. Roberts.

K. Tsuruta	1
S. Onodera	2
M. Iwaya	3
W. C. Vaughan	0

Time, 3 53¼.

Tsuruta passed the line ahead at the end of the first lap, with Vaughan just behind, and Onodera third. In the second lap Vaughan gave up. Tsuruta thereafter was quite untroubled, winning every lap, and coming in easily with half a lap to spare. Tsuruta was awarded 30 points, Onodera 17, Iwaya 6, and Vaughan 4.

Chinamen's Race, 2 Miles Handicap.—First Prize, Presented by the Chinese Community.

Ah Sun	1
Ah Kom	2
Ah Hee	0
Ah Tung	0

Time, 6 27½.

Ah Hee created a diversion by going over the bank at the first corner, more to the detriment, apparently, of his machine than of himself. The race was an easy thing for Ah Sun, Ah Kom being second.

2 Miles Scratch for Japanese.—First Prize presented by the Yokohama Bicycle Club. Second Prize, presented by the Yokohama Bicycle Club.

S. Ikeda	1
S. Matsumura	2
S. Nezu	3
Y. Kaneko	0

Time, 5 58¼.

Four started, Matsumura taking the lead. He kept ahead till the sixth lap, when Kaneko went ahead for a little while. They were soon, however, all racing in a bunch again, and by the seventh lap Kaneko had been passed by the others, and dropped out of the race. The rest kept together till the last lap, at the end of which Ikeda put on a spurt, winning by two lengths ahead of Matsumura.

Kirin Beer Cup, 5 Miles.—(Under sealed handicap for Members of the N.B.C.) First Prize, presented by the Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. and a Gold Medal by the N.B.C. Second Prize, presented by the N.B.C. Third Prize, presented by Mr. P. Peacock.

H. Y. Irwine, 2½ secs	1
W. B. Mason, 2½ secs	2
J. M. P. Collaco, 12 secs	3

Times—Irwine, 14.39; Mason, 14.39½; Collaco, 15.45½.

Out of six entries only three started, Vaughan, Kingdon, and E. Powys not competing. Irwine and Mason alternately paced each other for the first few rounds, and Collaco speedily fell far behind, being a whole lap to the bad half through the race. Irwine tried again and again to shake Mason off, but the latter responded gamely to each spurt, and it was not till the last lap that Irwine definitely gained a lead. Three quarters of the way round he was several lengths ahead, but just before entering the home straight Mason spurted splendidly, and for the last hundred yards or so a neck-to-neck race took place. Irwine, however, succeeded in coming in half a length ahead.

Boys' Race, 2 Laps Handicap.—For boys under 16 years of age.—Post Entries. First Prize, presented by Mr. T. Laffin. Second Prize, presented by Mr. H. Arai. Third Prize, presented by Messrs. Andrews and George.

Seven started. The winner was Z. Iwaya, G. Irwine being second, and T. Iwaya third. Irwine only lost first place by 12 inches. Time, 1.45.

Thread and Needle Race, Scratch, 2 Laps.—Prizes to go to the Ladies. First Prize, presented by the Tokyo Sorin Club. Second Prize, presented by the Committee. Third Prize, presented by Mr. J. Eyton, Jnr.

A. Kingdon	1
J. L. Carrillon	2
J. M. P. Collaco	3
H. Y. Irwine	0
M. Iwaya	0
K. Tsuruta	0

The conditions were that each starter should ride once round the track, with a needle and thread, dismount, run with his machine to the Pavilion, get the needle threaded by a lady, remount, and ride a second lap. There were six competitors. A. Kingdon and Irwine were the first to finish the initial lap, but Miss Jarmain, who was assisting Kingdon, did her work so well that he was able to get away first and won. Carilion, who finished his lap third, also received efficient help from Miss Woodruff, and finished second. Collaco, whose representative was Miss Glahn, was third. Irwine, whose sister was his assistant, was unplaced. Iwaya was assisted by Miss Holmes, and K. Tsuruta by Miss L. Holmes.

One Mile Champion.—First Prize, presented by the "Cleveland," Agents, Messrs. Andrews and George. Second Prize, presented by Mr. J. L. O. Eyton. Third Prize, presented by Mr. K. Kingdon.

K. Tsuruta	1
W. B. Mason	2
S. Onodera	3
S. Matsumura	0
S. Ikeda	0

Time, 2 49⅘

The heats had been ridden on Friday. Tsuruta paced the rest, with Mason close behind, and Onodera in close attendance. Tsuruta maintained his lead throughout, though Mason made a game effort on the last lap. The finish was a splendid one, the Tokyo rider winning by only a few feet.

One Mile Consolation, Post Entries.—First Prize, Presented by the "White Flyer," Agents, Second Prize, Presented by Mr. G. W. Rogers. Third Prize, Presented by Mr. P. Peacock.

W. R. Mason	1
S. Matsumura	2
K. Iwaya	3

Time, 3.1½.

Mason had it all his own way from the commencement, and won easily.

KWAISHA OR KUMIAI?

A reply to the Communication of Dr. Lopnholm, published in the "Japan Daily Mail" of the 26th October.

Note No. 3.—It is proposed in this note to confine the discussion to one point only, disregarding mere questions of convenience and other side issues. The point at issue is whether it is compulsory upon British firms who have heretofore carried on business in Japan to reorganize into some form of *Kwaisha* recognized by the Commercial Code, and to become registered as such.

For a proper understanding of the discussion, it is necessary, at the risk of repetition, to define the technical terms made use of. The definitions shall be taken exclusively from Japanese law. The English text of the Anglo-Japanese treaty of 1894 is recognized as the original; and by the third article of that treaty British subjects are permitted to carry on business in Japan in partnerships among themselves,

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or with other foreigners, or with native subjects. The word officially used in the Japanese text to denote partnerships is *Kumiai*. Again, in the same article of the treaty it is stipulated that British subjects are not to be subjected to the payment of imposts levied for the profit, whether of Government, public functionaries, private individuals, or corporations, . . . The word officially selected as the Japanese equivalent of Corporations is *Kwaisha*. It will be noted that for these translations the Japanese Government itself is responsible. Now the word *Kwaisha* is the title of Book II of the Commercial Code, and it is defined to be an association, which is a juridical person, established for the purpose of doing commercial transactions as a business. (Com. Code, Arts: 42 and 44). That is also a good definition of the English word Corporation. If it be asked what is meant in Japanese law by a juridical person, the answer is to be found in the Civil Code; Article 35 of which provides that associations for purposes of profit can become juridical persons on complying with the conditions prescribed for the creation of *Kwaisha*, or corporations; whilst Art. 36 goes on to say, (so far as is necessary for this discussion), that the existence of foreign juridical persons, other than *Kwaisha* or corporations, is not admitted. So far, then, it is obvious that, by Japanese law the conversion of "associations for the purpose of profit" into *Kwaisha* is not compulsory, but merely permissive; and that as regards foreigners, foreign corporations are alone entitled to be recognised as juridical persons, to the exclusion of firms or private partnerships. In Article 43 of the Commercial Code, four classes of *Kwaisha* are enumerated, one of which is the *Gōmei Kwaisha*; and it is this word that is translated by Dr. Loenholm as "ordinary partnerships." The contention of the writer of this note is that that rendering is inaccurate. In a note to Art. 42 of his translation of the Commercial Code, Dr. Loenholm explains that he uses the expression "commercial company" to denote not only companies, but also partnerships. The Japanese word for which the expression "Commercial Company" is given as the equivalent is *kwaisha*; and *kwaisha* does not include partnerships. Hence Dr. Loenholm's use of the expression is incorrect. An ordinary or private partnership is expressed in Japanese either by the word *Shadan*, (translated by Loenholm as an association for purposes of profit), or *Kumiai* (translated by Loenholm as an association which may or may not be for purposes of profit). That *Shadan* or *Kumiai* may exist, and may carry on business without becoming juridical persons, or registering as *Kwaisha*, is recognized by Art. 35 of the Civil Code, Art. 54 of the Commercial Code, and in the Chapter entitled *Kumiai* in the Civil Code, comprised in Art. 667 to 688 inclusive, wherein is to be found the whole law applicable to ordinary or private partnerships as distinguished from corporations. The fact is that the Commercial Code does not interfere with persons who elect to carry on their business in private partnership. Whence then is derived the authority to impose upon foreign firms the obligation to become corporations? The answer is said to be found in Art. V. of Imperial Ordinance No. 272, which, in turn, derives its authority from that portion of Art. 92 of the Law concerning the operation of the Commercial Code, in which power is given to make special regulations in regard to *kumiai* formed in Japan by foreigners before the taking effect of the Commercial Code. What is the obligation imposed by Art. V. of the Ordinance, and upon whom is it imposed? The obligation is confined to *kumiai* which are possessed of *dokuritsu zaisan*, formed by foreigners in Japan, and it provides that within six months from the 15th June, 1899, such *kumiai* must change their organization into some kind of *kwaisha* recognized by the Commercial Code. We have it then that partnerships possessed of *dokuritsu zaisan*, and formed by foreigners in Japan before the coming into operation of the Commercial Code, are to change their organization, and convert themselves into some kind of corporation recognized by the Commercial Code. If *dokuritsu zaisan* means corporate property, then the Ordinance is comprehensible and defensible because it is merely explanatory of a law applicable to Japanese and foreign *kumiai* alike, without special enactment. But if, as asserted by Dr. Loenholm, it means partnership property, then the ordinance, though comprehensible, is indefensible because it is *ultra vires*, and attempts to discriminate against foreigners by making it compulsory upon them to do what native subjects are not compellable to do. Dr. Loenholm's rendering of *dokuritsu zaisan* is therefore, *ex hypothesi*, inadmissible; and even though it is said to be supported by so high an authority as the learned professor, Dr. Ume, were it permissible for the writer of this note to mention names, it would be acknowledged that the opposite opinion herein maintained is entitled to at least equal weight.

STUDENT.

Yokohama, October 30th, 1899

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GOVERNMENT AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your reply in the editorial of Oct. 17, to the question propounded by the Editor of the *Japan Times* in his editorial of Oct. 14, while correct and to the point as far as it goes, seems to me to leave several vital points unstated. It in the Koto Sho Gakko and Chu Gakko, the difficulties may be fairly described as "overwhelming," in the Jinjo Sho Gakko, they are certainly so and absolutely prohibitive. This prohibition of religion in all schools for children of the required school age is not merely a matter of theory but of actual fact, hard tested fact, as I could easily prove. I know of one Mission which has been positively forced to close schools of the Sho Gakko grade losing thereby in the neighbourhood of 500 to 600 pupils in Tokyo and Yokohama alone. The pressure with which the regulations apply to Sho Gakko pupils has hitherto found little expression in print; most attention having been directed to the Boys' Christian Schools of higher grade, where it is a question of foregoing privileges and not of absolute prohibition. Even in this latter class your answer to the *Japan Times* cannot be controverted; for the advantages of very special facilities for admission to higher scholastic institutions, and of "valuable credentials in any career," including an undetermined amount of government patronage, are advantages not to be lightly despised by any ambitious youth of present Japan, or by his parents. But leaving this aside,—(for conscription postponement which was once so difficult to obtain that it nearly wrecked the Doshisha seems now to be easily attainable, though we are not aware of any legislation or ordinance or instruction on the question but only rumours more or less vague),—it is the Sho Gakko pupils that the Government sets out to protect one and all from the baleful influences of religion; this at a time when minds are most impressionable, a lesson that Christ and Christianity have taught the world ad infinitum;—a sphere where Christian missions have endeavoured to work faithfully. If, as seems evident, the leading purpose is to completely head off Christianity from influence upon the young, then no doubt this prohibition in the Sho Gakko sphere, deserves the greater prize for astuteness on the part of the favourers of the present anti-religious, or rather anti-Christian, secularism. The animus actuating the schemes for excluding religion is by this time so clear that "he who runs may read." It seems strange that the intelligent editor of the *Japan Times* should try still to avoid meeting the full issue. Whether he is ignorant and therefore conscientious possibly in his efforts, is not for the present writer to determine.

Again, even from the propagandist's point of view, the question does not lie at all as the *Japan Times* says it does. (I should like to say here that propagandism is a word which has acquired a disagreeable flavour, and so a stigma at once rests upon this point of view. In this 19th century of enlightened religious liberty, the propagandist may be at once ruled out of court in utter disdain. Thus many of the enlightened argue or at least act. Let me only say here that these mission schools have a record for faithfulness and results in the secular sphere, and that they do not claim exemption from any intellectual tests. Let the Mombusho apply the intellectual test, the true and only educational test. What is complained of is that it neglects the impartial application of this test, and is bent upon appling what?—Well, in very truth a religious test, in anti-religious form no doubt, but religious in essence. It is this parody, resulting in a form of persecution of such a kind as even our enlightened age has not yet completely sloughed off, a persecution very effective when seen how applied in Japan, that Protestant Christians have a mission to enlighten Japanese authorities on yet. Judging from history I do not think that Jesuitism, or any other form of Roman Catholicism, has any light to shed on this question. Protestant Christianity started in a grand idea of Christian liberty, and though at times not attaining the ideal, its course and its lessons are patent and of use). But now as to the *Japan Times*' answer even from the propagandist's point of view. Have mission schools not already fallen off in number in consequence of this illiberal legislation, not to speak of some having had to be closed? To have a successful school even from the propagandist's point of view, and especially from his point of view, scholars are a necessity, and other things being equal, the more the better, and the better the quality of scholars the better too. Both numbers and the quality of students are now interfered with. How then can any intelligent onlooker declare, "Without attempting to throw themselves into the domain of education controlled by the Mombusho, the missionaries and those working with them will find ample field for exertion in purely Christian Schools which they are at liberty to establish in any numbers." (*Japan Times* of Aug. 4,'99) "But if the object of these institutions is to afford Christian parents the opportunity of imparting a religious education to their children, there is nothing to prevent them doing so" (Oct. 14). Is this not the old story of "bricks without straw." And we thought that the Egyptian taskmasters were all dead at this end of the 19th century!

The frank admission that the "officially regulated standard" "is far from perfect," so far indeed that mission schools may even yet overcome all these "overwhelming difficulties" by so "remodelling their curriculum as to suit the exigencies of their system of religious education, &c.," is a significant admission from an advocate of the government's policy of secularism. A straw often points the direction of the wind as well as a bigger vane.

As an additional item, it has come to the ears of the writer that even the founding of new *Himmin Gakko* has such obstacles thrown in the way as to discourage their would-be founders, and this even in the case of such as have been in running order for years, but not having been registered, can now not purchase the expensive red tape needed under the severe administration of the Mombusho in these days.

There is one point more that may be raised here. In that meeting of representatives of six Christian schools held on August 16th, two rather weighty charges are formulated against the Minister's Instruction, and as this Instruction has all the result of a very active and absolute law these charges are made against the government of Japan: First, the charge of unconstitutionality:—"We feel that this position of the Educational Department is contrary to the spirit of the constitution of the Empire, &c." Secondly, a charge of injustice:—"We feel that to put these same limitations upon private schools supported by private funds is a great injustice." These charges are made by intelligent citizens of Japan, and of Europe

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and America. They are made by men who have looked into the history and meaning of religious liberty and injustice, who have studied constitutions, and know what is accorded by the constitution of Japan.

I.—The charge of unconstitutionality is a double one,—(1) Of essence, and (2) Of form.

1. Of Essence.—The constitution says, "Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." The significance of such an article in the constitution of a state is in these days perfectly clear to all who know history. It is no longer open to quibbles like the following: —Christianity and Japanese loyalty are inconsistent; Christians are guilty of conduct prejudicial to peace and order, or are faithless to their duties as subjects; nor is it consistent to say that because "freedom of conscience concerns the inner part of man and lies beyond the sphere of interference by the laws of the state" (Ito's commentaries); that therefore a man may indeed believe what he pleases, but he may not act out his belief (constitutional limits of "peace and order," and "duties as subjects," being always kept in mind), may not propagate it freely, *i.e.* without let or hindrance by private or public agencies. To argue thus is again mere persiflage, unworthy of the history of freedom and especially of religious liberty, and of the dignity of any intelligent man. Christians are quite ready to follow out what Marquis Ito admirably states:—"As to forms of worship, to religious discourses, to the mode of propagating a religion and to the formation of religious associations and meetings some general or police restrictions must be observed for the maintenance of public peace and order, &c." Modern jurisprudence finds no difficulty in the application of this principle so as not to interfere with the fundamental guarantee of really unhampered religious liberty. To say you may believe, but the state can interdict your acting out your belief by arbitrary regulations, does not rise to the dignity of the doctrine of religious liberty. To say you may believe and then put on restrictions, may be religious tolerance. I suppose in Russia even there is tolerance, but few would venture to say that Russia is a model for Japan as to religious liberty. Protestant countries afford the real criteria, and rightly, for they have conquered through a long and fearful struggle, and knowing what the principle cost, they also know how to prize it and how to apply it.

2. The Legislation is Unconstitutional in Form.—Art. 37th of the Constitution reads, "Every law requires the consent of the Imperial Diet." We shall be told at once that Imperial Ordinance No. 359 and the accompanying Educational Departmental Instruction, are not laws in the sense of the Constitution. We shall reply that if not laws, they or at least the Instruction *ought to be* laws, and that in the very deepest sense the Instruction is a law. Who or what is to define, who or what is to guarantee constitutional and parliamentary institutions at all, if such a principle as is involved in the Instruction can be arbitrarily taken out of the scheme where it naturally belongs? The principle itself and the deeper reason urged for it, make it one of the weightiest questions with which Japan has to deal. We cannot here develop this point adequately, but every consideration adduced and that might be adduced, shows that here we have a law, not simply a matter of departmental detail. The substance of the Instruction may have been assented to by the whole cabinet. It may have received the suggestions and sanction of the Privy Council. All this and more even if we are rightly informed may be true, but *the people*, where are they? In many respects no matter concerns them more closely. They have spoken too, loudly enough in press and public to demand recognition. But they are not accorded any recognition, and they have been cut off from their indefeasible constitutional privilege to have such recognition through their representatives. Why such conduct? Why such haste in promulgating and enforcing such a point? In the name of the constitution and of the rights of parliament, the Instruction is charged as unconstitutional.

Perhaps, however, we shall be told, as indeed we have already been told not only by the *Japan Times* but also by a higher authority, that no new Instruction (or law) has been promulgated, but that as faithful officers of the law, the present Educational Authorities are simply carrying out what has been in force for years or even decades. To this we reply; (*a*) This does not appear on the face of the Instruction nor is their any reference to any such law of the past. We have seen vague references to the general educational policy of secularism, and to its supposed application to government schools. But neither of these facts (if facts) justifies or necessitates such an abrupt and absolute extension of the assumed principle to private schools supported by private funds. Besides the principle itself needs justification and its accordance with the Constitution at least ought to be placed beyond suspicion. It is argued that the policy of secularism extends several decades back. This if true takes it to preconstitutional days and hence we say it needs to be revised in the light of the constitution which dates only one decade back. And the public calls emphatically for such revision. (*b*) Granting for argument's sake that the policy of past years leads logically to a formula such as the Instruction contains, it is admitted even in high quarters that the *formulation* is new, that it has gained in definiteness and also in positiveness of application, and that therefore it comes with all the force of a new not simply of a resurrected law. This is evident not only from the general consternation of the public at seeing such an instruction, but also from the severity with which it presses upon Christian mission schools. (*c*.) But as a matter of fact it is new, as far as the people know, and no endeavour has been made other than by an *ipse dixit* to prove that it is old,—we mean the application to private schools. (*d*.) As a matter of fact also the writer is aware of at least one Christian mission school which less than two years ago received distinct permission to teach religion and religious exercise, while holding the recognition of the Government. There was no connivance here either. The Tokyo fu granted this recognition,—the very same body that is now called on to withdraw it. For the Mombusho to claim now that another office, viz. the Tokyo-fu, granted this privilege, is (1) to make an invidious distinction between two offices, equally respected parts of the government, and (2), to demand an impossibility, inasmuch as the Tokyo-fu was the only body and still is through which private institutions can request and receive the Chugakko privilege. Besides things have indeed come to a pretty pass if the public must really see Mombusho and Tokyo-fu pitted against each other. I therefore cannot believe that any accredited officer of the law can willingly hide behind this subterfuge. (*e*) Let us not forget that Jinjo-sho Gakko, or at least schools of that grade, have been operated for 15 and 20 years as mission schools and without abatement of religion by officers of the law, and they have not done their work in a corner. They are at once obliged to stop, or else as far as the writer has learned, either to exclude all religion from the very precincts by day and night, Sundays included, or to do things by connivance, which latter is not Christian though some may call it religious. It is acknowledged by some high in authority that at least the clause in the Instruction "even outside the regular course of instruction," is out of accord with the constitutional guarantee of religious liberty. The writer has seen a few sophistical but no really adequate reasons for adding this clause. Why is there no attempt made to justify such a flagrant interference with the privileges of religious instruction in private schools supported by private funds? In view of these and other considerations, the writer asks why is not every attempt to construe the Instruction as an old law, simply and purely sophistry?

Why then, we ask, is this new law thus abruptly and unconstitutionally promulgated, and thus precipitately enforced? Why is there no decent respect paid to parliament's rights and suggestions in the matter? Why are the people not satisfied in this great question? What great reason of state compels such precipitate action, of the nature of martial law in times of war or national danger, and not of educational policy in a time of profound peace and prosperity?

II.—The charge against the Instruction is also brought in the name of justice. We have been told that the Government, once for all adopted the thorough-going principle of secularism. When we ask how the application could justly be made to private schools supported solely by private funds, we have waited for a reply and are waiting yet. We have been simply told that the principle of secularism was sacred and could not be waived. We know of no such sacredness attaching to this principle in history or in the rest of the contemporary world. We had never suspected the sacredness of secularism. We are waiting for a reply to the charge of injustice raised by that meeting of Aug. 16. The Government is arraigned before a bar higher than any arbitrary *ipse dixit*.

It is to be hoped that the editor of the *Japan Times* will fairly and squarely endeavour to answer your question,—"Why is religious instruction forbidden in private schools which have official recognition? Why are religious exercises forbidden in such schools?" As there are sound reasons for suspecting that some already know the answer, the really "deeper reason" for this whole educational policy as recently so fully formulated, there is not much to be gained now in trying to ward off any longer the real issue. However much we may admire the astuteness and perhaps even the courage of Japanese statesmen in thus trying to revivify the idea that dictated the policy of Ancient Rome in its antagonism to that "troublesome sect" called Christians, our commentary on their enlightment and magnaminity would fall out rather different. The world is waiting to see whether Japan is really minded to set the hands on history's dial plate 2,000 years back.

Yours truly, GAMMA.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Under the heading of "Railway Collision," which appeared in your issue of the 28th inst., the Hokuriku Railway should be the Hokuetsu Railway. The accident in question occurred at the Omigawa Station on the line of the Hokuetsu Railway Co., not the Hokuriku line of the Government Administration. I therefore ask you to correct kindly this mistake, as it might lead to a serious misapprehension on the part of the public.

Yours truly, S. HIRAI,
Traffic Manager.

Imperial Government Railways of Japan,
Traffic Offices, Tokyo, Oct. 30th.

MISSIONARIES AND THE INCOME TAX.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—One of your honorable correspondents raised some interesting questions concerning the Income Tax, which appeared in your paper of the 20th inst. with your answering remarks. But as you were too courteous to give any definite answer, I should like to ask your favour to let me fill a short space in your paper.

The first question raised by the correspondent is that: Are all missionaries of Europe or America, who receive their salaries from a Mission Board or a Society in their home land, subject to Income Tax in Japan? The answer to this question must be in the affirmative. You referred to the Art. V., No. 6, of this law, which says that income tax is not levied on incomes derived from property or from a trade, business or profession in a foreign country or in places where

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this law is not in force. But the salary of a Missionary does by no means belong to this class, because he receives it for the profession in which he is engaged in the place where the law is enforced. Consequently we conclude that all Missionaries working in Japan, who receive salary amounting to 300 *yen* or more in a year are liable to pay the income tax no matter from whatever source their salary may come.

The second question is simply this:—Are all Buddhist priests subject to this tax? The answer is all an affirmative, with an addition that all other priests, Shinto, &c., too are liable to pay the tax. So there may not be any exception to the Christian Missionaries alone. Moreover Christ ordered his followers to pay tribute by his own example and open precept.

The third question is this:—In case a missionary keeps his children in his home land for their education, and consequently expends one-fourth of his salary there will his whole income be taxed? This question must also be answered positively, because the nature of this tax makes no allowance for such things at all.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

A JAPANESE EVANGELIST.

Tokyo, Oct. 21st, 1899.

DEATH OF MR. GREATHOUSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Söul, Oct. 23, 1899.

Mr. C. R. Greathouse, Ex-Consul General of the United States to Kanagawa, Japan, from 1886 to 1889, died in the English Mission hospital here on the 21st inst. His death was not unexpected In fact some papers made the premature announcement several weeks ago. Mr. Greathouse had been ill for the last three or four months with stomachic trouble, and suffered very much at times, though he died peacefully. He leaves a venerable mother to mourn his death.

At the time of his death, Mr. Greathouse was Adviser to the Korean Government, a position he held uninterruptedly since his arrival here in December, 1889. He was influential in government circles, and by shrewd tact managed to keep on the right side no matter whether the Cabinet was Conservative or Progressive. His Imperial Majesty the Emperor on hearing of the death of his Adviser, promptly and graciously sent money to pay all funeral expenses, ordered an escort of 200 soldiers to attend the funeral, and appointed a young official to accompany Mrs. Greathouse to her home in the United States, all at the expense of his gracious Majesty.

The funeral was held to-day and the services were conducted by the Rev. H. G. Appenzeller, of the American Methodist Mission North, and was very largely attended by both foreigners and Koreans. The Imperial guard turned out and never appeared to better advantage.

Mr. Greathouse was a lawyer of splendid ability, a man of liberal views and large sympathies. As Consul General to Japan, your readers may remember with what carefulness he attended to the business of his office and the faithfulness with which he discharged its duties. He conducted the investigation into the death of the Queen of Korea on the morning of October 8th, 1895, and fixed the responsibility where it properly belonged. He was in sympathy with most, or all, of the reforms proposed by Japan for the advancement of Korea, and during the incumbency of a Law Minister interested in and favourable to the execution of the law, he succeeded in redeeming the Courts from the odium of corruption and bribery resting upon them. The progress made at this time was very marked and the people were beginning to feel that under the guiding hand of the legal Adviser and the hearty co-operation of the Minister, they could dare to enter the courts with a confidence that their case would be decided on its merits and not on political or other doubtful influence. It was through the untiring efforts of Mr. Greathouse that this change was begun and the redemption of the law courts assured in sight; and in the judgment of your correspondent this was probably the greatest service Mr. Greathouse rendered Korea. But one of those sudden changes of the political wheel within the wheel, for which this land has an unenviable reputation, came on a cold night, clapped the faithful Law Minister into jail and he would have frozen to death had it not been for the personal efforts of Mr. Greathouse. The good work so earnestly begun was undone. Then men indifferent or hostile to the faithful execution of the new laws were appointed to the department of Justice and the old regime with all its corruption was gradually restored.

Mr. Greathouse was a genial companion, an agreeable and interesting conversationalist, and a writer of keen perception. His articles in the *Korean Repository* on Korean folk-lore were very popular with the readers of that magazine, not only because of their faithful portrayal of Korean character and customs but because of their quiet and quaint humour.

CHINA NOTES.

Lieut. H. E. Hilman, late 1st Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Humber*, takes command of the river gun-boat *Snipe*, recently put together by Messrs. S. C. Farnham and Co., at their Tungkadoo Dock, Shanghai.

Since the close of the summer, says a Peking despatch to the Shanghai papers, three new branches of study have been added to the curriculum of the Peking University. These are military science, science of government, and the ancient and modern histories of all nations, including that of China also. In the last-named two branches only men of high literary degrees will be admitted as students, the intention being to fit them specially for the posts of prefects, subprefects, department and district magistrates, collectively known as "local authorities." The importance of even a partial knowledge of these two sciences by such officials is obvious enough as compared with their present state of ignorance throughout the empire.

A Chinese paper published in Shanghai gives some information about the late Chinese Minister in Japan which will be of interest to many of our readers. We avail ourselves of the *N.C. Daily News* translation:—

A local vernacular paper reports the recent arrival at Paris of Yü Kêng (Manchu), the new Chinese Minister to France and successor of a fellow Manchu, Ching Ch'ng, who had to retire through the denunciations against him by Yü Hai huan, Chinese Minister at Berlin, owing to the murder and suicide of two *attachés* in the Paris Legation. The vernacular paper states that when Yü Kêng arrived at Paris he called, in accordance with the usual official etiquette, on the French Foreign Office, and amongst other things requested to know when he could have the honour of presenting his credentials to the President of the Republic. The reply given next day was that:—"President Loubet had decided not to receive Yü Kêng until the French boundaries at Kuangchou Bay had been satisfactorily settled by the Chinese Government." The above, it may be noted, has been confirmed by dispatches received by the local mandarins from Nanking and Peking, the latter announcing that this treatment of a Chinese Minister duly accredited is resented by the Tsungli Yamên and that when the Empress Dowager heard it her indignation was extreme. The reply of the French Government to Yü Kêng's request is taken to indicate that, if the Kuangchou Bay boundaries are marked according to the desires of the French, well and good; Yü Kêng would, of course, be received with effusion. If not, then Yü Kêng must expect to receive his passports and leave France at once.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* learns from a Canton correspondent that two merchants surnamed respectively Wan and Chan have offered a sum of Tls. 140 000 per annum for the privilege of collecting lekin on silk cocoons exported from Suntak, Tailoong, etc., the said effected. Among these principles are that sum to be payable in quarterly instalments of Tls. 35,000 in advance, the conditions being similar to those of the opium monopoly, and the tax levied on the buyer to be 3 candareens per tael. The offer is now under consideration by Kang Yi, the High Commissioner.

His Lordship Mgr. Favier, Bishop of Pekin, says the *Echo de Chine*, has arrived at Shanghai. Monseigneur Ferrand is also expected here. They are both leaving, by the next French mail, for Europe, where matters of ecclesiastical import require their presence. The object of Bishop Favier's voyage is to secure new members for the Lazarist Mission, their small numbers rendering it impossible for them to cope with the increase of work entailed by their progress in the north. The number of Christians in Bishop Favier's district alone, which in 1889 was 34 417, has this year risen to 46 894. During the same period the missionary stations increased from 522 to 577; the Franco-Chinese colleges from 1 to 3; the number of the sick attended at the dispensaries from 27 240 to 135,975, and those looked after in the hospitals from 3,609 to 6,303.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH MAIL.

Excavations in the Church of Santa Francisca at Pisa have brought to light what appears to be the tomb of Ugolino della Gheradesca, more familiar to readers of Dante's Inferno as Count Ugolino. He was a Neapolitan, who, in the thirteenth century, endeavoured to usurp the Government of Pisa, and for a time succeeded, exercising his power with great severity. In 1288 a conspiracy was set on foot for his overthrow. The Count was taken prisoner, and with three of his sons and one of his grandsons was left to die of hunger. The present discovery of a rectangular tomb with five skulls and some bones in the place of burial assigned to the Count by tradition, seems to confirm this latter.

Bacteriology has shown how we may count alike upon friends and foes among the myriads of bacteria known to us. The *Lancet* points out that the gradual disintegration of the cement-mortar used in water-supply reservoirs is one of the serious troubles met with by water engineers and a trouble which so far they have not been able to avoid with any measure of practical success. This strange process is now said to be due to the action of none other than that bacterium known as the nitrifying organism, which is the one upon which so much depends in the purification of sewage and effete matters. On this account its growth should be encouraged, and it is curious, therefore, to find that the organism appears as an objectionable factor in the attempt to supply and store an abundance of pure water for drinking purposes.

The game of "Book Tea" appears to be growing in favour in England, and with its development the originality in the devices is refreshingly pleasing. A contemporary gives a few of these successful ideas. A competitor with a nickel S and a nickel B on either lapel of his coat was "Nicholas Nickleby;" a scrap of music with two lower C's was a popular singer's representation of "Dodo;" a razor and a pair of scissors round an actress's neck symbolised "With Edged Tools;" and a padlock on a girl's shoes stood for "Locke on the Human Understanding." If the game continues to grow in favour it will perhaps justify the multiplicity of books.

The Spanish Bishops, says the *Spectator*, have apparently reached the precise mental point attained by the English Bishops during the Reformation when they suggested that if the laws of the Church conflicted with the laws of the State, the laws of the State could be made to agree with the laws of the Church. Cardinal Cascajares and the Bishops of Spain have met in conference at Burgos, and have decided that seventeen "principles" must be accepted before a union of Catholics of different parties can be

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"toleration should be confined to the narrowest limits allowed by the Constitution," that "no ecclesiastic should be punished by the ordinary civil Courts of Justice," that marriages by the Church should always have civil effect, that Bishops should recover legacies from pious testators without any intervention of lay authority, and that all associations which are not Catholic should be prohibited. It is not quite certain whether the Bishops also demand that ecclesiastical property should be exempt from taxation, but, according to the *Times*, this is the apparent intention. These demands, which are put forward in all seriousness, constitute a pretty distinct negative to Cardinal Vaughan's assertion that the Church does not interfere in the internal politics of a State. To liberate ecclesiastics from all law but their own seems to Englishmen very decided interference.

Gratifying on account of the prosperity of trade as well as the improved condition of workpeople which high wages imply, there is yet, says the *Saturday Review*, a more permanent satisfaction supplied by the Board of Trade's Report on wages and the hours of labour for 1898. Fluctuations of wages from time to time are sure to occur, but the various devices that employers and workmen have established for the settlement of disputes have come to be part of the regular order of society and may be expected to develop yet further. Comparing the various means of sliding scales, conciliation or mediation, arbitration or mutual arrangement and strikes, changes in rates of wages of nearly a million workpeople have been made during the year by one or other of these means without strikes, while changes which were only brought about through strikes related to no more than about fifty thousand. Changes in hours have followed the same course, though disputes about hours dwindled in a remarkable way. Of the thirty thousand people whose hours have been affected the changes were for the most part effected without recourse to strikes. There has been no general movement for the eight-hours day in any trade.

The extraordinary belief among the ignorant all over Europe that the Jews occasionally murder a Christian child and drain the body of blood to use for ritual purposes has produced disastrous results in Austria. Anna Hruza, a Christian girl of nineteen, was found on March 29th in Polna (Bohemia) murdered, her body when discovered being absolutely bloodless. A Jew of bad repute, named Hilsner, was immediately arrested, and upon the evidence, chiefly of the condition of the body, was found guilty and sentenced to death. The Judge, the Public Prosecutor, the jury, and the representatives of the Anti Semite Press who swarmed to the trial were all of the same opinion, and there seems no doubt that the verdict will greatly intensify the Austrian hatred against Jews. Popular prejudice, adds the *Spectator*, has hardly any limits, as witness the verdict of a coroner's jury scarcely forty years ago that a man found dead in the Midlands had been "murdered by some Irishman unknown"; but the continuance of this particular illusion through ages is a very curious fact in the psychology of mobs. The story of Hugh of Lincoln, who was supposed to have been murdered for the same purpose as Anna Hruza, is hundreds of years old.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Miller appeal to the Court of Cassation will be heard on the 13th.

H.D.M.'s cruiser *Valkyrien*, under the command of H.R.H. Waldemar of Denmark, left Copenhagen on the 5th October for the Far East.

Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald's time expires this month. His relief is Rear-Admiral J. A. T. T. Bruce, who is bringing Mrs. Bruce with him to China.

The annual picnic of the German Club took place on Sunday, the place visited being Tomioka. The P. M. Co.'s launch conveyed some fifty to sixty persons to the destination, where a pleasant time was spent.

The only event in connection with the Yokohama Yacht Club on Saturday was the sendoes' race for 21 raters. *Kodesu* won, with *Yugao* second, and *Sodeska* third. *Nandeska* was fourth and *Abunai* fifth.

The Hongkong A.D.C. are now rehearsing "The Magistrate;" "The Mother-in-law," and Sullivan's "Yeomen of the Guard." In the latter piece, Mrs. W. W. Campbell (late of Yokohama) plays *Elsie Maynard*.

Captain Raymond, late of the *White Cloud*, which foundered on her way to Manila, has been arrested on a warrant, charged with leaving the waters of Hongkong with a vessel in an unseaworthy condition and knowing her to be so.

A telegram has been received at the British Legation from the Governor of Hongkong, announcing that the importation of dogs into that colony from Japan is prohibited for 6 months, commencing from October 23rd.

The Public Procurator has found there is a case against Mr. Kent, third officer of the *Tamba Maru*, of assaulting the Japanese quarter-master. The trial will probably come on at the Chiho Saibansho on the 14th.

We have to acknowledge receipt of an interesting pamphlet by Mr. Henry Louis, Professor of Mining at Durham, entitled "The Production of Tin.' The well digested facts which the work contains should ensure it a wide circulation in mercantile circles.

Mr. Y. Takeshita, Director of Posts and Telegraphs at Yokohama, has been appointed Director of Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office, and Mr. Aoki Dazaburo, Director at Kyoto comes to Yokohama as Mr. Takeshita's successor. Mr. Aoki will probably arrive early next month.

A Chinese fireman named Ho Kam, belonging to the Blue Funnel steamer *Hector*, disappeared on Oct. 21st while the vessel was at sea. A Board of Trade enquiry was held at the British Consulate, Yokohama, on Friday, by Mr. Hobart Hampden, Vice-Consul. The evidence disclosed no suspicions of foul play, and it is supposed the man jumped overboard.

The harvest festival services were held at the Public Hall on Sunday evening. There was a large congregation. At the conclusion of the service the choir rendered a harvest cantata by G. Garrett, M.A., Mus. Doc. The principal parts were taken by Mrs. Irwine, Miss Burdett Leach, Mrs. Wilson, Messrs. C. W. Marshall, Unite, W. K. Wilson, and H. E. Hayward. The cantata is to be repeated next Sunday.

Sir Henry Northcote, C.B., M.P., the new Governor of Bombay, was the second son of the late Lord Iddesleigh (better known as Sir Stafford Northcote). He was born in 1846 and educated at Eton and Merton College, Oxford. He has been a Clerk in the Foreign Office (1868); private Secretary to Lord Salisbury on the occasion of the Constantinople Embassy of 1876-77; private secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1877-80; Financial Secretary to the War Office, 1885-86; and since then a Charity Commissioner.

About 20 minutes past three on Saturday morning, Superintendent Morgin received an alarm of fire at No. 139, China Town. On arrival the firemen found that a two-storeyed, half-wood half-brick building was in a blaze. The flames were subdued in the course of an hour, but not before the building in which the fire originated was destroyed. The house belonged to Kingsell and Co., and was used as a printing office. A lamp is supposed to have been the cause of the disaster.

A remarkable phenomenon has been noticed with regard to the chestnut trees in the Avenue Louise, Brussels, since the installation of the electrical trams. Their foliage, says the *Chronicle*, begins to turn brown and drop early in August, to bud, and even to blossom, again in October. The trees on the opposite side to the tramway "behave like ordinary trees," for they lose their foliage in the late autumn, and do not put forth fresh blossom until the spring. Botanists are inclined to believe that the cause of this singular state of things is due to the electrical current which passes underground acting upon the roots of the trees, which are otherwise quite healthy.

News has just reached the North of England of the death, in New Zealand, of a famous Cumberland and Westmoreland wrestler in the person of John Tiffin, of Dearham. Deceased was the champion of 9st 2lb wrestlers from 1860 to 1875—when he emigrated—and was notable for the circumstance that during the 20 years he was known to the wrestling ring he could always scale 9½st. Tiffin was little more than 5 feet in height. He was acknowledged as the most polished wrestler at his weight, famous for the tenacity of his foothold, while his judgment of striking distance was marvellous.

An extraordinary case of theft is reported from The Hague, the victim being no less a person than Queen Wilhelmina herself. The culprit appears to be the person to whom the safe custody of the young Queen's valuables was entrusted. The stolen articles consist of very valuable gold and silver toilet pieces, and seem to have been abstracted from Her Majesty's dressing-room. Their disappearance was the cause of inquires being made, and when the bulk of them were discovered in the possession of a silver-smith he stated that he had bought them from the official in question, who has now absconded.

Khoo Hooi Leong, a Chinaman at Penang, has lost a valuable legacy by turning Roman Catholic. Twenty thousand dollars had been left him by will, on condition that he had been brought up in the Chinese religion and was professing it at the time of attaining his majority. He sued for a legacy before Mr. Justice Hyndman Jones. Argument closed on the 2nd instant. His Lordship held that the plaintiff had been brought up in the Roman Catholic faith in Calcutta; and had attended the confessional since his return to Penang. He had not adopted the Chinese religion at all, and had not in any way formally severed himself from the Roman Catholic faith. Judgment was given for defendant, costs out of the legacy.

From a statement just issued by the Statistical Bureau of the Government of India, it appears that there was a large expansion of the cotton mill industry in India in 1898-99. The total amount of yarn produced was 512,371,736 lbs., as against 462,595,830lbs. in 1897-98. Of this quantity by far the largest portion was, of course, manufactured in Bombay, the amount being 368,036,820lbs., compared with 45,517,686lbs. in Bengal, 32,282,514lbs. in the North-West Provinces, and 30,728,346lbs. in Madras. The amount of woven goods produced also showed a large increase in 1898-99, the total quantity being 101,685,022lbs., as against 91,287,651lbs. in 1897-98. In this branch of the cotton industry Madras stands second to Bombay, having produced 6,126,279lbs., as against 5,156,956lbs. in the Central Provinces, and 4,083,580lbs. in the North-West Provinces. The amount produced in Bombay was 82,366,121lbs. In Bengal, very little is done in the weaving branch, the total production being only 58,605lbs.

By the death of General G. H. Mackinnon, C.B., colonel of the Cameronians, a very old and remarkable officer has passed away. His father, a Coldstream Guardsman, was killed at Ciudad Rodrigo; his first cousin, Colonel D. H. Mackinnon, wrote the history of the regiment in which he served from the age of 14 to his death; and his second cousin, Colo-

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nel L. D. Mackinnon, of the same regiment, was killed at Inkerman. General Mackinnon, who was born 93 years ago, joined the Grenadier Guards as an ensign and lieutenant 1st Battalion in 1824, became lieutenant and captain in 1828, captain and lieutenant-colonel, 3rd Battalion, in 1840, and went on half-pay in 1844. He performed excellent service in two Kaffir wars, for which he was made a C.B. He became a colonel in 1851, major-general in 1858, general in 1873, retired in 1877, and has been colonel of the Cameronians for 37 years. He accompanied the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards to Portugal 73 years ago, and the only officer now living who ever served in the Guards with him is Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, who had just joined as an ensign when Mackinnon left the 3rd Battalion 55 years ago. He had served during the reigns of George IV., William IV., and Her Majesty. Until quite recently he was a regular spectator at Lords, and until a month or so ago, although so feeble he could scarcely stand, he lunched regularly at the United Service Club, of which he was the father.

CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

[By the Rev. James A. B. Scherer in the "Sunday News."]

My attention has been called, with some insistence, to an article bearing the title of "Christianity in Japan." Upon examination this article turns out to be a review, apparently copied from the San Francisco *Chronicle*, of a recent work entitled "Japan in Transition," by Mr. Stafford Ransome.

In justice to that gentleman it is to be hoped that the California reviewer has incorrectly reported his book. For, even though Mr. Ransome, by his own confession, spent but a few months in Japan—as reporter for the *Morning Post*—he certainly should have learned more about the national history than his review would indicate.

For example, this author is set forward as authority for the news that the Christain religion was introduced to Japan "by the Dutch centuries ago." News this certainly is. Every other work which touches on the subject attributes the first missionary work to Francis Xavier, who landed at Kagoshima in 1549, meeting with remarkable success during his two years of hard labour.

In the next place this author is made to say that the eventual persecution of the Catholics was due to the sectarian jealousy of the Protestants; whereas authentic history tells us that the rivalry was not between Protestants and Catholics, but between Dutch and Portuguese. In other words, it was a matter of commercial and political jealousy. The Dutch, who were then the only foreigners in Japan, except Portuguese and Spanish, were anything but religious bigots. Their own historian, Kaempfer, acknowledges that they "carefully abstained from all profession of Christianity." On being taxed with his belief one would reply: "No, I am not a Christian, I am a Dutchman." So much for this second example of distorted history.

When a writer is found seriously at fault with his facts it is natural to question his truthfulness. At any rate, after a residence of five years in Japan, I do most positively deny the truth of Mr. Ransome's alleged statements concerning the condition of missionary work there—though I should not take the trouble to do so in the public prints were it not for harm these statements, indeed, might do in Charleston. Converts to Christianity he classifies as follows: (1) Professional Christians, who make their living in one way or another by working for the missionaries; (2) interested Christians, who derive material benefits by falling in with missionary views; (3) nominal Christians, who have been in contact with missionaries and who, for various reasons, raise no objection to being so styled; (4) temporary Christians, who are the children and others passing through missionary schools for the purpose of being educated in foreign subjects; (5) Christians, from force of circumstances—the native wives and servants of such of the Europeans as insist on their dependents observing Christianity.

Over against this cynical and exhaustive classification I set the simple fact that in the year 1898 these selfish and hypocritical natives contributed to religious work the sum of $47,683 in American gold. The purse is a pretty good test of sincerity.

To the query that converts are from the "lower classes" we answer that the President of the first Japanese House of Commons was a Christian, as also the President of the last two sessions, who chose to renounce political preferment rather than his office in the Church; besides a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, many Judges, legislators, army and naval officers, lawyers, physicians, editors and other well known men—the list proving the gross ignorance displayed by the remarks of those who hate missions or do not take the trouble to learn the truth about them.

Mr. Ransome has been "told that there are not very far short of 2,000 paid foreign missionaries in Japan." "Not very far short" is an expansive phrase. The statistics for 1898 show that the number of missionaries in Japan, including wives, is just 692—that is to say, 1,408 "short of 2,000." "Their payment," he adds, "is extremely good."

The Lutheran mission, which pays average salaries, allows single men $750 a year and married men $300 more. It may be that these men are, as he implies, "utterly unqualified" for their work, yet it is nevertheless true that they gave up better paying positions in this country in order to go to Japan. The assertion that "many of the missionaries run a successful commerce in connection with their religious work" is a bald falsehood. And the charge that "the time which should be devoted to Christianizing Japan is largely taken up by degrading squabbles between the representatives of the various shades of Protestantism about their respective methods and the details of their faith" may be met with these words from a book as recent as Mr. Ransome's: "Christian missionaries, as a rule, are not inclined to emphasize denominational differences. There is little attempt to draw believers from one fold to another. Most are very careful not to interfere with the work of others."

It is astounding to learn that "hundreds of thousands of dollars" have been "squandered" on useless missionary schools. So far as I know "hundreds of thousands of dollars" have never been spent on missionary schools at all.

The author has a strangely exaggerated notion of the resources of missionary societies.

To conclude, the author of "Japan in Transition" says:—"Thus Christianity, in the true sense of the word, as far as the Japanese are concerned, is in as bad a state as it possibly could be without becoming extinct, and the most painful part of it is that this has been mainly brought about by a large section of the very men whose care it should have been to look after it."

Yet these same men, during the year 1898 manifested the "bad state" of Japanese missions by baptizing 3,070 adults, besides conducting 58 schools for the poor, with 2,963 scholars; 19 orphan asylums, with 719 inmates; 16 hospitals and dispensaries, and 14 homes "for various classes, including two asylums for lepers. These are the statistics for Protestant Missions only. The success of Catholic Missions Mr. Ransome cheerfully conceded.

Chautauqua, N.Y., September 11, 1899.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Oct. 27.

Brigadier-General Yule and General White have effected a junction. General White now occupies all the strong positions on the Ladysmith road.

General White's losses in the action on Tuesday, 24th instant, were thirteen killed and ninety-six wounded.

The British War Office learns unofficially that, after the attack on Glencoe, the Boers captured a squadron of the Eighteenth Hussars with eight officers.

Later.

A train load of prisoners belonging to the 18th Hussars, including nine officers, who were captured after the fight at Glencoe, have arrived at Pretoria, and were received by a great crowd in solemn silence.

Thirty Hussars under a sergeant reached Ladysmith, having fought their way through the enemy.

General Symons has died at Ladysmith.

Brigadier Yule has reached Ladysmith after an arduous night's march through tremendous rain. His troops were sorely fatigued, but in good spirits. They only needed rest.

BOMBARDMENT OF MAFEKING.

The bombardment of Mafeking has begun.

THE GLENCOE FIGHT.

Shanghai, Oct. 27.

Belated despatches show that no guns were taken from the Boers at Glencoe, as originally reported.

Moreover only a few killed and wounded Boers were found in the position captured by the British.

The Grenadier Guards have sailed for the Cape.

Shanghai, Oct. 28.

A French war vessel has been ordered to South East Africa.

General Symons was buried at Dundee, an Anglican clergyman officiating. A few medical men and civilians were present, but no Boers.

Parliament has been prorogued.

Several hours' fighting took place outside Kimberley on Tuesday. At first 270 only of the garrison were engaged, but later 500. The defenders lost three killed and 21 wounded, and many Boers were killed, including Commander Botha.

Martial law has been extended to the whole of Natal.

The 2nd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards has left Gibraltar for South Africa.

NEW GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.

Sir Henry Northcote is the new Governor of Bombay.

Shanghai, October 30.

Over 500 Australian troops have sailed for the Cape.

BRITISH TROOPS LANDED AT CAPE TOWN.

Fourteen hundred British troops have arrived at Cape Town in the *Braemar Castle*.

Three hundred selected seamen have left Portsmouth to replace the Naval Brigade that was landed at the Cape.

There are indications that an engagement is impending at Ladysmith. The Boers are in force at Helpmakaar.

The news from Mafeking is that on the 23rd the Boers bombarded the place for three hours. Little damage was done.

The enemy demanded a surrender of the place, but Sir Baden Powell refused, and the bombardment was resumed.

The wounded at Glencoe are doing splendidly.

Shanghai, October 31.

It has been ascertained by balloon observations that from 16,000 to 20,000 Boers have formed a semi-circle to the northward of Ladysmith, and are strongly entrenching their position.

On the morning of the 30th inst. the Boers began shelling Ladysmith with 40 pounders, but when they had fired 7 shots they were silenced by the British guns. The Boers are now advancing on the British left flank.

Later.

General White reports that an engagement took place yesterday and that the Boers were repulsed after several hours' fighting. The British loss was about a hundred; the enemy's greater. The Boers were pushed back several miles, and the British returned to camp unmolested.

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Shanghai, Nov. 1.

An official despatch from General White with reference to Monday's engagement, says that the Gloucestershire Regiment, the Irish Fusiliers, and the 10th Mounted Battery—42 officers and about 2,000 men—who had been detached to protect the left flank of the British position, were surrounded in the hills and obliged to capitulate after losing heavily.

General White adds that he alone was responsible.

General Buller has arrived at Cape Town.

A powerful Naval Brigade, with heavy quick-firing guns, arrived at Ladysmith during the fight and the fourth shot from them disabled the enemy's seige gun, which had a longer range than our field artillery.

Shanghai, Nov. 2.

A despatch from General White says that the force which met with the disaster on the 30th October consisted of four and a half companies of the Gloucestershire Regiment, six companies of the Irish Fusiliers, and a battery of Mountain Artillery.

The mules accompanying the force were stampeded by boulders thrown down upon them and also by rifle shots. They bolted with all the guns and with the reserve ammunition.

The British, nevertheless, held the position from dawn until three o'clock in the afternoon under a heavy fire. At last their ammunition was exhausted, and the position, with the survivors, was captured.

The wounded were treated most humanely by the Boers.

The gunners of the Naval Brigade knocked the 40 pounder of the Boers off its platform and silenced the guns on Hepworth Ridge near Reitfontein. The Boers then abandoned the position.

The Queensland contingent has sailed for South Africa.

The press of Continental Europe, especially the French, is jubilant over the Ladysmith disaster.

Five transports are due at Durban on the 9th inst. Nothing can arrive sooner. Thereafter the transports will arrive in rapid succession.

[NOTE.—A word of explanation with reference to the Ladysmith disaster may be useful. The general reader may not be aware that the guns of a mountain battery are carried on the backs of mules. In this case the mules were evidently stampeded before the guns had been unloaded, and so they deprived the battery of its weapons and also the other troops of their reserve supplies of ammunition. The British were thus left at a terrible disadvantage, and the fight they made under the circumstances appears to have been as gallant an achievement as any body of men need wish to have to its credit. They apparently fought on till their last cartridge was gone, despite all odds. The affair is a very unfortunate one, but those Continental critics who are displaying such acrimony would do well to wait for an incident better justifying their jeers, and doing less credit to the British soldier's reputation for valour.

With reference to the matter of transports we had, in an article elsewhere in the present issue, penned before the above message arrived, calculated that the first transports, conveying the Second Brigade of the First Division of the Army Corps, which left Southampton on the 20th ult., would arrive at Durban on the 9th. There will be no long interval before the next contingent arrives, for 14 battalions were to have started from Southampton on the 23rd, and are therefore due at Durban on the 13th inst.—ED. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, Nov. 3.

The communications with Ladysmith were cut by the Boers on the afternoon of the 2nd instant.

Later.

The cable between Mozambique and Delagoa Bay is broken, and telegrams from the seat of war are utterly belated.

The Times believes that the wholesale stampeding of the mules (during the fight on the 30th ultimo) can not be accounted for except on the supposition that there was treachery on the part of the native drivers.

Lieutenant Egerton of the *Powerful* has been dangerously wounded by a shell.

A report emanating from Brussels says that the Boers have occupied Colenso compeletely invested Ladysmith, and that General White has been wounded, but the War Office in London is unaware of anything to confirm this.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

Saigon, Oct. 29.

The Boers surround the English at Ladysmith.

There has not been any new combat.

Saigon, October 30.

On the 27th instant the English attacked the positions held by the Boers to the north-east of Ladysmith, but did not succeed in dislodging the enemy.

Saigon, Oct. 31.

The Boers at Ladysmith have captured a British patrol and 1,500 mules. They have gained possession of the slaughter-houses at Ladysmith, with many animals.

Saigon, Nov. 1.

The Boers yesterday commenced to bombard Ladysmith. The English attempted unsuccessfully to drive them their positions, and were obliged to re-enter the place after a sharp combat, leaving two thousand prisoners in the hands of the enemy.

FRENCH EXPEDITION MASSACRED.

Saigon, November, 2.

Lieutenant Bretonnet, of the French Navy, and Lieutenant Braun, of the Marine Infantry, were massacred, last August, in the Baghirmi, with some thirty native riflemen, by the Sultan Rhabat at the head of eight thousand men. A solitary rifleman succeeded in escaping. Rhabat suffered considerable loss in the affair.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

Saigon, Nov. 3.

The High Court of the Senate will reassemble on the 9th.

The Chamber of Deputies is convoked for the 14th.

THE LADYSMITH DISASTER.

The disaster at Ladysmith has caused keen emotion in England. The despatch of General White attributes the disaster to a stampede among the mules, which bolted with the guns and the ammunition of the column, and after the ammunition of the troops had been exhausted, they were decimated by the fire of the enemy, and the survivors were taken prisoners.

FIREMEN KILLED ON A GERMAN WARSHIP.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Singapore, October 19.

The German warship *Hansa* has put back to this port in consequence of the occurrence of a serious accident on board. A steampipe burst in the stokehold, and two firemen were killed.

BOERS RETREAT BEFORE WHITE.

(FROM "THE AMERICAN.")

Durban, Oct. 16.

General White advanced yesterday toward the frontier from Ladysmith, Natal, with a column of infantry and twelve guns, to attack the Boer column which recently occupied Harrismith, and which was advancing in column with eleven guns. Immediately upon sighting the British force the Boer advance fell back to the main column and entrenched. General White tried to draw the Boers out from their trenches in the hills but failed, and finally returned to Ladysmith without fighting.

THE ARMOURED TRAIN AFFAIR.

The capture of the armoured train by the Boers is thus described in *The American*:—The crew of the train resisted the attack to the utmost and maintained a brisk fire for four hours. The British force were finally overcome by being so greatly outnumbered and were overborne by the enemy's artillery. The shelling was followed by a dash in which the train was captured and the crew taken prisoners. The armoured train was destroyed. Upon receipt of the news Admiral Sir Robert Hastings Harris, in command at Simonstown, ordered the immediate landing of a strong naval brigade.

(FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

ARREST OF THE MURDERER OF MR. FLEMING.

Chungking October 26.

The headman at Kueiyang, who is charged with the murder of Mr. Fleming, has been arrested and identified. The Chinese are petitioning the authorities at Peking with the view of getting him released.

CHESS.

[Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 443.

By LDENEK MACH, Prague.

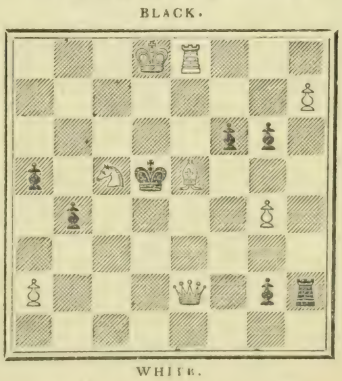
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 3	1—K to K 5
2—Q to B 4 ch	2—K to B 4
3—Kt to K 7 mate	
	1—P to B 3
2—Q to K 3 ch	2—K takes Kt or K to B 5
3—Kt to Kt 6 mate	
	1—P to B 4
2—P to B 3	2—P to B 5
3—Q to Q sq mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, L.M.A., Marco, and Mariner.

PROBLEM No. 446.

By J. JESPERSEN, Svendborg.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 565.

The following game was played at the St. George's Chess Club, London, July, 14, 1899, Pillsbury and Showalter in consultation against Gunsberg and Janowski. The score and notes are taken from the Newcastle *Weekly Courant*:

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White—Pillsbury and Showalter. Black—Gunsberg and Janowski.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	22 PxP	PxP
2 KKt B3	QKt B3	23 Kt R4	R B3
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	24 Q Q5	B Kt2
4 Castles	KtxP	25 P K5	R B 2
5 P Q4	B K2	26 QxQP	RxP
6 Q K2	Kt Q3	27 R Q2	QR QBsq
7 BxKt	KtPxB	28 Q Q7	R(B) P
8 PxP	Kt Kt2	29 Q K8ch	KR2
9 Kt B3	Castles	30 Q K3	P B4
10 R K-q	R K-q	31 RxR	RxR
11 Q B4	Kt B4(a)	32 R B2	R B5
12 KKt K5	BxKt	33 Kt B3	Q B3
13 BxB	QxB	34 R B2	Q Q3
14 QxKt	R K3(b)	35 R Q2	Q Kt5
15 Q R5(c)	P QB4(d)	36 Q K5	R B4
16 Kt K4(e)	Q Q-q(f)	37 Q Q4	QxQch
17 KtxP	R QK-3(g)	38 RxQ	RxKt
18 QR Q q	Q K2	39 R Q7	B K5
19 P QKt4(h)	P KR3(i)	40 RxRP	R B7
20 P KB4	Q R5	White resigns.	
21 R KB q	P Q3(k)		

NOTES.

(a) Played by Janowski in his game with Tchigorin.

(b) Also Janowski's move, with an eye to the weak pawn at K 5.

(c) This seems superior to Tchigorin's move, Q to B 4.

(d) P to Q 4 was a good move here. If then Q takes B P, R to Kt 3, followed by B to R 6.

(e) Good, and much better than Q takes P.

(f) If Q takes R P, Kt takes Q P to Kt 4, Q takes B P, and wins.

(g) With a view of shifting the white Kt at B 5 by P to Q 3.

(h) Locking in their queen, why not P to Q Kt 3?

(i) Obviously necessary.

(k) The game is very interesting here, and well played to the end by the black allies.

Game No. 566.

THE GAME THAT COST JANOWSKI THE SECOND PRIZE IN THE "LONDON INTERNATIONAL."

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowski. Black—Steinitz.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	27 PxP	QxQP
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	28 QxQ	RxQ
3 B Kt5	P Q3	29 Kt K3	R K5
4 P Q4	B Q2	30 P KB3	R KB5
5 Kt B3	KKt K2	31 P K3	P Kt4
6 B QB4	P KR3	32 R B2	K Q2
7 B K3	Kt K 3	33 K Kt2	K K2
8 Q Q2	B K 5	34 K B q	K B2
9 Castles QR	BxKt	35 R B-q	R KR5
10 PxB	PxP	36 R B2	K B3
11 BxP	KKt K4	37 Kt B-q	R Q2
12 B K2	KtxB	38 Kt K3	P KR4
13 QxKt	P QB3	39 R K 2	R KKt2
14 P B4	Kt Q2	40 R Q2	R Q5
15 B K 4	Kt B4	41 R B2	R K 8ch
16 KR Kt-q	Q B2	42 K K 2	R K8
17 B R3	Kt K3	43 Kt K2	R(K8) Q8
18 BxKt	PxB	44 K B3	P QR4
19 Kt K2	Q R4	45 Kt K3	R(Q8) Q7
20 RxP	BxR	46 R B q	R K7
21 QxB	Castles	47 Kt Q q	P K-5ch
22 P QR3	P K4	48 PxP	PxPch
23 P B5	Q B4	49 K K2	R(Q5) Q7
24 R KB q	Q B5	50 K Kt-q	RxBP
25 Q Kt4	KR Kt-q	51 P R4	R(B7) Q7
26 Q B3	P Q4	Resigns.	

NOTE.

8 P to K R 3 to restrict the scope of the Q B might have been an advisable precaution. Steinitz improves upon his previously played defence with 10..., P takes P. White's P to Q 5 generally driving back his Kt to Q Kt sq; and White omitting 19—Q to B 4 gave Black a better position than he ever had with his unfavourable defence. Janowski, getting impatient, brought the unsound sacrifice of 20. R takes P, after which Steinitz, with the exchange ahead, played remarkably well, and won the game in good style.

NOTES.

The result of a match between Col. the O'Gorman and Mr. Danenberg has been that the latter retains the Hongkong Championship cup by two games to one. Mr. Pollock has now challenged the champion, and been fortunate to win the first game of the match.

Another moot point is settled. The following letter from Mr. Blackburne to the Editor of the *British Chess Magazine* settles the question repeated in chess columns, and even recorded in the Hastings Tournament Book, that Blackburne gained his inspiration for simultaneous play from Morphy.

1 Avondale Road, S. E.
August 2nd, 1899.

Dear Sir,—I never played Morphy, in fact never saw him. Have been contradicting the report for the last fifteen years. Once a lie gets going it can never be overtaken.

My book is in the printer's hands, and will be out next month. Longmans are the publishers.—Yours truly.

J. H. BLACKBURNE.

The cable match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and the Universities of Princeton, Harvard, Columbia, and Yale is likely to become now an annual institution since Professor Isaac L. Rice has given a magnificent trophy for competition in these contests. The trophy is in the shape of a silver shield twenty-one inches in height and fourteen inches in breadth. It is designed and manufactured by Theodore B. Starr, strikingly artistic, and emblematical of the contest. It will cost 1,200dols., and will be ready to be sent over to the Oxford and Cambridge Universities, this year's winners, by the beginning of the winter season.

The design consists of "a blending of the emblems of Great Britain and the United States to show the harmonious relations which exist between the two great English-speaking nations; the mingling of the chess ideas; the seals of the Universities; all being surmounted by the Royal insignia of Great Britain, the trophy being almost surrounded by the emblem of peace and harmony—the wreaths of palm. In the centre is the world, with the North Pole advanced to bring out the two countries on one Northern hemisphere, joined by the Atlantic cable. Columbia and Britannia stand upon pedestals at either side of the globe, each holding aloft the other's flags. Beneath the globe and supporting it upon outstretched wings is the American Eagle. In a panel beneath the eagle is a representation of Columbia and Britannia playing chess with spectators in Roman costume, and beneath this panel is an ancient lamp, the emblem of wisdom and study."

La Stratégie publishes the conditions submitted by Lasker to Janowski for the proposed Championship Match, the main points being: Eight games up, draws not counting, fifteen moves per hour, date January 15 or March; the games to be published after the conclusion of the match to subscriber of 10s. 6d.; stakes £400 a-side.

Janowski's counter-propositions are: Ten games up, date January 15 or February 1, and the trysting place anywhere but London, the climate not agreeing with him. These slight differences should easily be adjusted if both players are equally desirous for the match to come off.

The National Congress of the Italian Chess Association was commenced at Rome on the 1st inst., and will last till the 15th. There are two classes, the chief prize of the first class being at least 500 lire.

La Nuova Rivista degli Scacchi announces that the King of Italy has given two splendid Sèvres vases as prizes for this tourney.

A new chess club has been established at Barcelona under highly distinguished auspices, and next year it proposes to organise a Spanish National Congress.

Chess, said Paul Morphy, can never form the object of life. "It is, at best, a relaxation. As such, and as discipline for the mind, it is worthy of high commendation."

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

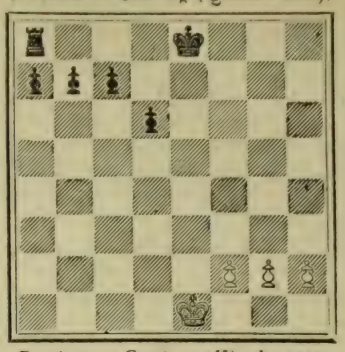
LESSON IV.

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CASTLING.

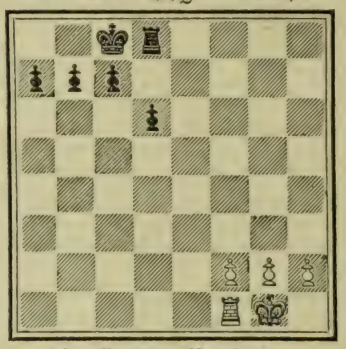
We have seen that the King moves only one square at a time in any direction. But once in the game, subject to certain restrictions, he has the privilege of moving two squares in conjunction with one of the Rooks. This is called, 'castling' and is illustrated by the following two diagrams.

Previous to Castling (Queen's side).



Previous to Castling (King's side).

After Castling (Queen's side).



After Castling (King's side).

As will be seen, in both cases the operation of Castling is performed by the King moving two squares sideways and placing the Rook next to him on the opposite side. The object of Castling is to provide a safe retreat for the King, and it is permitted subject to the following conditions:—

1—Neither King nor Rook must have previously moved.

2—The squares between the King and the Rook—with which the King is about to castle—must not be occupied or attacked by any other piece or pawn.

3—The King must not castle if in check (*i.e.*, when attacked) nor castle into check (*i.e.*, onto a square which is commanded by an hostile man).

DRAWN GAME.

We have learned that a game is won when the hostile King is check-mated.—When neither player can checkmate his adversary, the game is "drawn" (undecided).

VALUE OF THE MEN.

The Pawns are the least valuable of all the men. Yet the student should accustom himself from the beginning to take great care of them. For the loss of a single Pawn will often cause the loss of the game.

The *Knights* and *Bishops* (called the minor pieces) are of about equal value. Each is worth at least three pawns.

The *Rook* is of the value of five pawns, or a minor piece and two pawns. Two Rooks are considered equal to three minor Pieces.

The *Queen* is the most powerful piece and generally as strong as two Rooks combined.

The *King* is invaluable as he cannot be taken, and the game is finished immediately he is liable to be captured.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 26th October,—Seattle, Washington, 7th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, German steamer, 2,199, Braun, 27th Oct., —Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 19th Oct., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 27th October,—Kobe, 25th October, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 27th October,—Otaru via ports, 21st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 27th October,—Shanghai via ports, 21st Oct., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 27th October,—Hakodate, 24th Oct., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 27th October,—Otaru via ports, 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afghanistan, British steamer, 2,190, Whittock, 27th October,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 26th October, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hashidate Kan (31), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Capt. K. Sakurai, 27th October,—Yokosuka, 27th October.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, W. Townsend, 26th October,—London via ports, Kobe, 26th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 28th October,—Otaru via ports, 23rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orlando (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Capt. J. H. T. Burke, 28th October,—Wei-hai-wei.

Kaisow, British steamer, 2,925, A. Rodway, 29th October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 27th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 29th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 28th October, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,150, T. R. Roe, 30th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 28th October, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 30th October,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 28th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 30th Oct.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe 29th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 31st October,—Kobe 29th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 31st October,—Yokkaichi 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 31st October,—Kobe, 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bering, Russian barkentine, 377, Aulin, 1st November.—Petropaulovski, Salmon.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, ———, 1st November,—Kobe 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, British steamer, 2,331, Le Coispellier, 1st Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 31st Nov., Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Saiyen Kan (11), Japanese cruiser, 2,481, ——. 1st Nov.,—Yokosuka, 1st November.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 1st November,—Kobe, 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 2nd November,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 14th October, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Afghanistan, British steamer, 2,190, H. Whitlock, 2nd November,—Returned to port, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 2nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 1st November, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 2nd Nov.,—Hakodate, 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, Peterson, 2nd November,—Newchwang, Beans, etc.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, H. Kirchner, 27th October,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 28th October,—Nagasaki via Kobe and Moji, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 28th October,—Moji via Kobe, October, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Hashidate Kan (31), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Capt. K. Sakurai, 28th October,—Tokyo.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 28th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munezono, 28th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 28th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 29th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 29th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 29th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 29th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Alex. Webster, 30th October,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Siberia, German steamer, 2,199, Braün, 30th October,—Havre, Hamburg, and Bremen, via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 30th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hashidate Kan (31), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Captain K. Sakurai, 30th October,—Yokosuka.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,150, T. R. Rae, 31st October,—Victoria, C.B., and Tacoma Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, J. Barr, 31st October,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 31st Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Afghanistan, British steamer, 2,190, Whittock, 31st October,—Port Arthur via Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Heidelburg, German steamer, 2,145, Schuder, 1st November,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen, via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 1st November,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 1st November,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 1st November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 1st Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 1st November,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B C, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shanghai, British steamer, 2,163, F. C. A. Lyon, 2nd November.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 2nd November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 2,925, A. Rodway, 2nd Nov.,—Port Pirie, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Idzumi Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. G. Wentesse, Mr. H. H. Hudson, and Mr. E. P. Brown, in cabin; 64 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and 2 children, Mr. Korst, Mr. E. Wilkomin, Mrs. and Miss Yukawa, Mr. S. Yesaki, and Mr. Chi Tso Chiyo, in cabin; 46 Chinese students, in second class; 37 Japanese, and 6 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr H. B. Darnell, Mr. Wm. J. Schroth, Mr. T. Miyasaki, Mr. Sui Sing and servant, Mr. Sandecki, Mr. Hagemeister, Dr. Laufer, Mr. P. Hattori, and Mr. A. Loureiro, in cabin; 2 Japanese, in steerage. For Honolulu:—Mrs. S. Choy and three children, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. George Scott, Mrs. K. L. Piver, Mr. J. Sorensen, Mr. E. Emery, Mr. Wong Foey, Master Wong King Chong, Miss Chu Lein Hong, Mr. F. H. Hilbert, Miss Pivez, Mr. Wong Fuk and servant, Mrs. Wong Chin She and child, Mrs. Wong Chu She, and Miss Wong Kin Nai, in cabin; 2 in European steerage, and 68 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Shirrao in cabin, and two passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Lieut. W. G. Hannum, Mr. and Miss Torrance, and Mrs. Melhuish and infants, in cabin; Mr. and Miss Hough, Mrs. U. J. Hamilton, Mr. S. Suzuki, Mr. Zek Tsu Kee, Mr. Yik Tsu Soy, Mr. J. Okamoto, and Mr. I. Okamoto, in second class; 17 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Annam*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mrs. Gieber, Mr. Useiate, Mr. Obermiller, Mr. Gieber, Mrs. Martin, Mr. Willy Nenimertel, Mr. Savoures and boy, Mr. Eymard, Mr. Goetschel, Mr. Peidersen, Mr. Woag, Mr. Langfeldt, Mr. Hayman, and Mr. C. Nobli and boy, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. J. C. Owen, Mr. Wm. Bishop, Mrs. Wm. Bishop, Miss Alice Parker, Mrs. G. P. Brady, Mr. V. von Schileyko, Mr. A. Koch, Mr. S. Odagaki, Mr. F. Kerbs, Mr. F. A. Johnson, Mrs. E. Moale, Jr., Master Moale, Mrs. L. V. S. Ames, Mr. John E. Mason, Miss Florence Mason, Mr. H. J. Taylor, Mrs. C. M. Busch, Mr. C. M. Busch, Mr. L. F. Ireland, Mrs. J. M. Ranger, Mrs. C. W. Murphy, Mrs. N. C. Ferguson, Mrs. L. M. Perkins, Mrs. L. M. Perkins, Mr. T. B. Smalley, and Mr. E. Casey in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. R. H Sidebotham, Mrs. R. H. Sidebotham, Mr. A. T. Pattison, Rev. J. W. Doughty, and Mrs. J. W. Doughty and 3 children in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Estman Curry, Miss Nellie Powers, Mrs. W. R. Grove, Mrs. E. B. Mosely, Miss Mosely, Miss L. Mosely, Mrs. W. F. Gwynne, Mrs. E E. Booth, Miss Booth, Mrs. C. R. Trowbridge, Mrs. J. W. Mangles, Mrs. W. R Thompson, Mrs. W. B. Reynolds, Miss M. E. Flinn, Mrs. E P. Crowne, Mrs. Waldo Evans, Mrs. S. O. L. Potter, Mrs. P. E. Pierce, Mrs. F. C. Armstrong, Mrs. R. H. Leigh, Mr. H. F. Rethers, Mrs. Grace P. Cowles, Mrs. F. D. Evans, Mr. J. Anthony, Mrs. W. D. Crosby, Miss Crosby, Master Crosby, Mrs. G. P. Abeam, Mrs. H. F. Dalton, Miss A. L. Lowell, Mrs. L. L. Cooper, Master Cooper, Mrs. A. F. Prescott, Mrs. C. D. Roberts, Mrs. C. R. Elliett, Mrs. E. D Gibson, Mrs. H. W. Cardwell, Master Cardwell, Master Cardwell, Mrs. G. McC. Pickrell, Miss Pickrell, Mrs. F. Lawton, Mrs. B. T. Walling, Miss Walling, Miss R. Blanchard, and Mrs. May Robertson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss P. A Banney, Miss A. B. Banney, Miss Perrine, Major J. C. Sawyer, Mrs. W. Haywood, nurse and 2 children, Mrs. H. Benjes and child, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. C. R. Joy, Mr. W. Richter, Mrs. and Miss Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Crowther, and Mr. W. E. Edgerley, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Mr. Sidney Hancock, Mr. C. B. Godman and servant, Mr. J. Isham, Rev. and Mrs. Hickman, Dr. Macaulay, Rev. and Mrs. Nordland and 2 children, Mr. T. J. Handley, Mr. P. Koziell, Mr. H. Mett, Rev. Cauling, wife and 3 children, Lieut. A. H. Bridges, and Capt. Armstrong and servant, in cabin; 8 intermediate; 324 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Marine Inspector Flakowski, Miss E. Thornton, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Park, Mr. T. Smure, Mr. H. Faber, Mr. A. N. Hausell, Mrs. Vehling, Mr. A. Harmssen, Mr. W. Braune, Miss Richards, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Delbomgo, Miss Delbomgo, Mr. Fioravanti Chimentz, Mr. W. Vehling, 1 Chinese, and amah in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. R. S. Babcock, Master Wong Kim Chong, Mrs. S. Choy and three children, Mr. W. Deppe, Mr. Enoch Emery, Mr. W. R. P. Freeland, Mr. Wong Foey, Mr. Wong Fuk and servant, Mr. Leonard E Gutman, Miss Chu Lein Hong, Mr. F. H. Hilbert, Lieut. von Holzendorff, Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy, Mr. B. K. Millar, Mrs Thos. M. Moore, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mrs. K. L. Piver, Miss Piver, Mr. J Sorenson, Mr. Geo. Scott, Mr. H Uchiyama, Mrs. Wong Chin She and child, Mrs. Wong Chu She, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wakefield, and Mr. Y. Tanuma, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. M. Mort, Col. W. J. Irwin, Mr. W. H. C. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Chong Jack Keeon and child, Capt. W. H. Sage, Mr. A. Scott, Mr. Lee Yue Lum, Mr. Richard Bown, Mr. Richard Featherstone, and Mr. Henry Erridge, in cabin; 9 Chinese and 2 children, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Tsubono, Mrs. Goddard, Mrs. J. E. Ambler and child, Mr. and Mrs. William Baesch, Mrs. H. L. Fardel and child, Mr. C. Jensen, Mr. Paul May, Mr. J. McDowall, Mr. Minoru Suzuki, Rev. W. E. Poy, and Mr. E. P. Brown, in cabin; Mr. A. Messeque, Mr. A. Collins, in second class.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, for London via ports:—Mr. E. J. Piesse, and Mr. Timme, in cabin.

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CARGO.

Per British steamer *City of Dublin*, for Tacoma, Wash. :—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago and West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Honolulu.	Total Packages.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	210	—	210
Amoy	50	1,504	5,318	—	—	6,872
Shanghai	580	2,104	—	—	—	2,684
Kobe	172	—	6,138	—	—	6,310
Yokohama ...	1,073	—	1,276	110	—	2,459
Total.....	1,875	3,608	12,732	320	—	18,535

SILK.

	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong	—	—	—
Shanghai	20	—	20
Yokohama	—	—	—
Total.....	20	—	20

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk, shipped per steamer *Hohensollern* :—

	Raw. Option	Raw. Lyons	Raw. Option Italy	Waste. France		
Bavier & Co.	—	—	34	56	—	—
Robison & Co.	—	—	—	12	—	—
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	111	123	21	—	28	—
Sieber & Co.	22	—	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	35	—	—
Otto Reimers & Co.	19	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	29	161	—	—	—	—

Totals—465 bales Raw Silk; 186 bales Waste Silk.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 623 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 320 bales.

Following were silk shippers per N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., Nov. 1 :—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	262
Vivanti Bros.	172
Middleton and Smith	151
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	157
Varenne & Co.	90
Bavier & Co.	52
Otto Reimers & Co.	28
China and Japan Trading Co.	50
Total	962

Following were silk shippers per T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco, Oct. 31 :—

	Bales.
Kiito Kaisha	126
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	102
Total	228

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rohilla 1	M. Nov. 6
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	On San 2	M. Nov 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 3	Su Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Nov, 13
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	——	Tu. Nov. 14
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 4	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Nov. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Nov. 25
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu Nov. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	Th Nov. 30

1 Left Hongkong on the 28th ult.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 1st inst.
Left San Francisco on the 24th ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 1st inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	On San	Tu. Nov. 7
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Annam	W. Nov. 8
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	Th. Nov. 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Nov. 13
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Nov. 15
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Nov. 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Nov. 21
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W. Nov. 29
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Dec. 1
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 2

THE KOBE MAIL.

Forward Mail Closes	Registered Mail Closes
5.05 a.m. ... 5.45 p.m.	4.31 a.m. ... 5.11 p.m.
12.29 p.m. ... 9.47 p.m.	11.55 p.m. ... 3 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is a falling off for the moment in the demand for yarns, dealers standing aloof at the present high figures. There is little prospect, however, of a fall in Manchester values. Grey shirtings are quiet, but there is a fair business in fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches.....	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	per yard. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches.....	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	9.00 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	per picul.
Nos 16/21, Singles	$38.00 to 40 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43 00 to 5 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	50.00 to 54 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain.....	76.00 to 80.00
Nos 2 80, Plain...	91.00 to 94 00
Nos 2 100, Plain	115.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	88.00 to 92.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed.....	102.00 to 107.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	133 00 to 137.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.00
Indian Broach	20 00
Chinese	23 00

METALS.

More movement is noticeable, and some transactions have taken place in bar iron and galvanised sheets, while there has also been a slight movement in tin plates.

	per picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward ...	5.80 to 6 00
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.50 to 7.75
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	2.80 to 2.90
Hoop Iron (⅜ to ⅛ inch).....	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is strong, and prices continue to advance.

American	$2.95
Russian	2.90
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is strong, and the tendency upward.

	per picul.
Brown Takao.....	$5.40 to 6 00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Haitong.....	4 40 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.70 to 6 90
White Java and Penang.....	6 90 to 8.70
White Refined	7.70 to 9 40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market during the early part of the week was active, but things became quieter towards the close. Stocks are much reduced.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	1250
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1160 to 1170
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1230 to 1240
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1190 to 1200
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1125
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1170 to 1180
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1100
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No 1	1100 to 1110
Re reels—No. 1½	1080
Re reels—No 2	1060
Re reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1150 to 1160
Kakedas—No. 1	1080 to 1090
Kakedas—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Kakedas—No 2	1010 to 1025
Kakedas—No 2½	1000 to 1010

WASTE SILK.

The market during the early part of the week was active with an upward tendency.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$115 to 120
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	100 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Best...	135 to 140
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	50 to 60

TEA.

Business is still not active; stocks are small, and prices rule firm, the chief demand being for the better qualities.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium.....	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common.....	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 2

No changes from abroad to affect rates locally, and quotations for the outgoing mail per steamer *Empress of China* are as under. To-morrow all the Banks will be closed in honour of the Emperor's birthday.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0⅛
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 7/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight...	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand .	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight...	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight...	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....5⅛% dis.	
— Private 10 days' sight.....6⅛% dis.	
On Shanghai—Bank sight .....75 nom.	
— Private 10 days' sight ...	76½
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight ...	154
Mex. Silver (London)	26⅛

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 2.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 185. Engine and Iron Works—A few shares are obtainable at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230. Club Hotels—A small lot of shares is on offer at *yen* 80. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 90. Laundries changed hands to-day at par. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms are offering at *yen* 55.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs are steady at *yen* 108; Oriental Hotels are wanted at *yen* 108. Osaka Harbour Construction Bonds have sellers at *yen* 98.60 cum interest for six months due on 1st December.

Offers are wanted for Marusan Brewery shares.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	200 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50 ... ... 4...	185 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100.....	230 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100 ..... 1...	80 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100..... 1...	135 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $95	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $50.....	9 25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100.....	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50	55 S.
Hogo Gas Co., Ld., $100..... 3...	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50 ...	50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100.....	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	51 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100.....	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100...	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,300 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.89; 3, *yen* 16,298.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

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A. C HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 2.

Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 235. Club Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, have buyers at *yen* 122.50. Langfeldts are steady at *yen* 100. Japan Breweries have sellers at *yen* 185. Helms are wanted at par.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....235 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 80 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel .....122.50 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. .....185 Sellers.

Tokyo, November 2.

Redemption Loan Bonds	98.00
War Loan Bonds	98.00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	440.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	66.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	343.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	72.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	70.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	115.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	30.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	79.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	62.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10.50	27.80
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	125.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	83.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	59.90
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	51.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	64.60
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	50.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	103.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	80.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	95.70
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	48.40
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	38.20
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	40.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	42.20
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	32.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	14.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	25.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2.50	3.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	255.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	218.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	74.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	12.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	31.10
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	46.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	53.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	14.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	258.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	230.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	143.60
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	87.80

† Ex dividend.

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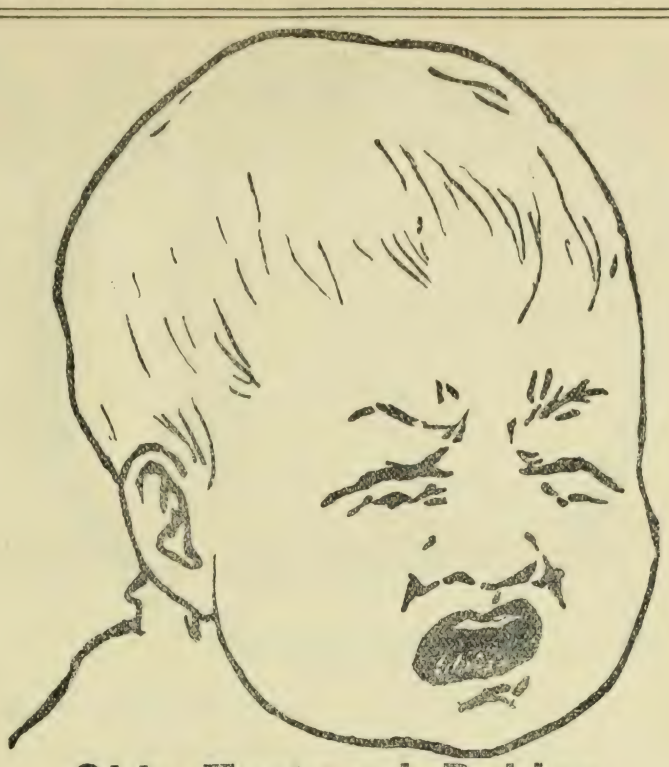
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 11TH, 1899.

DEATH.

At No. 88, corner Main Street, Yokohama, JOSEFINA the beloved wife of G. M. dos Remedios.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE trade in lacquer wares is now very brisk.

THE Emperor will attend the autumn manœuvres of the Guards in Tochigi.

GENERAL WHITE, commanding at Ladysmith, has been wounded in an engagement.

THE Sanyo Railway Company encourages the study of English among its station officials.

THE Hanshin Electric Railway Company has decided on increasing its capital to 3 million *yen*.

THE Takao Coal Mine, belonging to Mr. Hisomu Matsumoto, has been purchased by the Government Iron Foundry for 1,125,000 *yen*. The mine was opened more than ten years ago and covers 730,000 *tsubo*.

MORE than 200 members have been admitted to the Tokyo Bankers' Club, and it was opened on the 1st November.

SIR REDVERS BULLER on arriving at the Cape withdrew all the small exposed garrisons to more central positions.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* estimates that the net profits of raw silk producers in Japan this year will amount to 20,000,000 *yen*.

THE French are again active in Southern China and fresh developments are expected to lead to further alienation of Chinese territory.

THE German press, unlike the Government, is bitterly hostile to Great Britain: the French press is also warmly in favour of the Boers.

THE "combine" of the U. S. ribbon manufacturers will not affect Japanese traders, for they use English ribbons almost exclusively.

LIEUT. EGERTON, of H.M.S. *Powerful*, who was promoted to the rank of Commander for services at Ladysmith, has died of his wounds.

THE cotton crop in Korea this year is extraordinarily good. Japanese exports of cotton cloths and cotton yarn may be more or less affected by it.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has sent a Message to congress upon the Philippine question, in which he states that the natives are not yet ready for self-government.

THE Imperial Chrysanthemum party on Thursday was attended by delightful weather. Count Okuma's garden party at Waseda was also a successful function.

A SMOKELESS coal mine has been discovered at Kisen Gun, Iwate Ken. It is situated some 60 *ken* distant from the sea, and the seams extend over the whole district.

THE French press declares that the Transvaal has issued Letters of Marque in Europe and America, and that the British fleet are searching suspicious vessels at the Canaries.

GERMANY obtains possession of Samoa as the price of her neutrality in the Transvaal war, while she also promises to renounce extra terrioriality at Zanzibar on certain conditions.

THE Anglo-German agreement disposes of several islands in Oceania which have for years been disputed territory. It strengthens Germany's position in the Pacific very considerably.

A COMPROMISE has been arrived at between the masons at Yokohama and their employers. From 1st Nov. the daily wages were increased to 80 *sen*. The men have returned to work.

HAT materials are now very dear. Some 60,000 dozens hats are produced in the native factories, and 10 000 dozens are imported. Thus 15 persons out of every hundred in the population buy hats each year.

THE news from South Africa is more hopeful. The garrisons at Kimberley and Mafeking are holding out against the continued bombardment of the Boers, while the positions in and around Ladysmith have been made secure.

MURAI & BROTHERS' have purchased the ground and buildings of the Kyoto Porcelain Factory. The Company intends to build a new factory where it will make paper boxes and lithographs, introducing the newest machinery from the U.S

THE Tokushima and Naniwa Railway Companies have declared a dividend of 6 per cent. The Kobu Railway Company has decided to pay 13.5 per cent. The revenue of the Hokkaido Government Railway for the first ten days of October was 5,888 *yen*.

IT is said that one Japanese capitalist applied for 1,000 of the Industrial Bank debenture bonds, bringing the total sum up to 1,300,000 *yen*. Encouraged by this unexpected success the authorities are now considering the advisability of calling in the seventh bonds next year.

THE Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory, which has amalgamated with the Shanghai, Kashu, and Shibashima Factories, now possesses 129,216 spindles and a capital of 4,000,000 *yen*. The absorption of the Awaji Spinning Factory is under consideration, and negotiations are proceeding.

A JOINT stock book-binding company promoted by Messrs. Sanjuro Nagao, Ichiba Mori, Shunzo Yamada, Tsutomu Oyama, etc., has opened its factory in Ginza, Tokyo. A new set of machines will be imported from France and when they are set up the company expects to turn out the best work of its kind in Japan.

THE export trade in Japanese paper is in a very flourishing condition. Napkins, which cost only 2 *rin* and 1 *mo* a piece are especially enquired for. The exports of Gifu Prefecture alone amount to 600 000 *yen*. Proposals are under consideration for establishing a large paper factory in which the newest machinery of the West will be adopted.

THE Tokyo Agricultural Bank has declared a 10 per cent. dividend on its paid up capital of 175 000 *yen*. The statement of its business from July to October (inclusive) is as follows:—Yearly instalment loans, 115 590 *yen*; Fixed term loans, 14 050 *yen*; (including 10,300 *yen* unsecured loans); Fixed deposits, 92 081 *yen*; Reserve fund, 2,000 *yen*; Stock, 3,040, *yen*.

THE ordinary general meeting of the Kyushu Railway Company was held on the 28th ult. The net profits were stated to be 809,467 *yen*. Of that amount, *yen*, 38,500, was voted to reserve; 4 3 0 was distributed in the shape of rewards to chief officials; and the dividend (6 per cent.) absorbed 763 860 *yen*, leaving 2,807 *yen* to be carried forward. The cause of the decrease of dividend from 7.5 per cent. to 6 per cent. is an increase of working expenses.

ONE of the most interesting delegates to the Boston international Congregational Council was the Rev. T. Miyagawa of Japan, says *Public Opinion*. He has been granted a year's vacation and been given $1 000 (silver) to pay his expenses to Europe and the United States. It is a significant fact that the first Congregational missionary was sent out from Boston in 1869, and now a native Japanese comes to that city to take part in the denominational council, after serving his church in Osaka for twenty years. Mr. Miyagawa is said to be the most popular and powerful preacher in Japan.

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THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Monday, Nov. 6.

The Afrikanders, according to a telegram from a private source, are rejoicing over the Boer "victories." We have not heard of any Boer victories up to the present. There have been Boer defeats, four of them, and there has been a success won by a large number of Boers over a small number of English after the latter had been rendered incapable of fighting in consequence of the accidental loss of their ammunition. But the issue of the campaign thus far is to show that the Boers can not stand against the English in battle. That they should push a portion of the English back by sheer weight of numbers was a foregone conclusion. From the moment that the Transvaal Government forced the situation, and precipitated war with the certainty of being able to put two men, if not three, into the field for every one that the English could muster—from that moment it was well understood that a period of great peril, if not of disaster, awaited the British troops, pending the arrival of reinforcements from home. The dangers of the situation did not escape any onlooker, and were plainly set forth by civilian and military writers alike. Yet now, when nothing has happened except the partial verification of that forecast, we hear of Boer victories and Afrikander rejoicings. It is well to recall the sober facts. The British still occupy the position they assumed at the outset. Sir George White's head-quarters were in Ladysmith three weeks ago, and they are in Ladysmith to-day. The only step he has taken savouring of retreat has been to draw in his outposts; in other words, to concentrate his forces in the face of an enemy greatly outnumbering him. Brigadier-General Yule was not compelled to retreat from Glencoe and Dundee in the sequel of a defeat. He had won a victory some days previously, and there had been no subsequent attempt on the part of the Boers to attack him. But his scouts reported that great masses of the enemy were moving southward, and that they must soon envelop Glencoe and sever Yule's connexion with the main body. He had, therefore, to fall back, since his command there mustered barely 2,000 of all arms, and inasmuch as he deferred the movement until the eleventh hour, not only was some anxiety felt about his fate, but also a squadron of his Hussars were cut off by the enemy. Ladysmith, however, remained the chief British position, and apparently remains so to this moment. It is difficult to see what the Boers have gained. If they take Ladysmith, annihilate White's column, and destroy the railway as far as the neighbourhood of Durban, they will have secured a solid advantage and considerably impeded the advance of the troops now *en route* from England. But these achievement have still to be accomplished, and the interval remaining for their accomplishment is very small. Meanwhile it is just as well to recall the actual facts, and above all to observe that the British have not been driven back a mile; that General White holds his original position, and that the enemy have been defeated in every encounter except when they had to fight against men without ammunition. If that record constitutes a triumph for the Boers, nobody objects to their enjoying it. For our part we are thoroughly content with the results up to the present, and we consider that the only conceivable purpose of the Boers' advance into Natal is on the verge of total failure. Even their attempt to cut the communications between Ladysmith and Pietermaritzburg seems to have been unsuccessful up to the present. Yet such an enterprise ought not to offer any great difficulty in view of the large number of the Boers. They far out-flank any front that Sir George White can marshall, and by simply throwing forward their left wing resolutely they should be able to reach the railway without meeting much opposition.

Tuesday, Nov. 7.

The two telegrams relating to the British losses in the action on the 30th October must evidently be read separately. The first, which shows casualties totalling 300, obviously refers to the losses sustained by the columns which attacked the Boers' centre and left flank with the object of bending back the horn of their semicircle, and thus defeating, or at any rate deferring, their enterprises against the line of communications with Pietermaritzberg. These losses were put at about 100 in the original telegram, a figure which has now been trebled. The Boers, on their side, acknowledge a still greater loss in killed, but claim a smaller list of wounded, which is not a very credible account. The list of killed and wounded on the British side, apart from the affair of the left wing on the 30th October, now stands thus :—

	Killed.	Wounded.
Glencoe	161	53
Elandslaagte	42	205
Engagement on 24th Oct.	13	96
Rietfontein; 30th October	60	240
Totals	276	594
Grand Total		870

With regard to the losses sustained by the Covering Force, on the occasion of the stampede of the mules, we are still left in some doubt. It will be remembered that a telegram dated Nov. 2nd gave the total number of companies composing the Force as 10½—namely, 4½ of the Gloucestershires and 6 of the Fusiliers—together with a mountain battery. The numbers of such a brigade should not be more than eleven hundred, whereas the talk was of about 2,000 men killed, wounded, and captured. By the telegram of the 4th the Gloucestershires are said to have numbered 349, which would be just about the force that 4½ companies could put into the field. Taking the same proportion for the six companies of Fusiliers, they would have aggregated 465 of all ranks. We hear now of the Rifles for the first time, the original telegram having alluded to the Gloucestershires and the Fusiliers only. At any rate the detail would seem to have been this, approximately :—

Rifles	461
Gloucestershires	349
Fusiliers	465
Artillery	110
Total	1,385

How many of these were killed or wounded we shall not know for some time, probably, but at all events they are lost to White's column for the present. Adding the whole figures, we find that the aggregate loss in killed, wounded, and missing—including 70 Hussars—has been 2,325 since the commencement of the campaign.

Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Advices by last mail enable us to form a clear idea of the British forces which were in Natal at the outbreak of the War, and of the forces that have since arrived there. Perhaps the simplest way of explaining the matter will be to tabulate the details :—

FORCES AVAILABLE FOR THE DEFENCE OF NATAL WHEN THE WAR BROKE OUT.

Cavalry	5 Regiments (including 3 Regiments which arrived from India during the first week in October).
Artillery	6 Field Batteries (including 3 Batteries which arrived from India during the first week in October).
	1 Mountain Battery.
Infantry	9 Battalions (including 4 Battalions which arrived from India during the first week in October).
Royal Engineers	2 Field Companies.
	1 Railway Company.
	Detachment of Fortress Company.
Army Service Corps	1 Company.
Army Medical Corps	Detachment.
Army Ordnance Corps	Detachment.

It is impossible to give an accurate numerical statement of this force, because the strength of the regiments and battalions varies. But we shall not be far wrong if we assume that the cavalry regiments averaged 400 sabres each, making a total of 2,000; the artillery batteries, 100 gunners each, making a total of 700; and the infantry battalions 800 each, making a total of 7,200. On that basis, the combative force under Sir George White's command aggregated about ten thousand when the War broke out, and the artillery had 42 guns. We are here assuming that the Indian contingent, which reached Durban from October 5th to October 7th, was able to proceed to the front within a week. It is likely, however, that a longer time was required, and as the Indian contingent numbered about 4,700 of all ranks, the probability is that when war was declared General White's fighting force actually in the field did not exceed 5,300 men, which were divided about equally between the advanced stations—Glencoe and Dundee—and the head-quarters at Ladysmith. Turning now to the reinforcements which subsequently arrived at Durban—or were expected to arrive there—, we have the following result :—

Name of Corps.	Date of expected arrival at Durban.
First Northumberland Fusiliers (embarked at Southampton on Sept. 16th in the *Gaul*)	October 12
First Royal Irish Fusiliers (left Alexandria in the *Avoca* on Sept. 24th)	,, 16
Second Rifle Brigade (embarked from Crete in the *Jelunga*, for Cape Town, but seem to have been landed at Durban)	,, 24
Three Batteries of Artillery from Aldershot, the 18th, 62nd and 75th (embarked in the *Zibenghla* and *Zayathla*)	,, 25

We assume that the Second Rifle Brigade was landed at Durban, because 460 of the King's Rifles were among the troops forming the left wing of White's forces on October 30th, though to get these men into the fighting line at Ladysmith on the sixth day after their landing at Durban was a remarkable feat. We may mention here that the Irish Fusiliers, which also formed part of the unfortunate wing, were the Dublins, who had fought at Glencoe, and marched back from that place to Ladysmith under Yule. The three batteries

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of artillery, expected to reach Durban on the 25th, are doubtless at the front now, though they can scarcely have been in time for the battle of Rielfontein. Further, White has been joined by a "strong naval brigade." At the present moment, then, had he suffered no casualties, he should have a total force of some thirteen thousand combatives, with 60 guns, exclusive of the naval brigade's quick-firers. We showed in our last issue, however, that he has lost about 2,400 men, killed, wounded, or prisoners. It would appear, therefore, that the fighting force still under his command aggregates about 10,500 of all arms, with 54 field guns and an unknown number of heavy quick-firers. The Boers consequently outnumber him by some two to one.

Above we have analysed the British forces now under Sir George White's command in Natal. We turn, now, to the forces available at the end of October in the Cape Colony and on the Western frontiers of the two republics. The figures are these :—

FORCES IN CAPE COLONY AND ON THE WESTERN FRONTIERS AT END OF OCTOBER.

Royal Engineers	1 Field Company.
	1 Railway Company.
	Head Quarters of a Fortress Company.
Royal Artillery	2 Batteries of Garrison Artillery.
Infantry	3½ Battalions, including the First Border Regiment, which embarked at Southampton in the *Sumatra* on September 27th and was expected to reach Cape Town on October 22nd.
Army Service Corps	1 Company.
Royal Army Medical Corps	Detachment.
Army Ordnance Corps	Detachment.

This small force totalled about 3.000 men of the combative branches.

As to Kimberley, it had been roughly fortified, but the number of men detailed for its garrison can not be ascertained. We know, however, that two Battalions of Infantry had been sent northward at the end of September for the protection of Kimberley and of the railway between De Aar Junction and Mafeking. The two Battalions were the Loyal North Lancashires and the First Royal Munsters. The latter of these appears to have pushed on to Mafeking, and as 4 companies of the Loyal North Lancashires, 150 mounted infantry, 40 artillery-men, a Royal Engineer detachment, and 60 artillery Volunteers were encamped at the Orange River station, it would seem that the garrison of Kimberley did not then (end of September) include a greater number of regulars than 6 companies of the Loyal North Lancashires, 1½ batteries of garrison artillery, together with, perhaps, 1½ companies of engineers, or some 800 men of all ranks. The First Border Regiment, however, was probably pushed forward with all rapidity when it reached the Cape on October 22nd, and we may assume that it is now engaged in the defence of Kimberley and the important strategical points southward of that place. Nevertheless, the regular troops available on the western borders of the Republics are evidently very few. They have been supplemented, however, by a naval brigade, and there are also the local forces. With regard to the latter, a military correspondent of *The Times*, writing on Sept. 29th, said :—"There appear to be now nearly 1,000 mounted men available in Rhodesia and British Bechuanaland, of whom nearly two-thirds are under the control of Colonel Baden-Powell and his colleagues. Throughout Matabeland every precaution has been taken by the police to guard against a native rising, and the forts are thoroughly well equipped, manned, and provisioned. A Regular officer, Colonel Kekewich, of the Loyal North Lancashire, has been appointed to the command of the colonial force in Griqualand West."

Wednesday, Nov. 8.

It becomes more and more evident that the Boers have no intention of attempting any signal *coup*. Their investment of Ladysmith is so half-hearted, and their indisposition to fight in the open so marked, that they allow the British Artillery to move out and shell their positions at its leisure on two consecutive days. Such tactics will never capture Ladysmith. Doubtless the Boers, as we have already suggested, will do a great deal of damage to British property, destroying railways and otherwise impeding the advance of the force which will soon move out of Durban to attack them. But all that will merely prolong the war. It can not seriously affect the issue.

Meanwhile, the latest telegrams give us a pretty clear idea of the Boer plan of campaign. Their objective points are the railways. They sent the main body of their troops to destroy the line from Durban to the Free State and the Transvaal, because they rightly expected to encounter the greatest resistance there. They sent a smaller but sufficient force to cut the railway beyond the Western frontier, and another force crossing the southern boundary of the Orange Free State, is advancing with the evident design of throwing itself across the lines from the Cape Colony to the two Republics. If the reader looks at the map, he will see that four railways constitute the communications from the southern coast to the Free State. The most westerly of these starts from Capetown, and after running north for a distance of 501 miles, reaches De Aar, where a junction is effected with the three other and more easterly routes. These three others start respectively from Port Elizabeth, from Bathurst and from East London. We need not describe them in detail. It will suffice to say that Naauwpoort, which has now been evacuated, is the point where the Bloomfontein railway joins the Capetown system, and that it lies 70 miles to the south-east of De Aar, where the same system is linked with the Kimberly line. On Tuesday the telegraph said that the advance guard of the Boers—evidently a Free state force, acting quite independently of the Boers in Natal—had reached Colesberg; which was only another way of saying that they had arrived by train at the first station in the Cape Colony beyond their own border. Thence it is plainly their intention to move against the railways, and General Buller has ordered the various little garrisons to fall back, since they are too weak to make any resistance. Queenstown, whither the Stormberg detachment has retired, is a place of some little importance on the East London road, and Middleburg, on the Port Elizabeth-Bathurst road is probably the place where the Naauwpoort garrison will make its first halt. These details, however, are of secondary importance. The vital point is that the Boer plan is now unfolding itself into the shape of an attack upon railways. They will destroy every mile of railway that they can get at, and having thus isolated the two republics, will fall back and hold their mountain passes. It is an astute programme, for if they get time to carry it out, the task lying before the British corps of invasion will be difficult and tedious. Meanwhile it is probable that the Boers will not take any needless risks by attacking entrenched positions. What they want is to wreck railways, not to fight battles.

Friday, Nov. 10.

The *Hochi Shimbun* is struck by the fact that England makes no secret of the losses she has sustained in South Africa. She publishes them without concealment, taking them in the ordinary routine of the day's work and being perfectly confident that she will retrieve them by and by. Our contemporary recommends the conduct of British statesmen and the demeanour of the British nation as an object lesson for the study of Japanese statesmen and the Japanese nation. We wish that this compliment could be accepted without reservation, but it is not to be denied that there has been a good deal of alarmist writing on the part of English journals in the East, and that there has also been a disposition in many circles to exaggerate the dangers of the situation in Natal as well as to find undue fault with England's so-called "unpreparedness." The plain fact is that England has been quite sincere throughout the whole of this affair. She never intended to fight if her reasonable and just demands could obtain a fair hearing, and it was consequently quite out of the question that she should either place her forces in South Africa on a war footing, or undertake at home such preparations as would enable her to despatch an army over-sea at a week's notice. Either course would have at once convicted her of a resolve to appeal to the sword, or would, at least, have amounted to preferring her demands virtually at the cannon's mouth. The Boers might have yielded under such circumstances, but they would have retained a permanent feeling of enmity and the world would have condemned England utterly. After all, England has her own reputation to consider. She is suffering now because she refused to say one thing and do another; because, while assuring the Boers and the Free-staters of her perfect willingness to make an amicable arrangement, she declined to simultaneously employ menaces of an unequivocal character. What is happening in South Africa represents one almost inevitable phase of world-wide empire. No Power, whatever its resources or might, can possibly be prepared for every emergency that may arise at any point thousands of miles distant from the centre of strength. That is especially true of a country like England, which, instead of maintaining a huge army scattered here and there throughout her vast dominions, seeks rather to win every section of her subjects to peaceful union by granting to them the fullest privileges of liberty and equality. For a country adopting such a policy there may always be moments when local disturbances assume dimensions disproportionate to the means immediately available for their control, just as within even the home circuit of the best organized State's territories there may always be occasions when a riotous mob can temporarily overcome the forces locally respon-

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sible for preserving peace and order. The Boer leaders were clever enough to appreciate the opportunities that the situation offered. They had history for a guide. The successes they gained in 1881 were due to precisely the same factors that they have invoked now. In 1881, they suddenly rose in arms, and declared a republic, taking England by surprise, and thus securing, for themselves the comparatively easy task of dealing with a few scattered detachments of English troops, not one of them numbering more than 300 men, and all of them separated by such long distances that nothing like combined action was possible. Guided by that precedent, the Boers, on the present occasion also, declared war at 48 hours' notice, and then poured their strength across the frontier into British territory, hoping once more to take the petty garrisons in detail, and make short work of them during the long interval that must elapse before aid could come from a country ten thousand miles distant. They nearly succeeded in effecting their purpose at Glencoe and Dundee, where seventeen hundred Englishmen, having administered one severe lesson to the Boers, finally retired, just in the nick of time, in the face of an enveloping army ten times their number. There are critics who talk of that withdrawal with bated breath as though it were a disaster, whereas in truth it was not even a retreat, but merely a concentration of force in the face of a greatly stronger enemy. We do not mean to claim for an instant that England has not been obliged to recoil. She has undoubtedly to endure the humiliation of seeing large tracts of her territories over-run by her enemy, and several bodies of her troops beleaguered by the invader. But no human power could have averted that contingency, and, on the other side of the account, we have the pleasant fact that the British troops have beaten the Boers soundly whereever a collision has occurred, except in the one case of the mules' stampede. We ourselves arrived at the conviction, several days ago, that the Boers wholly mistook their *métier* when they took the field as an invading army. They have neither the discipline, the organization, nor the dash for such a form of fighting, and they are already beginning to cut a very sorry figure. They began their attack upon Mafeking and Kimberley on October 14th, and November 1st found those two weakly garrisoned places still holding out successfully. They began their march into Natal on October 14th, and they had advanced about 90 miles by November 3rd, suffering six defeats at the hands of the comparatively small force they were attempting to subdue, and failing to make any impression on the main position of the British. It is possible, of course, that they may be waiting for the arrival of a siege train to bombard Ladysmith, but the time now at their disposal for that kind of work is very short. We say deliberately that if a British Army had entered the Transvaal under similar circumstances and achieved a record such as that achieved by the Boers on this occasion, the world would justly declare that England had made a miserable fiasco. Yet there are Englishmen who pull long faces and talk of disaster! The truth is that we have learned to consider our soldiers superior to all odds, and it will be a wholesome thing if that error is corrected by these South African experiences.

We have taken leave all through this South-African crisis to deny the allegation that the Boers have deliberately engaged in a hopeless war, and that they are animated solely by the noble purpose of dying sword in hand in defence of their liberties. Every item of news received by the incoming mails justifies our scepticism. The Boers, if their own utterances can be believed, were persuaded from the first that they could drive the British into the sea, and that the Union Jack would be permanently hauled down in South Africa. This is not said of the ignorant, uneducated burgher only. President Kruger himself, even before that celebrated four hours' prayer, when the Deity, whose name has been so often invoked in connexion with this struggle, vouchsafed to reveal to Oom Paul the complete success of his nationals' arms—even before that revelation President Kruger, it now appears, had stated that his direct observation of England, her institutions, and her military resources, had convinced him of her inability to send to South Africa any army capable of conquering the Transvaal. He has given the best possible proof of that conviction by proclaiming the annexation of every British district within sight of his troops. If he really apprehended defeat, is it likely that he would be thus adopting towards Great Britain the very course which he has so vehemently denounced as a potential contingency on the part of Great Britain towards the Transvaal? He has, in short, converted this war from the very outset into a war of annexation, and if he adopted that policy believing, all the while, that his country would ultimately be defeated, he must be little short of a lunatic, instead of being, as we know, a remarkably clever person.

NEW COMMERCIAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE U.S. & FRANCE.

Some excitement seems to have been caused in Japanese commercial circles by the news that a convention has been concluded between the United States and France, by which, in consideration of special tariff privileges being given to certain American products entering France, French manufactures of pure silk, or mixed silk and cotton, shall be admitted to the United States at a reduction of from 5 to 15 per cent. of import duty. The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has addressed a Representation to the Authorities on the subject, pointing out that the effect of the arrangement will be to discriminate injuriously against Japanese silk fabrics, large quantities of which are exported to America. It appears to the Chamber that a reduction of duty to the extent of from 5 to 15 per cent. in favour of the French goods will fatally handicap the Japanese manufactures. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, in the last number of the *Keizai Zasshi*, laughs at this apprehension, calls it a chimera, and expresses astonishment that a body of grave business-men like the Tokyo Chamber should have so little knowledge of their own country's commercial treaties and conventions. We share Mr. Taguchi's surprise, for the 4th Article of the Revised Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and the United States of America is absolutely explicit. It says:—"No other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the territories of the United States of any article, the produce or manufacture of the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, from whatever place arriving. . . than on the like article produced or manufactured in any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be maintained or imposed on the importation of any article, the produce or manufacture of the territories of either of the High Contracting Parties, into the territories of the other, from whatever place arriving, which shall not equally extend to the importation of the like article being the produce or manufacture of any other country." There can not be any doubt about the meaning of that language.

Some of the Japanese papers are discussing the question of the arrangement recently effected between the United States and France with regard to reciprocal tariff concessions. The point is whether Japan has anything to give to America in exchange for the privilege which the latter has granted to France. We have already stated that, in our opinion, Article IV. of the Treaty between the United States and Japan settles the point, since it is there explicitly provided that no article of Japanese production or manufacture shall be required to pay a higher duty when imported into the States than that levied upon a similar import produced or manufactured in any other foreign country. But our Tokyo contemporaries consider the matter from the point of view of the most-favoured-nation clause, which says that any concession made by America to a foreign State, in matters of commerce or navigation, shall be extended to Japan gratuitously, if the concession has been gratuitous, and on the same or equivalent conditions if it has been conditional. The concession in the present case has been conditional on certain tariff privileges granted by France. Japan could agree to reduce the duty on kerosene oil, but it is urged that a better plan would be to make the concession with regard to steel manufactures, as the only sufferer by such an arrangement would be the Government's Iron Foundry.

GARDEN PARTY AT COUNT OKUMA'S VILLA.

Count Okuma's garden parties have now taken their place among the great events of fashionable life in Tokyo. The beautiful park of the Count's Waseda villa is always a charm to visitors, and its distinguished owner has gradually added to its attractions splendid collections of peonies, chrysanthemums, potted shrubs and hot house exotics, so that at all seasons there is some special attraction. The chrysanthemums were the feature of the last garden party on the 7th instant. Everything favoured the event; magnificent autumn weather; a glorious display of flowers and an attendance more numerous than we have ever before witnessed. It was pleasant to see that Ministers of State were among the guests of the leader of the Opposition, and that political differences were altogether forgotten in the presence of the Count's genial hospitality, the beauty of the flowers, the mellow sunshine and the abundance of good cheer. The party broke up at about five o'clock, after a most enjoyable reunion.

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BARON HAYASHI.

Baron Hayashi, Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg, arrived in Kobe on the 1st instant. The Baron was a member of the Peace Commission in Brussels, and he has made some statements to a newspaper reporter on the subject. He denies emphatically that the project had its origin in any financial embarrassment on Russia's part, or in any selfish design of putting an end to the race of armaments since she feels her own inability to hold her place in it. The idea emanated from the Czar and was perfectly sincere. But his Majesty never believed in the possibility of any immediate arrangement for the reduction of armaments. He merely desired to bring the project on the *tapis* by way of preliminary to future realization. In the meanwhile his great hope was to contrive some agreement about international arbitration. That was really what he looked to promote appreciably by the Conference, and on the whole he was probably content with the results actually attained. As to the story of the Czar's desire to abdicate, Baron Hayashi attributed it to the fertile imagination of M. Blowitz, *The Times* correspondent in Paris, of whom he evidently entertains a poor opinion.

Baron Hayashi, has evidently obtained that clear perspective of a country's motives and actions that is acquired by studying them at first hand instead of judging them by the interested or prejudiced comments of outsiders. The opinions expressed by him to vernacular newspapers on his return from Europe do not indeed indicate that he has become a Russophile, but do show that he takes a just and fair view of Russia's foreign policy. Her prime purpose, he thinks, is not territorial aggression. She merely seeks an outlet on southern seas, thus obeying a natural law of expansion. To oppose the consummation of such an impulse would be to run counter to the course of history. Even in acquiring the Liaotung Peninsula, Russia was not actuated by any aggressive purpose. In Korea, also, Baron Hayashi fails to see any inevitable clashing of Russian and Japanese interests, but we confess that his views on that point seem to us too optimistic.

The Minister explained further that Japan had the pleasure and honour of introducing at the Peace Conference the proposal that the Geneva Convention should be extended to marine warfare. The proposal was greeted with acclaim, and passed unanimously, the Representatives of Japan being highly complimented.

Against the unreasoning and malicious attacks of which Viscount Aoki's foreign policy was recently the object, Baron Hayashi enters a strong protest. People have been kind enough, he says, to associate his own return from St. Petersburg and that of Mr. Kato from London with some sinister designs against the doings of the Foreign Office in Tokyo. The rumour is a pure invention. Some folks appear to think that a Minister of Foreign Affairs is a failure unless he perpetually startles the public with brilliant performances. A country would be very unfortunate were it cursed by the possession of a Minister who entertained such a view of his duties. Japan's foreign policy has made immense strides of progress since the Restoration, and it is much more likely to be carried still further forward than to be put back under Viscount Aoki's direction.

LOCAL TAXATION IN YOKOHAMA.

As yet only forty-three of the foreign residents of Yokohama have paid their local taxes, according to Tokyo journals. They are chiefly of English, American and Chinese nationalities, and they have paid under protest. Not one French citizen has paid. The taxes referred to are, we presume, the Urban and Prefectural levies of the House Tax, though it is difficult to credit the assertion of our contemporaries that the total number of foreigners liable for this tax is only 253 in Yokohama, namely, 126 in the Settlement and 127 on the Bluff; and that their payments would aggregate 13,970 *yen*, or over 55 *yen* each; namely, 2,255 *yen* of Prefectural Tax and 11,715 *yen* of Urban Tax. The money fell due on the 30th of October, but it is understood that some of the Foreign Representatives consider the tax illegal, and are engaged in negotiations with the Japanese Government. The French Consul has taken a very decided line, and his nationals follow his instructions when they refuse *en masse* to pay. There is much to be said on both sides of the question, but the strange thing, in our opinion, is that all these problems of taxation were not settled before the conclusion of the Revised Treaties It can scarcely be called *post-facto* wisdom to say that a preliminary measure of obvious prudence would have been to obtain a clear and exhaustive statement of all the taxes to which foreigners would become liable under the new system, instead of leaving such matters to be settled subsequently to the abolition of the old regime.

With regard to the liability of foreigners to pay house tax and registration tax, there is a great deal of writing in vernacular journals, and some of them seem to think that the foreign press is excited on the subject. But the foreign local press has remained remarkably calm. The question has a very practical import for every foreign resident, but the community is evidently convinced that it may trust the good faith of the Japanese Government and the vigilance of the Foreign Representatives to secure a just solution. It is a pity, therefore, that a journal like the *Kokumin*, for example, should write as though the foreign local newspapers were engaged in a polemic, whereas they are eminently quiet and moderate.

THE STREET RAILWAY QUESTION.

The unfortunate problem of street railways for Tokyo is again in an entanglement. It appears that the Committee of experts appointed by the Home Department to investigate the question of motive power have been unable to agree upon any constructive scheme. They are unanimous in the destructive sense of condemning the overhead trolley system, but whether to substitute for it the accumulator method, the Serpollet, or pneumatic pressure they seem unable to determine, and are reported to be torn by conflicting views. From difficulty to difficulty and from dilemma to dilemma this ill-fated business stumbles along. Even the forwarding of the final application to the Home Department is delayed because the projectors, in drawing up the application, inserted a statement that the Department had privately agreed to grant the concession to a company. The Mayor, through whose hands the application has to pass, objects to the idea of any such engagement having been given without his knowledge, and the Department denies having given it. Tokyo is making a very pretty display of business capacity over this affair.

A HARROWING TALE.

A sensational and scarcely credible story is published about the doings of the officials engaged in superintending the construction of the Tokkachi Railway in Ishikari, Hokkaido. One section of the line, it is said, runs through a swampy malarious district, and the workmen suffer badly from *kakke* and fever. At first some measures were taken to care for the patients, but ultimately the officials adopted the plan of simply handing a certain quantity of rice to any one unable to work, and dismissing him. In order to reach any inhabited place the sick people had to cross an extensive tract of moorland, and there many of them constructed for themselves rude huts or simply lay down and died. The duty of burying them devolved on the officials. They discharged it in the beginning, though coffins were dispensed with, but ultimately they took to throwing the bodies into a deep gorge where—so the story runs—they were eaten by foxes and wolves. It is the first instance on record of foxes choosing such diet, and in all respects the tale is difficult of credence. It concludes by saying that many of the men employed on the railway have run away, in fear lest a similar fate should befall them.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

The following beautiful prayer has been authorized by the very Rev. Bishop Awdry for use in the Episcopalian Churches in Japan, and was read on Sunday last in St. Andrew's Church, Tokyo:—

> Almighty Lord God, King of all kings and Governor of all things, that sittest on the Throne judging right; we commend to thy Fatherly protection those who in perils of war are now serving our Queen and country. Make them bold through death or life to put their trust in Thee, who art the only Giver of all victory. Be with the wounded and dying, and comfort the bereaved, extending Thy mercy alike to ourselves and to our foes; and restore to us the blessings of peace, that, forgiving all injuries, we may live side by side in concord and goodwill one toward another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

STRANGE SOCIETIES.

There are in Sendai several societies of a singular nature. An entrance fee of one *yen* is demanded of each member, and in case he has an addition to his family he is entitled to 50 or 70 *yen*. More than 10,000 members have joined one or other of these Societies, some of which have their headquarters at Sendai, while others direct operations from Tokyo. Suspicions of fraud have, however, attached to the promoters for some time, and 89 of those concerned were recently arrested.

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BIRTHDAY BALL IN TOKYO.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Aoki gave a brilliant Ball in the Imperial Hotel on the 3rd instant to celebrate the Emperor's Birthday. The whole of the big pile of buildings and their approaches blazed with illumination, and the salons were tastefully decorated with a profusion of chrysanthemums and greenery, the ball room especially presenting a delightful spectatle. At about half past-nine their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Nashimoto, Prince and Princes Kacho, and Prince and Princess Kanin arrived, and the opening quadrille was then danced, the Imperial guests, several of the Ministers of State and members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique taking part. Dancing continued until about 2 a.m., with an interval of an hour for supper at half-past eleven. There were about sixteen hundred guests present, but the excellence of the arrangements prevented any confusion. A new plan was adopted with regard to the approaches, the entrance and exit for carriages being completely segregated from those for *jinrikisha*, and this simple device added immensely to the comfort of the guests.

TOKYO BAY FORTIFICATIONS.

A curious statement is published about the fortifications of Tokyo Bay. Accordto the original programme, they were not to have been finished before the year 1911, whereas all the other important fortifications were to be concluded by 1902 at latest. The reason of the exceptional delay in Tokyo's case was that the building of the third of the Kannonsaki forts was expected to be a work of great difficulty, the foundations having to be laid in 150 metres of water. Recently, however, when commencing the work, it was found that a big rock, at a small depth below the surface, offers a splendid and easy foundation. Hence the engineers think that the work can be finished by 1905, and the estimates will be amended in that sense so as to obtain larger yearly appropriations. We call the statement curious, because we do not see why the exact conditions with regard to the foundations were not ascertained at the outset, or why, if the work is so greatly facilitated by natural aids, there should be any occasion to increase the yearly appropriations.

SPURIOUS MEDICINES.

There appears to be a considerable traffic at present in adulterated medicines. Very strict regulations exist in this country for the expert examination of all drugs and medicines publicly offered for sale, but between the recognition extended to foreign certificates and that given to the Japanese, a *via media* is sometimes found by which the law can be eluded. Recently the druggists and medicine-vendors of Tokyo held a meeting, and solemnly pledged themselves not to prepare or sell any adulterated medicines. Their resolve is justly applauded, but the fact that it should have been necessary is disquieting. The *Jiji Shimpo* comments on this abuse with its usual vigour and directness.

DEATH OF MR. A. MACMILLAN.

Mr. A. Macmillan expired at his residence in Tokyo on the night of the 2nd instant. He had been in a very broken state of health for nearly two years, owing primarily to a severe fall in December, 1897, which fractured two of his ribs, and fatally disturbed his nervous system. During the few days immediately prior to his death, symptoms of grave trouble made themselves very apparent, but the end was sudden and caused a painful shock to his innumerable friends. Mr. Macmillan served for many years as Chief Foreign Superintendent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and his exceptional abilities and earnest loyalty to the interests of the great Company deservedly won him the confidence and esteem of the Directors. It is in his private capacity, however, that his memory will always be cherished and his loss deeply mourned by many friends, not only among his own nationals but also among the Japanese. For he was a man endowed with every lovable quality; rare sunniness of disposition, far-reaching sympathy, a lofty conception of the duties of life, high courage, and bright humour. Very possibly his health might have been completely restored, or, at any rate, his life prolonged for many years, could he have been induced to take a long rest. But existence without vigorous usefulness seemed intolerable to him, and thus he remained at his post of duty till the strain overtaxed his impaired strength.

The funeral took place on the 5th inst., from St. Andrew's Church in Tokyo, the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw, the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, and the Rev. J. Chappell officiating. A very large number of mourners followed the remains to the grave, and the floral offerings were so numerous that some seventy bearers had to be specially appointed to transport them. The Directors and officials of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha sent ninety-six beautiful wreaths and magnificent bouquets, and at least as many more came from friends. We may take the opportunity of saying that nothing could exceed the kindness and helpfulness of the officers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in connexion with the sad event, and that the excellence of the arrangements was chiefly the result of their cöoperation. A word of special commendation is also due to the undertaker, Mr. Holgate, whose ideas as to the proper organization of funerals and as to the spirit that should pervade the discharge of an undertaker's duties, seem incomparably better than anything hitherto within reach of the foreign community. The pall-bearers were Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; Mr. Kato, Vice-President; Mr. Yoshitake, Secretary; Mr. Iwanaga, Manager of the Freight Department; Mr. Nagai, Vice-Manager of the Freight Department; Mr. Ogawa, Manager of the Passenger Department of the Company; Mr. Suda, Superintendent; Mr. Kawada; Mr. E. Dun; Mr. H. W. Denison; Mr. Kirkwood; Captain Squire; Mr. R. Irwin; Mr. J. Conder; Mr. E. L. James; Mr. J. Bathgate; Mr. J. F. Lowder; Mr. Yanagiya; Mr. W. H. Stone; Dr. Macdonald; Mr. Duer; Mr. R. Kirby; and Captain F. Brinkley. The service at the grave was performed by the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw and the Rev. Arthur Lloyd. Mr. MacMillan possessed the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure, and in consideration of that fact the bier should have been escorted by a detachment of troops. But as three days' notice has to be given to the Military Authorities, the attendance of the troops was dispensed with.

We are asked by Mrs. Macmillan to express her sincere thanks to the numerous friends who, by so many kindly offices and by their attendance at the funeral of her beloved husband, showed their true affection for the deceased and their sympathy with his widow in her bereavement.

DEATH OF MR. J. L. BOWES.

The death of Mr. J. L. Bowes, the well-known Liverpool merchant and Honorary Consul for Japan in that city, has been announced by telegram. Nothing is said as to the date or the cause. A warm tribute is paid to his memory by the *Nippon*, and certainly Mr. Bowes deserves a niche in Japan's national heart. His love of Japanese art and the opportunities that his large fortune gave him of indulging that sentiment led him to undertake investigations which resulted in the publication of several magnificently illustrated and carefully compiled works. These contributed greatly to the world's knowledge, and undoubtedly had a sensible effect in popularizing Japan's art and bringing her affairs to public attention. Mr. Bowes had never visited Japan, yet in spite of the disability entailed by lack of opportunity to study the country and the people at first hand, his researches showed remarkable accuracy and insight, so that he deservedly won the reputation of an expert connoisseur. His splendid collection was known all over England, and nothing pleased him more than to receive visits from Japanese, whom he invariably treated with the utmost courtesy and hospitality. Unfortunately we are not able to speak of him in any capacity except that which concerns the philo-Japanese side of his character, but that he made his mark in other directions can not be doubted.

POLITICS.

Mr. Hoshi Toru has one quality the possession of which his worst enemies can not deny to him, frankness of speech. There is no possibility of mistaking what he means. He uses neither euphemisms nor diplomatic circumlocutions, but calls a spade a spade with refreshing candour. If, as is more than probable, he is rightly reported by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the language used by him at a meeting of the Kwanto section of the Liberal Party in the Kinkikan last Monday amounts to a declaration that, unless a coalition Cabinet be speedily formed with a strong representation of Liberals, he will advocate the severance of the relations existing between his Party and the Government. Those relations, he said, were cemented last year unconditionally because the necessities of the State called for such an act of unselfishness on the part of the Liberals. But no such necessities exist now, and to continue the kind of undiscriminating support hitherto extended to the Ministry would justly expose the Liberals to the charge of blind partizanship or reasonless subservience to officialdom. He referred to the example of

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England, where coalition meant an actual division of ministerial power, and he affirmed that the time had come when such a division could no longer be postponed. Mr. Hoshi had about 250 hearers, and they seem to have sympathised with his remarks.

It really seems as though some kind of political crisis is not unlikely to be developed. Mr. Hoshi Toru's very outspoken utterances at a recent meeting of the Kwanto section of the Liberals left no room to doubt that he, at all events, is dissatisfied with the situation and wants a change. His enemies say that he is not really animated by any desire for Cabinet reconstruction, but that he merely seeks, by breaking new ground, to divert public attention from the foreshore-reclamation scandal. His friends, on the contrary, affirm that he meant a great deal more than he said, and that what he wants is not merely the admission of two or three Liberal leaders to the Cabinet, but the resignation of the Yamagata Ministry *en masse*. The *Jimmin* (Liberal organ) has a trenchant article on the subject. It says that the nation is tired of the present Government, and that the Ministry, conscious of the fact, would resign at once were they not restrained by the *Zokuryo*, or subordinate body of officialdom, who set their faces resolutely against party Cabinets. Meanwhile Count Itagaki has added an element of mystery to the occasion by removing himself from Tokyo to an unknown destination, leaving behind him a letter in which he says that his post is with his Party in days of stress and danger, but that when the smiles of fortune beam on it, he sees an opportunity to rest and recruit his own physique. As for the country being tired of the Ministry, we ourselves believe that the country is heartily sick, on the contrary, of the kaleidoscopic conditions produced by party squabbles. At any rate, what strikes a foreign observer is the extraordinary nature of the so-called "support" lent to the Cabinet by the Liberals, the so-called "agreement," which permits a Liberal leader to publicly throw down the gauntlet as Mr. Hoshi has done. In England a speech such as he made at the *Kwanto-ha's* meeting would signifiy severance from the Cabinet, and nothing short of severance. People would surely say that every means of effecting an understanding had been privately essayed before such an announcement was openly made. But they manage things differently in this country.

CHINA, RUSSIA, AND KOREA.

Telegrams published in Tokyo say that the discussion between Russia and Korea with regard to the Masampo affair has been suspended, pending the return of M. Pavlov, who is expected to arrive in Soul about the middle of December.

The first sale of land in the new foreign settlement at Masampo has taken place. The area offered was 30,185 square metres, divided into 35 lots, and there were fifty or sixty bidders, most of them Japanese. The commander of the *Vladimir Monomach* secured one lot of 800 metres, and Messrs. Holme Ringer and Company, who, according to the Japanese papers, were buying to Russian order—which we do not believe—had 15,500 metres knocked down to them. The land fetched 1.63 *yen*, per metre, or about 5.30 *yen* per *tsubo*, which is said to be highest price hitherto obtained for any foreign-settlement land in Korea.

Italy is said to be showing signs of impatience in Peking; France is wrath, and China is looking after her coast defences! China, of course, has no intention of defying France. She will obey orders. It has come to that with her. The time is past when she could "reason why," and she has now only to yield or die. As for onlookers, they have ceased to examine the rights or wrongs of these questions. Abstract principles are out of fashion in the Far East. Very likely France has justice on her side; but it really doesn't matter a row of pins.

It is reported to the *Jiji Shimpo* by telegraph from Peking, under date of the 5th instant, that out of the five conditions formulated by Japan in connexion with the Amoy outrage, four have been accepted by China, but the discussion of the fifth is postponed pending the arrival of Baron Nishi in Peking. This unsettled point relates to the punishment of the local officials who are supposed to have been responsible for failure to control the rioters.

THE FOOCHOW OUTRAGE.

Accurate accounts are now published about the outrage recently perpetrated near Foochow. It appears that a party consisting of five Chinamen, three Japanese, and a Formosan, were ascending the river Min by boat when a Chinese mob assembled on the bank and began to fire at them with matchlocks. The five Chinamen leaped into the water to escape, but the Japanese landed, when they were immediately surrounded, beaten with the butts of matchlocks, and thrown into the river. The Formosan received a bullet wound, all the goods carried by the party were stolen, and finally the Japanese and the Formosan managed to escape with their lives, but lost everything else. There does not seem to be much sympathy with the sufferers, for they are said to have been men of very bad character, being, in fact, associated with a gang of thieves who were conducting their predatory operations in the most barefaced manner. Their victim was a great timber merchant, who had been so unfortunate as to engage thieves to protect his property against themselves! There were two bands of robbers. They engaged alternately in the business of purloining the timber, but at last they fell out, and it is supposed that the assailants of the Japanese belonged to the hostile section of marauders.

FORMOSA.

Some of the inhabitants of Formosa must be remarkably demoralized folks. They seem to regard burglary and murder as quite proper adjuncts of daily business. The difficulty of checking them is that, so soon as they have perpetrated a crime, they revert to the costume and customs of respectable people, and their neighbours show no inclination to give information against them. In the middle of last month the Miaoli post office was the scene of a raid. Some thirty bandits broke into the place and attempted to rifle the safe. Three Japanese constables withstood them, and, other Japanese coming to the rescue, the thieves were beaten off, *re infectâ*. They managed, however, to set fire to the post office, and a quantity of mail matter was burned. It was therefore decided to undertake what the Japanese call a *daisosaku*, a big investigation, in which performance, as we understand it, police, gendarmes, and soldiers take a larger share than judicial officials. The proceeding lasted from the 19th to the 23rd of October, but no arrests were effected. Evidently one of the chief difficulties in Formosa is that an efficient detective service can not be organized. If good detectives were available, it would plainly be impossible for people to play the dual role of bandits and respectable householders, as the Formosan villains seem to do.

THE GRAIN CROP.

We recently published an estimate of the grain crop for this season, exclusive of rice. The *Official Gazette* now gives actually ascertained figures. They show that the area of land devoted to such crops underwent a diminution of 30,000 acres compared with last year, and the total yield was 1,390,000 *koku* less. This unfavourable showing is attributed, first, to the extraordinarily fine crop of last season which emphasizes the comparatively small yield this year; and secondly to the very bad weather conditions that prevailed when the crops were earing. Nevertheless it is to be observed that the area of land under cultivation was 92,500 acres larger than the average, and the yield 810,000 *koku* greater. The figures for the past 10 years are as follow:—

	Area in Cho.	Yield in Koku.
1890	1 701,716.7	10.712,965
1891	1,713 655 3	18.068,373
1892	1,737,373 0	15 941.276
1893	1 744.010 3	16,625 229
1894	1,751,012 8	19 809 965
1895	1 771 623.6	19 526,123
1896	1 764 960.6	17,329.317
1897	1.749,571.7	18.005 490
1898	1,806 667 4	20 462,053
1899	1 794 612.4	19 071,210
Average	1.756,181 7	18.256 229

HOKKAIDO.

According to the latest statistics, the total Japanese population of Hokkaido at present is 853,239 persons of both sexes and all ages. It is generally calculated that Hokkaido could support at least six or seven millions, so that its population is still a mere fraction of its capacity. The rate of increase by five-year periods since the establishment of the Colonization Department in 1868 is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Population.	Increase.
1868	58.467	—
1872	111,196	52.729
1877	191 172	79 976
1882	239.632	48 460
1887	321,208	81.486
1892	509 609	188 491
1893	559 959	50 350
1894	616 650	56 691
1895	678 215	61,565
1896	715 172	26 957
1897	786 211	71 039
1898	853 239	67 028

These figures show that, since 1892, the rate of increase has been comparatively very rapid. In round numbers, the increment for the five-year period ending 1898 was three hundred thousand.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It appears that the Emperor of Germany took a very unusual step with regard to the Dreyfus affair. Our readers remember, of course, that towards the close of the proceedings at Rennes, counsel for the defence applied that the Governments at Berlin and Rome be asked to authorize Colonels von Schwarzkoppen and Panizzardi to give evidence at Rennes. There can not have been much hope that such an application would succeed, but there might have been a hope that it would produce something, and it certainly did. *The Times* commenting on the diplomatic issues raised by the trial and the verdict, says:—

With regard to Germany sufficient attention has hardly been paid to the extraordinary, the unprecedented, step taken by the Emperor William on Friday last. Counsel for Dreyfus, with the view of silencing a witness picked up by the egregious M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire, telegraphed to the Emperor and to the King of Italy requesting them to authorize Colonels von Schwarzkoppen and Panizzardi to given evidence at Rennes. This, no doubt, could not be done, nor would the Court authorize the despatch of a commission to take the depositions of these two witnesses. But the German Emperor actually caused to be published in the most official part of the official journal, the *Reichsanzeiger*, a formal repetition and amplification of Herr von Bulow's statement in the Reichstag, to the effect that never, either directly or indirectly, had Germany had any relations with Dreyfus. Diplomatists know, and the Court at Rennes knew, that to such an act as this, in which a Sovereign publicly sets aside diplomatic usage in the simple interests of justice to an innocent man, there is scarcely a parallel in history.

The Imperial Guards and the First Division are to engage in a series of manœuvres towards the middle of the present month. It is not clear whether the two corps are to work separately or simultaneously, but some importance attaches to the manœuvres, as they will afford the first opportunity of testing certain changes recently introduced into the Japanese system of tactics. In consideration of that fact, the Emperor has signified his intention of being present, and Chamberlains have proceeded to Tochigi Prefecture, the scene of the manœuvres, to make arrangements for his Majesty's accommodation. The Emperor will leave Tokyo on the 15th instant.

A fire broke out in the roof of the Futa-ara-Jinja at Nikko on the 28th of October, owing to the carelessness of a workman, who dropped the unextinguished wick of a candle among the rafters. Fortunately the flames were controlled before any serious damage had been done.

It is stated that, in consequence of the dearth of steamers caused by the war in the Philippines, the companies whose vessels are plying on the Pacific have combined with the American railway authorities to raise the rate of freights by 30 per cent.

Every one is heartily tired of the Dojima Rice Exchange. Its destiny has been hanging in a very tender balance for some time, but now at length the necessary funds seem to have been provided, and the Exchange is saved from bankruptcy.

Captain Cope, of the *America Maru* has withdrawn his appeal against the judgment of the Court which sentenced him to suspension of certificate for three months. His place has been given to Capt. Going, late of the N.Y.K.

His Imperial Highness Prince Kanin has been promoted to be a Colonel in the Army.

It will be remembered that counsel for the defense in the Daigo murder case protested against the procedure of the Court on the ground of partiality, and that his protest having been over-ruled, he appealed to a higher tribunal. The appeal also has now been rejected, and the case is to proceed as before.

Marquis Ito has been expressing himself with the greatest frankness to a representative of the *Mainichi*, and in a most pessimistic tone. He finds no sound place in Japanese political parties as they are now constituted. They think simply of personal advantage and pay no attention to the interests of the State. Questions of pecuniary gain and squabbles about division of the spoils occupy their attention to the exclusion of everything else, and, with such bodies in the field, the future of constitutional Government looks very black. The Marquis asks whether, with the exception of her army and her navy, Japan has brought to creditable completion any one of the enterprises undertaken by her during the *Meiji* era. He invites Count Okuma and Count Itagaki to consider gravely the nature and the tendencies of the associations over which they preside.

Lieut. Gunji is not lost after all. He has turned up safely in Tokyo with two vessels, the *Shimushu Maru* and the *Hokkaido Maru*. Instead of disappearing from the scene, he has recovered something of his place in public interest.

Japan is sending an officer to watch the war from the side of the Boers as well as from the side of the British. Captain Hiraoka has been despatched for the former purpose, and Colonel Iseji has left London, where he was stationed, for the latter.

Echoes of the Masampo agitation continue to be audible in the columns of Tokyo newspapers, but the incident is obviously dead and buried.

Mr. Amenomiya speaking at a meeting of the Tokyo Merchants and Manufacturerers' Association, said that the affair of the Yokohama fore-shore reclamation was not worthy of more consideration than a heap of tiles. Amplitude of vision is to be admired. Eight million *yen* and a heap of tiles do not compare easily in ordinary eyes.

Marquis Ito, speaking at the same meeting, gave it as his unqualified opinion that Japan can not hope to be great except by means of commerce and navigation. China is the field, he thinks, where these aims must be pursued, and though Japan can scarcely hope to outstrip other nations in that arena, she may run level with them if she utilizes her opportunities to the full.

The record of the Pest this year in Formosa has been appalling. It attacked 2,383 persons and killed 1,906 of them That is to say, out of every 5 persons attacked, 4 succumbed. Such a rate of mortality is dreadful. It is reported that the cruel disease has again made its appearance.

LEGEND OF DAI GAWA.

Born in the distant mountains,
Where the gathering shadows lie;
The fairest of beautiful rivers,
A child of the earth and sky.

For the tears of midsummer's shadows,
The flakes of the falling snow,
The mists on the purple hill-tops
Fall swift to the valley below.

And gathering them all together
Comes this river adown to the sea.
I look in its face, and the purple and crystal
All floating and sparkling I see.

And this river forever is hasting,
Never stops for the song of a bird;
Though never in human conceptions
Such wonderful love notes were heard,

And the trees tend their branches above it,
And ferns cluster low at their feet.
And mosses grow green in the shadows,
Safe sheltered from midsummer heat.

Oh, a fairer, more jubilant river,
Never glanced under summer's blue sky;
And never another where death lay concealed,
In the pools where the dark shadows lie.

This is the legend which passeth
From the lips of grey father to son;
There are many who listened and trembled
And it never was doubted by one.

This smiling and wonderful voice
Owned the turtle god for its King;
The turtle crafty and cunning and bold
And his heart held a venomous sting.

And his spell he cast on the river—
This child of the earth and sky—
So that never a workman weary with toil
Or a traveller wandering by,

Or children gathering wild flowers,
Or fair maiden, who stooping to see
Her beautiful eyes and soft tresses
Mirrored back from the pool neath the tree

But a strange irresistible longing
Drew the fated one into the wave.
This clinging but treacherous river
Made for all who have entered a grave.

And loud and deep was the mourning
For the loved who returned never more;
Whom the cruel god of the river
Had borne to the far sunless shore.

Then the priest, close shaven and solemn,
With many a slipping of beads,
Sent a prayer to the merciful Buddha,
Who the cry of all suffering heeds.

Such a prayer as never was written,
That this river a blessing might be,
That unhindered and blithely its waters
Might run from mountain to sea.

That the spell which had bound might be broken,
That the turtle his sceptre might own;
That his power which never was doubted,
Once again for their help might be shown.

And Buddha, 'tis said, listened kindly,
And gave them the answer they craved.
And the turtle god shrank from his presence
Forever and ever enslaved.

Oh, who can tell all the gladness,
As the power of their Buddha they own;
And his image with greatest rejoicing,
They carved in the grayest of stone.

And there on the banks of the river,
With hands folded meek on bent breast,
Sits Buddha, the ever triumphant,
In blessing eternally blessed.

J. E. D.

The death is announced of Lord Farrer. This veteran official was 81 years of age. He was employed in the Board of Trade Department, and was an authority on currency and commercial questions. He resigned in 1886, being then Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade.

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THE PRINCESS IMPERIAL.

IN connexion with the celebration of the EMPEROR'S Birthday this year, several Tokyo journals publish portraits of the lady to whom the Prince Imperial is engaged, namely, Princess SADA, third daughter of Prince KUJO. His Imperial Highness was born on the 31st of August, 1879, and has therefore completed his twentieth year. He came of age two years ago, eighteen being the age of maturity for princes, but according to the rules that apply to common-place mortals, he attains his majority this year. On the 31st of August, 1887, being then eight years old, the Prince was declared heir to the Throne, and on the 3rd of November, 1889—that is to say, on the Emperor's Birthday — he received the title of Prince Imperial (*Kotaishi*). The lady upon whom the Imperial choice has fallen is of the celebrated FUJIWARA family, which has had the honour of giving many Empresses to Japan. Its renowned ancestor, KAMATARI, who, in the seventh century, was instrumental in overthrowing the SOGA family, and thus putting an end to the system of patriarchal government which threatened, at that epoch, to involve even the succession to the Throne, is now worshipped at the shrine of Awayama, on the Tamu Peak in Yamato. The representative of his family, seventeen generations later, was TADAMITSU, who combined in his own person the two highest offices of State, that of Regent and that of Prime Minister. The ninth son of TADAMITSU was the founder of the KUJO family—KUJO KANEZANE, who, in his turn, held the post of Regent—; and the present Prince MICHITAKA represents the twenty-ninth generation from TADAMITSU. Hence the Princess SADA, future empress of Japan, counts her lineage back forty-seven generations to FUJIWARA NO KAMATARI in the sixth century. KAMATARI was of course a very blue-blooded noble in his own day, and could doubtless have shown a genealogical tree with its roots in the era of JIMMU. But as he first received the name of FUJIWARA (wistaria plain) from the Emperor in recognition of his meritorious services, the FUJIWARA are generally content to date their origin from his time, and, as the calculation gives them very nearly thirteen hundred years of antiquity, it should suffice. The Prince Imperial and the Princess SADA are cousins, the late Empress Dowager EISHO having been the sister of Princess MICHITAKA. The young leady has only completed her fifteenth year. To great personal attractions she adds the advantage of a robust physique.

Copper fell a pound sterling in the London market on the 28th ult. It now stands at £78¾ per ton, or £3 lower than the highest price reached. The reason for the fall is the gradual increase of stocks in the London market.

THE EDUCATIONAL NIGHTMARE.

IT is re-assuring to see that the public is not allowed to fall asleep over the question of Japan's suicidal policy in the matter of education. The *Mainichi Shimbun* keeps the subject vividly alive. It taunts the conservative section of educationists with being the victims of an unreasoning hatred of religion in all forms, but especially of the Christian religion, and declares that these men can not rest easy at night unless they feel that they have exhausted every means of ostracising Christianity. If they could induce themselves to consider the question calmly, they would speedily recognise that Christianity, judged by its results, is not an enemy but an ally, for Christian education has given to Japan many able publicists, among them being three eminent professors of the University itself. The first effect of the Minister of Education's celebrated "Instruction" has been to close a number of private schools established and conducted by charitable persons for the purpose of imparting education to the children of poor folks who could not otherwise procure any teaching for their sons and daughters. That is a fine result to stand at the head of the "Instruction's" record.

In this context we take the opportunity of referring to a letter from a correspondent, "F. M.," asking two questions; first, what grounds we have for saying that exemption from conscription is not denied to students of schools in which religious instruction is given; secondly, what was the result of the interview between representatives of Christian Schools and the Minister of Education on October 2nd. With regard to the former point, a full explanation has already appeared in these columns, and we regret to see that it has escaped the attention of some readers, although the matter is of prime importance. We can only repeat what we wrote in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of September 9th :—

> The most important of those privileges is exemption from conscription. Looking at the Regulations published by the Department of Education on the 28th of June last, with reference to the official recognition of private schools, one would be disposed to think that a private school, conducted under missionary auspices, could scarcely hope to obtain such recognition. Apart from technical schools and commercial schools, with regard to which special provisions exist, it is laid down that a private school, in order to be officially recognised and thus to acquire exemption for its students from conscription, must have its "courses of study, its rules of admission, its organization and its equipment in accord with the provisions relating to Middle Schools, and must have at least one-third of its teachers provided with Middle School certificates." Evidently if a School must conform its curriculum, and its organization, with absolute strictness, to the provisions governing public schools, there is no possibility of conducting it on lines that would be approved by the conscience of the Christian missionary, or by the societies that support him. Everything depends in this matter on the Educational Department's manner of interpreting the world "accord" (*junji*). If the term is to be read in practice as signifying precise agreement in every detail, then a private school, conducted on religious principles, can not hope to obtain the privilege in question. We have sought information on this point from the Department of Education, and are assured that there is no intention of interpreting the words in a narrow sense. It will only be necessary that general conformity should exist between the degree and nature of the instruction given at a private school and the degree and nature of the instruction given at a public middle school. The fact that religious teaching is imparted in the former, or that religious exercises are conducted there, will not disqualify the school for official recognition in the sense of conferring exemption from conscription. This is a point of vital importance. If the Educational Department applies that liberal interpretation, one, at least, of the great difficulties is removed from the path of religious education.

With regard to the interview mentioned by our correspondent, its details have not been clearly published. We understand, however, that the Vice-Minister—the interview was not with the Minister himself—, while uncompromising in the matter of official recognition for schools conducted on religious lines, was not indisposed to think that some arrangement could be effected for allowing graduates from Christian educational institutions to enter the High Schools on terms of reasonably free competition with students of schools forming part of the so-called national system. Such a problem could not, of course, be settled then and there. It demanded consideration, and we believe that it is now under official discussion. Evidently if this concession were granted, exemption from conscription up to 27 years of age having already been secured, there would be nothing of serious import to complain of, for religiously conducted schools, though excluded from the national system, would not be placed at any crippling disadvantage as compared with the national schools. We are here speaking of institutions of Middle-School grade. The question of primary schools is a thing apart, and what help they can obtain against the fatal policy of the Educational Department, we do not at once see. The compulsory closing of a number of primary schools conducted virtually on a basis of charity—one of our Tokyo contemporaries estimates the total number at 164 institutions, of which probably from 25 to 30 were Christian schools—was, as we have said, an immediate result of that policy. Many of the scholars of these schools are reported to have been turned loose upon the streets. We have heard of one self-denying young fellow who kept an industrial school where he taught reading and writiog as well as various kinds of work. He has actually been compelled to abandon the teaching of reading and writing, though technical instruction is still permitted. These facts are eloquent. They defy all controversial belittling. It appears to us most regrettable that some arrangements for greatly enlarging the public school accommodation did not precede this drastic treatment of private schools. We do not mean to deny that, apart from its arbitrary secularizing features, the scheme embodied in the new regulations is, on the whole, good. But we do say that from

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any point of view it is ill-timed, and almost certain to increase the ratio of illiteracy among the people, temporarily at all events. Of course some of the private schools—we are not speaking of the missionary schools—which have been ruled out of existence in consequence of their inability to comply with the new standard, were often very inferior institutions, but it would have been better, surely, to stimulate them by less drastic measures than to fix a standard so high as to discourage many really well meaning and useful people. However, we are travelling now beyond the scope of the purely religious problem.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* has an article entitled "Oyster Morality," in which the writer reviews the present situation in Japan in the following terms. The action of the various Ministers of State in issuing notifications bearing on the attitude to be taken by Japanese towards foreigners under the new treaties is commendable from many points of view, but it indicates a state of mind among the masses of the people that is by no means gratifying. The very fact of such injunctions being needed shows that there are a large number of people that cannot be trusted to act in an impartial manner. Unless the proper feelings can be created, it is questionable how far the prescribing of certain external acts towards foreigners will improve matters. It is quite plain that our national moral education does not produce the kind of young men that are required for the situation in which we now find ourselves. The result of the teaching of subjection to parents, elders, and lords is the crushing out of independence of spirit and energy in as far as that teaching is followed. As a system of morals the Chinese system has failed in this country, and we have as yet no substitute for it. Our people are submissive, but at the same time they are without any individual opinions or principles. In some cases the teaching of traditional morality manufactures sycophants, in other cases hypocrites. It is evident that the main object of moral teaching is to enable people to control their wild impulses, to break in nature, and harness it to the vehicle it will be required to draw. But if this breaking in process be overdone, all spirit goes out of the animal man. This is what has occurred in too many cases in this country. Therefore it is that we have called our system, "Oyster Morality." It is a morality that converts human beings into oysters, without eyes, ears, nose, mouth, or hands. Hitherto the assertion of one's rights has been denounced. Confucianism discourages it on every possible occasion. To have no individual rights is the state to which all are exhorted to attain. Loyalty to superiors is taught in our system, but not sacrifices for the sake of the state. In a word our moral code needs to be altered so as to include a development of all the qualities with which nature has endowed us, instead of being a system of suppression and dwarfing as hitherto.

* * *

Among modern dictionaries as regards elaborateness the *Kotoba no Izumi* ranks high. It measures 10½ inches by 7½ inches. The main work covers 1,533 pages, and there is an appendix of 243 pages. It sells at 6 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy, in foreign binding. It is published by the Okura Shoten, and Mr. Ochiai Naofumi is the principal compiler. The work has been appearing in parts since July, 1898, and was only completed last May. Mr. Ochiai was one of the founders of a Committee which dates from the year 1888, the object of which was the investigation of the language with the view of publishing an exhaustive dictionary. The work commenced by that Committee was subsequently entrusted to the Imperial University, and Mr. Ochiai's connection with it then ceased. But the study was so much to his liking that he determined to continue it on his own account, and for a series of years, in combination with a few kindred spirits, toiled on at the laborious task of culling words from old standard works, newspapers, magazines, and modern drama, and of explaining their meaning. Three years ago the lexicon was nearly ready for publication, but the appearance at that time of the *Teikoku Daijiten* and the *Nihon Daijiten* and other dictionaries led Mr. Ochiai to defer the appearance of his work till he had improved it in various ways. The definitions are very short, and there are not many examples of the use of words. There are, however, explanations of a great many proper names, which no doubt supply a felt need in a lexicon, for nothing could be more complicated than Japanese nomenclature. Counting the words on a good many pages, we have come to the conclusion that the average is not below 55. This would make the total number of words the lexicon contains to be 84, 315, which gives some idea of the extent of the Japanese language, though the *Kotoba no Izumi* makes no pretence to be exhaustive. Scores, if not hundreds, of terms in daily use among professional men and politicians are conspicuous by their absence. Nothwithstanding this, Mr. Ochiai's *Kotoba no Izumi* has no equal among modern lexicons. It is very nearly double the size of the *Genkai*. It seems to us matter for regret, however, that the *Goju-on* method of arrangement was followed instead of the *Iroha*. Japanese students generally infinitely prefer the latter. It is a considerable effort of memory to a Japanese, we are informed, to call to mind the order of the fifty sounds. Most foreigners, we should say, would prefer the alphabetical arrangement. The printing of the work is nicely done and the binding first-class.

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* gives an account of General Oyama's presentation to the King and Queen of Italy. Not knowing any Italian, the General thought his best plan would be to give the interpreter leave to enlarge at will on the few remarks he made. The interpreter made use of his power to such an extent that an amusing incident took place. The interpretation of the General's, *Heika ni yoroshiku mōshi agete kure* took about five minutes. Their Majesties listened to the end and then remarked that they deeply regretted not knowing Japanese, as a language that was capable of expressing in a few terse words what it took five minutes to say in Italian would certainly well repay study. The General, it is recorded, left the royal presence with a blush on his cheek.

* * *

Messrs. Mori Rintarō and Omura Seigai have published a very elaborate work on Esthetics entitled 審美綱領 *Shinbi Kōrei*. It has been issued by the Shunyō-dō in 2 volumes, which sell at 60 *sen* each. It does not profess to be an original work, but a boiling down of Hartmann's treatise on the same subject. Mr. Takayama Rinjirō and the *Tenchijin* both criticise the work unfavourably, complaining that the compilers have rendered it hopelessly obscure by introducing a number of Chinese terms not in general use and whose meaning could only be guessed by readers who are familiar with the original treatise. Mr. Takayama rightly says that a translator of a serious philosophical book is not at liberty to give the reins to his fancy in the choice of terms as though he were writing a novel or composing a poem.

* * *

An important work explaining the new system of local government has been published under the patronage of the Minister of Justice and other public men. The title of the work is *Kaisei Fuken-sei Gun-sei no Yakugi*. "An Exposition of the Revised system of Prefectural, City, and District Government." The authors are Messrs. Saitō Kōji and Uchida Seikō. The Okazaki Shoten are the publishers, and the price of the work is 80 *sen* per copy. The revised laws explained in this treatise, which covers over 450 pages, are based on the experience of Japanese local officials during the past ten years. The book contains a mine of information on the system of Municipal government followed in Japan at the present time, and is full of terms that have only lately come into use, which are in most cases explained by the authors.

Messrs. Maruya have for sale the work on the new treaties compiled by the Foreign Office, at 7 *yen* per copy. It consists of 2 vols, contains the text of the various treaties in Japanese and a foreign tongue, and supplies a large amount of information bearing on the working of the revised treaties. The same publishers advertise a new Atlas, containing maps of the various countries of the world with the names printed in English and Japanese. It is founded on Longman's Atlas, published in 1897. It contains 42 maps and sells at 4 *yen* a copy. *Bankoku Shinzu* is the title of the work.

* * *

In No. 20 of the *Gwaikō Jihō*, Dr. Ariga, the editor, who was present at the Peace Conference at the Hague, gives an interesting account of the impressions he received at the various meetings of the Delegates. He seems to be of opinion that the character and state of the various countries were reflected in the language used by their representatives on that occasion. The following is what he has to say on this subject. The language of the Russian representative was excessively prolific but lacking in minuteness and precision of terms. He spoke, too, as though he had something he wanted the Conference to grant. The speech of the French representative was cautious and bore the marks of premeditation. The speaker seemed to be studying the mood of the audience. The German representative assumed a lofty tone which occasionally revealed a tendency to be overbearing. The English representative was

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calm, reserved, and firm. The Austrian delegate seemed undecided as to what attitude to adopt and left the impression on the mind that he was without a fixed policy. Though Italy did her best to show a bold front to the world, she was unable to hide her internal weaknesses. Roumania and Bulgaria seemed over-anxious to bring themselves into notice. Switzerland, Luxembourg, and Servia seemed to be absorbed in the work of opposing the aspirations of neighbouring states. Portugal looked as abashed as a rat just come out of the water. Spain had nothing characteristic about her. Belgium had no air of self-satisfaction, but rather showed herself to be a country with ardent ambition. Holland, despite the fact that the representatives were all her guests, took no leading part in the discussions. The remarks made by her representative were lacking in point and breathed dissatisfaction. On thinking over these things, continues Dr. Ariga, it seemed to me quite natural that the positions occupied by the various countries should be reflected in their mouthpieces at the conference. . . . The fact that Japan should be represented there at all seemed to me very wonderful, considering her geographical situation and her long centuries of isolation. The way in which her representative was treated also struck me. It differed altogether from the attitude assumed towards the Chinese and Persian representatives. Not a few political questions had considerable light thrown on them by the proceedings of the conference. For a long time it has been said that there is no such thing as unity in the Russian Cabinet. The action of the Russian representative at the Hague confirmed this report. In the Fourth Article of the proposals contained in the circular sent around to the Powers by Count Mouravieff there was a distinct reference to the discontinuance of the use of submarine torpedoes. When this subject was brought up for discussion the support of the Russian representative was considered certain, but, to the surprise of everybody, he said that Russia was unable at present to consent to the carrying out of the proposal. The real reason of this was that prior to the Conference Russia had lodged with France a large order for torpedoes. Had there been unity in the Russian Cabinet, an important document like that forwarded to the Powers by the Foreign Minister world certainly have been so drafted that no subsequent inconsistency on Russia's part would have appeared. It is only when Ministers of State act independently of each other that these kind of things take place. It is evident that the Foreign Minister has one policy and the Minister of Marine another, and that they act separately. The revelation of this weakness in the Russian Government might have been concealed by the Russian representative's adopting the plan of remaining silent at the Conference and allowing France to do all the protesting. But the fact that Russia was not ashamed to oppose in the presence of the representatives of the great Powers a proposal which she herself had submitted for consideration, well accords with the manner of action adopted by great nations. They feel strong enough to treat with indifference the revelation of trifling weaknesses in their institutions or in the policies pursued by Ministers of State. The most theatrical representative at the Conference was the Persian delegate, who, arrayed in the garb of a Chinaman, was to be seen at every entertainment. His attentions to the fair sex on these occasions was such as to make him the subject of many a newspaper joke. He made himself most ridiculous by figuring as a guarantee for the Russian Emperor's sincerity in calling the conference together. In a speech which he made to the members of the Conference, and to which we all "listened with perspiring brows," he informed them that his ground for believing in the sincerity of the Czar was the invariable consideration and hospitality with which he, the Persian representative, had been treated by His Majesty while Minister at St. Petersburg.

* * *

We observe that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* contains a very appreciative review of Mr. J. Stafford Ransome's "Japan in Transition." The *Yomiuri* says that no book has been published in modern days that gives a more vivid picture of Japanese customs, institutions and modes of thought at the present time, and adds that Japanese have very much to learn from the perusal of such works.

* * *

In commemoration of the fact that the cult with which its promoters are connected is no longer to be considered as a religion, the Shintō Jingūkyō organ the *Kyōrin* has changed its name to *Sokoku*, "The Country of our Ancestors." The permission of the Government, the first number states, to consider itself and be treated by the authorities as a body distinct from all religious sects was granted to the Jingūkyō-ha on September 4th. The opening pages of the new magazine contain a statement of the position assumed by the extreme Shintōists, who inform their readers that Japan as a state is superior to all countries and that virtues not found elsewhere are in her possession, and much more in the same line. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō, who may be considered one of the conservative leaders of thought, greets the new publication in words that are very sympathetic, and tells us that Japan is becoming over-occidentalised, and that she must preserve her traditional modes of thought more than she has done or be content to lose her national individuality if not her independence.

* * *

A recent issue of the *Tenchijin* contains a very sensible essay on the importance to Japanese of well-informed foreign opinion on their affairs. We give a short *résumé* of the article. The foreigners whose views were stated by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* some little time ago under the title of "Japan as seen by Foreign Eyes"* were all missionaries or men connected with education. What Japan needs to know is what business men and eminent politicians think of her. In saying this there is no intention of undervaluing the testimony collected and published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, but this needs supplementing by quotations from the writings of economists, statesmen, and merchants. Public opinion on Japan in foreign countries may be said to date from the end of the China-Japan war. Before that Japan had not attracted general attention. Public opinion as expressed to-day may be said to be unanimous on the following points. The Japanese are as a people more intelligent than the Chinese† and have more assimilating power, but in inventive genius they are far behind Europeans; they need to carry out a number of reforms which in order to be efficient should be organised and superintended by foreign experts. This will result in an increase of foreign residents in the country now that mixed residence has commenced. In commercial dealings the Japanese are inferior to the Chinese. The latter fulfil their engagements faithfully and enjoy the confidence of Westerners. But the Japanese are dishonest and are more eager for temporary petty profits than for permanent returns. The writer does not endorse all the above opinions, but he thinks there is some truth in most of them. He adds that there is a general feeling among foreigners that it is better to start new enterprises in China than in Japan. It is thought that Japanese dislike foreigners and that they will hinder the business of foreigners when they can. The final conclusion to which the writer comes is that there are few undertakings likely to attract many foreigners to this country.

* * *

We have been favoured with copies of several numbers of the *Uranishiki*; a literary magazine issued by the Greek Church mission and edited by Mr. Yamada Toyohiko. The title *Uranishiki* (Brocade Lining) implies that the external get up of the periodical is very commonplace, but that its contents are of superior quality. We find, however, that all the ornamental part of the magazine is by no means inside. Among its articles there is one on Nihilism which traces the effects of Nihilism on the position of women in Russia. It maintains that their rights have been asserted successfully by this sect. The writer goes on to discuss the present position of woman in Japan and to urge the the necessity of rendering her more independent. There is also an interesting article on Chinese scholars in Japan. It represents them as quite behind the age and as failing to grasp the real significance of Confucian teaching. It was clearly taught by both Confucius and Mencius, says Mr. Yamada Toyohiko, the writer of the article, that rebellion was justifiable when the Emperor was bad. Confucius says that in order to place a virtuous man (仁者) on the throne, a rising against the reigning monarch is desirable, and Mencius says that a cruel Emperor may not only be deposed but put to death. This doctrine has had much to do with the many changes of Government that China has had, says Mr. Yamada. There have been more than 50 great rebellions during the 2,000 years of China's history. Now it is quite evident that this doctrine is most repulsive to Japanese sentiment, and that though the system of teaching of which it forms a part has been in vogue for centuries in this country, no serious attempt has ever been made to justify or defend in any way the opinion of the two great sages as to the non-sacredness of Imperial authority *per se*. . . . . The system of morality extracted from the Chinese

* Epitomised in two Literary Summaries at the time of their appearance.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† We doubt whether well-informed foreign writers have so expressed themselves.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

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classics by Japanese sinologues is well suited to an unprogressive people and is responsible for many of the evils from which society in China and Japan has suffered; such as polygamy, the vendetta, the low position of women, and the like.

At the close of the article Mr. Yamada discusses the merits of the Japanese sinologues as literary men and comes to the extraordinary conclusion that their work is of no value because they cannot read Chinese as the natives of China do, nor speak the language. What would Mr. Yamada have to say of the Greek and Latin scholars of Europe and America, we wonder. His concluding remarks on this subject seem to us very abusive and altogether unnecessarily severe. The article must be pronounced one-sided.

* * *

Under the title of the "World of Philosophy in Japan," the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* passes in review the various schools of modern philosophy in this country. There is Dr. Katō's Materialism; Dr. Toyama's Evolution, and Dr. Inoue Enryō's Idealism, says the organ we are quoting, but more popular than any of these, is Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō's *Genshō-jitsuzai ron* (現象實在論) "The real existence of Phenomena," which professes to combine the arguments of materialists and idealists into a harmonious whole, reconciling Kant's transcendental idealism with Hartmann's transcendental realism. It cannot be said that the Japanese as a people show much aptitude for philosophical speculation, says the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, but in as far as the study has been carried the above mentioned schools of thought indicate the trend of opinion on the subject.

* * *

The following books have recently appeared. The 俚言集覽, *Rigen Shūran*, is a very full collection of Japanese colloquial sayings, with comments on their origin and their meaning. It is a revised and enlarged edition of the late Mr. Murata Ryoa's well-known work. The revisers were Messrs. Inoue Yorikuni and Kondō Heijō. It has been published at the Kōten-Kōkyū jo, 26 Iida-machi, 5 chōme, Tōkyō. The price in foreign binding is 5 *yen* per copy.

The *Nihon no hito* is a well written and very useful little work from the pen of Dr. Mozume Takami, which in a concise and clear manner portrays the distinctive manners, customs, institutions, sentiments, modes of life and ceremonies of the Japanese people. It is divided into 7 parts, the price is *20 sen*.

The *Fusō Meigwa-den*, as its title implies, is a history of noted Japanese pictures, published by the Tetsugaku Shoin, and selling at 7 *yen* 50 *sen* for the 10 vols. in Japanese binding, or in one volume in foreign style at *yen* 4.80 per copy. The get up of the work is said to be very good.

No. 34 of the *Teikoku Iryakka Zensho*, undergoing publication at the Hakubunkan, is from the pen of Mr. Takayama Rinjirō on Modern Fine Arts. It covers 320 pages and sells at 35 *sen*. It is a history of European modern art, principally English and German, with an account of prevailing views on Esthetics.

* * *

The editor of the *Tenchijin* has interviewed Viscount Watanabe Kunitake and publishes the Viscount's views on current topics under 7 heads, which, abbreviated, may be stated as follows:—(1) England has shown marvellous patience and forbearance in the Transvaal affair. If the negotiations with the Transvaal had been carried on by France or Japan, war would have begun a long time ago. (2) France is not likely to get back Alsaace and Lorraine as long as she adheres to her present form of government. As she is bent on recovering her lost possessions, when a great military leader appears, she will be ready to sacrifice republicanism to her ambition. The man who leads her armies to victory will be created emperor. A people so vain as the French will never remain quiet under a rule that brings no military glory. (3) There has been a good deal of talk in some quarters about an alliance between Japan and China. But no sooner is the situation of the two countries seriously considered than it is seen that an alliance would be of no advantage to us. Neither China's army nor her navy entitles her to look for such an alliance. And her present form of government, which is neither wholly central nor wholly local, but a very inefficient mixture of both, would render an alliance quite inefficacious as regards reforms. Then her means of communication with different parts of her huge territory are wholly inadequate and would make anything like organised operations such as would be required to avert a crisis quite impossible. China may be compared to an animal that has a tail which is too big to be wagged. Its remote provinces are quite beyond the control of the central government. The Chinese government would have to be reorganised in order to enable us to effect any great purpose, supposing that we were allied to China, but the difficulties in the way of effecting such a reorganisation are enormous. The best thing for China would be for her to be split up into two or three independent states. (4) The rejection of the Monroe doctrine by the United States and her adoption of an Imperial policy is one of the most striking events of modern history, what will in the next century prove to be fraught with far reaching consequences. This policy has been forced on America by the spirit of the times. (5) It is too early as yet to judge of the results of the colonisation experiment on which we have entered in Formosa. Colonising is slow work, and thirty years at least must elapse before we can undertake to pronounce an opinion on the enterprise. Bismarck's motto for colonists was, "Get the power into your own hands, but in the matter of customs conform to native ways." This must be our policy in Formosa. The Chinese are quite indifferent as to who exercises authority, but they are great sticklers for native customs. (6) The question of race has been much discussed of late and some maintain that certain races are inherently superior to other races and that this superiority entitles them to assume authority over their less richly endowed fellow-men. Considered from a philosophical point of view, this theory is untenable. In Europe it was a doctrine that originated with Hegel, who used it for the purpose of forwarding the cause of German unity. In England the theory has never been popular, one reason being perhaps that the English are a very mixed race of people. Race prejudice and colour prejudice are alike unscientific. The notion that natural endowments are to be guaged by examining the colour of the skin is quite absurd. Whatever may be written on this subject, the real struggle of the future will not be between people of different races but between the possessors of physical forces, of whatever race they may be. (7) As the most advanced type of civilisation progresses the world seems to grow smaller. The interests of nations are so bound up with each other that no political event takes place but it has far-reaching consequences. No nation that expects to maintain its independence can afford to ignore what is going on in other countries. Japan's political parties need to learn how to act as one man when matters of foreign policy are concerned. It is no time for magnifying party differences. In minor matters it is impossible to be satisfied with the programme of any party. There must be compromise on every hand and this principle should be carried to the extent of uniting all parties when an important measure connected with our foreign policy is on the tapis.

FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS.

As "Student" in his communication of Nov. 1st does not even attempt to refute my deductions, I may limit my reply to a few points.

1. I take exception to "Student's" misquoting my words. First he asserted that I had defined *kumiai* to be an association for purposes of profit, which I obviously never did, and now again he says that I translated the word *shadan* by "association for purposes of profit," which also I never did. The words which I translated in that way are "*eri wo mokuteki to suru shadan*." Such mistakes are awkward and ought to be avoided by a careful writer.

2. I never hide myself behind other men's authority, and I mentioned Dr. Ume's name only because he is the *sole* framer of the ordinance in question and therefore ought to know best what its meaning is. It is a pity that "Student" cannot name his "authorities of equal weight." I should have liked to know how far the misunderstanding of Japanese laws goes in the heads of the Japanese themselves.

3. The manner in which the word "partnership" is expressed in the Japanese translation of the English treaty cannot be made use of for interpreting the technical terms of the new Codes, for these were made *after* the treaties had been concluded. Therefore the technical terms very often do not agree. A striking example is that of "lease" and "superficies," which latter right,—although being the most important of all rights obtainable by foreigners—is not even mentioned in the English treaty; nevertheless the English assert that "superficies" is granted to them under the title of "lease."

4. The provisions of Art. 35 of the Civil Code do not, as "Student" believes, apply to *Kwaisha*. The manner in which a *Kwaisha* comes into existence is exclusively regulated by the *Commercial* Code. Hence it cannot be said that by Ordinance 272 a discrimination would be made between foreigners and Japanese, for Japanese partnerships *must* register as well as foreign partnerships. The Ordinance is of course incomprehensible if interpreted in a wrong manner, but it is as well comprehensible as it is defensible, if it is understood in the manner intended by its author. All these apparent difficulties are a mere consequence of the mistranslation of *gōmeikwaisha*. They disappear at once, if one acknowledges that *gōmeikwaisha* and not *kumiai* is the correlative of foreign *commercial partnership*. As I pointed out in my first communication, in Japanese law as well as in German law a fundamental distinction is made between contracts having effect only between the parties themselves and contracts having effect as against third persons. A *kumiai*, like a gift, a loan, a sale, is a private agreement between two or more persons from which rights and duties arise as between themselves, but third

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persons are not affected thereby. A German, French, Japanese, Scottish and even English commercial partnership creates rights and duties not only between the parties, but also as to third persons. Such commercial partnerships have a special firm-name which is protected against use by others; they may sue and be sued as such; special rules are made as to the right of representation, the direct and illimited responsibility of each single partner to the creditors of the firm, the time when a partner may retire, etc. All these provisions are found in the English Partnership Act of 1890 and in the German, French and Japanese *Commercial* Code, but *are not found in the section of the Civil Code* relating to *kumiai*, which, by the bye, contains only 21 articles, while those relating to *gōmei*-and *gōshi-kwaisha* number more than seventy. To carry on a commercial business as a *kumiai* would mean going back to the middle ages. In modern law it is simply a matter of impossibility that a *Commercial* Code should be made without containing special provisions as to the most important *commercial* associations, namely partnerships. To put them in the *Civil* Code under the same heading with pleasure clubs, charity associations, etc., would be the culmination of legal preposterousness, and the Japanese legislator has of course never even dreamt of committing such a gross mistake. The fact that *commercial* business in Japan can be done only under the provisions of the *Commercial* Code is so beyond all question that to advise a foreign firm not to register would be simply unpardonable. Happily a great number of foreign firms have already registered, and I am sure that the English merchants will also in this matter act with the common sense which is such a prominent part of the national English character.

Dr. L. LOENHOLM.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SPY MANIA IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly listen for a moment to a tale of woe?

I went yesterday, not for the first time, to the annual festival of the 3rd regiment of the Imperial Guards at their barracks in Akasaka. With me was a distinguished foreigner and also a Japanese secretary.

I had received cards of admission from an unknown source.

Such festivals are dreary enough, but as correspondent of a great New York journal I have to find something of interest to American readers, and this time I really found it.

We were walking about the grounds watching some fencing and other sports when we were accosted by a Major who, with the utmost rudeness, marched us out of the grounds, not accepting our cards, but detaining the secretary to inquire, behind our backs, as to our identity. We were not made to "walk Spanish" but something very near it. It is not pleasant to an invited guest to be ejected from the place of festivities amid the jeers and unfriendly looks of several thousands of people.

This over-nervousness of the Japanese and the turning of Japan into an armed camp in times of peace is acting unfavourably in many directions. A distinguished foreigner and one whom the Japanese delight to honour said to me the other day: "The visitors from foreign lands are now suffering so many restrictions that I am advising my friends abroad not to come here, but to seek recreation and business in some other land."

I can give two illustrations of what he meant.

In August, far in the country and far from any fortifications, I was attending, at the invitation of the Mayor of the place, a village *Matsuri*, and seated in the front row of the grand stand was photographing some rustic wrestlers. In the midst of my work I was suddenly pounced upon by the ubiquitous "man in white." A very long and disagreeable quarter of an hour followed, and had it not been for the presence of a Japanese secretary and his unlimited credit for *sake* I should probably have been in jail to-day. The place, it seems, was *tabu*, and it took a long argument to prove that I was not a Russian.

Why such nervousness exists in regard to Russians I cannot understand. It is ridiculous to suppose that the Russians have not complete plans of all the fortifications in Japan. In these times of cheap bribery it is not even necessary for any Russian to come here.

Apropos of the above I give my second illustration.

A well-known gentleman, more than thirty years a resident of Japan, was taking some photographs not far from Kure. He also was seized by the "minions of the law" and his camera confiscated. When asked what he had "taken" he replied, "A cow and some women and children" As they shook their heads at this he remarked, "What I have here is nothing, but a short time ago I had in my possession complete plans of Kure, Yokosuka, and several other places."

"But how were you able to secure these?"

I received them as a present from the Admiralty."

"Where are they now?"

"They are at present in the hands of the ——Legation."

The law's representatives were so overcome with horror and perplexity that they allowed their prisoners to depart. The above is somewhat trivial, of course, but worthy of attention. Japan is so strong, so united, so noble that she can maintain her position against all odds without the aid of petty restrictions.

Yours, etc. A. WOOD.

EXEMPTION FROM CONSCRIPTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—In the *Japan Mail* of Sept. 23, you state that exemption from conscription is not denied to students of schools in which religious instruction is given. Will you kindly give the grounds for the statement? It seems that such exemption is given only to students of "schools whose curricula are regulated by law," in which schools religious instruction is forbidden.

Will you also please give the result of the interview of representatives of Christian schools with the Minister of Education held on Oct. 2?

Truly yours, F. M.

WINTON HOUSE BOYS' SCHOOL SPORTS.

There was a fair attendance of friends and parents assembled on the Cricket Ground on Thursday to witness the Winton House Boys' sports. The various events were well contested, and in some instances gave rise to exciting finishes as well as unlooked for results. At the close of the sports, the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. James Walter, assisted by Messrs. A. S. Boyle and A. V. Woodward.

The officers of the day were:—Referees: A. S. Boyle, A. V. Woodward, and C. J. Copmann Handicappers: J. H. Drummond and A. V. O. Woodward. Clerks of the Course: M. Walter and G. Morriss. Starter; J. F. Drummond. Time-keeper: A. V. O. Woodward.

1. CHAMPION 100 YARDS.—Three competed, and the race resulted in a win for F. Herb, with G. L. Graham a close second. Time, 12½ seconds.

2. LONG JUMP.—Eleven competed and the result was a win for G. Irwine, 14 feet 1 inch, and R. Loomis second, 14 feet, both receiving some 2 ft. handicap.

3. 50 YARDS FOR BOYS UNDER 11 YARDS.—Nine boys put in an appearance and the race was run in heats:—1st: 1, H. Bell, 2, R. Box; 2nd: 1, T. Thompson, 2, H. St. John. The final proved an easy win for H. Bell with H. St. John second. Time. 8⅘ secs.

400 YARDS FLAT RACE.—Ten started at the word "go" and the result was an easy win for F. Herb, with C. J. Copmann in second place. Time, 26 seconds.

5. PUTTING THE SHOT.—Six competed and the event was won by F. Herb with a throw of 28 feet 9 inches. J. L. Graham second with 25 feet 6 inches.

6. HIGH JUMP.—This event proved very interesting and was competed for by seven lads. The result was a win for J. L. Graham, who cleared 4 feet 7 inches, with E. Dentici second, 4 feet 1 inch (with handicap 4′ 3″).

7. QUARTER MILE FLAT.—Seven started. An easy win for J. L. Graham in 1 minute and 8⅘ seconds, with G. Morriss second.

8. ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE (for small boys).—Three competed. R. St. John, though pretty heavily handicapped, won a good race in 3 minutes and 35 9/10 seconds. C. Ribeiro second, and N. Fearon third.

9. 100 YARDS FLAT.—Fourteen entrants appeared on the line and the race was run off in heats: 1st: 1 F. Herb, 2 J. E. Drummond 2nd: 1 C. J. Copmann C. Watson; M. Walter being reserved by lot for the last heat. F. Herb retired, and the race was won in 12 7/10 seconds by M. Walter, with C. Copmann in second place a foot or so behind. The win was enthusiastically received.

10. THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.—Nine competitors. A popular win for J. E. Drummond with a throw of 182 feet, F. Herb a close second with 181 feet.

11. HURDLE RACE.—Six started. Won by J. L. Graham in 19⅘ seconds, with J. E. Drummond a very close second.

12. THREE-LEGGED RACE.—Six pairs started and the race was won by a couple of little tots: N. Fearon and H. St. John. The second pair, M. Walter and J. E. Drummond, could have claimed a dead heat, but preferred to declare for second place.

13. TWO MILES BICYCLE RACE.—Five went off at the fall of the handkerchief. The event proved very exciting to all present, being the race of the day in a measure. The result was a very close finish between J. L. Graham first and G. Morriss second. Time, 6 minutes 6 7/10 seconds.

14. This should have been the sack race, but a race for girls was run instead. Nine competed, and the race resulted in a win for Miss R. Cameron, with Miss Walter in second place.

15. OBSTACLE RACE.—Again the boys preferred to compete in a thread and needle race, and the result was a win by J. E. Drummond, his needle being threaded by Miss Rosie Cameron, with R. Bell second, Mrs. Eastlake threading his needle. The prizes went to the ladies.

16. CONSOLATION RACE.—This was won by C. W. Watson, with F. Bunting a good second.

Three cheers in honour of Mrs. Walter and the ladies concluded the proceedings.

SUDDEN DEATH IN THE HARBOUR

Peculiarly sad is the death of Mr. T. T. Thomsen, third officer of the N.Y.K. European-liner *Sanuki Maru*. The deceased, who had risen to the command of a British India steamer, was invalided home some years ago, after long service on the Indian coast. Embarking his savings in a small shipping company he saw them all swept away and had to start life afresh with a wife and five children dependant on him. He obtained this summer employment in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and won the regard of all with whom he came in contact. On the voyage out he complained at times of indigestion, but no disquieting symptoms presented themselves. On Monday evening he retired about 7.30 o'clock apparently in the best of health and spirits. Twelve hours later a steward entering his cabin found him dead upon the floor, death being due to heart failure. The remains were interred in Yokohama cemetery.

Another shipmate, the second engineer of the *Sanuki Maru* (Mr. R. Grant), who was left behind ill at Colombo this voyage, died at the Hospital there on the 14th October.

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NEW LIGHT ON THE CASE OF "SHYLOCK v. ANTONIO."

[EDITED AND REVISED BY TEMPLE BARRE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Engrossed as I am, alike by inclination and the calls of my profession, in the study of law, it gives me keen pleasure to be able to add to the roll of leading cases one which, I think I may fairly claim, presents points of interest to the legal reader in no way inferior to any of the numerous causes recorded in the *Law Journal Reports*. My discovery of a fairly complete, and, I believe, wholly trustworthy report of the exceedingly interesting action of "Shylock v. Antonio" was the result of a happy chance. I happened to be looking over a number of old books I had bought from a second hand dealer's when there fell from between the pages of a ponderous leather-covered volume an old, yellow moth-eaten newspaper. It bore the date June 13th, 1587, and was entitled *Ye London Halberde*. Beneath the title was a motto in shocking Latin, and above, in very large letters, these words, the meaning of which is obscure to me :

"See *ye* fifth payge *fr* oure grayte
Shylocke Scoope. *Ye Halberde* always
Scoares inne gilt-edged Items."

This I take to be some kind of advertisement calling attention to the extremely interesting report in another part of the paper of the great trial in the Ducal Supreme Court at Venice. This was evidently quite a marvel of reporting for Elizabethan times, and *Ye Halberde* was apparently very proud of its performance, for there was a flowery descriptive introduction, in a style worthy of Sir Piercie Shafton, a solemn leading article, and an editorial "crow" (if I may be permitted the expression) over a rival paper. The latter bears so curious a resemblance, verbal differences apart, to similar productions of the present century that I make no apology for reproducing it *in extenso* :—

"YE HALBERDE" SCOOPES AGAYNE.

Soe manye a tyme hath this journall smytten hippe and thyghe *ye* contemptible ragge publyshed over againste Playhouse Yarde atte *ye* Sygne of *ye* Blew Lyon (whereatte doe congregate freelie alle *ye* notorious roags on towne, Falstaffe, Bardolphe, and others with whom *ye* staffe of *ye City Pike* drink continuallie) that it seemeth but fittynge that we should now be dayes ahead of that benyghted sheete. Ye "copie" of *ye* interestinge despatch from oure specialle correspondent, obtayned at an expense which sore dystresseth oure cashiere, was despatched from Venice *ye* 7th daye of June per speciale courieur, and he hath arrived here on *ye* 12th daye—marvellous quick time even in this hurrye-scurrye age. Oure contemporarie *ye Pike* hath made *ye* most desperate efforts to get their copye across, but, odds boddikins, *ye* barren knaves' plans went awry. Our speciale correspondent, inspired by all *ye* wysdome of Minerva, sought out *ye Pike's* courieur, and got hold of the scurvie rogue, and gave to him good store of sack, "with poppy and mandragora and other drowsy syruppes of *ye* East" therein (as good Master William Shakespeare says in his cleverly written romantic drama "Othello *ye* moore of Venice," now playinge with such huge successe at *ye* Globe. It is indeed a great playe, and no one with pretensions to taste can afforde to miss a sighte thereof. Ye caste appeareth in our advt. columns.) And when the jowlt-head knave was fast asleepe *Ye Halberd* manne caused him to be taken down to *ye* Rialto, and shipped him aboard a Barbary corsair, so that mayhappen they be now reading *ye Pike's* exclusive report in Tunis or Salee. There be, as good Master William saith, more things in Heaven and earthe than be dreamed of in *ye Pike's* philosophie.

Ye above is but another example of *Ye Halberde's* enterprise and determination to be

"FIRST IN NEWS."

Look out for special next week on Philip's Armada Preparations—a Danger to *ye* Empire."

The report itself is very *fin-de-siècle* in tone, and I have below reproduced the original with no alteration beyond the modernisation of the spelling. It will be seen that this report supplies information just on those points to which Shakespeare, whose version of the trial is the only one that has been so far accessible to the public, has failed to give sufficient attention. No one will deny that Shakespeare was a writer of great industry and some literary distinction. But he had his limitations. His account of the trial is incomplete; it bears decidedly the taint of prejudice, and the writer seems utterly unable to distinguish between important legal points and mere worthless gossip. Shakespeare, indeed, had a knack of seizing on quite immaterial incidents—the conversation of spectators in Court, the *sotto voce* remarks of witnesses, the chatter of door-keepers and clerks. No man, either, ever relied more innocently than Shakespeare on all kinds of mere *ex parte* statements, unsupported, so far as one can see, by the slightest vestige of evidence. While, therefore, not in any way desiring to belittle the performance of an author whose reputation is deservedly high, I must claim that, from a legal student's point of view, the account of the *London Halberde* is decidedly more valuable than the sketchy, though admittedly well written version of the poet. Without further comment I will proceed to quote the report as it stands :—

THE GREAT POUND OF FLESH CASE.

SENSATIONAL TRIAL—PLAINTIFF'S DRAMATIC DEFEAT.

DISGRACEFUL DISPLAY OF ANTI-SEMITIC PREJUDICE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Venice, June 7.

The remarkable and dramatic case of Shylock v. Antonio came on for hearing to-day in the Ducal Supreme Court, Doge's Division, No. 1, before the Duke and Messrs. Macaroni, Vermicelli, and Tutti Frutti, sitting as Magnificoes. The facts were singular. The defendant, a highly respectable merchant of this city, had contracted a large debt with the plaintiff, and in the document of acknowledgment Mr. Shylock, who is a member of the Jewish community, had inserted a clause providing that in the event of the debt not being liquidated within the time stated defendant should allow him (plaintiff) to cut a pound of flesh from next his heart. Owing to monetary misfortunes of which Mr. Antonio has been the victim the conditions were not fulfilled, and plaintiff now claimed a specific performance of the penalty, declining to accept the money paid into court by defendant's friend Mr. Bassanio. The case aroused immense interest. All the smart people of Venice were to be noted, and many distinguished foreigners were also present. Among them was Master William Shakespeare, who is on very friendly terms with Antonio, and who watched the proceedings with keen interest. It is possible that this fertile playwright may have found here a striking *motif* for one of his successful melodramas.

Their lordships took their seats at 10.5 a.m.

Mr. Moses Abrahams appeared for the plaintiff. Defendant was unrepresented.

The Duke enquired if Antonio was present.

Defendant—Ready, so please your grace.

The Duke—I am sorry for you, Antonio, for I regard your case as one of very undeserved misfortune. I regret to say that your prospects are gloomy. You are come to answer a stony adversary—an inhuman wretch. He is incapable of pity. In fact, I do not think I make use of too emphatic language when I say the plaintiff is void and empty of any dram of mercy.

Mr. Abrahams—Really, my lord, I must object. The remarks which have just fallen from your lordship show, I submit, a very strong bias against my client, and if your lordship were sitting with a Jury they would be absolutely fatal to my case. I submit that your lordship is not justified in applying these terms to my client. Mr. Shylock is well known and highly respected in Venice. He is a man of great wealth and consideration, and if any testimony were needed as to his character I am sure the Rabbi and elders of the South Rialto Synagogue, where Mr. Shylock hands round the psalm books, would speak most highly of him. I submit that your lordship's words were most improper.

The Duke (severely)—This Court is not accustomed to being lectured by counsel, Mr. Abrahams. I beg you to moderate your language.

Mr. Abrahams—I beg your lordship's pardon, if I have been too blunt, my lord. But—

The Duke (sternly)—That will do, Sir.

The incident then terminated.

The Duke (to Antonio)—What do you propose to do?

Defendant—Since he stands obdurate, and no lawful means can carry me out of his envy's reach, I do oppose my patience to his fury, and am armed to suffer with a quietness of spirit the very tyranny and rage of his.

Mr. Abrahams—May I make one request, my lud?

His lordship (testily)—What is it?

Mr. Abrahams—That the witness be not allowed to speak in blank verse. It's most irritating.

His lordship—Your request is frivolous, Mr. Abrahams. I occasionally speak in blank verse myself, and I can hardly deny others the liberty I allow myself. Call Shylock.

Shylock then appeared. He was a tall, withered-looking man, with a large nose and long grey beard, and was dressed in a Jewish gaberdine. He had a determined looking and intelligent face, and throughout bore himself in most uncompromising fashion. As I have had occasion to remark before, the arrangement of the Courts at Venice is a disgrace to a Power that calls itself civilised. There is no proper witness box or press table, and Shylock, when he entered the Court, found himself among a perfect throng of loungers, who obstructed his passage. The Duke had to cry out quite sharply "Make room, and let him stand before our face," before the crowd gave way.

When Shylock had got as far as the barristers' table the Duke addressed a few words to him; urging him to effect an amicable settlement. He said it was the general opinion—and he might add that it was also his lordship's opinion—that this was only plaintiff's little joke, and that now the case had gone so far he would "show his mercy and remorse more strange than was his strange apparent cruelty." He (the learned judge) did not wish to dictate, but he would suggest that plaintiff should relinquish his claim to the pound of flesh and also to one half the money he had lent to Antonio (Plaintiff was observed to smile and shake his head with emphasis). Defendant's trade losses, his lordship continued, had been of late enough to press a royal merchant down, and to awaken a sense of compassion in brassy bosoms and rough hearts of flint. Even stubborn Turks and Tartars, whose humanitarian qualities were universally considered to be in a state of arrested development, might well be moved by this spectacle of undeserved misfortune. The Court expected a gentle answer from the plaintiff.

Shylock, speaking in a loud and incisive voice, intimated that he demanded the full penalty provided in the bond. He made a long rambling statement, in which he frequently wandered from the point, and his language was often rude, if not actually improper. Some of his expressions, and notably an illustrative remark concerning bagpipes, it would be impossible to reproduce in the pages of a family journal. The effect of the whole harangue was that if he preferred a pound of carrion flesh to 3,000 ducats, it was his own affair.

His lordship—By that expression "a pound of carrion flesh" do you refer to the penalty named in the bond? I mean Mr. Antonio's flesh.

Defendant—Yes.

His lordship—Then please withdraw that expression. I will not have such language used in my court. This is not a police court, sir.

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After some further remarks, Mr. Antonio intimated that he preferred to give up the defence, and wished judgment to be entered against him. He recognised that he had no legal ground of defence, and as to appealing to the plaintiff's higher feelings, to his compassion and humanity, that was manifestly useless. If his lordship would permit a simile, such a task would be as profitless as to stand upon the beach and bid the main flood bate his usual height; or to interrogate the wolf as to his motives for making the ewe bleat for the lamb. They might, indeed, as well ask the mountain pines to wag their high tops and yet make no noise when they were fretted, if he might be allowed so strong an expression, by the gusts of heaven. In a word, not to weary the Court with too many figures of speech, they might as well try anything most hard as try to soften that than which what was harder—he referred to the Jewish heart of the plaintiff in this action. Therefore he wished for judgment at once.

Mr. Bassanio here renewed his offer of 6,000 ducats, but plaintiff declined.

Mr. Abrahams—The court has listened so far with patience, my lord, but I submit that all this is quite irregular. Nothing is yet in evidence before the Court, and even the bond which forms the subject of the dispute has not been put in. The action of Mr. Antonio in withdrawing from the defence of course simplifies matters, but even so I take it your lordship wishes to have at least some evidence on oath. I propose to call the plaintiff, Mr. Shylock, to speak to the bond.

The Duke—Upon my power, I may dismiss this Court, unless Bellario, a learned Doctor, comes here to-day.

Mr. Abrahams—I confess, my lord, that such a ruling fills me with astonishment. I submit to your lordship that to adjourn simply because learned counsel has not thought fit to attend would be placing far too liberal an interpretation on the rules of this Court. Mr. Bellario, I believe, would, if he were present, represent the other side. Well, your lordship, I submit that the defence has had ample time to prepare its case, and if its case is not completed it is clearly no business of this court's. Surely it was never contemplated by the laws of Venice that the sittings of the Supreme Court should be altered or adjourned in this manner to suit the convenience of counsel. I call your lordship's attention to No. XXV of Doge Alberti Monumenti, Sec. 15. cap 3, which I think throws some light on the point. At any rate, I must oppose any proposal for an adjournment.

His lordship said he would make a note of the objection.

At this moment a messenger arrived from Padua, with a letter which the Duke directed to be put in and marked exhibit A. As read by the clerk of the Court, Mr. S'Accommodi, it simply stated that Mr. Bellario himself was unable to attend, but that he had asked a young barrister of Padua, Mrs. Balthazar, to take up the case.

While the letter was being read Shylock was observed to be ostentatiously sharpening a pocket-knife on his boot, and on being asked by Bassanio why he did so, he remarked that he was about "to cut the forfeiture from that bankrout (meaning Mr. Antonio) there." Mr. Gratiano thereupon used some very violent and unbecoming language towards the plaintiff. Indeed, some of his remarks were of such a nature that I cannot possibly reproduce them. At Bow Street they would have entailed a succession of five shilling fines, but here in Venice, which boasts so much of its culture and civilisation, this disgraceful exhibition caused literally no comment whatever. Indeed, that is no matter for surprise, for the language used among the best society in this city would disgrace a company of London coal-heavers.

At length the door leading from the barristers' dressing room opened, and Mr. Balthazar appeared. He is quite a young man, clean shaven, and with a singularly musical, almost feminine voice. He must have been "called," I should imagine, at little more than thirteen or fourteen years of age, for I am assured that he is now enjoying a large and lucrative practice—especially at the Parliamentary Bar—and his present age cannot be more than twenty. Truly a most remarkable case of precocious talent. Mr. Balthazar received a cordial greeting from the Duke, who shook hands with him from the bench, after which counsel took his seat at the barristers' table.

His lordship asked if Mr. Balthazar was acquainted with the facts.

Mr. Balthazar—Certainly, my lord, I have had an opportunity of reading my brief through on the journey. Which is the merchant here and which the Jew?

His lordship (to the parties)—Antonio and old Shylock, both stand forth.

Mr. Abrahams—I must again protest, my lord, against the evident bias which your lordship exhibits in every word and expression as against my client. I contend that the expression "old Shylock" is not respectful, and shows a prejudice against the plaintiff in this action. I am far from denying that Mr. Shylock is no longer young, that in point of fact he may be with truth termed mature, but I do submit that to refer to him as "old Shylock" is at once insulting to him and unbecoming the dignity of this honourable Court.

His lordship—Really, Mr. Abrahams, this is frivolous. I warn you to be very careful. You are exhausting our patience.

Mr. Abrahams—I crave your lordship's indulgence. But there is one other point to which I should wish to draw your lordship's attention. I don't know if I clearly understand my learned young friend's position—no notice whatever has been given me—but I gather that he is acting for the defence. If that be so, I must really raise an objection. Your lordship is aware that by the rules of this Court no gentleman is admitted to plead whose name is not entered on the roll of this City, and I submit that it would be most improper to allow a practitioner from Padua to take up cases in this manner in the Courts of Venice. It would surely be opening the door to every kind of malpractice. I don't know that I need address any argument to your lordship on so obvious a point, but if your lordship will look at the Rules of Procedure, page 534 (my edition is 1586) you will find a very definite ruling which, I contend, clearly shows that Mr. Balthazar can have no *locus standi* here.

His lordship looked up the point, and eventually decided against Mr. Abrahams.

Mr. Abrahams—Then I must ask your lordship to make a note of my objection. It will be most important in the event of the case going to appeal.

His lordship said he would do so.

Mr. Balthazar then commenced to examine plaintiff, despite Mr. Abrahams' protest that such a course was quite irregular.

Mr. Balthazar—Is your name Shylock?

Plaintiff—Shylock is my name.

Mr. Balthazar—Christian name?

Plaintiff (with great disgust)—What should *I* do with a Christian name? I am of the tribe of Benjamin.

Mr. Balthazar—Ah, I forgot. Well, your suit, you know, is a very peculiar nature. Yet, I must confess, you have a very strong legal position, and as you proceed, the Venetian law, as far as I can see, cannot impugn you. (To Antonio) You stand within his danger, do you not?

Defendant—Ay, so he says.

Mr. Balthazar—Do you confess the bond?

Defendant—I do.

Mr. Balthazar—Then must the Jew be merciful.

Plaintiff—On what compulsion must I? Tell me that.

Mr. Balthazar pointed out that the quality of mercy was not strained, and that it dropped as the gentle rain from heaven upon the earth beneath. He was proceeding to elaborate this argument at considerable length when

Mr. Abrahams rose to object. He said it was with great regret that he did so. He liked to let learned counsel open their cases as they thought fit, and if Mr. Balthazar had not passed all reasonable limits he (Mr. Abrahams) would have remained silent. But when such utterly objectless irrelevancies were introduced he had no option; he really must object. What *could* the gentle rain from heaven have to do with an agreement legally signed, sealed, and delivered, and properly stamped and witnessed?

His lordship—I think, Mr. Abrahams, it will be better if I at once indicate to you the state of my mind. I do not say that this is exactly relevant for the moment but—ah—hum—that is well—ah,————it may *lead* to something relevant. I will let counsel proceed until I find him touching on quite improper ground.

Mr. Abrahams (with evident impatience)—As your lordship pleases.

Mr. Balthazar then proceeded with his argument, but it was so utterly beside the question that I have not considered it worth while to even give the merest sketch. It is characteristic of Continental Courts that flimsy rhetoric frequently—I might almost say in the majority of cases—takes the place of solid argument. The effect of the speech was that, in the words of the learned counsel, mercy should season justice. Finally, Mr. Balthazar, turning to plaintiff, said: "Therefore, Jew, though justice be thy plea, consider this, that in the course of justice none of us should see salvation; we do pray for mercy————."

His lordship—Please address yourself to the Court, Mr. Balthazar; you are addressing the plaintiff at present. That is against the practice in this Court.

Mr. Balthazar, thus cut short, concluded his remarks rather abruptly by saying that, if plaintiff insisted on justice the Court must needs give judgment accordingly.

This statement gave great satisfaction to the plaintiff, who several times ejaculated "A Daniel come to judgment; yea, a Daniel!"

His lordship—Usher!

Usher—Yes, my lord.

His lordship—Tell the plaintiff to be quiet. We really cannot have these ejaculations. I will not have my Court turned into a bear garden.

Mr. Balthazar then asked to see the bond, and, having read it, said the terms were precise, and no fault could be found with the instrument. He asked plaintiff, however, to accept the money paid into Court, and not to insist on the bond being carried into effect.

Plaintiff, however, absolutely declined; he said he simply wanted judgment.

Defendant also remarked that he, too, wished for no further delay.

Mr. Balthazar (to defendant)—Then thus it is; you must prepare your bosom for his knife.

Plaintiff—O noble judge, O excellent young man!

Usher—Silence in Court there.

Mr. Balthazar was proceeding to give his grounds for this decision, when

Mr. Abrahams rose. He said he was glad to find that himself and his learned young friend were entirely in accord in their interpretation of the bond, and therefore he had little to say beyond that he must express his admiration for the acumen and ability which their distinguished visitor from Padua had exhibited so conspicuously. But, as a question of Court practice, he would ask whether it was really within Mr. Balthazar's competence as an advocate to pass judgment in this manner? Was it not rather the duty of the Bench? Of course the practice in Padua might differ very widely from their own, but personally he did not remember one case in Venice where counsel had proceeded to give judgment. He (Mr. Abrahams) naturally wished to throw no obstacle in the way of so extremely satisfactory a conclusion of the case as Mr. Balthazar had suggested, but he thought the judgment should come from the Court itself and not from counsel.

His lordship—Your objection appears to be groundless, Mr. Abrahams. For dramatic purposes it is quite necessary that Mr. Balthazar should render the judgment. Still, I will make a note of it.

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Defendant then proceeded to say good-bye to his friends, as it appeared that the surgical portion of the judgment was to be performed immediately and *coram populo*. Plaintiff meanwhile drew his pocket knife, and bade defendant "prepare."

Mr. Balthazar said there was, however, one other point to be considered. The bond gave defendant no drop of blood. The words were "one pound of flesh;" there was no explicit mention of blood, and he contended that in view of the exceedingly exact wording of the instrument they could not regard this as an omission that might be supplied by inference. The position was therefore this. Plaintiff could take his bond, he could take his pound of flesh, but in cutting it if he shed one drop of blood then, according to Venetian law, he incurred the death penalty, as well as confiscation of his goods.

Plaintiff (with evident dissatisfaction)—Is that the law?

Mr. Balthazar—Thyself shall see the Act.

Mr. Abrahams—Can you give us the reference for that?

Mr. Balthazar—I don't remember it exactly, but you may take my assurance.

Mr. Abrahams—My lord, I really must protest. Counsel makes a bald statement wholly unsupported by authority. I submit that all this is the merest quibble. It is understood that a pound of a flesh cannot be detached from a man's chest without the shedding of blood, and both parties at the time they signed the agreement were fully aware of that very elementary fact. It is not the mere wording of a document that is important, but the sense in which both parties may be reasonably expected to understand it. How would it be possible to include everything in an agreement? I sell a man a house, without mentioning the moss on the garden walls. Can he afterwards consider the agreement invalidated because I forgot to mention that moss? There is a case of Miggs v. Smiler which is in some sense a precedent, and to this I would call your lordship's attention.

His lordship—This Court, Mr. Abrahams, cares nothing about precedents.

Mr. Abrahams—But as a question of common sense?

His lordship—This Court cares nothing about common sense. Sit down, Sir.

Plaintiff said if this was the law he would withdraw from the case. Let him be paid the amount due, and he would agree to the case being struck off the list.

Mr. Balthazar said that would not do. Plaintiff had attempted the life of a citizen of Venice, and under the very peculiar enactments of that Republic he was liable to death, and his property to forfeiture, half to go to Antonio, and the other half to the State.

This announcement was the signal for a shocking exhibition of anti-Semitic feeling, several of the spectators loudly jeering the unfortunate plaintiff within full hearing of the Judges, who, however, took absolutely no notice, appearing, indeed, to be almost as well satisfied as the common people at Shylock's defeat. What can be expected of the populace when the leaders of the State so far forget themselves?

On the application of the defendant, who really showed a very praiseworthy generosity in the matter, the plaintiff's life was spared, and he was allowed a life interest in one half of his estate, (the other half of course going to Antonio) on condition that he bequeathed it at death to his daughter, Mrs. Lorenzo, who is said to have married a Christian, much to her father's dissatisfaction.

Plaintiff agreed to sign the necessary papers, and the Court then rose, Mr. Balthazar declining an invitation to dinner from the Duke on the ground that he had to take the night train for Padua.

Later.

It is rumoured that Mr. Balthazar, whose forensic abilities made so good an impression here, is no other than Mrs. Portia Bassanio, whose recent marriage to Mr. Bassanio of this City caused so much gossip in social circles. I have not been able so far to obtain confirmation of the report, but Master Shakespeare, who is very friendly with the Bassanio family, says he is sure of it. He says it is just the kind of thing Mrs. Bassanio would delight in doing. I give the rumour for what it is worth.

So far our report. In the leading columns of the same issue there is a very trenchant article denouncing the whole trial as a farce, alleging partiality on the part of the judges, and describing the plea of Mr. Balthazar as the most rubbishy quibble on record. It also alludes to the deplorable anti-Semitic feeling which was at the bottom of the Court's decision, and rejoices that "there is at least one country in the world where justice is free from corruption and religion from superstition, where simple piety and the primitive Christian virtues flourish untainted by bigotry, and unspoiled by intolerance, where race jealousies are unknown, and where Catholics and Protestants, Jews and Mussulmans, grasp each other's hands in frank friendship, and recognise that in spite of differences in creed, colour, race, and religious belief there is a common brotherhood between them all." It was very impressive, that leader. And casting my eye over the pages of the paper I saw these three headlines—"Twenty Jesuits Roasted at Lincoln," "Big Lynching Affair at York—A hundred Jews Killed," and "Shocking corruption in the High Court—Arrest of the Lord Chancellor." England was apparently quite as moral (over other people's failings) in Elizabethan times as she is to-day. E. R. T.

AMERICAN NOTES.

All hope of improving the Erie canal in such a way as to make it an efficient waterway has evidently not been abandoned by New York business men, remarks *Bradstreets*. At the first fall meeting of the Chamber of Commerce the committee on internal trade and improvements submitted a report favouring the enlargement of the present locks on the Erie canal at once to a length of 260 feet, a width of 26 feet and a depth of 11 feet. This plan would permit the use of boats of increased width and length and having a capacity of 14,000 bushels of wheat instead of 8,000, as at present. The project presented would entail an expense of about $6,000,000, but it is estimated that the use of the boats it is intended to accommodate would result in a saving of 1.1 cents per bushel in the transportation of wheat, or a reduction to 1 mill per ton mile. The report of the committee was adopted by the Chamber, and it is likely that the plan proposed will be heard from in the legislature at the next session.

Insurance men, remarks a financial journal of note, have been much interested in the suit brought some time ago by one Creef, a policy holder in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, to compel the company to divide its surplus annually among its policy holders. At a special term of the Supreme Court the sitting judge sustained a demurrer by the company, but this judgment was reversed by the Appellate Division. The case has now been passed upon by the Court of Appeals, which reverses the decision of the Appellate Division, thus affirming the judgment of the Court at Special Term. The court of last resort holds that while, by the terms of the policy, the policy holder acquired a right to share in an equitable distribution of the accumulated surplus, yet until a distribution was made by the officers or managers of the company the policy holder had no such title to any part of the surplus as would entitle him to maintain an action at law for its recovery. Under the provisions of the policy, the court said, the surplus and the distributable surplus are regarded as two separate funds. The company was not required to distribute its entire surplus among its policy holders, but only to credit to each policy an equitable share of the surplus after deducting an amount sufficient to cover all outstanding risks and obligations. The gist of the decision turns on the distinction between the surplus and the distributable surplus.

Regarding the Venezuelan Award, recently given in Paris, it will be seen that the judgment of the tribunal recognizes the claim of neither party in its entirety. Great Britain gets the bulk of the territory claimed by her, including the valuable gold fields in the valley of the Yuruary, but it is not sustained in its most extreme claims. Venezuela loses some of the territory claimed by it, but it secures Point Barima and the control of the Orinoco. At the same time, the rivers Amakuru and Barima are to be open to navigation by the merchant shipping of all nations in time of peace, due reserve being made with regard to equitable regulations and the payment of light dues and other like imposts. The solution is generally regarded as a compromise, and, in fact, this is declared to have been the intention of the tribunal by no less a personage than its President, Professor de Maartens, who declares that the judges were actuated by a desire to establish a compromise in a very complicated question.

The great changes which have occurred in the railway system of the United States in a comparatively few years are shown by the following statistics, taken from *Poor's Manual*.

	1880.	1898.	per cent.	
Miles of railway	93.262	186.810	Inc.	100
Miles of track	115 637	245.239	,,	112
Miles of steel rails ...	33 680	220,804	,,	555
Miles of iron rails.....	81.967	24.435	Dec.	70
Number of locomotives.....	17,949	36 475	Inc.	104
Number of passenger cars	12,789	25.844	,,	102
Number of freight cars	539.255	1.284,807	,,	138

"While the miles of lines have doubled the miles of track have increased 112 per cent., showing a greater proportion of sidings and supplemental tracks," says the *Railway Age*. "There are five and one-half times of steel rails as in 1880, while the mileage of iron rails has decreased 70 per cent., to a little over 24,000, and will soon disappear entirely. The number of locomotives and cars has much more than doubled, but this gives no idea of the vast increase of capacity that has been effected by increasing the weight of engines and the size of cars. In these respects, especially, the last eighteen years have witnessed a marvelous advance on American railways."

Vessels built in the United States and officially numbered during the first quarter ended September 30, 1899, were 296, of 73,230 gross tons, compared with 301, of 83,191 gross tons, for the corresponding quarter of the previous fiscal year. The wooden tonnage was only 6,951 gross tons, compared with 25,113 for the corresponding quarter in 1898. In spite of the rise in structural steel, the steel tonnage has increased for the quarter from 33,462 tons in 1898 to 47,043 tons in 1899. Of the total, however, two-thirds were built on the great lakes.

Shortly after his arrival at New York, Admiral Dewey invited several officers belonging to the *Olympia* to his cabin, and, lifting on to the table a box containing a lion cub, which has been pressed to him, he said:—"Gentlemen,—We must give this lion-hearted cub a name. We have decided to call him Chichester, in memory of my English friend, Captain Chichester, of the British cruiser *Immortalité*."

Sir Thomas Lipton was the first person of prominence to greet Admiral Dewey and extend the hand of welcome. Towards noon on the day of the Admiral's arrival Sir Thomas ordered out his steam launch, and ran over to the *Olympia* to leave his card and pay his respects to the hero. As Sir Thomas Lipton's launch drew near the crew lined the bulwarks and sent up a rousing cheer. The launch steamed briskly round the great ship, the men coming forward to cheer, a compliment which Sir Thomas acknowledged by lifting his cap. The launch drew up by the aft gangway on the starboard

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side, and the officer of the watch came forward and saluted Sir T. Lipton, who, standing up in the launch, said, "I have come to leave my card on the Admiral, in order to pay my respects.' "Won't you come aboard, Sir Thomas?" said the officer. "The Admiral will be very glad to see you and shake you by the hand." So Sir Thomas Lipton, delighted, climbed the gangway to where Admiral Dewey stood waiting to receive him on the after deck. Admiral Dewey said, "It gives me great pleasure, Sir Thomas, to see a representative Englishman welcome me home." "I feel great pride, Admiral," replied Sir Thomas, "at the privilege of adding my congratulations as a Britisher on your safe arrival. After your great achievements you have received a great welcome from your countrymen."

It is estimated that Canada will this year have nearly double the exportable quantity of wheat that was available last year. The wheat crop of Manitoba is about 60 000,000 bushels, or double last year's crop. This year's crop will grade higher. Receipts so far show as high as 80 per cent. of No. 1 hard, while last year the total crop was a little over 30,000,000 bushels and less than 50 per cent. graded No. 1 hard. Ontario's wheat crop is 21,000,000 bushels this season, against 32.000,000 bushels last year. Canada will have 50,000,000 bushels of wheat for export this year, of which more than half will be Manitoba wheat.

In September twenty-two new corporations were chartered in New Jersey and their capital amounted in the aggregate to $72,200.000. But few new companies were incorporated under Delaware laws during September, only three having a capital as large as $1,000,000. In West Virginia twenty companies were incorporated, the combined capitalization of which amounted to $65,700.000, or an increase of $12 000,000 over the capitalization of the concerns incorporated in August. The grand total of capital of new concerns incorporated in all states during September is $193,000.000.

President McKinley, according to a representative of the National Business League of Chicago, favours the establishment of a department of industry and commerce to be represented in the Cabinet. The President has promised to consider the proposition, it is said. The National Business League has opened correspondence with commercial associations all over the country, advising them to adopt and forward to the President resolutions urging him to recommend to Congress in his annual message that such a bureau be instituted.

Tact, says the *Globe*, is a great feature even of the roughest American. In one of the States they had just hanged the wrong man, and discovering their error, the judges thought it their duty to apologise to the widow. Their deputies at once hurried off and knocked at the door of the widow's house, and as she opened the door the spokesman at once broached the object of their journey. "Waal, Ma'am," he said with generosity, "I guess you've got the laugh of us this time." And of course the widow appreciated her score.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Paymaster Hoffmann, of H.I.G.M. cruiser *Irene*, died in St. Bernhard's Hospital, Nagasaki,,on Oct 31st. Deceased was in his thirty-third year and had been ill a few days only.

The British ship *Engelhorn*, from New York with kerosene, arrived at Yokohama Monday morning, and Capt. Lovitt reported that she had suffered very bad weather. During a fearful gale three seamen were washed overboard, and another was killed by falling from the mast. The *Engelhorn* is 162 days out from New York.

An Osaka message to the *Jiji* reports the destruction by fire at about half-past ten on Tuesday morning of the Himeji Cotton Spinning Mill. The capital of the company is *yen* 120,000 of which *yen* 106,000 has been paid up. It possessed 4,120 spindles. The Mill was insured for *yen* 18,000 in the Tokyo and Shuzo Fire Insurance Co.'s.

A meeting of the shareholders was held on Wednesday afternoon to receive the accounts and report of the liquidators showing the manner in which the winding up of the old company had been conducted. The liquidators (Messrs. J. Dodds and J. Stewart) presented the report, and it was approved without discussion, the proceedings being quite formal.

It is notified in the *London Gazette* that the Queen has granted to Mr. Charles Dickinson West her Royal Licence to accept and wear the Insignia of the Order of the Sacred Treasure of the Third Class, conferred upon him by the Emperor of Japan, in recognition of his services as Professor of Engineering at the Imperial College of Engineering, and subsequently in the Imperial University of Tokyo.

The Sorin Bicycle Club held a meet at Uyeno on Friday, several Yokohama foreigners being competitors in the open events. In the mile race W. B. Mason and W. C. Vaughan opposed the well-known Japanese riders Tsuruta and Onodera. Mason finished level with Tsuruta, Onodera being third and Vaughan fourth. In the five mile Mason got the better of Tsuruta by about six inches, and in the twenty mile Vaughan finished first with Mason second. Tsuruta punctured his tyre in the 13th lap, but from the position of the men at that time he did not appear likely to win. Onodera was third.

The following paragraph taken from the *China Mail* is interesting in view of the Havas telegram which we published on Wednesday.—Marshal Sou's arrived at Kwongchauwan on the 18th Oct. was signalised by a skirmish between French and Chinese soldiers at Tsé Khan. Three Frenchmen are wounded, and according to French reports, about sixty Chinamen. At Tsé Khan, there is a Chinese force of 6,000 regulars. To impress Marshal Sou, the French have assembled the following ships in the bay:—*Descartes*, *Pascal*, *Bengali*, *Surprise*, *Lion*, and *d'Entrecasteaux*.

Tradition has always associated Russian crime, and especially political crime, with Siberia. Recently convict transportation to Siberia has been forbidden by Imperial Ukase, and it has become necessary to find a new field for criminal seclusion and labour, especially as the authorities have been anxious not to overcrowd the present penal settlement at Saghalien. Okhotsk, Kamtschatka, has been selected for the purpose. It has no home-grown population worth speaking of; it is so far removed from the haunts of civilisation that escape from it is practically impossible; and, in addition, gold has recently been discovered there, by which the Russian Government hopes to win an annual profit of fourteen million roubles in reduction of expenses.

Last September about 700 printers working in Tokyo and Yokohama formed an association called the Tokyo Kappanko Konwakai, and resolved that so soon as their numbers had increased to 1,000, steps should be taken to turn the affair into a guild. Mr Shimada Saburo, M.P., editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, was unanimously elected President. On Friday, Nov. 3rd, some 1,500 printers, machinemen, and pressmen, members of the Association, gathered at the Kinki Kan, Kanda, Tokyo, in general meeting. There were present, in addition, Baron Ishiguro, late Surgeon-General of the Army, Professor Kato Hiroyuki, Professor Takagi, of the University, and other leading men. These gentlemen delivered congratulatory speeches. Mr. Shimada Saburo returned thanks. At four o'clock, Mr Shimada being in the chair, a formal resolution was passed declaring the Association a Guild. It will take the name of the Tokyo Kappanko Kumiai.

CRICKET.

Born in Japan v. Home and Colonial Born.

This two days' match commenced on Friday and concluded on Saturday afternoon, the result being a thorough licking for those who had seen the light first beyond the seas. The Japan-born put on no fewer than 308 for eight wickets, E. W. Kilby making the top score of 103 not out, while Kingdon contributed 50. At this point they declared. The unfortunate representatives of Europe, America, Asia, and Australia could only respond with 68, and had to follow on. Stumps were drawn when they had added only 11 for three wickets in their second venture. Score:—

Born in Japan.

Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Edwards, b. Crawford ...	50
Mr. O. Strome, b. Edwards	19
Mr. Herbert Goddard, b. Edwards	1
Mr. G. C. Allcock, b. Libeaud	26
Mr. P. B. Clarke, l.b.w., b. Libeaud	5
Mr. E. W. Kilby, not out	103
Mr. E. B. Clarke, c. Edwards, b. Philip ...	37
Mr. W. J. White, b. Libeaud...	9
Mr. G. Braess, c. Smith, b. White...	34
Mr. H. W. Kilby, not out	6
Mr. E. Powys, Jr. did not bat	—
Extras	18
	308

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. F. E. White ...90		52	5	1
Mr. E. B. S Edwards.60		39	3	2
Mr. E. C. Libeaud ...95		73	1	3
Mr. Bugbird 15		17	1	—
Mr. C. M. Duff ... 5		6	—	—
Mr. K. F. Crawford...35		32	—	1
Mr. E. V. D. Parr ...20		17	—	—
Mr. Stuart... 10		8	—	—
Mr. Philip 30		25	—	1
Mr. Reid 10		10	—	—
Mr. Stewart 10		10	—	—

Home and Colonial.

Mr. F. E. White, c. H. W. Kilby, b. P. B. Clarke	9
Mr. T. S. Forrest, b. P. B. Clarke...	13
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Clarke	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. W. Kilby, b. Clarke	0
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. and b. Braess	7
Mr. H. S. Smith, b. P. B. Clarke	6
Mr. W. Goddard, c. E. W, Kilby, b. Braess.	0
Mr. A. W. Reid, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. H. A. Stewart, b. G. Braess	11
Mr. W. Y. Showler, not out	0
Mr. J. H. Bathgate, b. P. B. Clarke	0
Mr. F. O. Smart, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. E. V. D. Parr, c. E. W. Kilby, b. G. Braess	15
Extras	4
	68

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. P. B. Clarke ...80		32	2	6
Mr. E. W. Kilby ..50		14	6	0
Mr. G. Braess 37		18	1	6

EDUCATION.

A Revised Treatise by A. B. Oarder.

'Twas midnight, and darkness brooded not only over the city but over Chollie, who had just got home to his lodgings from school, and was engaged in the interesting occupation of trying to light a candle by striking the wrong end of the match on the wrong side of the box. In due course of time, however, success crowned his efforts and the lamp was lighted. Yet even this light could not dispel the darkness which brooded over his mind! The fact of the matter was that the school was to be broken up, and Chollie didn't like it to be broken up, any more than he would have liked to have had his little fortune broken up. Chollie was a bright lad and was a credit to his country, and he did well in the school which he attended and which now——curse the fates!——was to be broken up.

As darkness brooded over Chollie, Chollie brooded over the situation. Why the school was to be broken up he hadn't heard and couldn't imagine. His teachers were capable men; his schoolfellows jolly as jolly could be; the discipline was of the best kind; and, moreover, the morals of the students were well cared for. The worst student could not have found anything to complain of. Why could he like the [illegible] Was the reputation

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of the school bad? No; most decidedly not! Go where you would, you could not find one who had a word to say against it (save a few who were jealous—yes, childishly jealous of its successes). Were the results of the school work unsatisfactory? Not they! Graduates from it has entered the government service, commercial companies, banks, and places of trust, and had generally earned for themselves a good reputation. Was the building falling to pieces, and those who had built it been found incapable of raising sufficient funds to have it repaired? No; the building was all right, though,—allow me to add,—it had been built by people living in a foreign land, and with hard-earned money; people, too, who had made themselves responsible for the proper conduct of the establishment. What could be the reason?

Chollie was thus meditating when he heard a knock at the street door, and in a few minutes his landlady ushered into his room his bosom friend Percy.

"Hulloa, Percy! What brings you here so late? You said you wouldn't be here till eight, and, by Jove, you haven't got here till late!"

"Stop your punning, unless you want to be teeti-to-taciously expluncti fied!"

"Take a cup of coffee, old feller?"

"No, thanks; but I'll take a chair if it's all the same."

"That's right; though it ain't the same. Take half a doz'n; it doz'n' matter how many you take. What's up anyway?"

"What's up? Why, nothing, so far as I can see. Everything's down."

"Why: what's the matter?"

"Well, your school's to be closed, ain't it?"

"Yes. Well?"

"Do you know why?"

"No."

"Well; you see, your school has been started by some of those atrocious foreigners, who want to bring their new creed into this land, and——"

"Halt! I call a halt! Why call them atrocious?"

"Aren't they?"

"I suppose there may be some who'd answer to that name, but I've never had the honour of meeting with any of them. But, aside from that, why shouldn't they bring their new religion here? It's not a bad one so far as I've seen it. Any way, perfect freedom of religion is guaranteed by the laws of this country, isn't it?"

"Yes, but——"

"But me no buts."

"Well; but you see I am in one of the offices of the government and I know how all these things are managed — the ins and outs of them—and the right interpretation to be put on them. You common people don't understand the meaning of "perfect freedom." Another thing: the Constitution only guarantees this freedom within the bounds of peace and order, and you must admit that these rowdy foreigners haven't much peace in them."

"What do you know about it. Peace is one of the secrets of their creed. Anyway, you and your chums will soon be falling to pieces, if you don't look out! I've never been so kindly and considerately treated, or so well taught, as I have been in their school, so don't tread on my toes!"

At this moment another knock was heard at the street door, and in walked Jack, Chollie's mate in the boarding house. Percy, finding that Chollie was getting a little out of temper, and that he himself seemed to get no "forrarder" in his arguments, took up his hat and bade them good night.

"Hulloa, Jackanapes! I've found out the reason of the breaking up of our school!

"So've I. But how did you get at it?"

"Why, Percy, who went out just as you came in, says it's the government's doing. It seems impossible! Our school! Just fancy, after all the good it has done! I can hardly believe that the government would do such a thing as to refuse to recognize a school like ours! Three cheers for our school!"

"So say I. It's a beastly shame."

"But, I say, old crony, just look this way; its no more than we deserve, don'tcher known; it's a just 'ven-geance' on us all, don'tcher see."

"What for?"

"Why, don't cher-see, *freedom of creed is guaranteed to all* and how ever could the government recognize a school which was established to accommodate the needs of those people in the land who want their children to go to a school where they can receive education in the religion in which they believe?"

"Don't see your point at all, old feller."

"Why, it's as clear as mud. Just suppose, now, that I wanted to send my son to——"

"Ha! ha! ha! the idea of you with a son! I fancy I——"

"Listen! Suppose, I say, I wanted to send my son to a school where I was sure he could be educated in the religion in which I believed, how could I conscienciously perpetrate such a deed when perfect freedom is guaranteed? Eh, old chappie? See the point now?"

"But I thought you didn't believe in the religion taught in your school?"

"I didn't, but, by Jove, I'm beginning to do so now that I see there is some good in it, and that the government is childish enough to try to harrass their work in this way."

"Well, Chollie, I agree with you there."

"You see," continued Chollie, wagging his head and winking mysteriously at his friend, "they teach the boys to obey their parents, to respect those in authority, and to act in other inexcusably immoral ways. Just fancy. We're taught to be absolutely truthful, which is outrageously immoral!"

"Of course it is, of course it is. Ha, ha! Now I see the reason of the government's trying to put a stop to it. How could they ever put up with people who respected the king, or honoured his father and mother. Hooray for the government. Let's drink her health!"

"Then, you see, the country has such a great number of schools that some of them are almost empty, so, apart from the question of creed, it's clearly an insult to the government to establish private schools. It's nothing more than opposition."

"Of course, of course. Chollie for ever! Hooray! But, Chollie, why break up the school. If it's simply because the government objects to the religious exercises being held there? Why not stop these exercises?"

"Well, you see, old chappie, these people are true as steel to their religion, and whatever inconvenience it may cause them, they'll never give in."

"It must be a religion worth listening to, then."

"You're right. I really believe it is. Then, you see, the government wants to encourage education, so why so many schools? Ho; admirable and patriotic government; how deeply and truly you must love your country, Why, one can see your patriotism dropping from your very eyeballs when your politest of bows and most soothing of, words send us all to sleep! Admirable, notable, incomparable, and incomprehensible government! Why so many schools?

"Of course, that's so. What's the use? Well; good night.

"Happy dreams and sweet repose, and dream you're pulling the government's nose."

"Tra-la-la, old chappie. I'll stick to the school."

"You will, will you? Well, it won't do for us both to do the same thing. I'll stick to old guv'."

Jack went strolling home with thoughts about as mixed up as the contents of a Timbuctoo plum pudding. Soon a smile broke over his features as he said to himself: "I'll stick to it, come what may. They're my leaders, and they evidently don't want us to obey the teachings of these schools, or they'd do all they could to assist them. Ah! Here's a Beer Hall! To enter or not to enter, that's the question! My school says 'no,' but guv' doesn't like the school, so I'm dead against it; I'll leave to-morrow, by Jimminies, I will!" In Jack goes, and puts himself outside several glasses of beer, and when he comes out he's as beaming as Old King Cole, or the Government itself. "Ain't this j j jolly go-o o! No shkool! Blasht th' old shkool! Hurraay f'the government! Shkool says: 'Rshpect private p-p-p-property. I'm opposition! What's that? Winder, a jeweller's winder! Ha! Hyer goes! Real f-f-fun." And with a terrific bang he knocks the glass into everlasting beefsteak pudding; but unfortunately the owner comes out and collars Jack who introduces himself. "How do, boss, I'm guv'ment agent. Down with all shkools that t-t-t teach religion. I'm guv'ment agent, I tell yer. What yer doing?"

In a short time Jack was sleeping "peacefully" under the shadow of the government's police station, free of pecuniary charge, but not free of a charge of violence: the next day saw him condemned to six months' imprisonment.

Chollie stuck to the school till it was closed, and then, out of disgust, left the country and went to one of the best colleges in Japan, where *perfect and absolute freedom* was the rule. He afterwards, so it is said, became one of the most respected men in his college, got naturalized, and was finally appointed chief of the Department of Education in that country, which is one of the most flourishing in the world.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Nov. 4.

In the action on Monday near Ladysmith the British losses were 6 officers and 54 men killed, and 9 officers and 231 men wounded.

A later telegram says that the British communications have been restored.

Later.

Communications with Ladysmith have been restored.

An Army Order just issued provides for the embodiment of 35 Militia battalions by the 20th November.

A supplementary list has been issued of the casualties in the action of the Left Wing of the British forces on the 30th of October. The numbers are 461 of the King's Rifles missing, besides 19 officers and 330 men of the Gloucestershire Regiment. The number of missing in the case of the Irish Fusiliers is still unknown.

The War Office has no further news of the reported movement of the Boers against Colenso or elsewhere.

The Boers acknowledge that they had 73 killed and 200 wounded in the battle of Rielfontein.

Shanghai, Nov. 5.

The statement that the communications had been restored at Ladysmith is erroneous. It is the Delagoa-Mozambique cable that has been restored.

Everything was quiet at Ladysmith on Wednesday (1st) evening. The British guns occupy strong positions about Ladysmith and the garrison is confident.

Canada has offered a second contingent for South Africa.

The British have withdrawn from Colenso, concentrating further south. The War Office has no news of any engagement in that neighbourhood.

Lieutenant Egerton has been promoted to the rank of Commander.

A gale is delaying the departure of the transports.

Shanghai, Nov. 6.

The transports which were detained by the gale have sailed.

The Boers have planted batteries on Grodblerskloof Hill, about midway between Ladysmith and Colenso, and are bombarding both places from thence. Colenso is undamaged, being out of range.

The Boers are bombarding Fort Wylie, which defends the Tugela bridge at Ladysmith. The artillery duel began at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 2nd inst. and was still going on at 6 o'clock in the evening. No damage has been done, the British fire preventing good practice on the part of the enemy.

The Boers have proclaimed the Upper Tugela division of Natal to be Free State territory.

The advance guard of the Boers have reached Colesberg, in Cape Colony.

The War Office has communicated nothing since the news of the withdrawal of the troops from Colenso, and is altogether most reticent.

Rumours of the capitulation of Ladysmith are circulating throughout the continent.

An official statement puts the losses of

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the left flank in the affair of the 30th ultimo at 843 missing; 32 Gloucestershires, 10 Fusiliers, and 10 gunners killed; 150 wounded. One hundred men subsequently escaped to Ladysmith.

The French newspaper *Le Temps* affirms that the Transvaal has issued letters of marque in both Europe and America. Telegrams from the Canaries say that British men-of-war are closely watching the shipping there.

Shanghai, Nov. 7.

A despatch from Ladysmith dated the 3rd November, says that yesterday the cavalry and artillery under General French went out and effectively shelled the Boer laager without suffering any loss.

To-day Brocklehurst with the cavalry and artillery engaged the enemy on the south side of Ladysmith, fighting for several hours with very small loss.

The bombardment continued yesterday, and many shells pitched in the town.

General Buller has ordered the withdrawal of the garrison of Stormberg to Queenstown and also the evacuation of Rosmead and Nauuwpoort, pending the arrival of reinforcements.

Later.

A special service squadron at Portland has coaled for a voyage.

Martial law has been proclaimed in the district east of the Orange River.

The Boer annexation of the Tugela country has been officially proclaimed void.

H.M.S. *Terrible* has left Capetown with officers for Durban.

An armoured train with a detachment of the Dublins (Irish Fusiliers) has succeeded in relieving the garrison at Fort Wylie.

Shanghai, Nov. 9.

It is understood that preparations are actively proceeding to despatch another Division to South Africa.

An armoured train found the Tugela Bridge intact on Saturday (4th November). The Boers were seemingly a considerable distance off.

In the fighting on Friday the 3rd a Boer Commando advancing against Colenso was severely handled.

General French has gone to Capetown to command the cavalry.

A Boer Commando has invaded Zululand.

THE CZAR VISITS THE KAISER.

The Czar and Czarina have arrived at Potsdam from Darmstadt.

SAMOA.

An Anglo-German agreement has been concluded, subject to the approval of America, whereby Germany acquires the Samoan Islands, except Jutuila, which goes to America. Great Britain obtains Tonga, and the savage islands of Choiseul and Isabul in the Solomon Group. A later telegram says that, under the agreement ceding Samoa to Germany, the latter engages to renounce extraterritorial rights in Zanzibar whenever other Powers renounce theirs.

THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

Shanghai, Nov. 4.

The Report of the Philippine Commission has been submitted. President McKinley urges the maintenance of American sovereignty and declares that the Filipinos are incapable of self-government.

President McKinley has approved the Committee's Report on the Philippines Question.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

POLITICAL MATTERS.

Saigon, Nov. 3.

The High Court of the Senate will reassemble on the 9th.

The Chamber of Deputies is convoked for the 14th.

TROUBLE BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA.

Saigon, Nov. 7.

The Minister of Marine has taken measures to reinforce the troops of occupation at Kwan-chon-wan, in consequence of the rupture of the negotiations for the delimitation of the Franco-Chinese frontier.

NEWS OF THE WAR.

The disaster at Ladysmith has caused keen emotion in England. The despatch of General White attributes the disaster to a stampede among the mules, which bolted with the guns and the ammunition of the column, and after the ammunition of the troops had been exhausted, they were decimated by the fire of the enemy, and the survivors were taken prisoners.

Saigon, Nov. 3.

South African intelligence from a private source says that Gen. White will have lost some 3,500 men in all killed, wounded, and prisoners; that the Boers have probably captured Colenso, thus cutting off the retreat of the English, and that General White is reported to have been wounded. It is added that the Afrikanders show great joy about the victories of the Boers.

Saigon, Nov. 5.

The Municipal Council of Paris has voted a motion declaring sympathy with the Boers, and regretting the non-intervention of Europe.

There has been no official news from Ladysmith since the 31st ultimo. A despatch to the newspapers merely says that the situation was calm at Ladysmith on the morning of the 3rd of November.

Saigon, Nov. 6.

The War Office is informed that the British troops have abandoned Colenso without fighting, concentrating further south.

A despatch by pigeon from Ladysmith, dated the 3rd says that the Boers continue their attack.

Shanghai, Nov. 8.

A smart action took place on Friday, the 3rd of November, at Dewdorp, to the south of Ladysmith. General Brocklehurst drove the Boers a considerable distance and disabled their guns. The British Infantry drove the Boers into the plains of the Tugela where the Cavalry out-flanked them and nearly wiped them out.

The Boers suffered heavily.

There was fighting at Bullwana also. The British loss was small.

The position is believed to be entirely secure. The defences have been strengthened and stores are plentiful.

There is daily fighting at Mafeking, all in favour of the garrison.

The news from Kimberley on November 1st is that the beseigers have been reinforced by 1,500 men from Mafeking. The Boers are mainly occupied in destroying outlying property. They exploded the De Beers' dynamite store, seven miles distant, where 35 tons of dynamite were stored. The shock was tremendous.

A Committee has been appointed at Kimberley to regulate the supply of food to the garrison.

[The above telegrams have reached us in a very confused and disjointed form, but the above rendering seems to be the proper interpretation.—Ed. *J.M.*]

Saigon, Nov. 8.

The Boers are advancing to the north of the colony of Natal. A despatch to *Le Temps* announces that the English at Ladysmith have almost exhausted their provisions and ammunition.

Saigon, Nov. 9.

The London journals announce combats unfavourable to the Boers on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th Nov., but no official confirmation of the news has been received.

THE PRICE OF GERMANY'S NEUTRALITY.

England cedes Samoa to Germany.

CZAR AND KAISER.

The Emperor and Empress of Russia paid a visit to-day (8th Nov.?) to the Emperor William and the Empress at Potsdam.

(From Singapore Papers.)

BOER SHOOTING SAID TO BE POOR.

London, Oct. 21.

It is noteworthy that the Boer shooting has been consistently poor hitherto.

CAPTURE OF A PROVISION TRAIN.

The Boers have captured a provision train between Ladysmith and Dundee.

It is reported that the train contains an Imperial Officer and several newspaper correspondents who are all prisoners.

SIR GEORGE WHITE'S ACTION.

Communication with Dundee is cut. Sir George White has taken steps to secure Maritzburg and Durban against raid.

ANOTHER FIGHT IMMINENT.

9,000 Boers are advancing from Hattingspruit. The Leicesters and the 13th battery of Artillery have gone to meet them.

BOERS IN VRYBURG.

The police forces have withdrawn from Vryburg, which town the Boers occupied on Sunday.

WAR NOTES.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, October 29.

The news from Mafeking on the 23rd states that there was three hours' bombardment, but that little damage was done. The enemy demanded surrender, but Colonel Baden-Powell refused.

London, October 30.

On Saturday and Sunday all was quiet at Ladysmith, but the Boers were closing in and placing big guns in position.

A sortie was made from Mafeking on the 24th instant, and they found the enemy in a strong position to the northwards of Mafeking. The Boers have cut the waterworks, but the tanks contain an ample supply.

The fighting at Kimberley on Tuesday has been officially confirmed. Lieutenants Lowndes and Bingham of the Lancashire Regiment were severely wounded, and Lieutenant McClintock, R.E., was slightly wounded.

London, October 30.

It has been ascertained by balloon that the Boers to the number of from sixteen to twenty thousand men form a semi-circle to the northwaad of Ladysmith, and they are strongly entrenching. Detachments are also getting to the rear, probably to cut the railway to the southward.

Boer patrols have captured 1,500 mules close to Ladysmith.

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The entire kit of Colonel Yule's column was abandoned at Dundee.

The Kaiser Wilhelm, as Colonel of the 1st (Royal) Dragoons, has sent a farewell telegram hoping for their safe return from South Africa.

Six more transports have been chartered to sail before the 10th of November.

A regiment is forming to serve in South Africa consisting of upwards of 150 men each from the Horse Guards, and 1st and 2nd Life Guards. They will be ready to embark in a week.

London, October 31.

General White reports that he fought an engagement yesterday in which the Boers were repulsed after several hours. The British loss was about one hundred, and the enemy's was larger. The Boers are very numerous and have many guns. The enemy were pushed back several miles, and the British troops returned to camp unmolested.

The Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucesters with a mountain battery were sent on Sunday to clear the left flank and have so far not returned. (These were the troops that had to surrender after the loss of all their ammunition.)

The night firing caused the mules to stampede with some guns, but General White hopes to recover them.

London, November 1.

The papers, while deploring the Ladysmith disaster, suspend their judgment pending the receipt of details. The loss, they say, will not affect the issue, Great Britain being resolved to effect her object at any cost.

The First Suffolks, the Essex Regiment, and the Derbyshire Regiment have been ordered to mobilise, and the first battalion of the Gordon Highlanders (Col. Mathias) and 2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys, of whom the Czar is the Colonel-in-Chief) sail on Wednesday.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Nov. 4th :—

Dr	Yen,
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15 515.417
Amount of convertible notes issued...	214,853 400
Government deposits	55,672,533
General deposits	4 599.354
Exchange liability	37,232
Total	320,676 938
Cr.	
Discount notes	53,606 591
Foreign discount notes	14.748.325
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	66.607.553
Exchange liability	1,252.000
Government bonds	57.394,364
Property...	1.938 404
Bullion and Specie	103,130,062
Total	320.676.938

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	217,114,309
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	101,991,536
Silver	—
Total	101.991.536
Securities :—	
Government bonds	24 554 388
Government certificates	22 000 000
Government bills	9,666 443
Commercial notes	58 901 943
Total	115 122 773

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	213,247
Silver	—	—
General loans	1,005.031	—
Government deposits	5,212.259	—
General deposits	1,347.177	—

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 444.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to B 8	1—K to K 6
2—Kt to B 4 ch	2—K to Q 5 or KB 5
3—B mates	
	1—K to K 4
2—Kt to B 7 ch	2—K to B 3
3—P to K 5 mate	
	1—Kt to B 3
2—Kt to Kt 5 ch	2—K to K 4 or K 6
3—B mates	

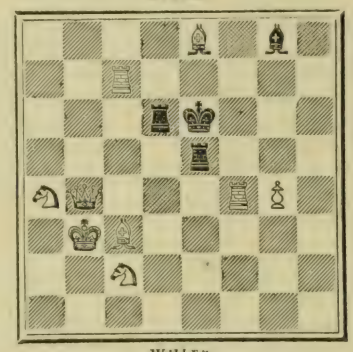
Other variations depend on those given.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Marco, L.M.A., and Voila.

PROBLEM No. 447.

By C. L. Fitch.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

Game No. 567.

PLAYED IN THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

Lasker Pushes His Pawns.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Lasker. Black—Showalter.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	20 K K3	B R2
2 P Q4	P Q4	21 Q R K Ktsq	Q R Q B-q
3 Kt Q B3	Kt K B3	22 Kt K 5	P Kt3
4 B K Kt5	B Kt5	23 Kt Q6	Q R B-q
5 P K5	P K R3	24 P B4	K R Ktsq
6 B Q2	B x Kt	25 R x R	B x R
7 P x B	Kt K5	26 P K R4	R Q q
8 B Q3	Kt x B	27 P R5	K B-q
9 Q x Kt	P Q B4	28 P R4	B R2
10 P K B4	Q R4	29 P R5	R Kt-q
11 P B4	Q x Q ch	30 P x P	R x P
12 K x Q	Q P x P	31 P B5	R B3
13 B x P	P x P	32 K Q4	B B7
14 Kt B3	Kt B3	33 R Q B-q	B K 6
15 B Kt5	B Q2	34 R Q Ktsq	B Q4
16 B x Kt	P x B	35 P B5	B B6
17 K x P	B x P	36 P x P	B x P
18 K R K Ktsq	B K2	37 R K B-q	Resigns.
19 R x P	K K2		

END GAME POSITION.

We are indebted to the *Leeds Mercury* supplement for the following beautiful ending which occurred in a game played at Carlsbad between Mr. V. Tietz and Mr. A. Ramish.

Black—A. Ramish.



White—V. Tietz.

White to play and win.

The game proceeded as follows :

1—R takes B	1—K takes R
2—Q takes P ch	2—K takes Q
3—B to R 4 ch	3—K to B 5 (a)
4—P to Kt 3 ch	4—K to Q 6
5—B to Kt 5 ch	5—K to K 5
6—R to Kt 4 ch (b)	6—K to B 4
7—Kt mates	

a. Best. If K takes B White mates in 2 more moves with his Knights.

b. Now the pinned and captive Rook shows his power when his chains are loosened.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON V.

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Printer's Errors.

It sometimes happens in works on Chess and in the Chess Columns of our best periodicals, that the score of a game—or even a problem—is marred by a printer's error, which often spoils it hopelessly. This is very disheartening to the student, who finds his labour wasted over a game which has no finish or a problem position with no possible solution.

In some cases, however, a printer's error or omission, is easily detected. We would therefore urge the student who is placed in such a dilemma, not to "give in" too soon but look around and try to discover where the printer is at fault and rectify the score or diagram.

A case in point is our first diagram in Lesson IV., showing the position "previous to castling (King's side)." There is the King, but no Rook with which the King is about to castle! A little thought will convince the student that a Rook on K R sq. has been omitted in the diagram—an unfortunate error, which however, will have caused little inconvenience to our readers, we hope.

Laws of the Game.

AS LAST REVISED BY THE BRITISH CHESS ASSOCIATION.

The following are the laws adopted in all British countries and with slight alteration, throughout the whole Chess world :—

I.—THE CHESS BOARD.

The board must be so placed during play that each combatant has a white square in his right hand corner. If, during the progress of a game, either player discovers that the board has been improperly placed, he may insist on its being adjusted.

II.—THE CHESSMEN.

If, at any time in the course of a game, it is found that the men were not properly placed, or that one or more of them were omitted at the beginning, the game in question must be annulled. If, at any time, it is discovered that a man has been dropped off the board, and moves have been made during its absence, such moves shall be retracted, and the man restored. If the players cannot agree as to the square on which it should be replaced, the game must be annulled.

III.—RIGHT OF MOVE AND CHOICE OF COLOUR.

The right of making the first move and (if either player require it) of choosing the colour, which shall be retained throughout the sitting, must be decided by lot. In any series of games between the same players at one sitting, each shall have the first move alternately in all the games, whether won or drawn. In an annulled game, the player who had the first move in that game shall have first move in the next.

IV.—COMMENCING OUT OF TURN.

If a player makes the first move in a game when it is not his turn to do so, the game must be annulled, if the error has been noticed before both players have completed the fourth move. After four moves on each side have been made, the game must be played out as it stands.

V.—PLAYING TWO MOVES IN SUCCESSION.

If, in the course of a game, a player moves a man when it is not his turn to play, he must retract the said move; and after his adversary has moved, must play the man wrongly moved, if it can be played legally.

VI.—TOUCH AND MOVE.

A player must never touch any of the men except when it is his turn to play, or except when he touches a man for the purpose of adjusting it, in which latter case he must, before touching it, say "I adjust," or words to that effect. A player who touches with his hand (except accidentally) one of his own men when it is his turn to play, must move it if it can be legally moved, unless, before touching it, he say "I adjust," as above, and a player who touches one of his adversary's men, under the same conditions, must take it, if he can legally do so. If in either case, the move cannot be legally made, the offender must move his

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King; but in the event of the King having no legal move there shall be no penalty. If a player hold a man in his hand, undecided upon what square to place it, his adversary may require him to replace it until he has decided on its destination; that man, however, must be moved. If a player, when it is his turn to play, touches with his hand (except accidentally or in castling) more than one of his own men, he must play any one of them, legally moveable, that his opponent selects. If, under the same circumstances, he touches two or more of his adversary's men, he must capture whichever of them his antagonist chooses, provided it can be legally taken. If it happen that none of the men so touched can be moved or captured, the offender must move his King; but it the King cannot be legally moved there shall be no penalty.

VII.—FALSE MOVES AND ILLEGAL MOVES.

If a player makes a false move—that is, either by playing a man of his own to a square to which it cannot be legally moved, or by capturing an adverse man by a move which cannot be legally made—he must, at the choice of his opponent, and according to the case, either move his own man legally, capture the man legally, or move any other man legally movable. If, in the course of a game, an illegality be discovered (not involving a King being in check) and the move on which it was committed has been replied to, and not more than four moves on each side have been subsequently made, all these latter moves including that on which the illegality was committed, must be retracted. If more than four moves on each side have been made, the game must be played out as it stands.

VIII.—CHECK.

A player must audibly say "Check!" when he makes a move which puts a hostile King in check. The mere announcement of check shall have no signification if check be not actually given. If check be given but not announced, and the adversary makes a move which obviates the check the move must stand. If check be given and announced, and the adversary neglects to obviate it, he shall not have the option of capturing the checking piece or of covering, but must "move his King" out of check; but if the King has no legal move, there shall be no penalty. If in the course of a game it be discovered that a King has been left in check for one or more moves on either side, all the moves, subsequent to that on which check was given, must be retracted. Should these not be remembered, the game must be annulled.

IX.—ENFORCING PENALTIES.

A player is not bound to enforce a penalty. A penalty can only be enforced by a player before he has touched a man in reply. Should he touch a man in reply in consequence of a false or illegal move of his opponent, or a false cry of check, he shall not be compelled to move that man, and his right to enforce a penalty shall remain. When the King is moved as a penalty, it cannot castle on that move.

X.—CASTLING.

In castling, the player shall move King and Rook simultaneously, or shall touch the King first. If he touch the Rook first, he must not quit it before having touched the King, or his opponent may claim the move of the Rook as a complete move. When the odds of either Rook or both Rooks are given, the player giving the odds shall be allowed to move his King as in castling, and as though the Rooks were on the board.

XI.—COUNTING FIFTY MOVES.

A player may call upon his opponent to draw the game, or to mate him within fifty moves on each side, whenever his opponent persists in repeating a particular check, or series of checks, on the same line of play, or whenever he has a King alone on the board, or

King and Queen King and Rook King and Bishop King and Knight	against an equal or superior force.
King and two Bishops King and two Knights King, Bishop and Knight	against King and Queen.

and in all analogous cases; and whenever one player considers that his opponent can force the game, or that neither side can win it, he has the right of submitting the case to the Umpire or bystanders, who shall decide whether it is one for the fifty move counting. Should he not be mated within the fifty moves, he my claim that the game shall proceed.

XII.—PAWN TAKEN IN PASSING.

Should the player be left with no other move than to take a Pawn in passing, he shall be bound to play that move.

XIII.—QUEENING A PAWN.

When a Pawn has reached the eighth square, the player has the option of selecting a piece, whether such piece has been previously lost or not, whose name and powers it shall then assume, or of deciding that it shall remain a Pawn.

XIV.—ABANDONING THE GAME.

If a player abandon the game, discontinue his moves, or voluntarily resign, wilfully upset the board, or refuse to abide by the laws, or to submit to the decision of the Umpire, he must be considered to have lost the game.

XV.—THE UMPIRE OR BYSTANDERS.

The Umpire shall have authority to decide any question whatever that may arise in the course of a game, but must never interfere except when appealed to. He must always apply the laws as herein expressed, and neither assume the power of modifying them, nor of deviating from them in particular cases, according to his own judgement. When a question is submitted to the Umpire or to bystanders by both players, their decision shall be final and binding upon both players. The term bystander shall comprise any impartial player of eminence who can be appealed to, absent or present.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 1	Su. Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 2	M. Nov. 13
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Yarra 3	Tu. Nov. 14
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
America	T. K. K	H'kong Maru 4	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Nov. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Nov. 25
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu Nov. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R Co	Em. of India	Th. Nov. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Th Nov 30

1 Left San Francisco on the 24th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.
3 Left Shanghai on the 9 h inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 1st inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Nov. 13
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rohilla	Tu. Nov. 14
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Nov. 15
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Nov. 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Nov. 21
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. Nov. 22
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W. Nov. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Dec. 1
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 2
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Sa Dec. 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W Horton, 3rd November,—Otaru via port, 29th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 3rd November,—Shanghai via ports, 28th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, ——, 3rd November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 3rd November,—Kobe, 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Moore, 4th November,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Hongkong, 28th October, Mails and General. Butterfield & Swire.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 4th November,—Kobe, 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 4th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 3rd November, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Engelhorn, British ship, 2,374, Edward H. Lovitt, 5th Nov.,—New York, 25th May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 6th Nov.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 5th Nov., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 6th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, 1st Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 6th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 5th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 7th November,,—Kobe, 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

On Sang, British steamer, 1,787, J. Young, 7th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 5th Nov., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, Hannah, 7th Nov ,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 6th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 8th November,—Kobe, 6th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 8th November,—Kobe, 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 8th November,—Otaru via ports, 3rd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, R. T. L. Cook, 8th November,—London via ports, and Kobe, 7th November, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 2,323, Elliott, 9th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th Nov., Mails and General. —Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 9th November,—Yokkaichi 8th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 3rd November,—Vancouver, B.C., via Victoria, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 3rd November,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 4th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,677, G. E. P. Cook, 4th November,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 5th November—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 5th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saiyen Kan (11), Japanese cruiser, 2,481, ——. 4th Nov.,—Yokosuka.

Plover (6), British gunboat, 755, Lt.-Com. Cowper, 4th November,—Hongkong.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 4th Nov.,—Guam, General.——Jardine, Matheson & Ce.

Afghanistan, British steamer, 2,190, H. Whitlock, 5th November,—Port Arthur via Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, K. Kawahara, 6th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 6th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.——Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 6th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 6th November,—Yokkaichi, General.——Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 7th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, British steamer, 2,331, Le Coispellier, 8th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General. —M.M. S.S. Co.

On Sang, British steamer, 1,787, J. Young, 8th Nov.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Moore, 8th November,—Australia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 8th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 9th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 9th Nov.,—Hakodate via Ogimohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 9th November,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Weber, Mr. K. Nambu, Mr. S. Kichiyama, Prof. J. C. Ballagh, Miss Alga, Master Kennen, Miss Dorothy Kilby, Miss Edith Kilby, and Mrs. Kainz, in cabin; Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Kronberg, Mr. Kinnen, Mr. Lee Yung, Mr. Lee Quan Yob, Mr. Chan Cho Chee

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Mr. Yung Win De, Mr. K. Matsumoto, and Mr. H. Furukawa, in second class; 102 in steerage. For Aomori:—Miss M. Seki, and Miss Y. Seki, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Fung Chee Juk, Mr. W. Haywood and servant, Mrs. Collier, Miss Halstead, Mr. A. Koppel, Mr. F. Inglis, Mrs. Inglis, Misses Inglis (2) and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers, Mr. Kong He Poon, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Robertson, and Mrs. Ah Yan, in cabin; 7 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Capt. A. St. G. B. Armstrong and man servant, Miss Balch, Mr. A. C. Bartholomew, Mr. Albert C. Bryer, Lieut. A. H. Bridges, Mrs. Coates and 4 children, Mr. E. W. Frazar, Mr. C. B. Godman, Mr. J. Godman and man servant, Mr. Sydney Hancock, Mr. Emile Havelaque, Rev. Hickman, Mrs. Hickman, Mr. S. Isham, Mr. P. Koziell, Mr. Hardy Locksmith, Dr. Macaulay, Mr. H. Mett, Rev. Nordlund, Mrs. Nordlund and 2 children, Mr. C. H. Noble, Mr. Otsuka, Mrs. Otsuka, Rev. Pauling, Mrs. Pauling and 3 children, Mr. R. C. Snowden, Mr. J. P. Swift, Mr. Geo. Sellar, Mr. S. Willett, and Mr. Wm. D. Wheelwright, in cabin

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. M. A. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Kilworth, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Doughty and three children, Mrs. Leigh, Mrs. J. Donnenburg, Mr. F. A. Gardner, Mrs. J. P. Brady, Miss R. Blanchard, Mrs. May Robertson, Mr. A. S. Macleod, Miss Macleod, Mr. Wm. J. Schroth, Mrs. L. L. Cooper and child, Miss A. L. Lowell, Mrs. Ahrens, Mrs. Crosby and two children, Mrs. Moseley and child, Misses Moseley (2), Rev. and Mrs. Sidebotham, Mr. E. Casay, Mr. J. Anthony, Mrs. Lawton, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. A. T. Pattison, Mrs. M. R. Thompson, Mrs. I. W. Mangels, Mrs. Walling and child, Mrs. G. McPickrell and daughter, Mrs. H. F. Retheis, Mrs. H. F. Dalton, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Gwynne, Mrs. S. O. L. Potter, Mrs. W. R. Grove, Mrs. E. Curry, Mrs. A. F. Prescott, Mrs. C. D. Roberts, Mrs. C. R. Trowbridge, Mrs. P. E. Pierce, Miss Nellie Powers, Mrs. E. E. Booth and child, Mrs. E. P. Crowne, Mrs. F. C. Armstrong, Mrs. E. D. Gibson, Mrs. F. D. Evans, Mrs. H. W. Cardwell and two children, and Mrs. G. P. Cowles in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, for London via ports:—Admiral Viscount S. Ito, Captain S. Yoshimatsu, Com. G. Saeki, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gubbins, 3 children and governess, Lieut. K. Kobayashi, Chief Surgeon K. Yokochi, Chief Paymaster T. Yoshida, Ceief Paymaster S. Kubota, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. J. R. Gillingham, Miss Taka Fujita, and Mr. G. Bauman, in cabin; Mrs. Ryu Kakei, Gun Room Officers S. Nagashima and C. Watanabe, Mr. Hideo Okumura, Mr. R. Ito, Master Wm. Geo. Waddell, Mr. Daniel Steward, and Mr. T. Ogawa, in second class; 45 I. J. Naval seamen, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Annam*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. George Bowack, Mr. R. H. Woolfall, Mr. Karst, Mr. Hagemeister, Miss E. Nankivel, Miss Alice Parker, Miss Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Lightfoot, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Bent, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Terry, child and amah, Mrs. Cabeldu, Mr. F. Townley, Mr. A. Koch, Rev. J. C. Owen, Mr. H. Hoyer, Mr. W. J. Kremer, Mr. J. Brandon Ellard, Mr. L. Lachal and boy, Mr. J. F. Moret, Mr. H. B. Darnell, Capt. Hiraoka, Mr. J. Thevenet, Mr. Nakagawa, Mr. Futoki, Mr. Okamoto, Mr. Uguyen Van Sanh, Mr. Pow Tuck Moon, Mr. Chou Sang, and Mr. Wan Chan, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Kosnig Albert*, from Bremen via ports:—Mr. Tan, Mr. Yoneyama, Mr Keatte, Mr. and Mrs. A. Schinzinger, Mr. Crusen, Mr. V. Kendell, Mr. Tsuruhara, Mr. S. Ikeda, Dr. Wade, Mr. Hayakawa, Mr. Schilling, Miss Edwards, Miss Strome, Dr. Stubbel, Mrs. Bayne, Mr. E. Plessmann, Dr. Takaki, Mr. C. Kruger, Mr. Austen, and Miss A. Wendt, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empres of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	Chicago and West. Canada.	New York and West. & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Ports.	Total. Yokohama.
Hongkong	2,363	35	59	677	— 3,134
Foochow	1,779	—	—	—	— 1,779
Shanghai	634	592	—	93	— 1,319
Kobe	489	—	—	—	— 489
Yokohama	1,301	—	290	160	— 1,751
Total	6,516	627	349	930	— 8,422

	Silk. New York.	Hartford.	Total Bales.
Hongkong and Canton	W. — R. 524	50 —	574
Shanghai	W. 30 R. 781	—	811
Yokohama	1,284	—	1,284
Total	2,589	50	2,639

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Absolutely nothing is doing on yarns or grey shirtings. There is some enquiry for velvets, and prices are fairly satisfactory. Fancy cottons and woollens are dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
	Per Yard.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos 16/21, Singles	$38.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 5.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	50.00 to 54.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos 2 80, Plain	91.00 to 94.00
Nos 2 100, Plain	115.00 to 118.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	88.00 to 92.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	101.00 to 107.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	133.00 to 137.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$22.00
Indian Broach	20.00
Chinese	23.00

METALS.

The market is quite lifeless.

	Per Picul.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	5.80 to 6.00
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.40
Sheet Iron	6.40 to 6.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	11.30 to 12.60
Wire Nails assorted	7.50 to 7.75
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.80 to 2.90
Hoop Iron (⅛ to ⅓ inch)	6.50 to 6.75

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$2.95
Russian	2.90
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6.90
Brown Taitung	4.40 to 4.60
Brown Canton	4.70 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 8.70
White Refined	7.70 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has been again very active and quotations have a marked upward tendency.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	1250
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1160 to 1170
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1230 to 1240
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1140
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1190 to 1200
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1125
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1170 to 1180
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1100
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1100 to 1110
Re-reels—No. 1½	1080
Re-reels—No. 2	1060
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1150 to 1160
Kakedas—No. 1	1080 to 1090
Kakedas—No. 1½	1040 to 1050
Kakedas—No. 2	1010 to 1025
Kakedas—No 2½	1000 to 1010

WASTE SILK.

The activity continues and prices are firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Oshu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$115 to 120
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	100 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	50 to 60

TEA.

The market has been quiet, though some fairly large transactions have been put through.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 9

Silver from London ¼ higher followed by a rise in China sterling quotations of ⅛ to ¼ has caused local rates on China to again decline; other rates have undergone no change.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅞
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	256½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4⅛% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74⅓
— Private 10 days' sight	76
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	26 1/16

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 9.

Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 180 for forward delivery. Cash shares are offering at *yen* 180. Engine and Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 235. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Langfeldts have buyers at *yen* 90. Oriental Hotels have buyers at *yen* 125. Offers of Laundries are wanted. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms may be had at *yen* 55.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	210 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	180 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	235 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $50	9.25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50	55 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	51 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2. *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,498.41; 4. *yen* 77,884.16 and *yen* 48,328.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

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A. C HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARK LIST.

Yokohama, November 9.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 235. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, have buyers at *yen* 125. Langfeldts are steady at *yen* 100.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works ...220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel .....235 Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 80 Steady.
Oriental Hotel .....125 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co. .....100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. .....185 Sellers.

Tokyo, November 9.

Redemption Loan Bonds	98.75
War Loan Bonds	98.75
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.60
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	418.80
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	65.80
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	343.30
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	72.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	70 50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	129.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	30.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	82.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	67.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 12 50	28.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	128.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	85 00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	60.30
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	51.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	65.30
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	80.80
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	108.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	86 50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	100.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	32.10
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	28.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	43 80
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	24 03
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	12.50
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 23	28 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	3 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	246 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	122 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	75.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	12.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	32.70
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	46 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	33.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	258.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	223.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	141 60
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	123 00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	58.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	25.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	76 20
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	41 50
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	58 80
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	34.50
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	58 50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	48.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	54 20
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	54 20
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	21.00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	43.00

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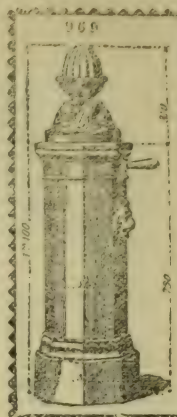


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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCK QUR DOIS: ADVIENNK QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 18TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At Windermere, Granville Road, Kowloon, Hongkong, on November 14th, the wife of FRANK SMYTH, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ALL was well at Ladysmith up to the 9th inst.

REINFORCEMENTS are daily arriving at Capetown.

THE reinforcements now arrived in South Africa number 14 048 men.

RUSSIA adds 10 new torpedo craft to her Far Eastern Squadron next year.

THE Railway Bureau has almost decided to employ women as ticket clerks.

COMPLAINTS of Boer inhumanity to women and non combatants are growing in volume.

THE Japanese tobacco crop will probably amount to about ten million *kwan* this year.

FOOTBALL has begun in Yokohama, Mr F. J. Liss being elected Captain of the local players.

ABOUT 400,000 *yen* worth of lacquer is exported from China yearly; the Japanese production is a little less.

H.M.S. *Terrible* took big guns mounted on carriages like field guns to be landed at Durban.

ON Thursday the Mosquito Yacht Club gave a most enjoyable entertainment in the Public Hall.

THE Natal Coast Rifle Associations have been called out, and other emergency corps are being formed.

PARTIAL State elections in America have resulted in the upholding of President McKinley's policy.

THE trial of Déroulede, Guerin and the other plotters against the State has been opened in France.

THE foundation stone of the new Christ Church, on the Bluff, Yokohama, is to be laid at noon to-day.

BISHOP POTTER of New York, preaches at Trinity Cathedral, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Sunday morning.

THE revenue of the Hokkaido Government Railway for the ten days from the 11th to the 20th ult. was 5,873 *yen*.

NEWS has reached Yokohama of the loss of the U.S. cruiser *Charleston* on the coast of Luzon. The crew were saved.

THE military authorities at Maritzburg have accepted the services of a thousand more volunteers with regulars for officers.

JAPAN has given orders to accelerate to the utmost the building of the iron clad now under construction for her in the Clyde.

THE revenue of the Kwansai Railway for the ten days from the 22nd to the 31st October, was 36,414 *yen*—17 *yen* 43 *sen* per mile per day.

HABUTAYE is more costly than silver, for one ounce fetches more than 70 cents in the U. S. market, whereas silver is worth only 58 cents.

THE Boers have completely wrecked the railways in the Orange Free State, and the British will have to rely entirely on their own transportation

THE Emperor William has issued orders prohibiting all officers, whether on the active or unattached list, from proceeding to the Transvaal.

GENERAL JOUBERT has sent in Major C. G. Kincaid of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and nine others prisoners, for whom Boer prisoners were exchanged.

MESSRS. SHUJIRO KASAMATSU, Shin Imai, etc., are projecting the establishment of a wheat flour manufacturing company with a capital of *yen* 500,000.

SINCE 1898 Japanese sulphur has gained a hold in the United States markets. This year 10,000 tons have been exported, the price being 42 to 43 *yen* per ton.

THE revenue of the Kwansai Railway Company for October was 24 *yen* 10 *sen* per mile per day. Compared with last year there is an increase of 6 *yen* 95 *sen*.

THE Nippon Railway Company has paid 10,000 *yen*—500 *yen* per family—to the survivors of those who suffered death in the accident near Nikko early in October.

THE price of floss silk, which as a rule falls towards the cold season, is this year steadily rising. It is now 250 *yen* per bale, compared with 185 *yen* at the beginning of summer.

THE Nippon Railway Company contemplates the issue of cheap tickets for hunting men. There are many good sporting districts along the line, especially in the country north of Morioka.

THE Yokohama Gas Bureau proposes to enlarge its works in order that it may be able to supply 400,000 cubic feet a day. The cost will be *yen* 162,184 and the work will be finished in two years.

THE German Ambassador in London has informed the Mayor of Portsmouth that the Kaiser will be unable to receive any address, his visit to England being private. His Majesty has also declined a luncheon at the Mansion House.

THE Tokyo Gas Company supplies 730,000 cubic feet per day. Compared with last year this is an increase of more than 60 per cent., owing chiefly to the rise in the price of kerosene. The company will declare a 14 per cent. dividend.

IN the general attack on Kimberley the Transvaalers and the Free Staters attacked the place on the north and south simultaneously, but retired under fire. Their losses were probably heavy, but the British only lost one killed and two wounded.

The Times correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphs that the fullest preparations have been completed for a Russian advance on Herat at any moment, the alleged reason being apprehensions of disturbances in the event of the death of the Ameer.

A BRITISH trader has contracted for the purchase of 250,000 tons of Hokkaido Coal and is about to enter into another big contract. It is said that he does this in consideration of the great demand for coal in Great Britain during the present war.

84,000 TONS of coal were exported in October from Moji and Shimonoseki, a decrease of 16,000 tons as compared with Sept. The destinations of the mineral were as follows:—China 37,032 tons; Hongkong 22,950; India 16 290; Elsewhere 8 196 The stock at Moji now amounts to 420,000 tons.

AN official statement has been published to the effect that the Boers, on October 31st, attempted to carry Mafeking by assault. They attacked brilliantly in spite of a hot shell fire and lost heavily. The British loss was 10 killed and wounded. Captain Marsham of the Fourth Bedfords and Captain Pechell of the Rifles were killed.

THE Yokohama Central Warehousing Company declared in the latter half of last year the highest dividend ever reached by the company —15 per cent. It paid 6 per cent. for the first half of this year, but as the warehousing business is now greatly depressed at Yokohama, the company will probably not be able to distribute more than 10 per cent. for the year.

THE foreign trade at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki during October and also from January to October was as follows:—

	October. Yen	Jan to Oct. Yen.
Exports	22 308,760	173 338 069
Imports	18.082,102	171,704,183
Total	40,390,862	345,042,252

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JAPANESE DOMESTIC POLITICS.

Saturday, Nov. 11.

The General Committee of the Liberal Party waited on the Prime Minister at 11 a.m. on the 9th instant. The Committee consisted of Mr. Hoshi Toru, Baron Suyematsu Kencho, and Messrs. Kataoka and Matsuda. It is understood that these politicians submitted for the Premier's consideration the necessity of achieving what is popularly called "the reality of coalition," a term which means, we presume, that seats in the Cabinet should be forthwith given to some leaders of the Liberal Party. They also urged that steps be taken to issue an Ordinance modifying the Law of Official Appointments. This latter claim has been frequently put forward, but we had begun to entertain a hope that repeated failures had damped the ardour of its advocates. What it signifies is that the law now in operation should be recast so as to render eligibility for certain official appointments no longer dependent on passing an examination. It is, in short, a measure for opening the door to favouritism, personal influence or political claims independently of the tests of competence which an applicant for an official post is now required to undergo. Consistency has never been a virtue of politicians, yet we can not forget how brief a time has passed since the Opposition, led by this same Liberal party inveighed vehemently and constantly against what they called the *jojitsu seifu*, or government of favouritism. Do they intend to mark their own accession to power by overthrowing the barriers erected against that very abuse? Marquis Yamagata declared himself unable to give any immediate answer to the deputation, but promised to take counsel about their proposals.

Monday, Nov. 13.

The political atmosphere of Tokyo is in a most disturbed condition and no one seems quite clear about the cause of the ferment. Some allege that the leaders of the Liberal Party have really become impatient of waiting for office and wish to have Cabinet posts at once. Others say that Mr. Hoshi's colleagues have become impatient of his masterful ways and want to drive him out of the Party. Others explain that Mr. Hoshi himself has become impatient of the Tosa drag upon the wheel of his ambition, and sees no reason why he should endure it any longer, since having effected a coalition with the Kiushu section through the agency of Mr. Matsuda, he thinks that he can afford to do without the Tosa people. Others assert that the best men in the Party are impatient of the corruption which has become prevalent, as illustrated by the Yokohama reclamation scheme, and wish for general re-organization. Nothing is plain except the fact that a condition of impatience and chafing exists. Count Itagaki, as our readers know, resigned his position on the General Committee a few days ago, and left Tokyo in a mysterious manner, pretexting a desire to recruit his spirits. Baron Suyematsu has followed suit, and is conjectured to be now at Oiso. Mr. Ebara Soroku is *non inventus*—has "hidden his shadow," as the Japanese phrase goes. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo has a diplomatic disease. No one pretends to see what centripetal force can be discovered to draw these divergent elements back to their orbits, and the Progressists are jubilant, thinking that their time has come. But Mr. Hoshi is always greatest when difficulties are thickest. We predict that he will not only emerge triumphant from the trouble, but will also prove the saviour of the situation.

Meanwhile the results of the meeting between the Prime Minister and the deputation of the General Committee that waited on him a few days ago, have become known in outline. The deputation did not ask to have portfolios given to the Party's leaders. It made no reference whatever to the question of a division of administrative power. It merely pressed for the consummation of the objects with which the Party has identified itself, as, for example, the amendment of the Law of Election, the abolition of the Law of Public Meeting and Political Association, the transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, and so on. Marquis Yamagata replied in a conciliatory spirit. He explained that all these matters were under official consideration and would probably become subjects of practical legislation very soon.

The General Council of the Party had its meeting on the 10th instant. A somewhat stormy scene took place. Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro bearded the lion. He attacked Mr. Hoshi in connection with the latter's recent speech at a meeting of the *Kwanto-ha*—the speech in which Mr. Hoshi delivered himself of such vehement sentiments as to obtaining a share of administrative power. Had Mr. Hoshi spoken in his capacity of a member of the General Committee or in his capacity of a private individual? If the former, he had greatly misrepresented the Committee's attitude; if the latter, his responsibility as a leader of the Party ought to have prompted a more cautious tone. Mr. Hoshi replied that he had spoken as a private individual, and the incident ended in Mr. Shigeoka's leaving the room in high dudgeon.

It is curious to note that the Progressists, on their side, claim to have a majority in the local assemblies. Two tables have been published, one representing the official statistics of the Home Department; the other containing the figures collected by the Progressists:—

HOME DEPARTMENT'S FIGURES.

Total Former Members		Total Present Members	
	1,765		1,591
Liberals	711	Liberals	715
Progressists	659	Progressists	488
Imperialists	97	Imperialists	113
Independents	285	Independents	253
Local Parties	12	Local Parties	12

PROGRESSISTS' FIGURES.

Total Number of Members	1,591
Liberals	609
Progressists	614
Imperialists	106
Independents	261

It is also a curious fact to find the Liberals now standing forward as the advocates of a measure which would have been consummated long ago but for their opposition, namely, the transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury. The country, however, will benefit by this new attitude.

The drafting of the Party's manifesto then proceeded. Its preamble sets forth the services that the Party has rendered, and claims that its position has been recognised by the country since its representatives were returned in overwhelming majority at the recent elections for members of local assemblies. The document then proceeds to insist that the Party's programme must be speedily carried out; namely, that the Law of Elections must be amended; that the State purchase of private railways must be consummated and the remaining important lines completed; that the prison expenditures must be transferred to the charge of the Treasury; that the Law of Political Associations must be abolished; that steps must be taken for promoting agriculture, industry and commerce; that the machinery of communications must be improved; that the system of education must be remodelled, and that better methods of sanitation and irrigation must be applied.

Tuesday, Nov. 14.

The political atmosphere of Tokyo remains clouded. Count Itagaki is obdurate. He has been pursued into his retirement by Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, and urged to reconsider his decision. But he declares that his retirement from the General Committee is not the result of a sudden resolve. He had formed and announced the intention prior to his recent canvassing tour in Kiushu, which may be said to have closed the present chapter of his political career. He declines even to postpone his withdrawal until after the approaching session of the Diet. As for Baron Suyematsu, it is understood that Mr. Matsuda is pursuing him with the object of inducing him to change his mind. But Baron Suyematsu shows more skill than Count Itagaki in eluding his interviewers, and nothing has yet been accomplished in his case.

There is a rumour that Mr. Hoshi approached Marquis Ito with the object of enlisting his powerful offices in the cause of reconciliation. But the story rests on a very slender foundation, and certainly if such an appeal were made, it has produced no results. Naturally Marquis Ito is the centre of attention at this crisis. It is felt that if he moves, he can turn the tide in any direction he pleases. The *Yomiuri* makes a strong appeal to him, and declares that unless he adopts some practical line, the public will conclude that he is merely a political philosopher.

Naturally Mr. Inukai's speech at the recent meeting of the Tokyo section of the Progressists has attracted much attention. That proverbially uncompromising orator claimed that his Party had been preserving for some time an attitude of studied inactivity, and devoting its energies solely to self-education. But Mr. Inukai's critics retort that the error made by the Progressists has been of precisely the opposite nature. They tried to do too much. No sooner did they find themselves out of office than they started an anti-land-tax campaign, believing themselves strong enough to overthrow the Cabinet by means of that weapon, which, however, being contrary to the spirit of the time, proved injurious to those that wielded it rather than to those against whom it was directed.

Mr. Hoshi speaks in a very uncompromising tone. He does not think that Count Itagaki and Baron Suyematsu have shown a proper sense of their duty to their Party in resigning their posts as General Committee-men on the very eve of the Party's meeting—which takes place on the 15th instant—and of the opening of

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the Diet. It is therefore his opinion that they will reconsider their course and return to their allegiance. Such utterances do not seem calculated to promote that result, especially as Mr. Hoshi adds that the business of the Party has not been in any way interrupted by the withdrawal of these two leaders. On the whole, if the language attributed to Mr. Hoshi by the Liberal organ (*Jimmin*) be correctly reported, his attitude is one of resolute defiance. He opines that Count Itagaki and Baron Suyematsu have behaved badly, and he is willing to receive them back into the fold if they return penitent, but if they prefer to remain outside, things can go on very well without them.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* cartoonist outlines the spirit of mischief that is now abroad by depicting Count Itagaki distributing amulets to ward off the baneful effects of the coming comet. As usual the gist of the picture is to be sought in a pun. *Hoshi* means a star, and it happens that just at present some people have been disturbed by a prediction about a collision between the earth and a comet. For the rest, the picture bears witness to the common belief that Mr. Hoshi Toru and Count Itagaki are on bad terms.

Wednesday, Nov. 15.

Things seem to be settling down in political circles. Count Itagaki has not been induced to withdraw his resignation from the General Committee, but he has announced that the Party may count on his undiminished support and cöoperation. Baron Suyematsu is still *non inventus*. Mr. Matsuda has pursued him hither and thither but failed to bring him to bay. Meanwhile some 70 parliamentary representatives of the Party have had a meeting in Tokyo, and there is an obvious disposition to smooth things over, and avoid all appearance of friction in the general meeting of the Party which takes place to-day. The quarrels that have arisen are designated mere children's squabbles, by the *Jimmin*, which has authority to speak definitely on such a question. It is shrewdly remarked that the great desideratum of the Liberals is the want of a chief. Count Itagaki is generally respected on account of his ability, his sacrifices, his experience, and his age. But his sphere of effective influence is confined to the Tosa Section. Mr. Hoshi is paramount in the Kwanto section only, and Baron Suyematsu, who has considerable authority owing to his connexion with Marquis Ito, joined the Party too recently to stand in the place of headship. Thus there is no genuine rallying point; no source of conclusive authority, and that weak feature of organization is responsible for all the troubles that have occurred. The Liberals are, in fact, an ill fused amalgam of more or less incongruous elements.

Thursday, Nov. 16.

Baron Suyematsu has been found and interviewed. *More Japonico* he has spoken gently and guardedly, but with a touch of fine irony, as we think. His alleged reason for resigning membership of the General Committee is that Count Itagaki has resigned, and he attributes the resignation of both to the disappearance of any need for the role hitherto played by them, namely, that of lubricating the Party wheel, and averting the friction which might otherwise arrest its motion. That is where the irony seems to come in. To outsiders the Party appeared to be threatened with disruption at the very moment when Baron Suyematsu and Count Itagaki resigned. Baron Suyematsu further denies most emphatically that his retirement was in any way suggested by Marquis Ito. He declares that he had no conversation whatever with the Marquis on the subject.

Meanwhile it begins to look as though these troubles were likely to prove a mere storm in a tea-pot. We have not yet learned the result of the Party's general meeting which was to take place on Wednesday, but there was every indication that it would pass off quietly, and that the Ministers of State would be invited to a grand "friendly *réunion*" on Thursday or Friday.

Friday, Nov. 17.

The general meeting of the Constitutional Party (Liberals) took place on the 15th instant in the Party's offices in Tokyo, and passed off quietly, as had been anticipated. About 430 persons attended, and the chair was taken by Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi. The only allusion made to the friction which recently threatened to produce a disruption of the Party, was in a speech delivered by Mr. Matsuda Masahisa. He characterized the trouble as a mere bagatelle, and led his hearers to believe that it was now quite settled, though he evidently did not consider it worth while, or perhaps expedient, to enter into any detailed explanation. He did, however, echo in faint but unequivocal tones the strong utterances of Mr. Hoshi Toru at a meeting of the *Kwan-to* section, for he said that although the Party had given its support to the Ministry last session in obedience to a conviction that the national interests demanded such a course, it nevertheless had its own objects to compass, and was determined to compass them in due season. Read between the lines, these words obviously meant nothing more or less than an exhortation to patience, and an assurance that the leaders of the Party were not justifying the charge advanced against them by their enemies, namely, surrendering the ideals for which the Liberals had fought so long, and yielding blind submission to officialdom. With reference to Count Itagaki's attitude, Mr. Matsuda explained that although the Count had definitely retired from the General Committee, his retirement did not signify any estrangement: he had given explicit assurances to the contrary, and promises to work as hard as ever in the cause of the Party.

The new General Committee elected by the meeting consisted of Messrs. Matsuda, Hoshi and Hayashi and Baron Suyematsu. As to the three first, no difficulty exists, but whether Baron Suyematsu will consent to serve is an open question. He did not attend the meeting.

The meeting then proceeded to discuss its platform, and adopted, *nem. con.*, the draft presented by the Council. We gave a statement of this platform in our issue of the 13th, but repeat it here for the convenience of our readers, namely, that the Law of Election must be amended; that the State purchase of private railways must be consummated and the remaining important lines completed; that the prison expenditures must be transferred to the charge of the Treasury; that the Law of Political Associations must be rescinded; that steps must be taken for promoting agriculture, industry and commerce; that the machinery of communications must be improved; that the system of education must be remodelled, and that better methods of sanitation and irrigation must be applied.

The State purchase of private railways will probably prove one of the great problems of the hour. It was voted by the House of Representatives last session in the form of a Representation, but every one understood that the Government was not likely, and was not expected, to take any immediate action in the sense desired by the signatories of the Representation. If, however, the Liberals persist in pressing the demand, some definite course will have to be adopted. Already a note of alarm is sounded by the *Jiji Shimpo*. Stated in the form suggested by its promoters, the scheme looks simple enough. It amounts to nothing more than the issue of about 200 million *yen* worth of State bonds, and the transfer of the four main systems of railways to official control and management. But however the problem be viewed, its result would be an addition of 200 millions to the national debt of Japan, and no one can pretend to think that her credit would not be seriously affected by such a fact. The *Jiji*—we are now epitomizing its views—further thinks that the Government's management of the lines already under its control has not been of such a nature as to suggest the advisability of extending its functions.

The question of the Law of Elections will also occupy a prominent place in public consideration. Briefly summarized the points of dispute may be said to be these; first, an increase of representation for the urban population, which at present enjoys a most inadequate share of parliamentary influence; secondly, multinominal or uninominal voting; and thirdly, signed or unsigned ballots. The strength of the Liberals is in the rural districts and they are most unwilling to do anything which might tend to a comparative reduction of their preponderance; while as to methods of voting, it may be shortly said that the *Meiji* statesmen advocate a system which shall free all voters from the despotism of party organization, whereas the parties are anxious to maintain the power that the present arrangement confers on them.

There has been no political convulsion of such a nature as to materially affect the relative strength of the various parties in the House of Representatives. In fact, only one political event of importance has occurred since last session, namely, the disruption of the National Unionists and their replacement by the Imperialists. That incident does not appreciably alter the situation. Its effect has been to substitute 21 Imperialists for about as many National Unionists, and to relegate to the ranks of the Independents Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, a former leader of the National Unionists, who has seven adherents. The following, then, is the distribution of the members according to an estimate which, as it emanates from a Progressist source, may be regarded as certainly not favourable to the Liberals:—

Progressists and adherents	122
Liberals and adherents	117
Imperialists	21
Independents	40

Among the Independents are classed, as we have said, the Yamaguchi section of 8, led by Mr. Ooka Ikuzo. Hence, if we re-

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group the above on pro-Cabinet and anti-Cabinet lines, we obtain the following as the most probable forecast :—

	Pro-Cabinet.	Anti-Cabinet.
Progressists	—	122
Liberals	117	—
Imperialists	21	—
Yamaguchi Section	8	—
Independents	16	16
Totals	162	138

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Boers are making a good record. In Natal they fired on a flag of truce; at Mafeking they are deliberately bombarding a hospital and a compound occupied by women, though both are outside the besieged town, and though three protests have been lodged against such incredible brutality. We have heard a great deal from time to time about the savage cruelty shown by these same Boers in their treatment of the natives of South Africa, and we have heard of their inhuman conduct recently towards British women and unarmed British men who were making their way quietly from places likely to be soon involved in the war. It is our earnest hope that they may meet with the punishment they richly merit, and that no false scruples will prevent the English Government from forcing them to accept and adopt the civilization they have so often fled from. The idea of such men invoking God's aid in battle, and professing to respect the Christian Bible, is revolting.

It has been usual to suppose that brave men are humane, and it has also been usual to credit the Boers with unflinching bravery. Probably they are brave, but up to this point their conduct of the war has justified all our estimates of their capacity. It long ago seemed to us that they had failed in the campaign; failed with everything in their favour, and we presume that there can be no second opinion on that subject now. Their hesitation to make a dash at Ladysmith is, perhaps, excusable, for the town has a strong garrison, and any resolute attempt to carry it by assault would certainly involve a great sacrifice of life. But their fiasco at Kimberley and at Mafeking is miserable. Both places are defended by very small forces. Neither has more than one battalion of regular troops. Yet the Boers can make no impression on them. Reverse the cases, and suppose that the same force of British troops was unable to reduce two towns defended by such puny garrisons. Can there be any doubt what the world would say?

THE METEORS.

The grand meteoric display for which the astronomers told as to look out from the 13th to the 17th of this month, has proved somewhat of a fiasco. Clouds and mists are partly responsible, but when the results of the records obtained at the Tokyo and Osaka observatories are collected, it appears that up to the night of the 15-16th only 46 meteors had been seen altogether. That is not very remarkable, when we consider that the show had been in preparation for 33 years. The number may have been increased last night, when the climax was expected, but considering that, on previous occasions, when the earth's voyage through space involved similar concurrences with streams of meteors, these shooting stars have been seen in such numbers as to suggest a shower of rockets illuminating the whole heavens for hours together over continents and oceans, nature has treated us rather scurvily in the present instance. The vernacular newspapers, however, have worked the phenomenon for all that it is worth, and there have been the usual expectations of crashing collisions between our planet and these wandering bodies and even of the resulting end of all things. The celebrated star of our boyhood studies, Gamma Leonis, has been written of as though it were directly connected with the phenomenon, though in truth Leonis has no more to do with it than a mile-stone on a high-road has to do with a runaway coach. Leonis comes into the matter simply in the role of a point of observation. The motions of the small meteor-planets forming the ring through which the earth is now passing, are virtually parallel when referred to our planet at rest, and it follow that, when seen from the surface of the earth, they all appear to diverge from a common point, fixed in relation to the celestial sphere. In other words, the arcs of all the circles described by these meteor-stars seem to pass through or near Gamma Leonis, though in fact not one of them ever gets within thousands of millions of miles of that star. A feature of this ring of meteors is that its components do not appear to be uniformly distributed: they are thicker in some parts of the annulus than in others, and it would seem that the portion through which we are now passing is comparatively poor. There is a possibility that the earth reduces the richness of the ring at each passage through it, for some of the meteors may attach themselves to our globe as permanent satellites, though the penalty of thus deserting their old allegiance would be total and permanent eclipse when they passed into our shadow. Concerning possible collisions, it is certainly unpleasant to think that bodies moving at the rate of from 18 to 36 miles per second approach to within 16 miles of the earth, but until one of them manages to get nearer, we need not give way to any greater perturbation than our forefathers did through the thousands of uneventful years before Brandes and Benzenberg began to study the habits of these meteors.

THE PROGRESSISTS.

Nothing could have been more vigourous and trenchant than the speech delivered by Mr. Inukai Ki at a meeting of the Tokyo Section of the Progressists last Saturday. He claimed that it would be the easiest thing in the world for his Party to step into power. They commanded 180 votes in the Diet last year and they still possessed 120. They were a great party, whatever any one might say to the contrary, and if they had the prestige of political position, the country would flock to their standard. But they deliberately stepped aside twelve months ago, and had remained ever since inactive and apparently unambitious. Why? Simply because they had discovered that their first business was, not to grasp at power, but to educate themselves for its exercise. Experience had shown that acceptance of office meant an inundation of claims from political followers, and corresponding discontent and disaffection if the claimants were not satisfied. They had to learn how to carry on the administration without abuses of that kind, and their leaders meant that they should learn, however painful and protracted the process. He then indulged in a vehement philippic against the Ministry, charging it with gross corruption in the management of domestic politics, and incapacity in the control of foreign affairs. He called it a "coward Cabinet" as well as a "barbarous" one, and taunted it with the miserable fact that it lacked even the commonest attribute of savage people, physical courage.

After such an oration, the meeting had no hesitation in passing a wholesale platform—the establishment of party cabinets; addressing to the Throne an impeachment of Ministerial corruption; taking steps to purge political morals; the abolition of the increased taxes on the land, on posts and telegraphs, and on soy; reduction of superfluous expenditures; the restoration of parliamentary salaries to their original figures; the transfer of prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury; the amendment of the Law of Election; the abolition of the Law of Political Association; the encouragement of trade and industry; the development of means of communication; the reorganization of the educational system; the reform of the management of foreign affairs, and the adoption of a definite foreign policy.

MR. FUKUZAWA'S CELEBRATION OF HIS RECOVERY.

Following a graceful custom of old Japan, Mr. Fukuzawa invited to a garden party on Saturday, the 11th instant, all the friends who had shown their solicitude during his recent illness, thus affording to them an opportunity to congratulate him on his recovery and procuring himself an occasion to tender them his thanks. The entertainment took place at the eminent philosopher's Hiro villa in the southwestern suburbs of Tokyo, where Mr. Fukuzawa possesses a garden of considerable extent and no little beauty. Unfortunately the weather fulfilled its threat of rain as evening fell, but from one o'clock, when the party began to assemble, until four, the temperature was agreeable and the air dry. Mr. Fukuzawa did not venture to move much about the grounds, his convalescence not having progressed so far as to permit that liberty, but he welcomed his visitors very heartily within doors, after they had been received by his son in the garden, and his demeanour and conversation showed nearly all his old vigour. The features of the party need not be described further than to say that there were various entertainments in the house for those who preferred such pastimes to the enjoyment of the scenery in the garden. The guests were very numerous but all the arrangements as to vehicles were in the hands of thoroughly competent constables, so that there was no confusion or delay.

Surgeon General Sir Charles A. Gordon, K.C.B., honorary physician to the Queen, has died at his residence in Westbourne-square at the age of seventy-eight. He served in Tientsin, and was author of "China, from a Medical Point of View."

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"THE LAW CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION OF IMMOVABLES."

We have to note the appearance of another of the numerous publications by Dr. Loenholm, which have proved, and will continue to prove, eminently serviceable to foreigners in Japan. The learned Professor's latest work is an English translation of the Registration Law and all the Ordinances and Rules relating to it, the whole forming a considerable body of legislation which offers very great difficulties to a translator. The text of the translation occupies 86 pages, and Dr. Loenholm has appended the various forms of registration applicable to joint parties, name books, and so on, including those specially intended for aliens and foreign juridical persons. These last have particular interest at the present time, on account of their connexion with the question of the registration of foreign land-holders' perpetual leases, a matter which has caused much perplexity and some anxiety but is now on the eve of satisfactory adjustment. The whole trouble has been due to an ill-considered attempt on the part of the Japanese Authorities to preserve their own legal nomenclature while dealing with a right not recognised by their laws. The foreigner holds his Settlement land under perpetual lease and that form of tenure is secured by treaty. But there is no such thing as a perpetual lease in Japanese law. There is, however, perpetual superficies, and it appears to have occurred to the Japanese Authorities that instead of creating an entirely new term in the registry books, they might arrange to have the foreigner's lease registered as a perpetual superficies. It is true that a perpetual superficies is liable by law to restrictions against which a perpetual lease is guaranteed by the treaties; but that point evidently did not appear material, inasmuch as the 45th article of the Law Concerning the Operation of the Civil Code provides that these specially registered rights of perpetual superficies shall not be exposed to any treatment inconsistent with the treaties. Hence, although a foreigner's "perpetual lease" was registered as a "perpetual superficies" it would have retained the rights and immunities contemplated by the treaties. But it would have retained them by virtue of the law, not by the direct operation of the treaties, and that change was one that did not commend itself to foreigners, some of whom, indeed, were actually prepared to imagine that a deliberate attempt was being made by the Japanese Government to deprive them, by a subtle device, of one of the few privileges that have survived the death of the dear old system. Of course such a suspicion must be dismissed as extravagant, but we can not acquit the Japanese Authorities of very injudicious procedure, or of unpardonable delay in adjusting a question which should have been settled within a day of the time when it first arose. The facts are incidentally made clear by Dr. Loenholm's translation. We need scarcely say that since a general system of registration is part of the law of Japan, though no such system exists in England, every foreigner has an obligation to make himself acquainted with the law and the rules bearing on the subject. He can easily do so by the aid of Dr. Loenholm's translation.

KOREAN RAILWAYS.

Saturday, Nov. 11.

Only two years remain of the period for which the charter of the Söul-Fusan Railway was obtained from the Korean Government. Unless a company is formed and some show made of commencing work before the close of 1901, the privileges will lapse. Under these circumstances, Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Nakano Buhei, and Oye Taku have come forward as promoters. Their plan is that a capital of five million *yen* should be subscribed, and that the company should be authorized to raise a loan of twenty millions, the Japanese Government guaranteeing interest at the rate of six per cent. on the 25 millions. Count Matsukata has been approached on the subject, but is understood to have replied that he does not see his way at the moment to pledge the Treasury to a possible expenditure of 1½ millions annually. The projectors will have to wait.

Tuesday, Nov. 14.

The railway between Söul and Chemulpo is now working satisfactorily. Twenty-one miles is the distance run by the trains, and there are four communications daily, two in the forenoon and two in the afternoon. The service will be increased by two more trains from next month. As yet the operation of bridging the Han River remains uncompleted. The river is 1,400 feet wide and has a depth of 16 feet at high tide. Thus the length of the bridge will be some 2,000 feet, and it will have a height of 53 feet above the deepest part of the river's bed. It is claimed by the Japanese engineers that the structure originally designed by the American projectors was of too frail a description, and that its alteration has involved delay. The expectation was that the Koreans and the Chinese would prefer to travel as cheaply as possible, and that third-class carriages would be chiefly in vogue. But experience has not borne out that theory. Both nationals seem to have aristocratic ideas in the matter of journeying, and it has been found necessary to provide a number of first and second class cars. The daily earnings of the line at present are said to be 650 *yen* per mile, gross. It is evident that there must be a great improvement in the receipts before a good dividend can be paid, for if this statement of the gross earnings be correct, they do not amount to 5 per cent. of the capital invested.

TOKIO HARBOUR.

By desire of the Tokyo Municipality an extensive scheme of harbour construction for Tokyo has been elaborated by Mr. Furuichi, chief engineer of the Home Department, and others. The plans are not yet fully prepared, but the general scheme seems to be tolerably clear. There are to be two harbours, an outer and an inner. The outer harbour will be at Haneda Bay—that is to say, at Kawasaki, where the Rokugo River enters the sea—and the inner at Shiba-ura, a place situated on the Tokyo side of Takanawa. Concerning the position of the outer harbour there does not seem to have been any difference of opinion among foreign and Japanese experts. But it appears that, from an engineering point of view, the southern end of Takanawa would be more convenient than Shiba-ura. The Tokyo citizens, however, are naturally anxious to have the harbour as near as possible to the centre of the city. They consider that with the outer harbour at Kawasaki and the inner at Shinagawa—for that is what the south-Takanawa idea amounts to—the business quarter of the metropolis would be effectually shifted to the south. Their desire would be to have the inner harbour at Teppozu, in other words, near the mouth of the Sumida River. There are many objections to such an arrangement, however, chiefly in connexion with engineering difficulties. Mr. Furuichi, therefore, proposes Shiba-ura as a kind of compromise, since it lies nearly midway between the southern end of Takanawa and Teppozu. The choice of Shiba-ura would involve the removal of the Detached Palace, Shiba Rikiu, one of the most beautiful of the Imperial Parks. Probably the Emperor would not make any objection to that if the good of the capital were in question, but there will naturally be some reluctance to advance the proposal. From the outer harbour in Haneda-oki to the inner, at Shiba-ura, a distance of 12,000 yards, it would be necessary to construct a high break water with a wide canal on its inner side. It is calculated that the earth taken from this canal, or rather sea-route, would suffice to reclaim a large section of the foreshore, the sale of which would contribute materially to recoup the outlay on the works. For the inner harbour a wharf 6000 yards long is proposed, with 30 feet of water beside it at all states of the tide, Ultimately, the wharf could be lengthened to 16,000 yards if necessary, but whereas the cost in the former case would be some 30 million *yen*, in the latter it would be 50 millions. Whichever plan were adopted, Tokyo would have splendid wharfage accommodation. Such is Mr. Furuichi's plan in outline. It seems to be based on a scheme suggested by foreign engineers, or, at any rate, to be the result of consultation with them. The question is, will Tokyo undertake anything so big. There is nothing in the recent history of the city to encourage such a hope.

THE GARDEN PARTY OF MR. AND MRS. MASUJIMA.

Mr. and Mrs. Masujima's garden party, to celebrate their little daughter's attainment of her third year, was a very pleasant affair. The weather, though not as bright as might have been desired, behaved on the whole propitiously, and the garden with its broad sheet of clear water and rustic arrangement of trees and rocks, looked very picturesque. There had evidently been much readiness to accept the invitations of the popular host, for from three to four hundred people were present, and the vehicle-containing capacities of the somewhat narrow streets in the neighbourhood were taxed to the utmost. The entertainments, though designed mainly for the amusement of the young folks—dancing by child actors, lotteries and so forth,—seemed to amuse the "grown-ups" also, and the guests did not separate until darkness fell; a portion of the interval, we need scarcely say, having been devoted to discussing refreshments which were served on a liberal scale. The party may fairly be described as one of the most enjoyable of the season.

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THE PEST.

Monday, Nov. 13.

A few days ago we had news that a case of Pest had occurred at Hiroshima. The newspapers of Tokyo now report that, on the night of the 8th, a man called Yamamoto Koichi died at Kobe, and as the symptoms of his malady were suspicious, a *post mortem* was held. It disclosed the presence of a bacillus closely resembling that of the Pest, and steps are being taken to cultivate the parasite and determine its real character. Dr. Kitasato is understood to maintain that the well-lighted and comparatively clean condition of Japanese dwellings is particularly unsuited to the development of the Plague bacillus, and that little apprehension need be entertained of an epidemic of the dread disease in this country. We sincerely hope that his forecast may prove correct.

Tuesday, Nov. 14.

It is no longer doubtful that the Pest has made its appearance in Kobe. The case mentioned in our last issue proved to be the genuine disease, and since that time another man, called Hirai Matakichi, has died of the malady and two others have been attacked by it. The exact locality is the Fukiai District. Nothing has yet been ascertained as to the origin of the infection. The police have adopted strong measures to prevent the spread of the fell disease. The houses where the cases occurred have been completely segregated and various sanitary precautions are being taken.

Wednesday, Nov. 15.

According to official reports, the Pest was not brought to Kobe by a passenger in the *Omi Maru*, as at first supposed. It has been traced with convincing clearness to some goods imported from China—cotton, beans, rice and sugar. The cotton appears to have been the principal offender. The man into whose hands it came originally, the man who carried it, and the man who received it, have all died of a malady which medical investigation proves to be Pest, beyond all doubt. We need scarcely say that the precaution of burning all the infected goods has been taken, and that the sanitary authorities are busily devising preventive measures of a drastic character. Tokyo newspapers urge that no expense should be spared, nor any step shrunk from, however severe.

Thursday, Nov. 16.

Two more cases of Pest have occurred at Kobe, and it is feared that an epidemic threatens. On that account the trip of the Prince Imperial in the South has been shortened, and he is to return to Tokyo immediately. Dr. Baelz sends us the following on the subject, and we desire to call the special attention of our readers to the advice of such an eminent authority :—

"There can unfortunately no longer be any doubt that cases of plague have occurred in Kobe which can not be traced to any ship arriving from infected ports. So we are more or less in danger of an epidemic of that terrible disease.

"Under these circumstances it may be useful to draw the attention of the public to the fact that rats are generally first infected, and that the germs of the plague can be transferred to man by fleas, mosquitoes and other insects feeding on diseased rats.

"Now there is hardly a house in Japan in which rats are not plentiful, and so it is only a matter of common sense not to wait until we have the disease amongst us, but to wage at once a pitiless war against rats, be it by means of poison or by cats.

"At the same time insect powder should be used freely in servants quarters, where fleas are always to be found in large numbers."

We take the following from the *Kobe Herald* of Tuesday :—

The utmost precautions aginst the plague are being taken at the country resort of Prince Arisugawa, where the Crown Prince is now staying. Persons or goods coming through Kobe are not admitted inside the gate. The Crown Prince was not present at the races given to entertain him yesterday. The police have cautioned the proprietors of hotels against supplying food arriving from Kobe.

Mr. Muto Yamaji, Manager of the Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Co., Hiogo, forwarded a proposal to the Kobe Chamber of Commerce yesterday, to the effect that a general meeting of the Chamber should be convened immediately and that the City authorities should be asked to burn down all the buildings where the plague broke out, this being the only effective means to be taken against the spread of the disease.

Dr. Kitazato Shibasaburo, Chief of the Contagious Diseases Investigation Institution, arrived here this morning. Two medical officers were also despatched from the Metropolitan Police Bureau yesterday.

Fourteen doctors and Kencho officials were appointed to attend to plague disinfection yesterday. Several policemen are assisting them.

A portion of Kitanagosa-dori, Ichome, was isolated yesterday. The first victim of the plague was living in an up-stairs room at No 119, of this street.

Mr. Furukawa Keisaburo, a clerk of the Government Railway, Kobe Station, and living at No. 10 of the station official houses, showed symptoms of cold and complained of slight pain in both feet, on the 11th inst. He consulted Dr. Inouye. Blood obtained from a spot where he complained of pain was analysed, and plague germs were found in it. He was sent to the Hiroshiyama Hospital at once and his house was thoroughly disinfected. He was in charge of the Kobe Station blacksmith's shop, and had to mix with labourers. He also had to look after rags and iron materials imported.

Mr. Narutaki, Mayor, yesterday called together the principals of schools and consulted with them as to precautions to be taken against the plague.

All ragmen of the city were summoned to the Kobe and Hyogo Police Stations to-day and were ordered to either burn their stock or submit it to a thorough disinfection.

Two new suspected cases were reported at the Kobe police station to-day. The patients are living next door to one of the victims already dead.

Friday, Nov. 17.

No new cases of the Pest have been reported from Kobe, and a hope is entertained that the malady may not extend beyond the five victims whose connexion with the infected goods is supposed to have been established. But it is difficult to be so sanguine. Meanwhile the Government is reported to have determined that all importation of certain articles from places where the Pest exists, shall be suspended. The articles are rags, old cotton wadding, old clothes, old paper and old feathers; and the places, Bombay, Shanghai, Hongkong, Newchwang and Tientsin.

The *Kobe Herald* of Wednesday says :—

Mr. Omori, Governor of the Ken, has issued the following Instruction relating to the plague :—Any vessels in Kobe harbour loading cargo which has passed through the plague-infected district shall not land rubbish or refuse without disinfecting it. Any persons violating this Instruction shall be fined or imprisonmed. The Instruction shall be enforced from the day of issue (13th).

All school children were put under medical examination yesterday and those children who come from the neighbourhood of the plague area were ordered to stay at home. Others were ordered to wear *tabi* (socks) in the schools. Several persons who called on Mr. Furukawa prior to his removal to the Higashiyama Hospital were isolated. The Aioibashi Police authorities have ordered the theatres and variety entertainment proprietors in their administration to close their halls for the time being as a precaution against the plague. The authorities are destroying all goods found in the dwellings of the victims or those which have passed through their hands since yesterday. The total value of material thus destroyed amounted to something like *yen* 403 up to this morning.

It is reported that Umetsu Shikao, a boy on board the *Omi Maru*, was missing when the steamer underwent disinfection at Moji on her last voyage from Formosa to Kobe on the 2nd inst. The boy was on board the steamer on the 11th when she touched at Moji on her way out to Formosa. It is now rumoured that the first victim to the plague who died at Hiroshima was discovered by the crew and was landed at Moji secretly when she arrived there, the boy who was missing from the roll being sent with him to Hiroshima.

"RESIDENTIAL RHYMES."

Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., send us the latest of Mr. Hasegawa, the well-known Tokyo publisher's productions. It is a luxurious volume—*crèpe* paper, crude pictures and delicately tinted leaves. We speak of the publisher first, because the glories of his technique quite eclipse the humble efforts of the author, Mr. Osman Edwards, who aims at nothing higher than jingling doggrel, good humoured and sometimes funny, but evidently intended to accompany the efforts of the publisher rather than to be accompanied by them.

The maples crown Miyajima,
The *torii* crown the sea,
The temple, steadfast as a star,
Shares art's eternity.

Here Okyo, here would Hokusai come,
Here Hiroshige flamed;
My sketch will fetch a decent sum,
If adequately framed.

* * * *

Let Nikko and let Nara
To pilgrims tell their tale;
To me give Shimabara
With damsels fair and frail.

No painful thought of duty
O'er my enjoyment jars,
While Venus in her beauty
Rewards the zeal of Mars.

That is the art of Mr. Osman Edwards; very good art in its way but to be taken in small doses.

RUSSIAN SAILORS ON SHORE.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a statement that some ten Russian man-of-war's men went ashore at Fusan on the 5th instant, and painted the place red, wounding several of the citizens. Our contemporary's correspondent says that the incident is not to be regarded as a mere drunken freak, for the men seemed to be under the influence of something besides alcohol. It is easy to understand that a suspicion of that kind should be entertained by an eye-witness of the outrage, but a distinction of the kind could scarcely be set up in practice.

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THE FUTURE EMPRESS OF JAPAN.

The preparations of the Princess Sada for her approaching nuptials with the Prince Imperial are said to be proceeding apace. Trousseau-buying is quite as immense an operation in Japan as in any part of Europe, and its importance has not been at all diminished since Japanese fashions have been supplemented by foreign. An Empress of Japan or a Princess Imperial must now be provided not only with an abundance of the beautiful garments and artistic furniture approved by her country's customs, but must also possess an amply filled wardrobe of Western costumes, with a reasonable supply of that Occidental abomination, jewelry. The Princess Sada's father, Prince Kujo, is not a wealthy man. None of the Imperial Princes of Japan is even approximately wealthy. His Highness, therefore, does not provide the large sum required for these preparations. He gives a hundred thousand *yen* only. The Imperial Household Department, in other words, the Emperor, contributes a sum of four hundred thousand, and his Majesty, it is said, has farther directed that a sum of seven hundred thousand *yen* left by the late Empress-Dowager Yeisho—aunt of Princess Sada—should be handed over to his son's betrothed. The Princess will consequently have a million and a quarter of *yen*, in round figures, to spend upon her trousseau. It ought to be possible to buy some pretty things with that amount.

WEAVING INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

Of course it is only a question of time until the Japanese work up their own yarns and raw silk instead of exporting them to be manufactured by others. They export a large quantity of yarn to China, and there is no apparent reason why a people with their industrial aptitudes should not complete the process of manufacture instead of stopping half-way as they do at present. We observe that the question is vigorously taken up by the *Jiji Shimpo*—another example of our contemporary's keenness of touch with the problems of the hour. The plain truth is that there are many things which the Japanese might accomplish, immensely to their own profit, if they put their pride in their pocket and consented to seek foreign cöoperation. They seem to think that to employ foreign expert assistance would be to acknowledge some deficiency of natural endowment on their own part, which is much as though a ship-master should refrain from engaging a pilot to navigate intricate waters lest the condition of the vessel's engines might be thereby exposed to suspicion. It is in failing to utilize their opportunities, in sacrificing utility to sentiment, that the Japanese lay themselves open to the very reproach which they seek to avoid.

The cotton-spinning trouble in India seems to be developing considerable dimensions. Owing to the failure of the cotton crop, the price of the raw material has risen some 40 per cent. in the past four months, whereas the market price of cotton yarns has appreciated by a fourth of that amount only. The closing of some mills has resulted, and those that remain open wish to reduce their production. It is understood that Japan is to be approached, or has been approached, with a proposal for cöoperation in applying the latter remedy; but the Japanese, if we may judge from an article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are inclined to see an opportunity for themselves in the present conjuncture. They regard the Bombay mill-owners as their rivals, and they think that, instead of helping to tide over the crisis which has come upon India, they should seek to accentuate it. That is human nature, we presume. Certainly it is "business."

SZECHUAN AND ITS TROOPS.

It is reported that the Governor-General of Szechuan has formed a scheme for completely reorganizing the military forces of the big province, and that his intention is to seek the assistance of Japanese military experts in carrying out the project. The Viceroy Chang Chitung is said to be an advocate of the idea, which is more than probable, for Chang has of late shown himself sincerely progressive, and his disposition to make use of Japanese assistance has been displayed in many ways. There is no reason to doubt that Chinese soldiers, if well drilled, well armed, and well led, would make a formidable fighting machine, and unless China provides herself speedily with some efficient defence she will inevitably be cut up and parcelled out among her Occidental friends.

OPENING OF THE ORIENTAL SCHOOL AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

Correspondents of Tokyo journals send glowing accounts of a ceremony which has just taken place at Vladivostock, namely, the opening of an Oriental School. All the great folk within accessible distance seem to have been present, Governors, Generals, Bishops and Diplomatists, and many speeches of a congratulatory nature were delivered. The Czar himself deemed the occasion worthy of a special message. The Bishop, in his speech, hinted very plainly that he regarded the school as an instrument for propagating the doctrines of the Greek Church, but the addresses of the leading officials suggested that its aim was secular rather than religious. The Japanese Consul announced that he had his Government's instructions to offer sincere congratulations on an event calculated to promote the spread of knowledge, and thus to further the interests of international amity.

BARON HAYASHI ON RUSSIA.

The *Hochi Shimbun* is not at all convinced by Baron Hayashi's reported utterances about Russia. The Baron is represented as having said that Russia should not be called an aggressive Power, since she is merely obeying an irresistable and natural impulse to seek an outlet on southern water. To that the *Hochi* replies by pointing to the Liaotung *coup* and her doings at Masampo, but we fail to see the force of the argument. Baron Hayashi, as we understood his remarks, merely protested against the commonly entertained idea that Russia is an unscrupulous grasping power influenced mainly by greed of territory and ready to sacrifice all moral principles on the altar of self-aggrandisement.

THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

The London agent of the Kobe Syndicate of journals has forwarded some remarkable telegrams about a combination of European Powers having for its object the dismemberment of the Chinese empire. It would seem as though the *Daily Chronicle* were chiefly responsible for the rumour. The situation suggested is that a scheme to partition China was mooted in St. Petersburg and Berlin; that the United States was invited to join; that the Government in Washington declined, but presented a claim for full recognition of American rights in the event of partition, and that the claim has been accepted. There is a rider based wholly on the *Chronicle's* authority, namely, that "America's action will startle the world" and that she is determined to prevent the proposed partition.

About all these stirring items of intelligence Baron Reuter's agents have not thought it necessary to telegraph so much as one word. Neither can we find that one word of information has been received in official circles in Tokyo. Is it conceivable that the Japanese Representative in Washington would have remained ignorant of these stupendous schemes were they really on the *tapis*? Is it conceivable that the United States or Great Britain would have failed to place itself immediately in communication with Japan even in the highly improbable event of the latter's having been kept in ignorance either through the connivance of Germany and Russia or through the incompetence of the Japanese diplomatic agents in Europe? Where, too, does England appear in the business? We attach no credit to the story. It has probably been manufactured out of some flagrant misconception, and may be placed on a par with the rumours now circulating here that Russia and Japan are on the point of war.

KOREA.

Confirmation is published of the rumour that Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., a British subject, is seeking to obtain a mining concession in Phyong-an-do. The locality indicated is near Gensan—a mountain called Yanshan, immediately adjoining Un-shan where a German subject has obtained a similar concession—and the minerals are gold and silver. It is supposed that an audience which the British Representative in Söul had just had with the Emperor of Korea, referred to this matter.

From the Korean capital comes further news that his Majesty has given audiences to the Representatives of Russia and Japan. These events, ordinary enough in themselves, are invested with a certain amount of mystery by the Japanese newspaper reporter, who finds in Korea an unique field for the exercise of his vocation.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Shiranui*, torpedo-destroyer, has arrived safely at Yokosuka, after an outward voyage of 101 days.

The Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have handsomely rewarded the Captain and crew of the *Kasuga Maru* on account of the recent incident in Aust-

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ralia when the *Kasuga's* people rendered such gallant and useful assistance in saving life.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that Pak-chow in Funan was opened to foreign trade on the 12th instant.

Professor Toyama has been seriously ill. He was attacked with influenza which finally took the form of inflammation of the lungs. Happily he is now out of danger, but only his robust constitution pulled him through.

It is stated that Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in London, has resigned, and that he will be succeeded by Baron Hayashi, who has just returned from St. Petersburg. Mr. Kato's immediate future is not discussed, but since he is universally recognised as one of the very ablest of Japan's rising statesmen, we may expect to see him take a prominent place in home politics.

Baron Hayashi has returned in apparently excellent health, though he is disposed to attribute that fact to his stay in Brussels during the Peace Conference rather than to his residence in St. Petersburg. The Russian capital is too sombre climatically to suit the constitution of a Japanese, though there is much in the life of the great city to charm as well as to dazzle.

We mentioned in a recent issue that the revenue returns for the current year show most promising figures. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now refers to the subject. It says that the Income Tax promises to yield 800,000 *yen* more than was estimated, and the *Sake* Tax, two millions more; and that the Customs, Tobacco Monopoly, Stamp Tax, Land Tax, Registration Fees, and Post and Telegraphs will all produce much more than was expected.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has opened its columns to a vehement tirade against a certain Occidental nobleman who resides at present in Yokohama. He is represented as a most unamiable character, stingy, selfish and immoral, never brightening unless he finds himself in the company of frail ladies, and never generous except when a debauch is on the *tapis*. The *Hochi* considered its responsibilities, we presume, before it commenced the publication of such a philippic.

The stagnation that recently prevailed in the money market seems to have given place to a state of comparative activity. So small had the demand for money become that the most liberal banks—as the Mitsu Bishi Goshi Kaisha—were obliged to reduce their interest on currents accounts to 1 *sen* daily, or 3.65 per cent. annually. Things have now begun to mend, however, and the Bank of Japan announces that its daily rates of interest will be raised 1 *rin* all round, or 0.365 per cent. annually.

The first entry of a foreign vessel into the port of Yokkaichi took place on the 9th instant. She appears to have been called the *Fuchieh*, but as usual the mangling of transliteration makes it difficult to decipher her true name. At any rate she carried a cargo of beans from Newchwang, and her master and officers were probably surprised to find that a sumptuous welcome had been prepared for them as pioneers of a commerce which the citizens of Yokkaichi expect to see grow steadily.

Quite an extensive capture of brigands appears to have been effected in Formosa. Lim Ching, the notorious leader, and 150 of his supposed followers have been apprehended. This fortunate event is attributed to the fact that the respectable members of the population have taken heart of grace and given information against the law-breakers—a step they have always hitherto been too timid to take. This looks as if the people were acquiring greater confidence in the ability of the Japanese to protect them against the vengeance of the bandits.

It appears that the question of foreigners' liability to pay taxes on account of education is under discussion. Such taxes form part of the municipal tax now levied upon all nationalities simultaneously. But inasmuch as foreigners have nothing to do with education in this country, their children not being subject to the educational laws or in a position to take advantage of the educational facilities provided with the proceeds of the tax, it seems scarcely fair that they should be required to pay. For our own part, we can not conceive any principle of equity requiring such a payment.

The *Jiji*, while assured that the conquest of the South African Republics is only a question of time, thinks that if the war is protracted, serious complications may ensue. Not that any European Power will attempt to interfere in South Africa, but that the opportunity will probably be seized to complete the isolation of England with a view to united action on the part of her rivals in the Far East. The result, according to our contemporary's opinion, will be that England and America will come together, and Japan must then consider seriously which camp she intends to enter, for the course of events is not likely to be long delayed.

The Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have published a Handbook which is, without exception, the prettiest thing of the kind we have ever seen, and which also contains a mass of useful information, not merely about the company's affairs, but also about all things Japanese. There are several maps, track charts, and so forth, and there are many collotypes of great beauty. The text is well composed and happily free from the fine writing in which authors of guide-books and handbooks are prone to indulge. Everybody connected with the preparation of this artistic volume is to be congratulated, not omitting the printers, "the Tokyo Printing Company," or even the designers of the cover.

The list of public entertainments begins to multiply as the end of the year approaches. A concert is announced by the Meiji Ongaku-kwai for Saturday, December 2nd, at the Uyeno Music Hall. The music to be performed on this occasion,—in preparing which the society has had the assistance of Mr. House,—is of a more ambitious character than that presented at the ordinary concerts of the same body, and includes selections from the works of Handel, Pergolese, Scarlatti, Mazzinghi, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Auber and Verdi. The full programme will presently be published. We are informed that the orchestra has been enlarged this season, and now numbers seventeen performers.

The area of the new Japanese settlement at Amoy is forty thousand *tsubo*, or some 33 acres. The *Official Gazette* publishes the conditions agreed to by the two Governments. Chinese owners of lots forming part of the site are not to be at liberty to name their own selling prices, nor are Japanese purchasers to fix the value. The assessment is to be made by an officially appointed committee, in the event of disagreement between the contracting parties. As to graves, it is provided that, while the removal of those now on the site is not imperative, no new burials will be permitted, and if graves are removed, the operation is to be managed in accordance with the rules already governing such matters.

Prince Konoye has been entertained by Liu Kun-yi in Shanghai, and the conversation between the two magnates is given in the *Nippon*. The Japanese statesman spoke of the East Asian Society of which he is president, and suggested, in a courteously guarded manner that Japan might be able to render her neighbour some assistance if the latter entered the route of Western civilization. Liu had nothing but admiration for Japan's progress. He spoke of a specimen of the "thirty-year pattern rifle" which had been sent to him by Captain Koyama, and expressed surprise that such weapons should have been devised in Japan. He claimed to have been always a warm friend of Japan. In proof of the latter fact he mentioned that at the time of the Formosan trouble in 1873 China was involved in a serious dispute with Russia about a territorial problem which seemed unlikely to be solved without an appeal to the sword. Certain Chinese statesmen were strongly in favour of coming to an agreement with Russia on any terms in order to smite Japan, but Liu opposed such a course, urging that ties of neighbourhood and immemorial close intercourse bound the two Eastern nations together, and should not be snapped for a trivial cause. The Chinese Governor asked most warmly after General Viscount Katsura, for whom he seemed to have a sincere regard.

CHUZENJI.

[Aug. 12, 1886]

Lying imprisoned in the wood-crowned hill,
Its quiet waters lapping on the beach;
Above, the fairest blue that ever summer sky
Arched over mountain lake:

Reflecting back to heaven the fringe of cloud,
The blue of sky, the gray wing of a bird,
Its peaceful bosom only made for shadowing
heavenly things:
It lies a gem most crystalline and pure.

Our hearts compassed about perchance with
sterner bounds
Are yet o'er arched always with love divine—
Which fain would win them from their darker
shades,
And shine into them heaven's truth and love,
Which they in turn reflect back to the skies.
O Lord, still all our troubled thoughts,
Let Thy great calm brood o'er our storm-tossed
souls.
Then shall we still and strong Thyself reflect.

J. E. D.

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THE JAPANESE PRESS AND THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

ON the whole the tone of the Japanese press has been moderate and well balanced with reference to the war in South Africa. There has been a marked disposition to approve Great Britain's policy, the only exceptions being the articles of the *Nippon* and the *Yorozu Choho*. The *Nippon* is a journal that finds difficulty at all times in approving the actions of a foreign country. It still brings the tenets of high morality to bear on inter-State transactions, and therefore discovers at once great and just reason for censure. We admire its sentiments and regret that the world can not live up to them. In the present case our good contemporary follows the old-fashioned theory that the big boy must be in the wrong in every fight. It thinks that England should have shown more forbearance and magnanimity in her attitude towards the Transvaal, her strength and might being sufficient to justify large concessions. But then, in the very next sentence, the *Nippon* expresses doubts as to which side will emerge victorious from the struggle. Considering all things, it is inclined to back Great Britain, for her history shows that defeat at first does not dishearten her, and that she pulls herself together in the face of disasters. But there is plenty of room for uncertainty. Now we shall not pause to demonstrate the fallacy of the *Nippon's* notion that England's position at present is one of defeat, but we should like to know where our contemporary finds the great disparity of force on which it bases its original charge of want of magnanimity against England. If the combatants are so nearly matched that the result of the struggle is questionable, what is the meaning of these accusations of tyranny on the part of England? However, that is only a point of inconsistency in the *Nippon's* argument. We quite admit that England is the stronger, and it is that feeling, in large part, which induces so many prominent English politicians to condemn this war, and to allege that England could have afforded to be more generous. But we do most sincerely believe that the Boers went into the war convinced of ultimate success. The enormous difficulty of sending from England a sufficient force to conquer them, seemed to justify a belief that Her Majesty's Government would shrink from the effort, and that if they struck a few strong blows at once, some kind of compromise would be patched up, if, indeed, they did not manage to drive the English out of South Africa altogether.

The *Nippon* is on safer ground when it says that the principle for which England is avowedly fighting in South Africa —racial equality—is not exemplified by her own practice. On the one hand, we see her subjects in Australia legislating in the most arbitrary manner against Japanese and Chinese immigration. On the other, the mother country has drawn the sword to compel the Boers to refrain from all legislation discriminating against British immigrants in the Transvaal.

As for the *Yorozu Choho*, we do not propose to analyse its comments. It has still to purge itself from the taint of its past career before its utterances receive serious consideration. We are informed that it has changed hands, and that its new management do not intend to employ the paper any longer solely as an instrument for appealing to the most depraved sentiments of humanity. But the farce is still kept up of publishing English articles which profess to be expressions of Japanese opinion, whereas in truth they are nothing more than the views of the foreigner inditing them.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA IN KOREA.

A SOMEWHAT alarmist telegram has been sent across the wires to the "direct service" syndicate. It says that, according to *The Times*, there is increasing friction in Korea between Russia and Japan, which may precipitate action on Japan's part since the latter "may deem it imprudent to wait while her rival improves its position." We are not aware that there is any solid basis for such rumours. Last spring a certain plot of land was marked out at Masampo by M. Pavloff, when he was on his way home to St. Petersburg. The land belonged to private individuals and if the Russian Chargé d'Affaires really desired to acquire it, his effective plan would have been to place himself in direct communication with the owners and proceed by the ordinary process of purchase and payment. But he did not adopt that course, probably because the time at his immediate disposal would not have sufficed. He merely intimated to the local authorities his wish to obtain the land, and then continued his voyage to Russia. Presently some Japanese prospectors appeared upon the scene, selected certain seemingly eligible areas, and bought them at once from their Korean owners, neither of the contracting parties paying any attention to the fact that a Russian official had previously signified an intention of treating. Learning of this, the Russian acting Representative in Söul entered a remonstrance, but received the reply that the land in question was private property; that it had been bought and sold according to lawful processes; that it lay within the area where Japanese subjects were entitled to acquire land, and that the Korean authorities had no power to disturb an accomplished fact of such a nature. There the matter rests at present, its further discussion having been postponed until the return of Mr. Pavloff to Söul. But it has never been a question between the Governments of Japan and Russia, nor can we see any probability of its becoming an inter-governmental question unless Russia attempts to force Korea to dispossess the Japanese owners, and unless Korea yields to such pressure—contingencies not particularly probable. That is the only discernible cause of friction. Two fracas have occurred between Russian man-of-war's men and Japanese residents in Korea. With regard to the first, Russia showed some disposition to raise difficulties, but the second seems to have been merely a drunken row, in which both sides suffered pretty equal damage. Such incidents do not, of course, tend to promote international harmony, and perhaps their occurrence should be viewed as an evidence of the absence of harmony. But they do not justify the alarmist views that seem to be taken in London, as reflected in the columns of *The Times*. We have always thought that Korean problems are likely to strain the relations between Japan and Russia very severely, sooner or later, but happily there are no serious reasons for anxiety at present.

WHEN LAWYERS DISAGREE.

The following enquiry has been addressed by Mr Kotaro Uyeda, of No. 65, Sanchome, Shimoyamatedori, Kobe, to H.E. Keigo Kiyoura, Minister of State for Justice, concerning the registration of Japanese branches of foreign firms:—

Sir:—I have been engaged in the registration of foreign trading companies and firms at Kobe. The Kobe District Court very often holds different views from those taken by the Yokohama District Court, and this causes much uncertainty among foreigners, who see no reason why one and the same law should be interpreted differently by different Courts. I have found many difficulties in dealing with such cases. For instance, suppose a foreign firm has a branch both at Kobe and Yokohama. When the firm applies for registration to the Kobe District Court its application is not accepted, while the same firm's application is accepted at the Yokohama District Court. The Yokohama District Court has accepted applications for the registration of branches of foreign firms on presentation of a declaration signed by the Consul of the country to which the firm belonged. The Kobe District Court, however, would not accept an application on these terms because the Court wanted not only a declaration signed by the Consul, but a statement that the Consul certified it. When a copy of the application made at the Yokohama District Court was exhibited in the Kobe District Court in order to justify the applicant's claim, the latter Court declared that the Yokohama officials were mistaken and the Kobe Court could not follow their error. Thus the Kobe Court decided that it was necessary to forward a Consul's certificate showing not only that the Consul had signed the firm's declaration but that the Consul certified the existence of such firm. This is only one of many similar instances. In order to avoid such confusion we would request Your Excellency to provide that the Courts at the open ports may act in union on these matters. The doubt which at present exists makes foreigners distrustful of the laws of Japan.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Religion in Japan, says the Rev. H Kosaki in the *Shinseiki*, is suffering from a variety of misconceptions as to its true nature. These misunderstandings Mr. Kosaki proceeds to discuss in the following terms:—To some, religion seems to be an intellectual system. They confound faith with articles of faith. The wrangling that is going on incessantly between what are called the orthodox and the heterodox parties is all about articles of faith. The intellectual notions of the various controversialists differ widely from each other. But where both parties are wrong is in supposing that the most important element in religion is that which is addressed to the intellect. Another misconception represents religion as no more than a system of government. This is a mistake which Japanese are very apt to make owing to the influence of Confucianism on their minds. Religion is apt to appear to them as an organisation the principal object of which is the better ordering of society. The last important misconception is the resolving of religion into a system of morality. Thus religion becomes a mere device for teaching morality. Mr. Kosaki, with Jonathan Edwards, proceeds to argue that religion consists in a certain class of feeling and to deplore the fact that so much of the preaching of Christianity only aims at showing the uses to which religion may be put, in order to induce men to accept it, and does not attempt to explain what the very soul and substance of religion actually is. There is a great cry for a pure gospel, says Mr. Kosaki; teaching that lays stress on the main element of Christian faith alone fulfils this demand.

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The *Rikugō Zasshi* sees many objections to the alterations which are said to be contemplated by the Government in the mode of dealing with religious sects. Buddhism, this organ contends, should enjoy all the privileges it has hitherto enjoyed, but it is not at all necessary that Christianity should receive the same treatment at the hands of the Government. Christians prefer to be left without any Government interference whatever. If Christians break the laws of the land, they can be dealt with as other offenders are dealt with, but official supervision is objectionable to them and would do their cause more harm than good, while the status it is proposed to give to Christianity will, if given, only increase the envy of the Buddhists and Shintoists. The preservation of the *status quo* is the only safe policy for the Government to pursue, according to the *Rikugō Zasshi*.

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The *Rikugō Zasshi* laughs at the notion that one result of mixed residence will be corruption of Japanese morals. If, says the *Rikugō*, foreigners of low class come to this country as labourers or traders, their influence will be more than outweighed by the number of high-class Occidentals who will be attracted to our shores. Hitherto most of our progress has been caused by our contact with foreigners, and there is no reason to suppose that increased intercourse will mean anything but more progress. Our sexual morality as well as our commercial morality will be much improved by being submitted to comparison with foreign standards in many ways. That Japanese merchants are not as a class trusted as foreign business men are trusted is an undoubted fact, and this alone ought to convince thoughtful people that we have much to learn from foreigners. It will no doubt happen that in the keen competition between Japanese and foreigners in commerce and industry which will take place the morality and probity which the foreigner possesses and which so many of our business men lack will often turn the scales against us. But this is as it should be, and can only force on us a higher Code of business morality.

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A new work explaining the chief tenets of that very popular Buddhist sect the Tenrikyō has been published under the title of the 天理教ノ本領 *Tenrikyō no honryō*. The author of the work is Mr. Yamanaka Jūtarō and the publishers the Bunyūdō, Osaka. The *Sekai-no-Nihon* criticises the book unfavourably. A work that professes to give the essence of the teaching of the sect, says this organ, consists of a number of vapid and abstruse phrases. One thing, however, is plain, which is that the system advocated is a form of pantheisim. To matter attributes are given that amount to endowment with personality. Nature is represented as living, and God is said to dwell in the forms which natural objects have assumed. The duty of man is said to be to leave all things to nature, to follow nature in all things. Yet prayer is advocated, which seems to us, says the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, to involve a contradiction. Trust in divinity to the extent of neglecting all medical aid is enjoined. The doctrine the book contains is no less mischievous than irrational.

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The 佛教聖典史論, *Bukkyō Seiten-shinron* is an important work recently published by Professor Anezaki Masaharu, of the Imperial University. The publishers are the Keisei-Shoin, 13 Yoshinomachi, Asakusa, Tōkyō. The book sells at 40 *sen* per copy. It consists of a history of the Buddhist canonical writings and of the controversies which preceded the settling of the Canon, and somewhat resembles Professor Westcott's "General Survey of the History of the Canon of the New Testament in the First Four Centuries." The Canonical writings are treated under two headings, namely the *Abhidharma* and the *Mahayana* scriptures. In an appendix Professor Anezaki gives an account of the canonical books of the Old and New Testament. The whole work should prove a valuable reference book to earnest students of Buddhism—a class of men that is by no means extinct.

Another work published by the same firm is on the Shin Sect, entitled *Shinshū-tsugan* (A thorough look at the Shin Sect). The author is Mr. Tsuchiya Senkyū. The book covers 250 pages and is written in a semi-colloquial style. It treats of the following subjects:—I. The special tenets of the various Sects. II. A review of general Buddhist teaching. III. A history of the Shin Sect. IV. A history of the doctrine of the Sect. V. A history of its ethics and ritual. VI. An account of places of historical interest connected with the fortunes of the Shin Sect.

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The *Nihon Shugi*, hitherto a monthly magazine, now appears every ten days. It proposes no longer to confine itself to religion, but to discuss education, politics, art, economy, science, and social topics, but to make all its discussions subversive to the one end of furthering the original object of the promoters of the movement which the magazine champions, the Nipponising, if the term be allowable, of the Japanese public. It looks as though the stalwart nationals at the back of the agitation had found out that the reading public is rather weary of the ceaseless harping on one string to which it has been treated for months past, and that in order to get a hearing at all the contributors to the *Nihon Shugi* are going to alter the tune somewhat. Its apology for the change is that its principles will remain unaltered while it adopts new methods of impressing them on peoples' minds.

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In a recent issue the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* discusses the training and general instruction of Christian converts, and comes to the conclusion that in most churches sufficient attention is not paid to this duty. There is no lack of zeal in evangelistic work, but the importance of fortifying converts against the perils to which they are exposed does not seem to be realised, says the organ we are citing. In the work of reviving drooping faith the Methodists occupy a leading position among Churches, but on the other hand, they also are deficient in the matter of training converts. There is no denying, continues the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*, that there are connected with all churches a number of converts who are Christians only in name, who from year to year do nothing to further the interests of the church. The number of absent members whose names appear in church rolls is very large. A short time ago the present writer examined the roll of a certain church and found that out of a total membership of 323 no less than 86 persons were marked absent. He was informed that out of the remainder 123 persons were Christians only in name; so that the work of the church had to be carried on by a little over 100 converts, and even out of these the average attendance at church meetings did not exceed 77. Though we have not examined the state of a large number of churches, we are of opinion, continues the *Kiristokyō Shimbun*, that affairs are not much better in many other churches. Taking the statistics of the Kumiai Churches for 1898, we find that out of a total of 10,016 male and female converts, no less than 3,749 were absent. The number of merely nominal converts it is impossible to state accurately, but that in every Church they reach a very high figure is an undoubted fact. The number of attendants at services when compared with the total number of converts who are living in the vicinity of the Church is very small. No absolutely reliable statistics on this point are at hand, but the number of attendants at Sunday Schools is given in the statistics of the Kumiai Churches as 3,515; hence we may infer that the total Church attendance would not exceed 5,000 persons. The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* proceeds to compare these figures with statistics bearing on other missions. We cannot find space for all the figures given, but we give those that concern the Turkish Branch of the American Board Mission. The number of converts is given as 5,374; the Sunday School scholars at 11,895, while the

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attendants at Church average 13,095. In both England and America the attendants at Church and at Sunday Schools are invariably more numerous than the enrolled members of the various Churches. So that the state of things in Japan is a real cause for anxiety. The fact is that our Churches have yet to learn how to keep Church registers. The names of converts who have left the vicinity of the Church should be struck off the rolls, and, in case of their joining other Churches, should be transferred to the register of such Churches. In these matters we are very unbusinesslike. The Dendō Kaisha has a debt of over one thousand *yen* and many Churches are complaining of the difficulty of making two ends meet. There are two causes of this state of things; one is the fact we have mentioned above, the responsibility of supporting the Church falls on too few shoulders, the other is the lack of business methods in the management of the funds at the disposal of the various Churches. Both these subjects are worthy of the serious attention of all who are interested in the progress of mission work in this country.

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The articles published in the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* from time to time are thoughtful, temperate, and practical, and convey a better idea of the real state of Christian work in this country than anything we have read elsewhere. One of these articles lies before us. It is on the future of evangelistic work in Japan. The writer gives one the impression that he has been behind the scenes and knows the actual condition of affairs. We give the gist of his remarks. Evangelistic work in this country is still young, and too much is not to be expected from it. Christianity, though residing in the country, cannot be said to have been naturalised. We do not say that serious objection can be taken to the results of past work as shown by the number of professing Christians. But the trouble is that so few of these professors possess real faith in Christ. Their minds are unstable, and no reliance can be placed on them for Christian work. There are Christians who have entered the Church as a means of furthering some secular purpose. There are Christians who regard Christianity merely as a branch of learning to be studied by would-be scholars. There are Christians who worship God in the same way they used to worship idols, and whose ideas about the benefits to be derived from that worship are still of a heathenish type. There are others who enter the Christian Church with no more devotion or faith than a man who joins a club, where he hopes to find amusement and diversion. It is not surprising that such as these should renounce their connection with the Church when they encounter opposition of any kind. Now the presence of such lukewarm professors in the church is a constant element of weakness, and renders the work of evangelisation very difficult. It is not to be supposed that such persons will subscribe liberally towards the support of pastors or evangelists. Many of them regard a request for a subscription in the light of a tax, which they pay unwillingly, if they pay at all. . . . . Now the one difficulty of evangelisation carried on by Japanese is the lack of funds. Pastors and evangelists are insufficiently paid. Not a few have tried St. Paul's plan. If they have not taken to tent-making, they have pursued a number of other callings during the week and have appeared in the pulpit on the Sabbath. Some of the occupations chosen have been of an arduous class, such, for instance, was that of a pastor who dealt in charcoal up till late on Saturday night and who was to be seen with face and hands as black as coal on the eve of the Sabbath. St. Paul may have made a success of this kind of life, but we Japanese have not been able to do so. Those who have tried it have as a rule done one of two things. They have either ended in giving up pastoral and evangelistic work and keeping to their trades, or in giving up trade and accepting pay from some Missionary Society, native or foreign. If Christianity is to make rapid progress in this country, pastors and evangelists must have time on their hands to devote to study and to the preparation of a Christian literature. One of the most noticeable things of recent years is the paucity of really valuable Christian books. How many books are published every year whose cost is more than 50 *sen*? Living in a world of progress as we do, is it possible for a minister to keep himself abreast of the age if most of his days are spent in toil for a living? In order to write a book to suit the age, a man must have time to study the tendency of thought, and this leisure many of our evangelists do not possess. It is evident then that the plan of working for a living while serving the church does not yield the best results; but nevertheless the fact that there should be men in the Church with faith enough and courage enough to give the plan a fair trial is most gratifying. Should not the churches be stirred by this spectacle and come forward with subscriptions for the support of men of such sterling worth? The Japanese people may have degenerated much, but they are not bad enough to allow noble, whole-hearted, self-sacrificing men to live in poverty and die of hunger while engaged in the work of preaching the gospel to their fellow-countrymen.

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A number of provincial Christian publications are doubtless read widely by those for whose benefit they are compiled. Such are the Osaka *Dendō Geppō*, a monthly report of Evangelistic and other work, which has reached its 29th number; the *Kōtsake Kyōkai Geppō*, a monthly report of Christian work in Gumma Ken, which has just issued its 12th number; the *Kyūshū Kirisutokyō*, also a monthly, which has been in existence about 4 years; the *Hokkai no Hikari*, published by the Church Missionary Society in Hakodate, a monthly magazine which has reached its 75th number, and many others, copies of which have not come beneath our notice. The *Kyōkai Hyōron*, published by the Yushinsha, which is connected with the American Episcopal School of Divinity at No. 31, Tsukiji, Tōkyō, is a critical and expository magazine designed principally, we take it, for Christian readers. It is clearly printed and covers about 40 pages, and has reached its 78th number. The Okayama Orphan Asylum has its monthly newspaper issue, an organ that has been in existence for about three years.

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Under the title of "How Christianity becomes corrupt," the *Fukuin Shimpō* writes in the following strain:—The better the thing the more danger is there of itt deterioration. The history of Christiani-y has shown that it is particularly liable ts lose its loftiness of character and to deso cend to the rank of ordinary institutions. There are five distinct provinces in which the falling off may be observed. (1) *In the region of thought.* In the early days of Christian propagandism the minds of men were full of Christian ideas and they came pouring out in a language that even to-day is recognised by all devout souls to have been inspired. It is this that makes the New Testament so different from other books. But in later days men's intellects ceased to work in the same way, and they accepted blindly what they had inherited from the founders of the faith. (2) *There is apt to be meagreness of Christian experience and weakness of faith.* Few men seem to realise that in different ages and different countries the working of God's spirit is by no means alike. Divine influences flow in new channels. (3) *Worship tends to become formal and empty.* Freedom of spirit goes and men become slaves to traditional ceremonies that have lost all their significance. (4) In ecclesiastical affairs one of the conditions of life and activity *is that no church should commit itself to one unchangeable course of action.* The various forms of church government in existence have been called for by the circumstances in which men have found themselves It is a mistake to suppose that there is anything divine about uniformity in this matter—uniformity is apt to extinguish the last sparks of life in a church. There is nothing unreasonable in the assertion that God is the author of Episcopalianism, Presbyterianism, Congregationalism, and every other existing form of church government. It is in the variety of His ways of working that the Holy Spirit reveals power. (5) In the matter of ethics *Christianity is always in danger of being trammelled by tradition and conventionalism.* Paul fought hard against the notion that Christians were to be subject to the Mosaic law. Our moral notions must be derived from the workings of the spirit within us, in order to have real influence on our lives and the lives of others.

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The Sansaisha announces the publication of a pamphlet on the educational policy pursued by Japan entitled *Kyōikukai*(界) *no-ryukōbyō* (A Prevailing Disease in the Educational World) from the pen of L'Abbé Francois Ligneul. The complaint referred to is the widely prevailing notion that religion and all the ethical teaching connected with it should be banished from the schools. The essay sells at 8 *sen* per copy, and it is said to put the subject in a very clear and forcible manner.

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We have received from the Rev. G. G. Hudson of Osaka a copy of his recently published work entitled *Kiristo-no-Oshiye*. It covers 173 pages. It professes to furnish a full exposition of the doctrine of the New Testament. The following are the subjects of the eight chapters of which it is composed (1) God. (2) Man. (3) Sin. (4) Jesus Christ. (5) Life. (6) Christ's Disciples. (7) Forms of Worship. (8) Tradition and History. The printing is clear, the style suited to the comprehension of all who can read. The price of

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the work is not given, but a note at the end states that a copy will be presented free to any pastor or elder desirous of possessing one.

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The Greek Church organ, the *Seikyō Shimpō* (No. 453), has a leader entitled, "The responsibility of Learned Christians," in which the writer sets out by citing what has been done by laymen in the West to make Christianity better known and understood, and then proceeds to lament that among the many educated laymen in the Greek Church in Japan, so few should have done anything worthy of mention for the Christian cause. There are undoubtedly men, says the *Seikyō Shimpō*, with sufficient knowledge, force of character, and command of language to make effective speeches in public on Christian subjects were they so disposed. It is no excuse to say that many educated Christians have given themselves up exclusively to the study of some special branch of knowledge and that they do not know how to bring the information they have acquired to bear on Christian topics, as the thing is done in the West time and again. If an educated Christian cannot engage in one kind of advocacy, he can engage in another. It is not by means of the highly trained soldiers alone that battles are won. There are many that go to battlefields and do good service without having undergone high technical training. If a man cannot fight with the cavalry he can fight with the infantry. If he can't do this, he can stand by a single gun and help his side a certain amount. In our Church there is much need of more division of labour. There is work that only a certain class of converts are qualified to do, but they are not performing it. They fail to realise their responsibilities and to use the influence which they possess as scholars.

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In the *Rikugō Zasshi*, Mr. Y. Katsumata in a long article entitled "The narrow-mindedness of Christians," endeavours to show that the educational system of Japan, regarded from a moral standpoint, is not so objectionable as it is often represented to be. Among those who may be regarded as leaders of thought on education and ethical teaching, according to Mr. Katsumata, the disciples of Johann Friedrich Herbart are in the majority. The attention which this philosopher gave to pedagogy in connection with his system of psychology, and the stress that he laid on the development of the moral faculties, render his writings very acceptable to serious Japanese thinkers. Mr. Katsumata thinks that the educational ideal of Japan is high, but is of opinion that in practice the results are very poor. His charge against Christians is that too often they fail to recognise that agencies which have no connection with religion are indirectly helping it forward in many ways. No school teacher giving instruction in history, for instance, can fail to show what an important part religion has played in moulding events. It must be granted, says Mr. Katsumata, that as a rule the individual belief or unbelief of teachers is not allowed to bias their exposition of historical and other subjects. In spreading knowledge they are indirectly helping the cause of Christianity. This a great many Christians fail to recognise.

The number of the *Rikugō Zasshi* from which we have just quoted contains a very long article on "The principles that should form the basis of future customs," by Mr. Yamamoto Ryōkichi. The subject is an important one and seems to be well handled by Mr. Yamamoto. We can do no more than give a bare outline of an essay that occupies 12 closely printed pages in the magazine. The writer sets out by enumerating the particulars in which the customs of the Japanese have been modified as a result of their intercourse with foreigners. This modification will doubtless go on, but the question which it is most essential to ask is, on what lines will the modification take place? Are there no landmarks to guide us in our journey onwards? Certain fixed principles should control all our movements. These, stated briefly, are five in number. (1) *The Unity of Society.* Society is a word that is used in a variety of meanings and lacks scientific precision as a term. It refers to a number of individuals living together in one country or place and having the same object in view. It differs from the word "nation" in that the latter refers to the subjects of a special government. Now society must be thought of as one body and as having special interests. There are many things that affect all members alike, and, if certain things begin by affecting only a small section of the community, by degrees the area of the influenced section grows. Hence society cannot afford to neglect to study and to endeavour to remedy any and every ill from which its members may suffer. Poverty and disease, the greatest of all the evils to which man is heir, concern not only the sufferers but all members of the body social to which the sufferers belong. In the matter of the establishment of new customs, regard must be had to the interests of society as a whole. Its unity must not be forgotten for one moment. (2) *The original equality of men considered as men must never be overlooked.* Though in talents, property and worldly position men differ from each other, there is a sense in which they are all equal, and they must be treated as such. To honour the rich and despise the poor, to worship rank for its own sake, is to mistake what is accidental for what is essential. One of the principles of progress in the world is that only character, and action that results from it, can render a man worthy of honour. A man is not what he has, but what he is. No customs should be countenanced that violate the principle of the equality of all men. (3) It is necessary that *there should be steadfastness of purpose in what is undertaken;* that men should make up their minds what course they are to take and should keep to it. There should be no change of front. What is sought after to-day should be sought after ten years hence. The lower animals and even the lower classes of society live only for the day that is passing, and take no thought for the morrow. This state of mind leads to the establishment of many improvident customs. One of these the life insurance companies are trying to overcome. But there are others which it will take some years to get rid of. (4) It is most important that *every custom* that *is established should represent real feeling and not be a sham.* We are advocates of letting the real state of our feelings be known to others. Concealment can only lead to mistakes of some kind or other. To feel one thing and pretend to feel another can but end in complications and often results in the institution of a line of action that has no relation whatever to the actual state of feeling of the person or persons who have called it into existence. Many of our ceremonies are mere empty formalities which no longer represent any real feeling. In all old countries custom is apt to become utterly meaningless. In new countries like America there is a strong feeling against conventional conformity to the existing customs of any country. This sentiment is a sign of progress. (5) *Customs that are subversive of morality should be abolished.* All existing customs doubtless originated with a state of feeling that prevailed among mankind at some time or other. But since morality is progressive and, according to our modern ethical notions, certain customs are absolutely immoral, they must be got rid of. There can be no progress in any country where habits and usages that are contrary to the whole spirit of the age and that constitute an offence to the consciences of the best people are sanctioned or merely winked at. In this country thought is too far ahead of practice. It is vain to spend time in elaborating fine ideals, if no attempt is made to advance society a good distance in the direction of those ideals. Nothing is more sure than that customs and morality advance and retrograde together, that they act and react on each other. Hence the discussion of what customs it is desirable should be established in the New Japan is second to none in importance.

FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS.

NOTE 4.—The subject of the registration of mercantile firms or partnerships is of too great importance to be dismissed until discussion has been fairly exhausted. Dr. Loenholm's communication of the 10th instant leaves two points to be further dealt with. He contends that the wording of the Anglo-Japanese treaty must give way to the technical terminology adopted in the new Commercial Code, because the latter is of later date. But treaty rights are not disposed of in such summary fashion; while as to dates, although it is true that the British treaty was ratified in 1894, nevertheless in the latest, that is to say, the Austro-Hungarian, revised treaty, which was promulgated in September, 1898, the same clear distinction is drawn between partnerships and corporations, or *Kumiai* and *Kwaisha.* Will it be alleged that the Commercial Code was not under the careful consideration of the Government before the last mentioned date? Even so, there would have remained, after that date, several months between the conception and the promulgation of the Commercial Code in which to see that it did not infringe rights and privileges already accorded by treaty. The interpretation of the Commercial Code contended for by Dr. Loenholm would have the effect of curtailing those rights and privileges; whilst that maintained in these notes would leave them untouched; and when it is added that the latter interpretation is that selected by the Japanese Government itself in construing its revised treaties with all the European Powers, not even excepting Germany, it must be apparent that that interpretation must prevail. One other point:—Dr Loenholm asserts that "Japanese partnerships *must* register." If by partnerships he means *Kwaisha*, that is begging the question; but if the meaning is that Japanese merchants who have heretofore carried on their business in *Kumiai* are bound to reorganize as *Kwaisha*, it would be useful to be referred to authority for that *dictum.*

STUDENT.

Yokohama, Nov. 13th, 1899.

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THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The telegraph announces that reinforcements are rapidly arriving at the Cape, but it must not be expected that a forward movement will follow rapidly on their arrival. Doubtless a quick effort will be made to relieve Ladysmith, but Kimberley and Mafeking will probably have to wait. We strongly commend to our readers' notice the following article from *The Times* of October 2nd, which gives a clear idea of the forces to be employed and of the task to be undertaken after their arrival in South Africa. The only comment to be made is that the estimate of the writer in *The Times* was made when Her Majesty's Government believed the Boer forces to be smaller than they actually seem to be :—

The policy of a progressive reinforcement of the British troops in South Africa will shortly effect a marked change in the military situation. The regular field force at the Cape and in Natal on August 15 consisted of two cavalry regiments, three field batteries and one mountain battery, and six and a half infantry battalions, of which all except a battalion and-a-half of infantry was in Natal. The first reinforcement raised the number of infantry battalions in Natal to six, with two-and-a-half battalions at Cape Town. At the same time preparations were made to send out about 10,000 men from Great Britain and India, and to mobilize an army corps if the need should arise. Practically the whole of the first instalment is now at sea, and before the end of this month there will be nearly 22,000 troops in South Africa, most of which will be under the command of Sir George White in Natal. Such a force will suffice to defend the colony from serious invasion, but would be quite inadequate to undertake offensive operations. So far the reinforcement has proceeded without calling upon the Reserves. The next step is to mobilize an army corps, and possibly a cavalry division and additional troops for the line of communications.

The army corps, originally, as at Waterloo, a somewhat nebulous body, has since been regularized by the Germans. The handling of great masses of men entailed large groupings for purposes of command and administration, and the division—the only unit complete in the three arms—was not sufficiently comprehensive. With universal service and a rigidly territorial system there was no difficulty in assigning a larger unit to geographical areas. Thus in Germany and elsewhere a district is made to furnish an army corps complete with all its details. The application of the army corps organization to Great Britain, where universal service does not exist and a rigid territorial system is impossible, has been frequently criticized. The various components must necessarily be brought together from places far apart. Scotland and Ireland, the Channel Islands, Newcastle and Devonport, Pembroke and Dover, may have to be drawn upon to make up the first army corps which has ever existed in this country. The composition of this large unit has been the subject of much academic discussion. As laid down, it consists of three complete infantry divisions, each of two brigades of four battalions, with a squadron of cavalry and three field batteries. "Corps troops," consisting of a squadron of cavalry, two horse and six field batteries, an infantry battalion, and various engineer units, are added. A cavalry division would consist of two brigades and two horse artillery batteries, a battalion of mounted infantry, and a detachment of mounted engineers. For the line of communications infantry battalions would be allotted, their numbers depending upon the length of the line to be guarded and the general military conditions. An army corps in this country is practically a schedule of widely scattered units, to which mobilization points have been assigned and for which certain stores are maintained. Inclusive of supply and medical services, the total number of men is, roughly, 35,000, with 84 guns, 10,000 horses or pack animals, and 1,700 vehicles. The authorized war strength of a cavalry division is about 6,700 officers and men, with 12 guns, 6,600 horse and pack animals, and 450 vehicles. The mobilization of an army corps and a cavalry division would therefore imply the provision of about 41,700 officers and men, 96 guns, 16,600 animals. and 2,150 vehicles, exclusive of troops for the line of communications.

To complete this number of men a large draft upon the Army Reserves must be made, as the special reserve recently constituted would not nearly suffice. As preparations have been in full progress for many weeks, the mobilization and equipment of the troops may be expected to be accomplished rapidly. This is a comparatively easy operation, but the difficulties will not then be ended. When, in 1870, Germany placed 370,000 men in the Palatinate in 13 days the world marvelled. No more complete adaptation of means to a great end had ever been seen; yet, in a sense, the operation was a simple one. The men, the transport, and the stores were all ready. The Great General Staff under Von Moltke's eye had worked out every detail, carefully gauging the requirements and as carefully planning the arrangements by which these requirements were to be met. Our problem is essentially different. When the various units of our army corps have assembled and equipped themselves at their scattered centres, they have to be brought to various points on the coast and embarked in extemporized transports of varying capacity. The larger units must be separated from each other and from their transport. The transport itself must be specialized, and many thousands of mules and bullocks must be bought. After disembarcation at a South African port or ports the real organization of the transports must begin. Not till then can the larger units be brought together and equipped with their multifarious vehicles, their hospital and supply details, their ammunition columns, and their engineer detachments. Brigades—and still less divisions—will not be complete field units until they have landed and disentangled their belongings from the vast mass of animals and vehicles discharged at the bases. The force which it may be necessary to send to South Africa is far greater than any which has ever been dispatched at one time from this country.

The test of organizing power will arise only after disembarcation, and it is in anticipation of the difficulties which must necessarily present themselves that a considerable number of Army Service Corps companies and many special service officers are being sent out. The preliminary mobilization will be carried out rapidly; but, if the subsequent difficulties are not adequately realized, there will be bitter disappointment at the apparent delay in taking the field, which, in the circumstances, is inevitable.

If a cavalry division, an army corps and four infantry battalions for line of communication are despatched to South Africa, the total available field force would consist of 14 cavalry regiments, a body of mounted infantry, 23 batteries, and 46 infantry battalions. The total number of men of all arms and departments would be about 68,000, or 6 000 more than the force—British, French, and Turkish—which landed at Old Fort in September, 1854. Irregular forces, colonial contingents, and armed police would probably add about 4,000 to the above total.

It is now certain that Orange Free State would not remain neutral in the event of war, and the situation is thereby simplified. Strict neutrality could not, in any case, have been counted upon and a nominal neutrality, which, while preventing British movements on Free State territory, might not have prevented the accession of armed burghers to the Boer ranks, would have proved an embarrassment. The population of the Free State numbers about 80,000, and if the Free State and the Transvaal together there can scarcely be more than 35,000 men between the ages of 18 and 60 To this number must be added an unknown force of Dutch sympathizers from the Cape Colony, and a body of Uitlanders of non British origin, who may throw in their lot with the Boers. Exaggerated estimates at Pretoria are probably without accurate information. Unless a large reinforcement from Cape Colony presents itself, the total fighting force of the Boers cannot greatly exceed 45,000 men. When the great distances, the long lines of communication to be guarded, the impossibility of denuding Cape Colony of troops, and the imperative necessity of checking any native rising are taken into account, the British force of 68,000 men, above assumed, seems by no means excessive. Every consideration, political and military, demands that operations, if necessary, should be rapid and decisive. Initial checks or small apparent reverses must be carefully avoided.

The strength of the Boer forces lies in their movement in small bodies, in their good general knowledge of the country. Their weakness arises from the want of organization, of military cohesion, and of transport and supply arrangements. While, therefore, raids in comparatively small force—the horses living upon the grass of the country—can be carried out, large movements are practically impossible, and the advantages of operating on inferior lines cannot fully be realized. With time and the facilities afforded by the railways, strong positions could be taken up, supplies accumulated, and an effective defence offered against front attacks. In the absence of organized transport, however, movements conforming to unexpected strategical developments are impracticable. On the realization of the inherent disabilities of unorganized forces the successful conduct of a campaign would depend. An "Old Prussian Officer," writing in a recent number of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, comments upon the errors committed in 1881, and goes on to depreciate the training and qualifications of British officers, who, he states, content themselves with a study of the Battle of Waterloo, and have not reached the level of modern tactical requirements. Since 1881 the British Army has made great advances. The lessons of Laings Nek and Majuba have not been neglected, and Sir Redvers Buller may be trusted to handle the forces which may be committed to him with sound military judgment, and, avoiding front attacks, except where effective artillery preparation is possible, to utilize the manœuvring power of a Regular army to full advantage. This however, lies in the future; for the present it is necessary to hold important points, eschewing inordinate dispersion as much as possible, pending the arrival of the reinforcements now at sea. Such points are indicated by the movements already announced. Mafeking, Vryburg, Kimberley, and the railway crossings of the Orange river are receiving attention, and in Natal there has been a preliminary concentration at Ladysmith, the junction of the Free State and Transvaal railways, and near Dundee, the terminus of a short branch leading towards the Buffalo river, which for 70 miles is the British frontier. Of the further plans which may become necessary it is inexpedient to speak at present. Their general scope will be apparent if the army corps in course of preparation should be disembarked in South Africa.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Nov. 14th :—

Dr	Yen,
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15 542,573
Amount of convertible notes issued	215,687 470
Government deposits	55,744,278
General deposits	4 358.927
Exchange liability	97,430
Total	321,430,679

Cr.	
Discount notes	54 859,721
Foreign discount notes	14,518 469
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	66,560,282
Exchange liability	2,124 938
Government bonds	57,407,984
Property	1,939 801
Bullion and Specie	102,019 480
Total	321,430,679

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—	
Amount of convertible notes	213,698,566
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	101,261,016
Silver	—
Total	101,261,016
Securities :—	
Government bonds	23 317,288
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,509 342
Commercial notes	57,610 920
Total	112,437 550

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	730,520
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	47,270
Government deposits	71,744	—
General deposits	—	240,427

According to investigations made by the Shibusawa Company the rice crop this year is about 34,528,465 *koku* or 5,400,000 *koku* less than an ordinary crop, and 12,800,000 *koku* less than last year.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

JAPAN IN KOREA.

The *Jiimmin* has an article on "Japan in the Peninsula," written by Mr. Seitaro Kamisake. He says that economically Japanese influence is stronger than any other in the Peninsula. For this statement he adduces four reasons which he considers cogent.

I.—Korean trade with foreign countries has made remarkable progress since 1888. In that year the total of exports and imports was *yen* 2,085,005. In 1894 the figure increased to 5 million *yen*, while in 1898 it was 10 million *yen*. In the first half of this year imports from Japan were *yen* 1,326,845; those from China *yen* 1,293,465; those from Russia only *yen* 3,046. The exports of Korean goods to Japan were *yen* 405,341; those to China *yen* 108,078; those to Russia only *yen* 6,062. Among the Japanese exports to Korea the chief articles are cotton cloths and cotton yarn. In 1893, the export of these two articles to Korea amounted to only 34 piculs, but in 1895 the figure had increased to 8,348 piculs; in 1896 it was 8,951 piculs; and in 1897 as much as 17,992 piculs. Japanese cotton yarn is rapidly conquering the English article, for from April, 1898, to March this year 34,028 piculs of Japanese cotton yarn were imported into Korea, while the import of English cotton yarn amounted to only 1,156 piculs. This concerns Gensan alone. In other commercial seats Japanese influence is also predominant.

II.—The progress of Japanese banking in Korea is also remarkable. The First Bank has a branch in Korea, and deals with the government finances, and the 58th and the 18th have also branches in the Peninsula. The money dealt with in these branches as bank orders in 1898 reached more than 10 million *yen*; the loans supplied by them were 5 million *yen*, and the deposits were 9,600,000 *yen*.

III.—Japanese influence in regard to means of transit is also remarkable. The Söul-Jinsen Railway is exclusively in Japanese hands. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha have regular mail services to Korea, and have the sole right over Korean coast navigation. In 1896 the Japanese vessels that entered Gensan were 461 (128 423 tons) out of a total of 689 (155 058 tons). Vessels clearing at the same port numbered 718 (152.324 tons), 485 (130.305 tons) being Japanese. In 1897 the vessels entering were 985 (200,676 tons). The vessels that cleared numbered 977 (198.942 tons), of which 559 were Japanese, the tonnage being 134.174. Postal and telegraphic business is also carried on by Japanese. The Gensan Post Office alone dealt with 799 536 postal matters in 1897, and the telegrams in the same year were 32,455.

IV.—Japanese residents in the peninsula have increased remarkably. In 1892 their number was 9,137; in 1896 it was 12,570. This year there are probably more than 20,000. Gensan has 4,000 foreign residents, of whom about nine tenths are Japanese. Fusan looks like a Japanese town. Its population is about 6,000, and the Japanese community is a self-governing body possessing waterworks, common schools, &c. In other ports, such as Gensan, Masampo, Chinnampo, &c., Japanese residents are everywhere influential.

The conclusion Mr. Seitaro reaches is that if the economic influences of Japan were withdrawn from the Peninsula, it would suffer from inanition. Japan is the real power which makes Korea live and act as a nation. Who can say Russian influence in the Peninsula is all-powerful, seeing that her political influence can affect the nation at its outward points alone; whereas, Japan's commercial influence is a living force not easily destroyed by mere transitory causes. The writer calls on the Government to carefully consider this important fact and take a wise diplomatic course in regard to the peninsula, which is practically a Japanese possession.

MEMORIAL TO DR. VERBECK.

The Committee of Japanese gentlemen, friends of the late Rev. G. F. Verbeck, D.D., who undertook the work of erecting a tombstone, or memorial tablet over his grave at Aoyama Cemetery, Tokyo, held a meeting at a *chaya* near the Cemetery on Monday to render a report of the success of their labours. There were present besides the Committee a number of invited friends and contributors. The report published in Japanese gave a list of the subscribers and expense incurred, as also a history of their undertaking and its successful accomplishment. The members of the Committee were the Rev. Hidetoyo Wada, Messrs. Reishi Ga, Shinji Tsuji, Nagamoto Nakajima, and Naoyuki Nagai. The Committee made grateful mention of the gratuitous service of Mr. Conder, a personal friend of Dr. Verbeck, for his design and supervision of the erection of the memorial. At his request the body had been removed from its original resting place to its present position to do justice to the memorial tablet. The monument is a shaft of grey granite 12 or more feet high on a base of the same unpolished material. A scroll of pure white marble bears, in capital letters, the inscription, "In Memoriam. Guido Fridolin Verbeck." On the base in block letters is inscribed,

"Born in the Netherlands, January 23rd, 1830
Arrived in Japan .....Nov. 7th, 1859.
Died in Japan .....March 10th, 1898."

The plot or square is enclosed and elevated above the street by a border of grey granite, and a few evergreen shrubs are planted in the corners of the enclosure. The locality is all any one could desire, the most desirable probably in the foreign part of the Cemetery. Dr. Wagner's and Eggert's beautiful tombs are to the right; Prof. Eduardo Chossone's to the rear; and Rev. T. A. Large's modest but suitable tombstone to the left. Here, among Professors of different nationalities, all contributors to Japan's truest interests and greatness, Dr. Verbeck fittingly reposes. No titles, civil or ecclesiastical are given, nor mention made of his singularly devoted and useful life. All this is left to be cherished in the hearts of his friends, and to be perpetuated in the lives and labours of his pupils. It is interesting to note that Mr. Tsuji was former Vice President of the Educational Department, and is now President of the Higher Educational Council. Among the 216 names of contributors ranging from *yen* 50 to a few sen, appear the names of Marquises Nabeshima and Hosokawa, Count Okuma, and others less known. It is also worthy of note that of *yen* 873 59 contributed, only *yen* 45 were contributed by foreign friends of the deceased, and these only nine in number. The total amount subscribed was *yen* 873 59, which, with interest thereon 30.40, gave a total of *yen* 904 01. The expenditure was as follows:

On stone and erection	305 76
Printing, advertising, and postage.	81.25
Caretaker's charges	12.00
Balance to be transmitted to Mrs. Verbeck	505.00
Total	904 01

This last item, as each of the items, is very satisfactory, as it is supposed the widow's circumstances are far from affluent. Through the kindness of Mrs. Terry, Dr. Verbeck's daughter, photographs of the memorial and members of the Committee were taken for presentation to them as memorials of their meritorious services on behalf of her revered father. —*Com.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE VERBECK MEMORIAL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In connection with your article in to-day's issue of the *Mail*, entitled "Memorial to Dr. Verbeck," I beg to submit the following brief statement of the fund collected by the foreign committee, working in co-operation with the Japanese committee, for the same object:—

	Yen.
Amount of subscriptions	455
Remitted to Mrs. Verbeck on account of books in Library	375
Expenses connected with transfer of lot at Aoyama	15
Held in hand for purchase of cases for books and expenses	65
	455

The final disposition of the Library has been somewhat delayed by the sickness and departure from Japan of the Chairman of the Committee, D. B. McCartee, M.D., but the books have been accepted by the authorities of the Imperial University on the conditions proposed by the Committee, and the actual transfer to the library of that institution will be made in the near future. Any part of the balance of the fund now in hand that may then remain, will be remitted to Mrs. Verbeck in further payment for the books.

For the Committee,
Very respectfully yours,
R. S. MILLER,
Secretary.

MISSIONARIES AND INCOME TAX.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Please allow me just enough space in your valuable paper to thank "A Japanese Evangelist" for the very clear, and undoubtedly accurate answers he has given to my three questions about missionary salaries and income tax. These are questions that at least two Foreign Ministers in Tokyo have been unable to answer satisfactorily either to themselves or to those who asked them. So it is very gratifying to have them answered in such a way that there will be no further room for doubt. And when the International Committee of Yokohama finds a nut too hard to crack in the new Codes, they might do better than going to the learned Dr. Lönholm for advice. I throw this out as a simple suggestion.

Yours truly, A MISSIONARY.

FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

A Foreigner Burnt to Death.

About two o'clock on Saturday morning a fire, unhappily attended with the loss of one life, broke out at a saloon at No. 149, China-town, kept by one Bernard Kane. The alarm was received just after two at the Settlement Brigade Tower; and Superintendent Morgin at once turned out with the Brigade. On arrival he found that the house—a two-storeyed building—was enveloped in flames, which appeared to have obtained a strong hold. A start was at once made with the hydrants, but the conditions were wholly unfavourable to the operations of the firemen, the houses in this locality being built very close together, while a strong northerly wind added to the difficulties of the situation. In consequence it was not till 3 15 a.m. that the flames were got under, and by this time three buildings, divided into 17 tenements, had been destroyed. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

One of the inmates of the saloon in which the fire is supposed to have originated was a seal hunter named William Cope, belonging to the *Awa Maru*, a Japanese sealer at present in harbour at Oginohama. He had gone to sleep in the bar in a state of complete intoxication; but when the fire broke out the saloon-keeper, Kane, dragged him out of doors. He had apparently, in his half-stupefied state, gone back into the room, and his body was found after the fire had been extinguished charred and almost unrecognisable. A report was current that a Chinaman had also been burned to death, but fortunately it appeared later that Cope was the only victim.

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A CLOSE SHAVE.

A SEA-OTTER HUNTING EPISODE.

(Written for the "Japan Mail," by John C. Wehner.)

We were sea-otter hunting off the Kurile Islands. It was in the third year of the hunting, and otters were plentiful and tame. What an old chestnut it is about catching an animal by strewing salt on its tail! But on a cold winter's day when the snow covers the rocks, and floes of ice are covering the sea, an otter loses its other-time keen scent and sight, and lays helpless wherever it hauls up. Many a one lost its life by having its head crushed by the but of the rifle in the hands of the hunter, and the proverbial pinch of salt could have been used with impunity. The following adventure will show, however, how perilous it was to hun the animals under those circumstances. Sea-otter hunting was a noble sport, for there was always a good spice of danger in it no matter how favourable were the conditions.

We left San Francisco early in the spring to be ahead of all rivals. The 1st of March, I think it was, when we left, and when we arrived close to our hunting-ground gale followed gale and we had a sore time for several days. We had a good crew—the best sailors in San Francisco were offering themselves in those days for the hunting schooners,—but they were all green and unaccustomed to roughing it this way, and no doubt many of them were sick of their bargains. Our catch would have to be something extraordinary to put even a silver lining in their pockets, as they had rather long "lays." After the gales we had fog,—nothing but fog—and on the morning of the 2nd April, we had seen no sun nor blue sky for many days; seen nothing except the everlasting thick mist and the murky, grayish black, heaped up clouds, which were literally so low that they appeared to touch our mast-heads, and were hanging over us without motion. We had had a steady light northeast breeze since the gales abated, and so uniform that it absolutely depressed our spirits, so it was no wonder that we were all whistling for more of it, no matter how much. The sea was coming in long protracted swells from the southward, unruffled, smooth, and oily, with an occasional stray goney, or a North Pacific albatross, skimming its surface, picking greedily and noisily at the flotsam and jetsam always found in a vessel's wake. The weather was bitterly, unpleasantly cold, and the most amiable man on board would not call it even invigorating. The schooner rolled slowly to the swell, which was from abeam, in an aggravatingly monotonous way; in fact everything was in a conspiracy against us, and had made our lives for the last week something nearly unendurable. We would have hailed anything with fervour that promised a change—for better or worse. Just fancy fifteen, strong, healthy men cooped up in a small schooner of 30 tons, night and day, for a month; our yarns had been spun out; our reading was getting tedious, and our small stock of patience exhausted, and now to have a long spell of this confounded weather. It was really exasperating.

We were approaching land, and for the last three days all eyes and ears were intent watching for it, but we had seen nothing as yet. When day broke we were all on deck, fore and aft, eagerly trying to penetrate with our eyes the heavy pall hanging all around us. One man was aloft and others were stooping over the low rail looking "under" the fog, while the rest of us were impatiently practising the noted fisherman's walk on the small, narrow deck. Suddenly John O'Neil, an old whaleman and our third hunter, stopped in his walk and elevating a rather prominent nose in the air, said with marked emphasis: "I smell ice, by Gosh!" John had the previous evening been giving us some wonderful adventures among icebergs, and his words, now so abruptly breaking the silence, were received with shouts of laughter. He turned a wrathful face towards us: "You idiots won't laugh when you are on top of an iceberg, I bet!" and muttering something uncomplimentary between his teeth the old man stalked indignantly forward; but he had not well reached the foremast before he roared out, "Hard-a down, hard-a down the hellum!" The man steering promptly put the tiller over and shot the schooner up into the wind, and then we perceived that old John was right. All along our port side we discovered a long line of low ice, emitting a kind of faint glittering light, over which the fog rolled in twisted columns and in irregular masses of vapour of a dark, yellowish brown colour. We were no more than half a mile from it, and sailed now close-hauled and heading about north by west along its edge. Detached pieces, floating in the water, were beginning to scrape our sides, so, going around on the other tack we kept to the eastward and away from it. The icefield could not have been very deep, as it rose and fell with the sea, which also washed over the surface considerably. We should probably have made a nearer acquaintance with the foe, if John O'Neil's nose had not given us timely warning, and for the next hour the old fellow crowed over us a good deal on the strength of it. The cold increased several degrees when we were in the proximity of the ice, but it became drier and more endurable. At 10 o'clock the sun began to be felt, the fog melted away, and the pale blue sky showed overhead through the rifts. By 11 o'clock we could view the whole immense field of drift ice, unobscured by fog, and stretching away beyond our vision to the northward and westward, but to the southward it terminated not far from where we were sailing. We steered once more towards the glittering plain and discovered that it was evidently moving slowly to the southeast by some current imperceptible to us. As we approached closer we could perceive independent masses, detached from the main field, drifting to the southward, and many of these were hundred of yards in diameter. We had had a man at the masthead keeping a look-out for ice under water, and he reported seeing seals on one of the detached ice floes, but, being a green hand his report was accepted with some caution until the captain from the deck positively affirmed his words, with the addition that they were otters and not seals. Of course this created a sensation, and the boats were soon got ready, manned and away, and the three of us remaining on board eagerly watched the proceedings, while leisurely following the boats with the schooner.

The first floe they neared had nothing on it; it was low and almost level with the water; but the second was over twelve feet in height in the middle, and sloping towards the edges, which were a good deal broken. The otters, eleven in number, must have been bereft of both sight and smell, or else perhaps they were strangers, unused as yet to their implacable foe,—anyhow, they made no attempt to seek water when the boats neared them, but remained stolidly huddled together. An otter can not stand cold,—he shivers like a child under it, except when he is in mortal fear or under some other great excitement. The three shooters were standing up in the bows of their boats with their rifles to their shoulders and probably waiting to get closer before firing, a the boats flew over the water and rapidly drew nearer to the doomed animals. One of the shooters had been at this work before, but the other two were just being initiated, and this was their first hunt. We were anxiously watching them from the schooner's deck and almost shouted with dismay when one of the hunters fired his rifle, rather prematurely we thought, but he was quickly followed by the other two, who again and again fired their rifles in succession. The floe was now surrounded by the boats, and at whatever side the otters should try to escape they would have at least one gun to encounter. But to our surprise we saw no movement among them; they apparently remained huddled up close to each other as before. We were less than a mile away from them in the schooner, and could distinguish all the manœuvres. The boats were pulled towards the lee side of the floe and one of the hunters jumped on it and strode towards the group of otters, rather unconcernedly we thought, while the other two shooters had not even their guns ready for use. Still the otters made no move! The shooter was now close up to them, and gave a yell, audible to us, which brought all except one man in each boat, up to the spot. Had those seven shots fired really killed the eleven animals? That would be something unheard of in the annals of otter-hunting. Anyhow the beasts were dead and were being dragged down to the boats. Within ten minutes we had the boats alongside and the bloodless victory was then explained. The otters were already dead when fired at; they had probably died through exposure to the cold when still further north; had frozen to death and drifted on the ice into our grateful hands, always open to receive such gifts from a benevolent providence. Eleven as good skins as could be bought for money—150 dollars each—and all in good condition. We were highly jubilant, of course, and the boats were again sent forth in search of another find, although nothing could be discerned from the masthead except the limitless ice field.

The boats now followed the southern edge of the field, which was trending somewhat towards the north west, at a distance of about five miles from its eastern edge. The breeze was light from the northward and the sea smooth, so we kept about three miles astern of the boats with the schooner. The field was moving at a good rate to the southward and we had to keep away with the schooner at the same ratio as we sailed along, within a mile of its edge. In the evening the boats returned without having made any farther haul, and we then kept on to the westward, well clear of the ice pack. The wind increased after dark, and at midnight it was blowing a stiff gale with a roughish sea, but the weather kept clear, and the iceblink, as John O'Neil called the peculiar light from the ice, showed us its vicinity, which we were loth to leave until absolutely forced to do so. No danger was as yet apprehended, and we kept on in fancied security, with the hoarse roar of the sea breaking over the ice—occasionally separating large masses from it—in our ears.

Suddenly, as we were going through the water at the rate of six knots, a terrible shock was felt that sent everybody up on deck, and made the old craft tremble from stem to stern and effectually stopped her headway. It made her lean over to port at an angle of forty degrees, with her port quarter almost at a level with the sea and her bows correspondingly elevated. The cry that she was sinking was raised by somebody and an immediate rush was made for the boats, but our skipper was a cool hand in such an emergency, and the threat to shoot the first man who touched a boat prevented such a foolish move. Most of the men were sent aft to bail out the water that had flowed in and was above the cabin floor, and it was found that it could easily be kept under. Most of it was coming from the sea, which was completely washing over her stern at first until she was imbedded in the loose ice that rapidly gathered around and formed a sort of protection for her. The sails had been lowered as soon as she struck, and the wind now howled about her rigging and bare masts with a real savage glee, as it seemed to me. It was only half an hour before daybreak when this happened, and we soon had light enough to discover both the cause of the accident and its remedy. We had struck on a large shelving icefloe, partly submerged, and our impetus was so strong that the schooner was shot well up on it and there she had stuck. Our most careful examination could not discover any damage done to the vessel except that she was being badly chafed by the loose ice continually grinding against her sides. The wind decreased at daylight, but the sea was still rough. We were now apparently in the middle of the ice which was breaking up fast; long, open narrow chan-

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nels appeared to the westward, in which only small patches of the drift ice were floating; but to the eastward and northward the pack looked as solid as yesterday. We pushed the schooner off the floe on which she had slid without much trouble, but all our efforts to get her clear from the loose ice and into more open water proved yet unavailing.

We were all busy keeping the larger pieces off the vessel with boatmasts and oars, when John O'Neil, who evidently was always on the alert with both eyes and ears, informed us that several otters were swimming about in the open water nearest to us. A look with the glasses assured us that he was right; they were really otters! How near and yet so far! We could not with safety lower any boat in this tumbling mass of ice, besides it took all of us to protect the vessel from being stove in by the continued grinding, and we had to satisfy our longing with an occasional glance at them where they were disporting themselves in the freezing cold water. The sun came out during the day, and we stretched our yesterday's catch on frames to receive the benefit of its benignant rays. In the afternoon a strong northerly breeze sprang up, and, setting our sails, we finally managed to force a passage through the heaps of tumbling ice, and get free.

But for those otters still in sight we would undoubtedly have taken advantage of the breeze and given the icefields a wide berth, but they were too alluringly near, and, in spite of mine and the head shooter's protests, the boats were lowered before we were even properly clear, and started in pursuit, while we followed them with reduced sail up the narrow channel. Fifteen minutes had barely expired before I noticed that the two sides of the channel were gradually closing together; signals were immediately hoisted for the boats to return, but they were then up to the otters and in hot chase, and probably did not observe our signals; and to our amazement and dismay we found that they were pulling as hard as they could in the opposite direction. All sails were set as quickly as possible and the schooner's head pointed direct for the boats. And on we went still further away from the only visible outlet to this *cul de sac*. With the sails drawing to their utmost under the strength of the fresh breeze we soon began to gain on the boats; they were firing away at the otters, shot after shot, but seeing the schooner coming up abruptly ceased and then first perceived the awful predicament we would be in before long. One otter was floating dead on the water, but such was their consternation and fear that the men would not delay long enough to pick him up but pulled rapidly for the schooner. We brought her up in the wind as they approached, and hoisted them in, but we had lost precious time, and when we were again squaring away found the entrance closed and no exit in that direction. We had only another hour of daylight before us and what we had to do had to be done quickly. The channel extended to the northward as far as we could see without further obstruction than the loose pieces of floating ice, so the schooner was again pointed inward with the sails reefed and, picking up the dead otter as we sailed by him, we trusted to luck for the rest. The channel was about 600 yards wide from where we now were; wide enough if it only remained open, but it appeared to be contracting behind us from the entrance and would close up altogether ere long. The ice on the south-west side attained a height of twenty feet and more, with huge blocks piling up and overlapping each other and continually moving and sliding in frightful confusion, with loud crashing sounds resembling the discharges of heavy cannon. On the other, or northeast side, the floe was low, not more than three or four feet in height, an almost level plain with several large open chasms in it, through which the sea gurgled and splashed with each swell. The water in the channel was smooth, and the swell was barely perceptible. At dark the wind hauled more to the northeast and continued blowing fresh, and, to cap all, snow began to fall, making our miserable plight still worse. We kept as close to the southwest side as we safely could; the ice blink showing tolerably plainly the position of the ice on that side, but of the other side we had no glimpse until morning.

That night I will never forget! The unnatural length of the hours, and how tardily they seemed to pass! With what concern we watched astern of us as the schooner slowly glided along, frequently bumping against the loose ice! All hands were on deck; the most sleepy-headed among them never closed an eye that night, I am sure: not a word above a whisper was heard, except the occasional order to "starboard" or "port," as a larger iceblock then usual had to be avoided It was terribly cold, but somehow we did not seem to feel it much; I know the perspiration was on my forehead very often as I stood by the tiller steering by the faint sheen from the ice, and my throat felt as dry and parched as if I was standing under a tropical sun. Can any of us ever forget that night? We really did not expect to see the morning break on the deck of the old schooner, which, we considered doomed, so slim were our chances of escape. But the longest night must have an end, and, when the day began to break, our spirits revived and courage returned under the cheering influence of the blessed streak of light dimly showing to the eastward. The snow had ceased, and objects began to be visible around us; the channel ahead was open and widening out; within four miles of us the ice terminated, and beyond that we had the open ocean. Less than two miles astern the channel was closed up, and with such a force had the two floes collided that the low edge of the outside one had been shattered into innumerable fragments, which were now being piled up so that their height far exceeded the former edge of the inside floe. The outside floe was evidently turning as on a pivot by the wind and current, and the opening out of its northern side had closed the southern. Our danger had not been exaggerated! What show should we have had if we had been a little slower in our progress during the night and been caught between the two floes? We should have been crushed like an eggshell, and probably not one would have survived to tell the tale.

We were duly thankful for our providential escape, and, when all the reefs were out of the sails and every stitch set the schooner could carry and we were bowling merrily along into rougher but less dangerous waters, leaving all dangers and anxiety behind us, our hearts, if not our mouths, were singing Te Deum. John O'Neil was again heard proclaiming "otters," but this time we turned a deaf ear to the enticing words, contented just then with what we had, until we were farther away from ice and its perils. When the sun had dispelled the morning mist, leaving a clear horizon, the white tops of the twin islands of Chirnoef hove in sight ahead, and off them we were anchored before night.

The schooner was making considerable water, and as we could not discover the leak we took her down to Suicotan, where we beached her in one of its land-locked bays. There we made her tight as a bottle, and were soon afloat again, but we made but a middling season after all.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Kang Yu wei, the Chinese Reformer, is now located at 16 Hollywood Road, Hongkong, as the guest of Mr. Ho Tung, the great compradore.

The American forces under General Young have captured San Isidro, with the loss of one man killed and three wounded. Fifteen Filipinos were taken captive.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of Oct. 30 says:—A cablegram was received on Saturday announcing that the Rev. S. C. Partridge, of the American Church Mission, had been elected Bishop of the recently created missionary jurisdiction of Kioto, Japan. We congratulate Mr. Partridge on his promotion and Japan on securing him, but he will be greatly missed in China, both at Hankow and here.

The Island of Mindanao is blockaded by American gunboats. The Moros entered the town of Buluan, and killed every male except the chief and his son, and carried off all the women and children.

The whole amount of indemnity paid to the Catholics for the outrages committed by Yü Manizu in Szechuen is, according to the *Universal Gazette*, Tls. 1,180 000. The mining concessions granted to the French in that province have no connection with the Settlement of those disturbances.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—Among the officers of the Irish Fusiliers captured by the Boers is Lieutenant Holmes, son of Mr. H. J. Holmes, solicitor, of this colony, who has been connected with the regiment about four years. He was first stationed at Allahabad. From there he went to Burmah and then about 12 months ago the regiment was ordered to Alexandria, where it was stationed when ordered to proceed to Natal.

The Zulu War cost the British army 76 officers and 1,007 men killed, and 37 officers and 206 wounded; while in addition 17 officers and 330 men died from disease, and 1,286 were invalided home. The cost to the country financially was £5,230 323. In the last Boer war, in which only small bodies of British troops were engaged, we lost 29 officers killed and 20 wounded, and 366 men killed and 428 wounded—this at Laing's Nek, Mount Prospect and Majuba Hill.

The *Japan Gazette* publishes a telegram to the effect that the U.S. cruiser *Charleston* has been wrecked by striking upon an uncharted rock in eighty fathoms of water north of Luzon on the morning of Nov. 2nd. Perfect discipline was maintained by the ship's company of 335 men, all of whom were saved. The crew rowed in the boats a distance of eighteen miles to Camaquin Island, where there are friendly natives. Thence Lieutenant Macdonald sailed in a launch to Lingayen, where he was picked up by the *Oregon* and *Aztec*. The gunboat *Helena* has been sent to relieve the remainder of the *Charleston's* crew.

Shanghai is proverbially a place where newsmongers make much-a-do about nothing. A short time ago the *N.-C. Daily News* had a long account from a native correspondent of the building of three armour-plated rooms in the Palace at Peking and for some days there were paragraphs in the other local papers mysteriously hinting at the uses to which these rooms were to be put. Now we have the *Peking and Tientsin Times* publishing the following paragraph demolishing the whole fiction:—The *Kwo-wen-pao* has discovered that the three strong rooms recently built in the Palace, and concerning which there have been so many rumours, are in reality three furnaces built for the heating of the Imperial apartments by hot air pipes, and that to safe-guard against fire they were made of iron.

The seventh agricultural congress held at the Akasaka Agricultural Hall, Tokyo, from the 1st inst., closed on the 7th. There were present Count Matsukata, the Minister of Finance, and Count Kabayama, the Minister of Education, and about a hundred other persons, as well as some 90 representatives of prefectures. The Finance Minister spoke of the superiority of Western agriculture over that of Japan, and urged the members to impart more energy into their business. Count Kabayama spoke of the progress of German agriculture. He said the Germans realized the inferiority of their agricultural product at the Philadelphia Exposition and took courage to improve their methods. Japanese need not fear the military education of Germany, but ought to pay more attention to industrial education; they had to conquer in industrial wars rather than in wars of the sword.

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WAR NOTES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have each subscribed £200 to the Mansion House fund for the relief of South African refugees.

President Steyn has issued a second proclamation calling upon the burghers to a man to take arms and to fight against an unscrupulous enemy. "We are fighting a just war," says the proclamation, "and cannot be defeated, as God is on our side."

A tribe in Zululand, whose cattle have been raided by the Boers, applied to General Sir George Stewart White, the British commander in Natal, for permission to make armed resistance. General White refused their request, as he is opposed to the use of coloured auxiliaries in the struggle.

According to the statistics published this year the militia, including the permanent staff and the militia reserve, numbers 132,493. The militia are to be sent to South Africa. They will replenish the denuded British garrison towns, and thus permit the Government to send to the Cape all the regulars rendered necessary by the developments in South Africa.

With reference to the Basutos, who are reported to contemplate rising against the Boers, the following item may be of interest. A Transvaal emissary recently visited Lerothodi, the Basuto chief, to ask what he intended doing. Lerothodi took the visitor to his hut and showed him a large portrait of the Queen, saying:—"That is our mother. When the mother fights, all the sons fight, too."

The news of General French's victory at Elandslaagte caused great enthusiasm at Capetown. The newspapers were quickly on the streets with special editions and the people left the churches in order to get the details of the fighting. Schiel, a former German officer, who was leading a section of the Boers in the engagement at Englandslaagte, was taken prisoner.

One of the problems left entirely to General Sir Redvers Buller, in supreme command, is the punishment of non-combatants who take part in the hostilities. The task of distinguishing their status is very difficult, as comparatively few Boers wear a uniform. It is said that the treatment he will administer the German and Irish volunteers under the Transvaal flag will not be more merciful than was Von Moltke's dealing with the Franc-Tireurs.

The following item is of interest. Mr. J. W. Harman writes to the *Chronicle* from "Dr. Watts's Birthplace," Southampton: "So highly did Sir Herbert Stewart hold the Boers in esteem that he gave General Joubert the much-valued sword won by his grandfather during the Peninsular War. On the death of Sir Herbert Stewart, in his noble effort to relieve Khartoum, General Joubert returned the sword to the deceased officer's family."

The capture of General Viljoen is a cause of great satisfaction to the Outlanders. He is the author of a blasphemous and violent pamphlet virtually intended to incite the Dutch of Cape Colony to rebellion. It is difficult to gauge exactly the amount of feeling excited among the Dutch by the British victories at Glencoe and Elandslaagte. Their behaviour on the whole is excellent, considering the great amount of sympathy they feel for their kinsmen in the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

One of the most curious features of the mobilization has been the inoculating of the troops against enteric fever. This was not made compulsory, but the company commanders were instructed to urge the men to allow themselves to be inoculated, and most of them have undergone the ordeal. Although medical men differ greatly as to the utility of the virus, the percentage of enteric fever in the British ranks will be eagerly watched by foreign military experts. Should it turn out to be remarkably small, it is more than likely that all the European troops will be inoculated before going to countries infested by the enteric germs.

Dr. Charles Tanner, Nationalist member of Parliament for the Middle Division of Cork, distinguished himself by abusing the Queen and the British soldiers in a public place in Cork. Whereupon a member of the Royal Engineers knocked him down, promising to repeat the operation if Dr. Tanner would rise. Dr. Tanner says the soldier hit him with a stone, thus causing swelling and discoloration of his face.

The Queen drove from Balmoral Castle to the barracks on October 19th to bid farewell to the Gordon Highlanders, who were leaving for the Cape. After reviewing the troops, the Queen addressed them as follows: "I am pleased to see you looking so well and fit for duty. You are going on foreign service and I wish you all Godspeed. I hope you will return safe and well." The officers were then presented to Her Majesty, the men cheering.

The supplementary army estimate asked the House of Commons to vote an additional 35,000 men and £10,000,000 in consequence of the situation in South Africa. It is explained that the 35,000 men represent the probable maximum excess beyond the establishments fixed for the year 1899-1900, and is in consequence of the calling out of the reserves and of the temporary transfer of troops from the Indian to the British establishment. With the additional £10,000,000 the total army estimates are £30,617,600.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will certainly have to find a good deal of money for the war; but it looks as if he would have a considerable surplus of ordinary revenue at the end of the financial year. The revenue returns for the first six months show that the lean years are still to come. For the whole year the Chancellor of the Exchequer estimated that he would get £2,821,000 more than last year; he has already got £3,495,303 more in the six months over the corresponding period last year. These figures, like those relating to labour, all go to show how busy and prosperous Great Britain is just now.

Prior to the outbreak of war the pulpit throughout England, as a rule, was dead against hostilities. But there are some notable exceptions, and among the Methodists, curiously enough, diversity of opinion seems to be more marked than among other denominations. Take this from the report of a Midland Primitive Conference:—"The Rev. E. Brown, of Birmingham, having been in the Transvaal, denied that the Boers were peaceful farmers. From what he had seen, and been told, he felt that if he were there he should take an intense delight in slapping a Boer's face. If that was not a Christian act it was a necessary one."

Colonel Schiel, the captured leader of the Boer's German contingent, wired to Emperor William on the outbreak of the war as follows: "May your Majesty be pleased to note that we German volunteers, who are marching to the frontier, fighting or falling, have sworn to be loyal to our German kindred stock here. We bitterly regret that the Government cannot exert its influence in behalf of our interests and protest against the predatory action of England. May German blood not flow in vain for freedom and justice and may your Majesty's blessing attend us German soldiers, whose loyalty will preserve the friendship which your Majesty once showed us."

During the course of the proceedings in Parliament on the October 23rd while the House was discussing the report on the supplementary estimates, Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Parnellite member for Kilkenney City, declared that the hands of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain were as much stained with blood as those of any murderer who ever mounted the scaffold. The Speaker, Mr. William Court Gulley, called on Mr. O'Brien to withdraw his remark, but he refused to do so, whereupon the House by a vote of 316 to 26 resolved to suspend him, and he left the House remarking: "You had better bring up another army corps unless you want it somewhere else."

A lady arrayed in a very masculine check suit has been arrested at Wymondham. Her excuse for this gentlemanly conduct was that she wished to work her passage out to Africa in order to take part in the threatened hostilities.

Major-General Sir William Penn Symons, who was mortally wounded in the battle with the Boers at Glencoe, was second in command of the British forces in Natal. General Symons was born in Cornwall in 1843, was educated privately and entered the army in 1863. He saw a great deal of active service in India and also took part in the Zulu war of 1879. He served against the Galekas, 1877-78-78; in the Burmese expedition, 1885-89; was a Brigadier-General of the Chin field force, receiving a medal and clasp for his services; Chin Lushai expedition, 1889-90 (made a Companion of the Bath); commanded a brigade of the Tochi field force and a brigade during the Waziristan campaign, 1894-95, and commanded a division of the Tirah expeditionary force, 1897-98. For his services during the Tirah campaign he was made Knight Commander of the Bath.

More than 90 per cent. of the reserve have joined the colours. This is considered eminently satisfactory. The speed at which the Army Corps has been got together has excited the admiration of the German headquarters staff, and they have sent a semi-official message of congratulation through the British military attaché in Berlin to the service. The London press regards this as a well deserved compliment, the papers pointing out that not only have the reservists responded splendidly, but the large majority of those who have reported are medically fit for service. In several cases the outgoing regiments contain a preponderance of reservists, most of them in the prime of manhood and men who have fought in India and in Egypt. It is the aim of the War Office to send no man to South Africa unless he has had at least a year's service. The only serious criticism apparently to be made regarding these thousands destined for the front is that the reserves are for the most part ignorant of the mechanism of the magazine rifle.

The sailing of the Channel Squadron for Gibraltar was regarded at the time, according to American exchanges, by the keenest observers as an indication that some unexpected attack upon British interests is possible. The magnitude of the preparations for war, which are out of all proportion to the requirements of the military situation, can only be adequately explained on the theory that the Government suspected that some great Power would be tempted to seize the opportunity for striking a sudden blow or carrying out a deeply cherished policy. The quarter from which an attack of this kind may come is unmistakable. The Russian press has had license to criticise the English policy in South Africa in the most acrid way, and the rumour that Herat may be occupied is already in the air. British commercial interests in Persia are so large that the Russian seizure of the commanding position in Western Afghanistan would be a serious stroke aimed directly against free trade, and seems a more likely menace than the forcing of the Dardanelles by the Russian Black Sea fleet. The movement of the powerful French fleet to the Levant coincides with the circulation of a rumour that the Russian advance may be resumed in Asia while England is preoccupied with the war in South Africa. It also fits in with the explanation of a secret agreement between England and Germany.

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KOREAN NOTES.

The late Mr. P. A. Dmitrevsky, Russian acting Charge d'Affaires at Sōul, was born, says the *Korean Independent*, in Vologda, Northern Russia, in 1841. He pursued his studies at the Faculty of Oriental Languages at the University of St. Petersburg, where besides the Mongol, and Manchu languages, Japanese was also studied, the Professor at the time being Mr. Nishi, afterwards Japanese Minister to Russia and lately Minister of Foreign Affairs at Tokyo. Having finished his studies at the University, Mr. Dmitrevsky entered the service of the Foreign Office, and was soon appointed student interpreter to the Legation at Peking, where he arrived in 1875. He was not only an exceptionally distinguished scholar of Chinese and fluently read in Japanese, but during his 24 years of service in the East he acquired a vast knowledge of all affairs connected with the Far East and his death is an irreparable loss to the service. A few years after his arrival at Peking, he was sent to Hankow as acting Consul, at another time to Shanghai. In 1890 he was appointed Consul at Hankow, in 1892 acting Chargé d'Affaires at Sōul, where he remained until November, 1893. In 1894 he was appointed Consul at Tientsin, and in 1895 Consul General in Shanghai. The deceased was a most popular man.

Referring to a recent remarkable decree promulgated by the Emperor, the *Independent* says:—The power of His Majesty, we think, depends to a very large extent on the depth of the pockets of those who for the time being are pulling the strings. Then again the utter incompetency of the Government to defend its subjects from the attacks of the Japanese coolies—bullies—at Wonsan, and from the Japanese moneylenders at Songdo, surely prove that there is a screw loose somewhere. While in no way shifting the blame from the shoulders of those whose business it is to look after these things, yet at the same time we are compelled to say that we are surprised at the short-sighted policy of the Japanese Government, which allows such things to happen under the eyes of its representatives in Korea. We imagine that a policy of conciliation would be better for the interests of Japan in all directions. We thought the lesson was learned, but the happenings of the past few weeks show that it is not and they seem as far from learning the secret as the Korean officials themselves are. While the Japanese are colonising in Korea and buying up all the land they possibly can in the ports as soon as they are open, it does not follow that their occupation of Korea will be quite such a pacific event as they appear to imagine, if the high handed way in which they are acting is an indication of what they expect—a walk over.

The Pedlars, or some of them, are on the war path again, engaged in extorting money from all the boats passing up and down the rivers.

A steamer has been purchased by the Imperial Korean Customs for navigation round the islands of the coast. The cost is said to have been $12,000.

The work on the Sōul Fusan railway will be commenced next March from the Fusan end. The head quarters of the company are located there.

Messrs. Ye Chai Yun, You Kue Whan and Kwon Chai Heung have decided to open a Hospital and start a medical school in Sōul.

One thousand stand of arms and one million rounds of ammunition have been received in Sōul for the use of the Military. It is proposed to increase the Army to 10,000.

Two scholars at the Kaisung School Fusan, have succeeded in producing silk thread, and have sent samples to the Agricultural Department, who declare that the silk is of the best kind.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The German-American papers accord as hearty a reception to Admiral Dewey as those printed in English, but their admiration is for the man rather than the deed which brought him into prominence.

Archbishop Chapelle of New Orleans will leave San Francisco for Manila this month to co-operate with the President in the pacification of the Philippines. He will exert the influence of the church as an apostolic delegate.

It is being asserted that Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr. will receive only $10,000,000 from the immense estate left by his father, and that his unsanctioned marriage cost him fully $10,000,000, but that statement is declared by many who are close to the family to be the merest guesswork.

Orders have been given to Civil Engineer H. R. Stanford to proceed to Manila and prepare plans for the establishment of a coaling station on the site of the old station occupied by the Spaniards just inside of Sagley Point, in Manila Bay. Beyond the establishment of a coaling station no other naval depot will be located in the Philippines until the insurrection is at an end.

Admiral Dewey is represented by the cartoonists of the United States as being "snowed under" by invitations to receptions, dinners, States and Cities; while presents are showering down on him from every quarter. Scholastic institutions are also rivals in the rush to bestow on the nation's hero academical honours. No wonder he has temporarily broken down from nerve-worry.

Colonel Samuel S Sumner, Major Storey, Captain Gibson, and Captain Slocum have been detailed by President McKinley to proceed to South Africa and observe and report upon military operations in the Transvaal. Colonel Sumner is a Brigadier General of Volunteers, his present station being that of Military Attaché to the United States Embassy at London. Major Storey is stationed at Governor's Island. Captain Gibson is an ordnance officer stationed at Columbus, and Captain Slocum, who was United States Military Attaché at Lisbon, is already on his way to Cape Town.

England's victory over Venezuela—for as such the award is generally constructed—finds the American press in a mood considerably different from the one exhibited in the closing days of 1895 and the early part of 1896, remarks the *Literary Digest*. While the editorial columns were then filled with extended discussions of the rival claims of England and Venezuela, generally reaching the conclusion that Venezuela's claim was just, we now find the whole matter dismissed with a few paragraphs. The opinion which finds widest expression does not concern itself with the justice of the award at all, but avers that the main feature of the case is the triumph for arbitration. The fact that of the 60,000 square miles claimed by Venezuela she gets only 100 and part of that marsh land, fails to arouse any of the indignation displayed three and a half years ago.

The report on the output of the New York state hatcheries for the year ended September 30 last shows that, with the exception of yellow perch, herring, lobsters, tom cods, smelt, shrimp and ciscoes, a large increase was made over the previous year. Severe storms along the coast at the time smelt, tom cods, and lobsters were caught brought about a falling off in the number taken. Every effort will be made in the coming season to increase the output of lobsters. The output of the hatcheries during the year was 150,290,370 fry, divided as follows: Brook trout, 4,456,057; brown trout, 1,632,964; rainbow trout, 435,990; lake trout, 1,604,386; pike perch, 45,275,683; bass, 123,881; yellow perch, 12,736; steelhead trout, 120,281; pickerel, 134; herring, 1,000,000; lobster, 2,028,000; tom cods, 38,000,000; smelt, 1,500,000; frost fish, 7,600,000; muscalonge, 5,085,000; white fish, 7,600,000; shad, 14,313,800; shrimp, 15,000; bull heads, 1,500; total, 150,290,370. The output was 38,609,363 less than that of the previous year.

Evidence continues to multiply that the term "frozen North" is not applicable to the Yukon country. Proof of this was brought from Canada to Duluth in the shape of a large sheaf of grain, besides threshed kernels of wheat, oats and barley, all from near Dawson City. The wheat was sown late in May on ground thawed a few inches deep, and it was harvested from seventy-five to eighty five days later, thoroughly ripe. In the samples was wheat that would equal the best American grades; the oats are said to be fully as good as anything raised in the northwestern states or in Manitoba, and the barley is six-rowed of the highest quality.

AN OVERDOSE OF CHLORAL.

The death of Capt. John Evans, of the Japanese sealer *Kaio Maru*, owned by the Teikoku Suisan Kaisha, Tokyo, took place at the German Naval Hospital on Wednesday morning. Mr. Evans, who was a British subject, aged 31, recently came to Yokohama from Hakodate on board the schooner, which is at present at Shinagawa, and took up his abode in Kitagata. Capt. Evans suffered from sleeplessness and was in the habit of taking doses of chloral. On the night of the 12th inst. about 11 o'clock he took several doses and went to sleep. Shortly afterwards, however, he began to complain of tightness of the chest and difficulty in breathing, and by 8 o'clock of the following morning he fell into a semi-comatose condition. He was sent to the German Hospital where he succumbed on the 16th.

SIR CHARLES WARREN, G.C.M.G.

Sir Chas. Warren, who has been placed in command of the Fifth Division, is well-known to residents in the Far East, having been in command at Singapore. He served during the suppression of the Kafir outbreak in 1877-78, with local rank of Lieut.-Colonel, in command of the Diamond Fields Horse, and took part in several actions (Brevet of Lieutenant Colonel). Commanded part of the Griqualand West Field Force in the Griqua rising in 1878, including numerous engagements and skirmishes with the natives (several times mentioned in despatches; commended in the Governor's despatches for "energy, ability, and resource displayed under the most trying circumstances," Medal with Clasp). Served in command of an expedition into Arabia Petræa, despatched during the Egyptian war of 1882 for the purpose of bringing to justice the murderers of Professor Palmer and his party (*K.C.M.G.*, Medal, 3rd Class of the Medjidie, and Khedive's Star). Commanded the forces in the Bechuanaland Expedition in 1884-85 (*G.C.M.G.*)

THANKSGIVING DAY.

The United States Minister in Japan has issued the following to his nationals, under date November 14:—The President of the United States, in pursuance of a custom established and observed by the people in every succeeding year for more than a generation past, having by Proclamation designated and set apart the last Thursday (the 30th) of the present month as a day of National Thanksgiving and Praise, when all the people,—those who may be at sea or in foreign lands, as well as those at home,—are recommended to assemble in their several places of worship to give thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings of the year and to pray that the Divine guidance may be continued in the years to come, I deem it proper to convey to the citizens of the United States in Japan this information and to invite their observance of that day in the manner recommended.

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Nov. 10.

The Emperor William has issued orders prohibiting all officers, whether on the active or unattached list, from proceeding to the Transvaal.

The *Pelorus* and the *Furious* have proceeded to the Cape.

A large squadron is to assemble at Spithead to welcome the German Emperor on the 20th instant.

The concentration of the British detached troops from various places has been effected at De Aar Junction and Queenstown.

The Boers have completely wrecked the railways in the Orange Free State, and the British will have to rely entirely on their own transportation.

It is believed that Buller and White are in constant communication, though nothing is published officially.

News from Ladysmith dated Tuesday, the 6th inst. says that all was quiet on Sunday and Monday, but that on Tuesday the enemy resumed the bombardment, without, however, effecting any damage.

Lord Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief, speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet at the Guildhall, said that orders had been issued to-day for the mobilisation of another Division.

Lord Salisbury, in his speech, said that the present situation in South Africa was grave, but that the only part suggesting apprehension was Great Britain's relations with other Powers. (This portion of the message is slightly obscure).

His lordship added that Great Britain would brook no interference, but said that he had not heard that any interference was actually contemplated.

It was impossible to forecast the future of South Africa, but he could say that Great Britain did not seek gold fields or territory; she only wished to secure equal rights for all races, and to ensure the security of the Empire.

He dwelt upon the happy relations of Great Britain with America, and spoke also of the Samoa agreement with Germany, adding that England's present relations with the latter Power were all that could be desired.

Shanghai, Nov. 11.

A small convoy with an escort was attacked by the Boers near Buluwayo. The convoy was lost and six men are missing.

A siege train consisting of thirty rifled Howitzers and 1,136 men has been ordered to embark at Devonport for South Africa.

Partial State elections in America have resulted in the upholding of President McKinley's policy.

News from Capetown, dated the 9th instant, says that, on that day, General Buller received a pigeon post from General White reporting that the Boer bombardment with heavy guns at long range is daily going on. There are few casualties and no serious harm is done. The entrenchments are daily growing stronger and provisions are ample. White mentions that the Boers fired on a flag of truce, and that Major Gale of the Engineers is wounded.

The fact that the *Roslin Castle* with troops on board under Hildyard has been ordered to proceed to Durban is regarded as showing that the relief of White is the first consideration.

The *Terrible* and the *Thetis* have arrived at Durban.

The trial of Déroulède, Guerin and the other plotters against the State has been opened in France.

Shanghai, Nov. 13.

The Reserves of the 2nd Division have been called out and ordered to join the colours before November 20th.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Aliwal North that on the 7th inst. the Boers cut the telegraph to the southward of Jamestown, and that a strong force is eight miles off. The Boers have cut the hawsers of the ferry at Waltonspont, and the Orange River is now impassable from Zoathan to Nowalspont.

A British outpost to northward of Kimberley Reservoir has been missing since the 4th inst., and is supposed to have been captured.

The Boers opened a general attack upon Kimberley after bombardment on Tuesday. (This is somewhat obscure. The actual words of the message are "Boers opened general attack bombardment Kimberley Tuesday.")

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Mafeking that a general attack made upon that place has been repulsed. Fifty of the Boers were killed. The British loss was slight.

Three troopships have arrived at the Cape, and two have proceeded to Durban.

Later.

A skirmish took place on the 10th instant to the eastward of Belmont between a force under Col. Gough and 700 of the enemy. It lasted three hours, after which the enemy retired. The British loss was small.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Estcourt that on the 9th inst. heavy firing was heard in the direction of Ladysmith. The sounds indicated that heavy naval guns were in action.

General Buller has now 5,000 additional troops at his disposal.

In the general attack on Kimberley the Transvaalers and the Free Staters attacked the place on the north and south simultaneously, but retired under fire. Their losses were probably heavy, but the British only had one killed and two wounded.

An official despatch from Mafeking says that the place is safe. On the 27th October the Boers, after two days' bombardment, attacked the town on three sides, but were repulsed by the Maxims.

Shanghai, Nov. 14.

An official statement has been published to the effect that the Boers, on October 31st, attempted to carry Mafeking by assault. They attacked brilliantly in spite of a hot shell fire and lost heavily. The British loss was 10 killed and wounded. Captain Marsham of the Fourth Bedfords and Captain Pechell of the Rifles were killed.

Hildyard's Brigade proceeds to Durban instead of landing at Capetown.

The Fifth Division, numbering 11,013 of all ranks, has been ordered to embark before the end of the month.

Russia adds 10 new torpedo craft to her Far Eastern Squadron next year.

Japan has given orders to accelerate to the utmost the building of the iron-clad now under construction for her in the Clyde.

Reinforcements are daily arriving at Capetown.

Shanghai, Nov. 15.

All was well at Ladysmith up to the 9th inst.

The reinforcements that have now arrived in South Africa number 14,038 men.

News from Kimberley dated the 8th inst. says that the enemy was still shelling the place, but that their fire was ineffective, most of the shells failing to explode.

Sir Charles Warren is to have command of the 5th Division.

The German Ambassador in London has informed the Mayor of Portsmouth that the Kaiser will be unable to receive any address, his visit being private. His Majesty has also declined a luncheon at the Mansion House.

The Admiralty has chartered the fast liner *Majestic* to convey troops to the Cape.

The Times correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphs that the fullest preparations have been completed for a Russian advance on Herat at any moment, the alleged reason being apprehensions of disturbances in the event of the death of the Ameer.

Shanghai, Nov. 16.

The Times publishes a telegram from Mafeking that, despite three protests, the Boers are deliberately shelling the hospital and the women's laager, though both are beyond the limits of the town.

The garrison of Mafeking declare that they can certainly hold out until the end of the campaign.

Another batch of troops, numbering 1,728, arrived at Capetown yesterday (15th November.)

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Saigon, Nov. 10.

The High Court of the Senate, which is engaged in the trial of the conspirators accused of high treason, has re-opened its session, without any incident.

There is no salient news from South Africa.

[These telegrams should have been published in our issue of Saturday, but were lost *en route* from Tokyo to Yokohama, the bag containing them, together with other matter, having been stolen from our messenger in the train.—ED. *J. M.*]

Saigon, Nov. 11.

A despatch from Ladysmith, dated the 19th and sent by pigeon, says that the bombardment continues without producing great losses.

The High Court to-day (10th?) ordered the summoning of 400 witnesses. Some tumult took place.

Saigon, Nov. 12.

Searches have been made in Paris and the provinces in the houses of the Fathers of the Assumption for proofs of illicit association.

The Government has introduced a project of law requiring that aspirants for official positions shall have passed a stage in the State schools; and another project giving jurisdiction, in time of peace, to the ordinary tribunals over military men accused of crimes and delicts under the common law.

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The High Court is examining the question of incompetence raised by counsel for the defence.

There is no news from South Africa.

Saigon, Nov. 13.

The Boers continue actively the bombardment of Ladysmith and Kimberley.

English reinforcements are arriving at the Cape.

The High Court of the French Senate has voted its own competence by 157 votes to 91.

Saigon, Nov. 14.

Several advocates have advanced various objections, which delay the opening of the debate proper.

Saigon, Nov. 15.

The Chamber of Deputies, in obedience to the demand of the Government, will proceed at once to consider the question propounded with regard to the Ministry's general policy.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, Nov. 11.

A long and severe shock of earthquake was felt here this morning.

Hakodate, Nov. 10, 9.05 p.m.

A slight shock of earthquake was felt here this evening.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, Nov. 5.

News from Pretoria dated the 31st of October states that the prisoners are doing well and that the soldiers are playing football.

London, Nov. 6.

General Joubert has sent in Major C. G. Kincaid of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and nine other prisoners, for whom Boer prisoners were exchanged.

The military authorities at Maritzburg have accepted the services of a thousand more volunteers with regulars for officers.

The Natal Coast Rifle Associations have been called out, and other emergency corps are being formed.

London, November 7.

An official despatch from Ladysmith sent *via* Estcourt on the 6th inst. states that there has been a cessation of hostilities since Friday the 3rd instant.

General Joubert has refused General White's request that the non-combatants should leave, but the sick have been removed to a special camp.

H M S *Terrible* took big guns mounted on carriages like field guns to be landed at Durban.

Sharp skirmishing preceded the evacuation of Colenso, which the enemy's long-range guns and overwhelming numbers rendered untenable.

The Natal Naval Corps with their guns have returned to Maritzburg to reassure the inhabitants.

CHESS.

(Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 445.

By Otto Würzburg, dedicated to Harry N. Pillsbury.

WHITE	BLACK.
1—B to Kt 6	1—R (or Kt) to B 5
2—Q to K 3 ch	2—K takes Q
3—R to K 5 mate	
	1—R to K 5
2—Q to Q 3 ch	2—R takes Q
3—Kt to B 2 mate	
	1—P to Kt 4
2—Q to B 5	2—K to K 6
3—R to K 5 mate	

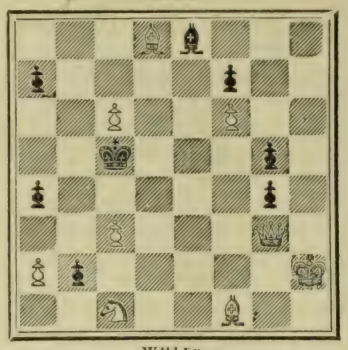
Other variations depend on those given.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, Mosco, Viola, L. M.A., and Mario.

PROBLEM No. 448.

By E. P. Bell.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 568.

FROM THE LONDON TOURNAMENT.

Russia vs. France.

Ruy Lopez.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
White.—Tschigorin.		Black.—Janowski.	
1 P K4	P K4	16 Q B4	P x P
2 Kt K B3	Kt Q B3	17 K K4	Q B5
3 B K 5	Kt B3	18 P K Kt3	Q B4
4 Castles.	K x P	19 K B5	P Q4(f)
5 P Q4	B K2	20 Q B3	R B3
6 Q Kt2	K Q3	21 R Q2	P K5(g)
7 B x Kt	K P x B	22 Q Kt3	B K3(h)
8 P x P	Kt K 2	23 Q K 7	Q R K B sq
9 R K sq(a)	Castles	24 Q x B P	Q Kt4
10 Kt B3	R K sq(b)	25 Q R Q sq(i)	B R6
11 Q B4	Kt B4	26 Q Kt5(j)	R x P
12 Kt K Kt5		27 Kt x K P	
(c)	B x Kt	(k)	Q B4
13 B x B(d)	Q x B	28 P K Kt4(l)	R Kt7 ch
14 Q x Kt	R K3	Resigns.	
15 Q R Q sq			
(e)	P B3		

Notes (abridged) from *The American Chess Magazine*.

(a) The defence selected in this instance is the one that was generally adopted in reply to the text move throughout the tournament. The attack initiated by Pillsbury's innovation or, rather, revival of an old line can not be said to have proved as effective as the first experiments had promised.

(b) This is without doubt essential to Black's proper development and is the key to his defence.

(c) Quite a novelty and, as such, a great relief from the monotony of the other variations.

(d) Q takes Kt here has at least the advantage of developing the Black Queen.

(e) Doubtless White speculated too much on the strength of his position or the backward character of his opponent's game, as there was absolutely no necessity to lose the K P. Either Q to Q 4 or R 5 was available, with preference for the former, which could be followed by P to B 4.

(f) In the nick of time, and effectually blocks the attack, while at the same time a most dangerous centre is formed.

(g) This practically seals White's fate, and from now on he is as putty in the skilful hands of the Parisian.

(h) To prevent the loss of the K P, inasmuch as the Q P was pinned by the previous move.

(i) Of course, if 25—Kt takes B, Q takes R, and Black will win the adverse Kt at his leisure by R to K sq.

(j) He has no alternative, for if 26—Q takes P ch, Q takes Q; 27—R takes Q R takes P, and a mate in a few moves can not be averted.

NOTES.

At the meeting of the New York State Chess Association, the first prize was won by Lipschütz; Marshall, who was the winner of the first prize in the recent London single round Masters' Tournament, divided second and third with the talented Hungarian player, Kemeny, of Philadelphia; the two remaining prizes being shared amongst Halpern, Shipley, and Bampton.

At Copenhagen a "Northern Congress" was held, in which the best Scandinavian players competed. J. Möller, a well-known problem composer, won the first prize, H. Krause the second, the third and fourth were divided between Nielson and Rosendahl, Pritzel fifth, and Gjersing sixth.

A match between the Chess experts of the University of Pennsylvania and of Harvard will be played early in November. The leader of the Harvard team is the great Southard, while the Pennsylvanians have as their first man Griffith, who played two games with Southard, winning one.

Pillsbury has now started on his second annual tour. Three weeks ago he was giving exhibitions of his prowess in Philadelphia.

It is reported that all the foreign masters at the London Tournament have accepted the invitation conveyed to them by M. Rosenthal to take part in the Paris International contest next year, which should prove the greatest as well as the last of the century.

The *American Chess Magazine* says:—"Philidor was unquestionably one of the greatest chess geniuses that ever lived, and also an accomplished musician. It is lamentable to think that, like his countryman, Labourdonnais, no funeral tablet marks the place of his rest, and it is not even known where he was buried. Thus France treats her great men. Had Philidor lived in the Middle Ages, he would have been ennobled."

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON VI.

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With a thorough knowledge of all that is contained in the preceding five lessons, the student should now be able to play a game of chess quite correctly without offending against the fundamental rules. He will do well at first to play for the sole purpose of practising the moves of the men, together with their mode of capturing, until he has them at his fingers' ends and is perfectly familiar with all the laws of the game.

The score of the following two games will serve to show how the rules of moving and capturing are applied in practice:—

— stands for "moves to."
× stands for "takes" (captures.)
ch stands for "check!"

Game I.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P—K 4	1. P—K 4
2. P—Q 4	2 P×P
3. P—Q B 3	3 P×P
4. B—Q B 4	4. P×P

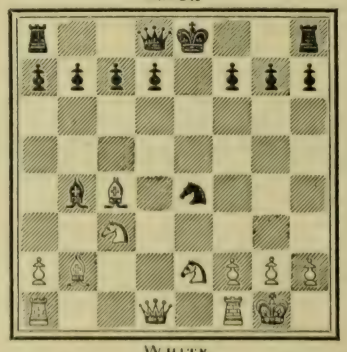
The black P is now threatening R and B, either of which are liable to be taken on the next move.

5. Q B×P	5. B—Kt 5 ch

The white K is attacked and Black gives warning by calling "check!" White has the choice of either interposing one of his pieces between his King and the attacking piece or moving the King out of check.—He interposes the Knight.

6. Kt—B 3	6 Kt—K B 3
7. Kt—K 2	7. Kt×P
8. Castles (see Diagram)	

Black



White.

White could not have played 8—Q Kt takes Kt (instead of castles), for the King would thereby be exposed and liable to capture on the next move by the black B. The Q Kt therefore cannot move just now (is "pinned.")

	8. Kt×Kt
9. Kt×Kt	9. B×Kt
10 B×B	10. Q—Kt 4
11. R—K sq ch	

Now Black's K is attacked and he must either move him or interpose the Q. He chooses the former.

	11. K—Q sq
12. P—B 4	

attacking the Queen.

	12. Q×B P
13. B×Kt P	

threatening to take the R.

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	13. R—Kt sq
14. Q—Kt 4	14. Q—Q 3

if 14 ..... Q×Q then 15.—B—B 6 ch mate.

15. B—B 6 ch	15. Q×B
16. Q×R ch mate	

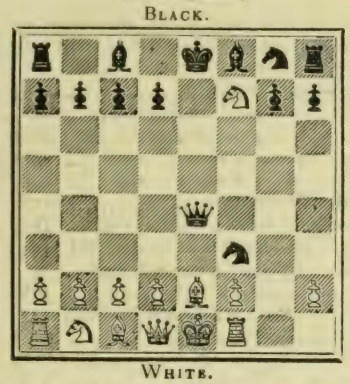
The black K is in check. He cannot move out of check, for both K sq and K 2 are guarded, the former by the white Q, the latter by the white R. Black can also not capture the attacking piece (wh. Q), nor can he interpose a piece between his K and wh. Q. Thus the King, remaining in check, is liable to capture on the next move. The game therefore is finished, White having "checkmated" Black.

GAME II.

1. P—K 4	1. P—K 4
2. Kt—K B 3	2. Kt—Q B 3
3. B—B 4	3. Kt—Q 5
4. Kt×P	4. Q—Kt 4
5. Kt×B P	5. Q×Kt P
6. R—B sq	6. Q×K P ch
7. B—K 2	7. Kt—B 6 sm. mate

(see Diagram.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

When check is given by a Knight, no piece can be interposed. Either the attacking Kt must be captured or the King must move out of check.

In this instance all squares around the K are occupied, so that he cannot move, whilst the Kt cannot be taken by the white B because the latter is "pinned" by the black Q. This kind of mate is called "smothered mate."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Mayer, 10th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 2nd Nov., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 10th November,—Shanghai via ports, 4th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 10th November,—Otaru via ports, 5th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 10th Nov.,—Nagasaki, 7th November, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 11th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Nov., General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, F. L. Sammer, 12th November,—London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 13th November,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 24th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 13th November,—Otaru via ports, 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J Giese, 13th November,—Hakodate, 10th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 13th November,—Yokkaichi, 12th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson 13th Nov,—Otarū via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, H. Sakimoto, 13th November,—Kobe, 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 14th November,—Hakodate, 11th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 14th November,—Otaru via ports, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Y. Oda, 14th November,—Kobe, 12th November, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 14th November,—Portland, Oregon, 15th October, General,—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Rogliano, 14th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 13th November, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nobeta, 14th November,,—Otaru, 10th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, E Warrall, 14th November,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 13th November, General —W. M. Strachan & Co.

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, Schönfeld, 14th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 9th Nov., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 14th November,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 13th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 15th November,—Kobe 13th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 10th November,—Kobe, 8th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orlando (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Capt. J. H. T. Burke, 10th November,—Kobe.

Breconshire British steamer, 2,323, Elliott, 10th Nov.,—Victoria, C.B., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 10th Nov.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 10th Nov.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 10th November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 10th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 10th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wm. Bowden, American schooner, 695, K. Fjerem, 11th November,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—R. Isaacs and Bro.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 11th November,—Kobe, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 12th November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 13th November,—San Francisco via Honolulu and San Diego, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 14th September,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 14th November,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General,—P. & O. S. N Co.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, W. T. Hannah, 14th November,—London via ports, General,—Butterfield and Swire.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 14th Nov.,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawamura, 14th Nov,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 14th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 14th November,—Yokkaichi, General.——Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, E. G. Andrews, 15th November,—London via ports, General.—P. & O S N. Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 15th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 15th November,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C Young, 15th November,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 15th November,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Y. Ouki, Major McClure, Mr. G. G. Miller, Mr. G. Gibon McClure, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. F. Hachizumi, Master Charlie, Mr. Belatoff, Mr. A. R. Riddle, Mr. T. G. Becker, and Mr. G. Sumer, in cabin; Mr. Krall, Mr. Mischke, Mr. Kichlis, Mr. Yong Min Woo, Mr. T. Jones and child, Mr. J. Brown, Mrs. J. Brown, Mr. Herio, Mr. S. D. Ladella, in second class; 11 Chinese, and 25 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. E. T. Osborn, child and amah, Mr. E. V. Allan, Mr. J. Oka, Mrs. B. A. Walker, Mrs. F. S. Sandford, Mrs. Austin Sperry, Mrs Major Downey, nurse and 2 children, Miss E. Davis, Colonel T. J. Edge, Miss V. Haynes, Mrs. V. Turnpaugh, Mrs. E. L. Wingate, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bird, Mrs. F. E Wells, Mr. A. Karnanko, Mr. E. H. Litchfield, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilder, Mrs. F. W. Brooks, Miss A. E. Lawrence, Bishop H. C. Potter, Mrs. E. H. Sandford, Mrs. M. Weber, Miss B. Sperry, Mr. George Vickers, Mrs. T. J. Edge, Mr. S. Dero, Mrs. B. S. Munday, Mr. C. W. Bird, Mr. F. Mills, Miss C. Playton, Mr. E. S. Willard, and Rev. P. S. Grant in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. H. B. Kaeding, Mr. G. F. Williamson, Mr. G. L. Kaeding, and Mr. J. A. Allen in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. A. Livingston, Miss L. J. Cooper, and Dr. E. L. Woodward in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Henry Swift, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johnston, Miss F. C. Bond, Commander J. V. B. Bleeker, Mr. D. M. McKenzie, Miss L. Booth, Miss J. Balmer, Mrs. A. L. Conger, Miss Annie Day, Mrs. E. Stone, Miss H. C. Crook, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Ah In and 5 children, Mrs. H. T. Sime, Miss Fannie Wand, Mrs. B. C. Carrington and 2 children, Commander Thomas C. McLean, Mrs. Chas. H. Phelps, Miss G. J. Maclagen, Mrs. C. W. Mead, Mrs. H. V. Evans and child, Mrs. C. L. Stone, Mr. Ralph Wolfe, Mrs. F. J. Dunleavy and child, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Chu, nurse and 4 children in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Deladonespe, and family (2), Mr. Picarda, Mr. Krasnoff, Mr. Oshima, Mr. Maili, Mr. Albert Simon, 1 Chinaman, Mr. Ragnez, Mr. G. Lila, Miss Wicklam, Mr. Boulli, Mr. Harmsen, Mr. A. Serno, Mrs. Som Chee Cong, Mrs. Hama, Mrs. Matsumoto, and Mr. Fioravinti Chimentz in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Mooney and native servant, Captain Sonntag, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Maitland, Mr. F. D. Matts, Vicomte Henri de Kergarion, Mr. Herod, Mr. Cheetam, Mr. and Mrs. E. Roth, Mr. Leigh Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lattine and 4 children, Mr. W. M. Thornton, Mr. C. Hammerstedt, and Mr. Weaver in cabin; Mr. S. Saldona, Mr. Stephano, Mr. C. George, and one Japanese in European steerage. For Honolulu:—Mr. Low Chung Hoon in European steerage. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. A. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. J. Cassanova, Mr. Young Lock, Miss Riggs, Mr. E. Lemon, Mr. and Mrs. Skemcott Rogers and child, Mr. A. R. Agassaz, Miss Muller, Mr. W. Heitwan, Miss C. J. White, Captain F. A. Blake, Mrs. G. L. William and 3 children, Rev. J. B. Thompson and 2 children, Mrs. Fletcher and 2 children, Mr. G. H. Krugswell, Mr. A. Johnston, Rev. N. Hansen, Miss Palmer, and Mr. A. T. Pattison in cabin; Mr. E P. McFoy, Mr. O. Buber, Mr. Milton Wallace, Mr. B. Peresvett, and one Japanese in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Sydney and Melbourne via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. David Maclaren, Dr. James Hepburn U S A. Mr. F. Weber, Com. C. Cornwell, U.S.N., Mrs. E. Hudson and children, Mr. Heinrich Schaub, Consul H. Baels, Judge D. P. Baldwin, U.S.A., Mr. J. Weaver, Mr. George Moore, Mrs. M. K. Ballagh, Mr. G. F. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. N. Barraud, Mr. Kiyoshi Nonaka, and Mr. K. Asayama, in cabin; Miss and Mr. Gararetta, Mr. G. Hay, Jr., Mr. J. Okamoto, and Mr. H. Watanabe, in second class.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. S. Beale, Mr. L. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Sandford, Mr. D. McKenzie, Mr. A. Livingston, Mr. T. L. Wilkinson, Mr. G. F. Williamson, Commander T. C. McLean, Commander J. V. B. Blucker, Mrs. R. A. Wellman, Misses Wellman (2), Mrs. H. V. Evans, infant and nurse; Miss L. J. Cooper, Mrs. F. J Dunleavy and child, Miss H. C. Crook, Mrs. C. H. Phelps, Miss L. Booth, Mrs. C. L. Stone, Mrs. E. Stone, Mrs. A. L. Conger, Mrs. C. N. Mead, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johnson, Miss E. C. Bond, Mrs. H. T. Sime, Mrs. B. C. Carrington and two children, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fuchs, two children and amah; Dr. Gerlach, Mr. J. A. Allen, Miss Clayton, Mrs. H. Swift, Miss G. T. Maclagen, Miss J. Balmes, Dr. E. L. Woodward, Mr. Ralph Wolfe, Miss L.

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Crowther, Miss F. Wand, Mr. H. B. Kaeding, Mr. G. L. Kaeding, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Chu, nurse and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Yah Iu and five children, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Surg. Gen. C. E. McVittie, Mrs. McVittie, Mr. E. Kingsell, and servant, Mr. Wm. McLeod, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Robertson, Mr. C. Vatho even, Mrs. Collier, Miss Halstead, and Mr. Ko Ke Kam, and child in cabin; 10 Chinese, and 5 children in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for London via ports:—Miss Lowe, Miss Calder, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Ranken, Mrs. F. W. Vanruxen, Misses Vanruxen (2), Mr. L. C. Vanruxen, and native servant, Mrs. R. R. Terry, Misses Terry (4), Mr. J. C. Terry, Capt. W. H. Cope, and Mr. J. Bathgate, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Baron and Baroness Nishi, the Minister to China, Mr. and Mrs. N. Narahara, Chancellor of Legation at Peking, Mr. Masashi Sawa, Mr. K Iwasaki, Mr. M. Uchikoshi, Mr. Y. Nakamura, M.P., Major C. McClure, U.S.A., Mr. G. C. McClure, Mr. G. G. McClure, Mr. F. G. Brecke, Mr. Bekuozoroff, Mr. H. Oseko, Miss Ine Kamada, Miss Masu Kurata, Miss Matsu Sugiyama, and Miss Sei Nakayama, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, from Bremen via ports:—Miss Austen, Rev. W. F. and Mrs. Austen and child, Miss Ehricke, Miss Hogan, Miss Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Nettleship and child, Rev. V. H. Patrick, Miss E. Köpler, and Mr. Thos. C. Schonten, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain W. Finch reports:—Left San Francisco, October 24th, via Honolulu, October 31st. Arrived at Yokohama, November 12th. Had fine weather throughout the voyage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 344 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 214 bales.

CARGO.

The following are the shipments of tea and silk per N. P. steamer *Breconshire*, which sailed for Tacoma, Wash., yesterday:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	HONOLULU.	TOTAL PACKAGES.
Kobe	405	1,153	4,071	—	—	5,629
Yokohama	1,170	1,739	670	177	—	3,756
Total	1,575	2,892	4,741	177	—	9,385

SILK.

	NEW YORK.		HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	100	Waste	—	100
Shanghai	—		—	—
Yokohama	314	Raw	—	314
Total	414		—	414

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From.	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 1	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 2	M. Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Nov. 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 3	F. Nov. 24
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Nov. 25
America	P. M. Co.	China 4	Tu. Nov. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Nov. 30
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	———	Th. Nov. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Th. Nov. 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Dec. 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Dec. 9

1 Left San Francisco on the 1st inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 16th inst.
3 Left Vancouver on the 11th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Nov. 21
Europe, via Shai	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. Nov. 22
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Nov. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Nov. 24
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Nov. 29
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W. Nov. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Dec. 1
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 2
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Sa. Dec. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Dec. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Dec. 16

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is some sign of improvement in cotton yarns. Grey shirtings are quiet; fancy cottons and woollens are firm. Italians are in more demand, and black velvets show a considerable advance. Turkey reds are dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards 14 inches.	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.26 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9 50 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	1.00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 oth, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Singles	$40.00 to 42 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44 00 to 46 00
Nos. 42, Doubles	53.00 to 55 00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	75.00 to 78.00
Nos 2/80, Plain	91.00 to 94 00
Nos 2/100, Plain	118 00 to 120.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	88.00 to 92.50
Nos. 2/80. Gassed	105.00 to 109.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	133 00 to 140.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23 50
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The market is quiet, nothing being recorded except a few transactions in galvanized sheets.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	6.20 to 6 40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.45
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6 90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12 50 to 13 80
Wire Nails assorted	7 60 to 7 70
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¼ inch)	7.15 to 7 40

KEROSENE.

The market is strong, and prices are still advancing.

American	$3 00
Russian	2.95
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Haitong	4 40 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.70 to 6 90
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.80 to 9 50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued active, and a further advance is noted.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	1270 to 1280
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1230 to 1240
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1250 to 1260
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1210 to 1220
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1230 to 1230
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1190 to 1200
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1200 to 1210
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1160 to 1170
Comm'n—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1170 to 1180
Re-reels—No. 1½	1140 to 1150
Re-reels—No. 2	1110 to 1120
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1130 to 1140
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	1100 to 1110
Kakedas—No 2	
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

Stocks are reduced. The native demand continues brisk.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	180 to 200
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Best	180 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	170 to 180
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	160 to 170
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	135 to 145
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$125 to 140
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	140 to 150
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	50 to 60

TEA.

Only a small business has been passing, chiefly in common and good medium grades. The settlements so far this year exceed last year's total.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 16.

Silver from London has recovered, and is now quoted ⅜ higher, but no alteration in rates to-day.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	213
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5¼% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74½
— Private 10 days' sight	76⅛
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	153⅛
Bar Silver (London)	27⅛

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 16.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 180. Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 237.50. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 210. Club Hotels are wanted at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels—offers of shares wanted. Laundries—a few shares are obtainable at *yen* 60. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Helms have again changed hands at *yen* 55.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	210 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	180 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	237.50 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9.25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	90 B.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Hingo Gas Co., Ld., $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	51 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 3,200 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 16,208.44; 4, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 16.

Oriental Hotels, Kobe, have buyers at *yen* 127.50. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 235.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	235 Buyers.
Club Hotel	80 Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	127.50 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	180 Sellers.

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TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS

Hongkong, November 14.

BANKS.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation..... $348 % prem. B.
National Bank of China, Ltd. $28 Buyers

MARINE INSURANCES.

China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited..... $60 Sellers
Straits Insurance Company, Limited..... $5 Sellers

FIRE INSURANCES.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited ..... $330 Sellers
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited..... $87 Sellers

SHIPPING.

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Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	1...	49 80
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		106 80
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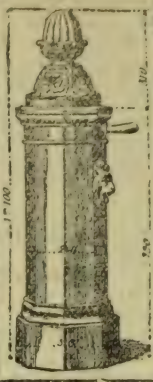
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 25TH, 1899.

MARRIAGE.

On the 20th November, at Auckland, N.Z., by the Right Rev. W. G. Cowie, D.D., Primate of New Zealand, FREDERICK GEORGE, third son of George Sale, of Yokohama, to IDA, second daughter of Captain H. Worsp Burtwood, Remuera, Auckland. (By Telegram.)

DEATH.

At London, on the 12th October, C. A. BLACK, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Diet was opened by the Emperor in person on the 22nd.

MAFEKING still holds out bravely against the attacks of the Boers.

THE blanket trade is a little dull at Yokohama, but cloth is very brisk.

FOUR of the largest Cape liners have been chartered to convey Warren's Division.

THE price of kerosene has risen again. The best stood at 3 30 *yen* per case on the 23rd inst.

CARGO is delayed at San Francisco owing to the scarcity of transport vessels. The *America Maru* took 4,000 tons or more, and the *Hongkong Maru* and *Nippon Maru* have both had to refuse passengers and freight.

THE foundation stone of the new Christ Church was laid on the Bluff, Yokohama, last Saturday.

AT the end of October the Japanese residents at Masampo numbered 74—62 men and 12 women.

ABOUT 32 500 articles were exhibited at the Hachioji Exposition, and 4,251 exhibitors obtained prizes.

ABOUT 180,000 *yen* worth of Japanese tobacco was exported to China, Korea, &c., up to September this year.

THE number of Japanese residents in Shanghai at the end of October was 1,084—675 male and 407 female.

MORE than 7,000 seals were caught this year by Japanese sealers, and the catch is estimated to be worth 140 000 *yen*.

THE foreign rice stocks at Yokohama are very low owing partly to the scarcity of rice in the market at Hongkong.

THE Yokohama Fur Articles Exchange was opened on the 20th inst. The number of brokers will be about fifty.

ACCORDING to the latest investigation the Japanese subjects at Amoy number 89 of Japanese race and 723 Formosans.

AT Kimberley on the 6th inst. the enemy cut the main water supply and lifted the cattle. They are closing in on every side.

THE number of visitors to the Imperial Commercial Museum in October was 4 108; 4 030 natives and 78 foreigners, or 137 per day.

NEWS from Fort Tuli (Matabeleland), dated the 3rd instant, reports activity on the part of Boer raiders on the North-west frontier.

THE extraordinarily high price of raw silk has affected the price of floss silk, which rose in sympathy 35 *yen* per picul on the 20th inst.

THE price of paper has risen about 20 per cent. since the middle of October, owing to scarcity of imports and the rise in the price of rags.

THE N.Y.K. has ordered a new vessel of the Mitsubishi Dockyard. It is to be of 6 000 tons and 15 knots speed, and will be finished by 1901.

THE price of "extra" raw silk reached 1,500 *yen* at Yokohama on the 18th. This price is the highest ever attained since the beginning of the trade.

OWING to the scarcity of imported goods in the market, the imports during the first half of this month at Kobe alone exceeded exports by 3 million *yen*.

A TELEGRAM from Bulwayo states that on the 9th the Boers attacked King Khama, who supported by a hundred British, succeeded in repulsing them.

THE Kwansai Railway Company is about to make a call of 7 50 *yen* per share. The money thus raised will be used for the repayment of the company's debentures.

NEWS from Escourt, dated the 15th inst., says that the Boers shelled an armoured train reconnoitering at Chieveley, 5 miles southward of Colenso, and shattered a seven pounder gun. They derailed the two trucks carrying the gun and disabled the train. The engine escaped with the wounded. The crew numbered 180 of whom 50 of the Dublins and 40 of the Naval Volunteers are missing, as is also the newspaper correspondent, Mr. Winston Churchill.

THE lowest bid for the Industrial Bank bonds was 20 *yen* 8 *sen*, the highest being 24 *yen* 50 *sen*; as this was lower than the limit they were all rejected. The next call will be made after the New Year.

THE Hokuetsu Railway Company's revenue for the last ten days of October was 8 685 *yen*—13 *yen* 87 *sen* 5 *rin* per mile per day. The Nankai Railway Company's income for the same period was 15.719 *yen*—36 *yen* 08 *sen* 8 *rin* per mile per day.

ACCORDING to the latest investigations made by the Finance Department there are 1,954 Japanese banks with a paid-up capital of *yen* 416 690 754. This is an increase of 20 banks and 2 million *yen* capital compared with August.

THE censor is suppressing all indications of General Buller's plans. Lord Methuen will command the column sent to relieve Kimberley, which is short of provisions, and General Hildyard's column will proceed to the relief of Ladysmith.

ELECTRIC light globes are now made in Japan and their quality is not a bit inferior to the imported articles. The Manila Government has ordered 100 000 globes from the Tokyo Electricity Company; 60 000 have been ordered from Singapore and 5 000 from a certain company in New York.

THE most abundant catch of herrings in Hokkaido was in the first term of this year. It amounted to 411 000 *koku*, 2,000 *koku* more than the catch in the first term of 1897, which was the previous "record." But as during the rest of the year the catch was small, the total amount was 12 per cent. less than the average of the past five years.

THE Imperial Maritime Productions Association convened a meeting to discuss the encouragement of deep sea fisheries on the 23rd inst. at the Dai Nippon Suisan Kwai, Tameike, Akasaka, Tokyo. The chief purposes of the meeting were to consider the best methods of rewarding and protecting men engaged in deep sea fishing.

THE following table shows the revenues of the Government railways in October this year as compared with the revenues in 1898:—

	1899 Yen.	1898. Yen.	Increase. Yen.
Tokaido ...	966 737	849 468	117.269
Hokuriku ...	109 311	77 515	31 496
Shin etsu ...	91.278	79 156	12.122
O u North...	13 908	10,396	3.512
O u South...	8.781	—	—
Total	1.189 715	1.016,535	173.180

THE trade returns for the 1st half of this month, published in the *Yomiuri*, show that exports amounted to 10 105 073 *yen* and imports to 10 167 899 *yen* the latter exceeding the former by 62.826 *yen*. As to bullion and specie, the corresponding items were 2,906,238 *yen* and 70.871 *yen* respectively, the excess of exports in specie aggregating more than 2 830 000 *yen*. The direct cause of this is to be found in the war now proceeding between England and the Transvaal, as well as the enforcement of the gold standard in Indiae which has had the effect of enhancing the valug of gold in London, and consequently raising exchange rates to a serious extent. The gold specie of Japan, remarks our contemporary, is destined to be absorbed by England.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Tuesday, Nov. 21.

The Boers are playing a somewhat risky game. They have moved along the railway southward of Ladysmith at least as far as Chieveley, if not to the neighbourhood of Estcourt. The order of the stations along the line, travelling towards Pietermaritzburg from Ladysmith, is Colenso (13 miles), Chieveley (6 miles) Estcourt (6 miles). If would appear, therefore, that the Boers have pushed to a point some twenty miles southward of Ladysmith, leaving the latter place untaken in their rear. That is all very well, of course, so long as their numerical strength enables them to fully invest Ladysmith while extending their operations in other directions. But they have now to meet Hildyard's brigade moving from Pietermaritzburg to the relief of Ladysmith, and unless they are remarkably fortunate they will find themselves between the devil and the deep blue sea. It has of course been observed that all reports as to the sounds of combat in the direction of Ladysmith have of late been coming from Estcourt. Obviously the British are holding Estcourt, which means that the relieving force can be carried by rail to within 25 miles of Ladysmith, and that the garrison of Ladysmith is tolerably certain to know when any fighting commences between Hildyard and the enemy. The Boers should have neglected no effort to avoid being placed in such a disadvantageous situation. Their present plan of campaign seems to be to dispute the passage of the Tugela, making Bulwer Bridge at Colenso a strong point of defence. But that kind of strategy will be of little use against the artillery that the British can easily bring from Durban, and if the Boers are defeated on the Tugela line their retreat will be a hazardous business with White's forces in their rear. It appears to us that they are now about to reap the fruits of the slow, hesitating methods they have pursued throughout. They ought never to have assumed the offensive unless they were prepared to make the efforts and take the risks inseparable from attacking operations. Their ambition, and probably an erroneous estimate of their enemy's fighting capacity, prompted them to enter upon an offensive campaign, but their want of spirit and discipline has fatally militated against their successful conduct of that mode of warfare. They have not captured so much as one place held by a British garrison. Colenso was left to their mercy, and Chieveley also—though we doubt whether the latter had a garrison at any time—, but from a strategical point of view their tenure of those two places would be a source of serious weakness to them unless they succeeded in reducing Ladysmith before the arrival of a British relieving column. Apparently they have not understood that the English plan was to allow them to advance just far enough to become embarrassingly involved, but not far enough to effect a complete solution of continuity between the beleaguered garrison in Ladysmith and the relieving column. Had they moved boldly against Estcourt, Weston and Pietermaritzburg, captured these places and then retired, destroying every mile of railway and everything in the way of rolling stock, they might have greatly retarded the British advance, and secured their own line of retreat in the event of failure to reduce Ladysmith. But they have really achieved nothing effective, and the only anxious question now presenting itself is whether they can mass a sufficient force on the Tugela river to defeat Hildyard's advance. They can certainly outnumber him, and if they were fighting at a greater distance from Ladysmith, the risks to the relieving brigade would be great.

The news that came over the wires after the above was in type shows that the Boers fully appreciated the necessity of advancing south of Estcourt but they have taken the step too late. It is also probable that the column marching to the relief of Ladysmith is larger than we at first surmised. Most probably it comprises 8,000 men.

The Second Brigade, First Division, Army Corps, under the command of Major-General Hildyard, C.B., which left England on the 20th of October and is now believed to be moving to the relief of Ladysmith, consists of the 2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment, 2nd Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment, 2nd Battalion East Surrey Regiment, and 2nd Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment. The 2nd Battalion of the Northampton Regiment was to accompany the Brigade for duty on the lines of communication. Hildyard's fighting force, according to this return, would not exceed some 4,000 of all arms, but the telegraph says that about 8,000 men have been sent to Durban to undertake the relief.

It is evident that military opinion in England took exactly the form expressed in these columns at the outbreak of the war, namely, that the Boers would act strictly on the defensive. *The Times* of October 12th—at which date the receipt of the Boer ultimatum had rendered war certain—summed up the situation thus:—

Langs Nek will doubtless be occupied at once by the commandos assembled at Volksrust and Sandspruit, who will then proceed to entrench themselves and to bring up guns with a view to bar this line of approach. Newcastle will probably be entered and we shall hear of raids in various directions. Meanwhile, the British forces will for the present hold their positions and will employ small columns of cavalry and mounted infantry volunteers against any attempts to cut their line of communications with Maritzburg and Durban. Unless the Boers are mad enough to court heavy losses by attacking strong positions defended by magazine rifles and modern artillery, there seems no present prospect of important events on the side of Natal. It is, however, quite possible that shots will be exchanged between reconnoitring parties to-day.

On the western frontier Mafeking may be the target of the Boer guns; but every preparation of which the resources admit has been made, and to assault such a position is not in conformity with Boer tactics. Kimberley is more strongly held than Mafeking, and here also an attack would have no chance of success. Of Vryburg, which according to a telegram of the 9th inst., was said to be menaced, and of Lobatsi, which was reported to be held by a small detachment, we have little information. It is possible that neither of these places is in a position to make a protracted defence; but their loss would have no permanent importance. Some immediate action on the western frontier seems highly probable, and we may expect at least to hear that the railway has been cut. Its subsequent restoration will not be difficult.

The outbreak of war thus finds us on the defensive, opposing three principal groupings of Boers whose strength is not exactly known. On the northern frontier of Natal there are probably about 13,000 men, near Mafeking perhaps 3,500 and near Kimberley a more 3,000. In Natal it is easy to see how any trying ordeal may be attempted. In Bechuanaland serious attacks on Mafeking or Kimberley are unlikely, but an effort may be made to isolate these places and to carry on an irregular siege, following the precedent of 1881.

One thing shown by this forecast is that the Boer forces were greatly under-rated. Their strength on the northern frontier of Natal was put at 13,000, whereas it is now known to have been about 20,000, and if the Free-state Boers are added, there are probably 25,000 of all arms operating today in Natal. Then at Mafeking there are said to be at least 5,000, and at Kimberley 9,000, while some 3,000 or 4,000 are defending the southern frontier of the Free State. Altogether the two Republics seem to have succeeded in putting a force of some 40,000 into the field, a great number of whom must be recruits from outside sources; that is to say, from Uitlanders of non-British extraction and from Dutch and German sympathisers. Possibly their strength induced the Boers to assume the offensive, the expectation being that they could sweep the British forces out of Natal and even out of the Cape before the arrival of re-inforcements from England. They had a month to accomplish that purpose, and we know how they have succeeded. But it is also possible that they dared not face a long period of inactivity in camp, a trying ordeal to undisciplined troops.

We take this from *The Times* of October 6th:—

A correspondent of the *Cape Times*, writing from Pietermaritzburg, gives an account of some incidents of a journey from the Rand to the Natal capital. A Boer snatched a baby from the arms of its mother with the object of provoking the father. Burghers poked rifles through the windows of the railway carriages for the purpose of frightening the women. A policeman pointed a revolver at an Englishman and threatened to shoot him unless he disavowed his British sympathies. As he refused he was handcuffed, his knees were bound together, and he was thrown on the floor of the carriage. Even this was not enough. The unfortunate man was finally dragged out of the car and flung into a cattle truck.

Two ladies were assaulted in a brutal manner at Paardekraal station. A Boer struck one in the mouth with the butt-end of his rifle, and hit another lady in the throat with his fist, causing intense pain.

The East London *Standard* publishes an interview with a gentleman who has just arrived from Johannesburg. He was an eye-witness of the brutal treatment of British by Boers at Kroonstad. A crowd of famished passengers, he says, rushed to the station restaurant, but found that all the provisions had been commandeered. Fifty men thereupon proceeded into the town, but were attacked in the street by eight mounted burghers, who charged and thrashed them unmercifully with leathern sjamboks, driving them back to the train. A number of them bore weals on their faces, and many were streaming with blood. Some Boer officers in the train who remonstrated with the burghers were called "cursed rooineks."

It will be observed that these incidents, inexcusable at any time, took place a week before the Boer ultimatum was published.

Wednesday, Nov. 22.

It will be remembered that a number of transports, which had been detained by gales in the English Channel, sailed from Portsmouth on the 5th of November. These transports would be due at Capetown on the 23rd at soonest. Consequently, the troops they carried can not have formed part of the 27,000 reinforcements which, according to the telegrams, reached the Cape between the 10th and the 19th instant. We may therefore assume that an additional force of at least seven or eight thousand men will be available for operations on the West and East of the two Republics within the next week. Meanwhile we are told that Lt.

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General Lord Methuen is moving northward from Capetown with a force of about seventeen thousand men, and that Lt.-General Clery has been entrusted with the task of relieving Ladysmith, for which purpose he has some ten thousand infantry with, it is said, a few batteries. We are disposed to doubt the exactness of this information in two respects: first, it seems scarcely possible that any forward movement on a large scale has yet been made either from Capetown or from Durban; secondly, the paucity of Clery's artillery is very questionable. As to the former point, it must be remembered that many details of organization have to be completed in the case of British forces after they disembark, because, owing to the system pursued in England, the various bodies of troops forming an army corps do not actually come together until they land from the ships. It may be taken for granted, of course, that from the moment of General Butler's arrival at the Cape, and also before he arrived, the most strenuous efforts were made to complete all preliminary arrangements, pending the arrival of the troops; but even on that hypothesis it would still be very remarkable if the advance had already commenced. As to the artillery sent with Clery's brigade, it may be comparatively weak in the actual number of land batteries, but, if so, we believe that it will be re-inforced by a considerable contingent of naval guns. The *Terrible*—1st class cruiser, 14,200 tons—and the *Thetis*—2nd class cruiser, 3,400 tons—arrived at Durban on the 12th of November, and it would by easy for these ships to land a brigade of 350 men with half-a-dozen 6 in. quick-firers. Strong artillery will be absolutely essential to General Clery if he has to effect the passage of the Tugela in the face of the enemy.

The division of forces that has been made shows that Lord Methuen has a much larger task than the relief of Kimberly. Evidently he is to invade the Orange Free State. The Transvaal will doubtless be attacked by and by from the Natal side, but in the meanwhile we interpret the British strategy to be based on the advantage offered by the massing of the main force of the Boers in Natal. General Joubert has hitherto held the upper hand in Natal, but he has done so at the expense of leaving the Western frontiers of the two Republics comparatively unguarded, and he has now to determine whether he will continue his hopeless attempts to make a signal impression in Natal, or whether he will withdraw his troops and assume the defensive. Whichever resolution he adopts must be taken quickly. The Free-Staters are said to have destroyed all the railways in order to deprive an invader of their use. That cuts both ways, for it seriously injures the capacity of the Free-Staters themselves to mass troops for repelling an attack, and unless Joubert detaches a considerable part of his force immediately for service in the Orange Free State, he will see it over-run by the British. Clery's task, therefore, may not be so formidable as it seems at first sight.

With regard to the distribution of the Free State forces, we learned on Friday that the Boers had occupied Barkly West, Douglas, Burghersdorp, and Colesberg, unopposed. All these places are situated in the Cape Colony to the South of the Orange River. It would seem, therefore, that the bridges across the latter have not yet been destroyed, for certainly the Boers would not have placed a bridgeless river between themselves and the Free State. Their object, of course, is to get possession of the lines that give access to the Free State from the Cape Colony, and they have partially succeeded. But the main line, which lies further west and leads from Capetown to De Aar Junction, communicating at the latter place with the Free-State routes by a branch road to Naauwpoort, has thus far escaped hostile enterprises. From the first the British Authorities have made dispositions to preserve this main line, and it is understood that although the troops defending the advanced stations on the direct routes to the Free-State were ordered to fall back some distance, De Aar Junction has been resolutely held throughout. The Boers at Colesberg are within 65 miles of De Aar, and it will be strange if they do not make some effort to get at the main line before it serves for the transport of Methuen's troops. From Capetown to De Aar is 501 miles, and from De Aar to Kimberley is 146 miles. Hence, even supposing the line available for the carriage of troops and munitions as far as De Aar, the task of getting at Kimberley still remains formidable, especially with the enemy on the right flank, as the Boers now are at Colesburg and Burghersdorp. On the other hand, the Boer forces seem to be greatly scattered. The places they are reported to have occupied last are spread over a line 150 miles long, and troops engaged in the various occupations are virtually unavailable to prevent the relief of Kimberley. Probably the latter task will prove comparatively easy.

Wednesday, Nov. 22.

General Joubert's account of the fight at Elandslaagte is that it began at 9 o'clock and lasted seven hours, and that nine burghers were wounded and six killed, after which all the British retired to Ladysmith. General Joubert, when he published that wonderful tale, failed apparently to perceive that if Cronje and his forces allowed themselves to be driven from a commanding position after seven hours' fighting in which their casualties totalled only 15, they made one of the most miserable fights on record. It is no sort of disgrace to lose men in battle where the loss is not due to a mistake of strategy, but it is a flagrant disgrace to retire precipitately when only six men have been killed and nine wounded. The truth pays best in the long run.

Thursday, Nov. 23.

The troops whose landing at East London is announced by to-day's telegram must be those that left Portsmouth on the 5th instant in the transports that were delayed for a time by gales in the Channel. The voyage from Portsmouth to the Cape usually occupies 18 days, and we did not suppose that Major General Gatacre's division could reach Capetown before the 23rd. But it would seem that the transports have been driven at high speed, and that they reached East London on the 21st, after a voyage of 16 days. We noted in our last issue that Lord Methuen's advance northward from Capetown towards Kimberley was rendered somewhat hazardous by the presence of the Free-State Boers on his right flank at Colesburg and Burghersdorp. That weak point is now disposed of by the movements of Gatacre's force which will effectually cover Methuen's flank. Events are now on the verge of very interesting developments. It appears to us probable that the Boers will not risk any fights with scattered forces in the open, but will begin to fall back and concentrate for purely defensive purposes.

The first point to be watched is Gatacre's arrival at Stormberg Junction. Our telegrams of the 21st instant stated that the Boers had occupied Burghersdorp unopposed. Burghersdorp is 27 miles northward of Stormberg Junction, and as the British troops had been withdrawn, by Buller's orders, to Queenstown, which is 45 miles south of Stormberg, there was nothing to prevent the Boers from occupying the latter place also. If they have not done so, if they really have not advanced farther south of the Orange River than Barkly East on the east and Colesberg on the west, then it would follow that they have not made any attempt to destroy the railway from Stormberg *viâ* Naauwpoort to De Aar; in other words, the railway by means of which Gatacre's columns can establish easy touch with Methuen's Division. Should the Boers have shown themselves so very deficient in enterprise, the operation of driving them back across the Orange River and obtaining access to the Free State will be much facilitated. We shall probably be without definite information on that point until Gatacre's advanced guard reaches Stormberg.

Friday, Nov. 24.

News of the Glencoe fight is beginning to filter through from Boer sources, and we are thus enabled to learn something of the real dimensions of the affair. There were apparently seven thousand Boers engaged with a strong park of artillery, stated by some authorities to have amounted to 86 guns, though such a figure is scarcely credible. It would further seem that, after the fight had lasted several hours, another force of several thousand Boers got within less than four miles of the scene of combat, but ultimately retired without taking part in it. Symons, in fact, struck his blow in the very nick of time. He could only bring two thousand men into action, and had he delayed his attack for another day, or had the Boers delayed theirs, whichever be the fact, he must have been crushed by sheer weight of numbers. As it was, the disparity of force was very great, but it remains to be seen whether the Boer commanders had sufficient tactical knowledge to get the whole of their men into the fighting line. Concerning the Boer losses, remarkable reticence is observed. One account puts the figure at 3,000, but that is absurd. Commandant Trichard, who seems to have been one of the leaders, is said to have reported that "our wounded were numerous, and that we lost 243 prisoners." A despatch from Pietermaritzburg, dated October 24th, is also quoted to the effect that 988 Boer prisoners entered the town that morning, including six captains. That tallies with a supposed official bulletin addressed to Pretoria and copied at Lorenzo Marques, which says that "the British succeeded in capturing the Utrecht and Vryheid forces." It is noteworthy that all the Boer commanders preserve the strictest silence about the

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number of Burghers killed. Joubert is said to have stated that six lost their lives at Elandslaagte, which is obviously farcical. The only way of accounting for this silence is that the magnitude of their losses induces them to dread the effect of publicity.

THE LATE LADY SALISBURY.

The death of Georgiana Caroline, Marchioness of Salisbury, will be a severe blow to her venerable husband. Though to the world at large the deceased lady was little known she played a considerable part in the moulding of her husband's life. The marriage of Lord Robert Cecil to the almost penniless daughter of Baron Alderson forms one of the prettiest romances of the British peerage. In 1857, when this event took place, Lord Salisbury was a poor younger son with all the world before him, and an elder brother between him and the title he now bears. Opposed by his own people and also by the young lady's parents, Lord Robert determined to win her for his bride. He won her heart and they were wed. The lovers started house-keeping on the slenderest resources, in small furnished apartments in a quiet London suburb. To keep the wolf from the door, the young husband took to journalism, and many a trenchant article from his pen lies buried in the old files of the *Saturday* and the *Quarterly Review*. Other periodicals and journals accepted the gifted man's work, but the struggle was hard none the less. In 1853 he had been elected M.P. for Stamford, a family borough, and this of course helped him considerably. The death of his brother in 1865 brought with it the courtesy title of Lord Cranborne and thence onward the path grew smoother. Next year he became Secretary of State for India and in 1868 he succeeded to the Marquisate. The devotion of Lord Salisbury to his wife was very touching and his affection was returned. Late papers from home, referring to the illness of Lady Salisbury, all bear witness to the watchfulness and solicitude which the Premier bestowed on her, for he spent every moment that he could snatch from the toils of his weighty office by her side.

COUNT OKUMA.

Count Okuma gave a garden party to his political friends on the 20th instant. Some 800 persons were present, and the weather being perfect, the beautiful garden at Waseda presented a delightful aspect. The Count made a brief speech to his guests. He admitted that considering the expenditure devoted to his landscape-gardening and floricultural hobbies, he might possibly be charged with himself adopting in private life the "positive policy" which he condemned when publicly pursued by the Government. But his doings were merely social and perfectly innocent. The case was very different where public funds were concerned and where the national interests were involved. It would be found on examination that many of those undertakings which got the credit of being "positive" were like houses built on the sand.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

Of course the strange rumours telegraphed from London about strained relations between Japan and Russia, have been received in this country with surprise and some amusement. The Japanese themselves, who ought to know something about the matter, are totally ignorant of the existence of any cause for such reports. We imagine that the views of well informed persons are reflected with tolerable accuracy in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which calls the whole scare a spectre conjured up by the suspicions of Europeans themselves (*gishin anki*). If, as our contemporary says, Japan had been disposed to quarrel with Russia, there have been substantial reasons within the past few years: for example, the shelter given to the King of Korea in the Russian Legation for nearly a year, and the occupation of Liaotung by Russia after she had conspired with other Powers to drive Japan out of that place. But Japan knows how to distinguish between the acts of Russian diplomatic agents, seeking to make *coups* on their own account, and the deliberate acts of the Russian Government. It is quite inconceivable that a paltry incident like the purchase of some parcels of land by private individuals at Masampo, can embroil the two Powers, and apart from that question, there is absolutely no cloud on the horizon. As for the tale that Japan is pressing forward the construction of an iron-clad building for her in the Clyde, the *Kokumin* has heard nothing of the kind, and even if it be true, the same might have been said of every vessel hitherto built for this country abroad. Finally, our contemporary deals with the idea that Russia may take advantage of England's South-African preoccupations to strike a blow in the Far East. As regards power to resist anything of that kind, England is as competent as she ever was. She has not reduced her squadron in Eastern waters by a single ship or a solitary sailor, and she commands the maritime routes to the Orient as completely as ever.

The peculiar feature of such rumours is that their fabricators are never discredited. Public interest is roused for a moment, and before the uneventful course of time proves the rumours groundless, many people have forgotten altogether that such stories were ever circulated, and others can be easily persuaded to think that at the time of their circulation some valid cause existed.

A curious article appears in the *Hochi Shimbun* on the subject of the relations between Japan and Russia in Korea. It is evidently written by a Jingo of pronounced type. The writer declares that when the London *Times* speaks of the patience of the Japanese people as nearly exhausted, it describes the situation accurately, and adds that, if the Japanese people do not make their voices heard loudly, it is because, in matters of foreign policy, they are muzzled by officialdom. The *Jiumin* also writes in a somewhat sensational strain. It takes comfort in the reflection that the effort and expenditure England will have to make in connexion with the Transvaal are no more to her than the proverbial "one hair of nine oxen," and that no opportunity has been really created for foreign aggression in the Far East. At the same time it gives currency to an extraordinary rumour that a high official was despatched by the Government to Tochigi to obtain the Emperor's signature to a document supposed to have some reference to military matters in Korea. We mention these tales, but recommend our readers to place no confidence in them.

THE LIBERALS.

The Liberal members of the House of Representatives held a meeting on Thursday, at which they decided that they should henceforth have two leaders in the House, namely, Mr. Hoshi Toru and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa. We do not know what may be the object of such a move. It ought to have a weakening effect, and it ought also to be somewhat displeasing to Mr. Hoshi Toru, who has hitherto stood alone in the office. However, Mr. Matsuda is a staunch supported of Mr. Hoshi, and it may be that the combination of the two men for purposes of leadership in the House is intended to weaken the Tosa section under Count Itagaki.

The Liberals held a friendly gathering in the Imperial Hotel on the 17th instant. It was a very successful affair. Some three hundred and fifty persons were present, among them being Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Matsukata, Viscount Aoki, Mr. Sone, Count Kabayama, Viscount Yoshikawa, Viscount Yamamoto, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Mr. Oura (Chief of Police), Baron Suyematsu, and the Vice-Ministers of Departments. Marquis Saigo was prevented by illness from attending, and Viscount Katsura was absent at the manœuvres in Tochigi.

Marquis Yamagata delivered a short address. He confined himself to thanking the Liberals for the support they had hitherto given the Government, and to expressing a hope that the cöoperation would continue. Marquis Ito also spoke very briefly. He expressed his gratitude for the hospitality and assistance extended to him by the Liberals during his recent tours in the provinces, and he reminded his hearers that the country had advanced only a short way towards the completion of its various enterprises, and that hearty union between the officials and the people was essential to national success. Mr. Kaneko Kentaro addressed a few words to the assembly urging the advisability of practical effort, not theoretical talk, and Baron Suyematsu, on behalf of the Party, thanked the distinguished guests for their presence.

Baron Suyematsu has consented to serve as a member of the General Committee of the Liberal Party. That fact, taken in conjunction with Count Itagaki's friendly utterances, may be interpreted to mean that the recent friction is a thing of the past. None the less the Liberal Party went very near the edge of the precipice, and we are strongly disposed to think that it has been permanently weakened by the Yokohama reclamation scheme and the scandal growing out of it. Marquis Ito's language to a newspaper reporter a few days ago was very significant, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, staunch an advocate as it generally is of the Liberals, does not hesitate to say that, unless they take care to give their enemies fewer weapons for attacking them, the outlook is not bright.

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EDUCATION.

There is much activity in educational circles at present. Leading publicists have evidently awoke to the fact that the present method of education in Japan is very faulty, above all in connexion with the arrangements for passing from one institution to another of the linked system. However diligent a young man may be he can not obtain his University degree before the age of 27, a monstrous delay in these times of keen competition. A reform society is now about to be organized by Mr. Tsuji, Viscount Nagaoka, Mr. Kubota and others, having for its objects, first, a material shortening of the time required for completing the educational course; secondly, simplification and unification of the school curricula; thirdly, an arrangement permitting students to pass direct from the Middle Schools to the University; fourthly, the establishment of a High Technical School; fifthly, the elevation of the High Schools to University rank; and sixthly, a corresponding alteration of the Imperial University's place in the educational system. All these reforms seem to be in accord with the needs of the time, and as friends of Japan we wish every success to the promoters of the society.

The Educational Society is to hold its general meeting on the 25th and 26th instant at Hitotsubashi, Kanda, in Tokyo. The first day will be occupied with matters relating to organization, but on the second Mr. Inouye Tetsushiro, Count Kabayama, Marquis Kuroda, Mr. Kataoka and other well known educationists will address the meeting. There is also to be a display of halberd fencing by the girl pupils of the Aijutsu Shōgakko.

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND SURPLUSES.

Some time ago, we alluded to a suit that had been instituted in the United States for the purpose of compelling the Equitable Life Insurance Company to divide its accumulated surplus among the policy-holders. Mr. S. Geeff, who instituted the suit, had very plausible grounds for doing so, but it must be apparent at once that if an insurance company is to enjoy any measure of stability, a substantial surplus is essential. To use the words of the New York *Evening Post*:—"If a life-insurance company were to distribute all its surplus, it would become insolvent in the first panic that caused shrinkage in the market value of assets." The New York State Court of Appeals has decided unanimously against Mr. Greeff. This is the decision:—

We think the principle which controls the disposition of surplus earnings of a stock corporation is applicable here. In these cases it has often been held that until dividends have been declared a stockholder had no right of action at law to recover any part of the fund applicable for that purpose. In a sense, all the funds in the possession of a mutual insurance company, over and above its immediate and present liabilities, may be regarded as surplus; yet it is not for that reason understood as belonging to or to be immediately distributed among the policy holders, either by them or by the company. The word surplus, like the word liabilities, has a special meaning which has arisen in this branch of the insurance business. Such surplus could be held by them not only for the protection of their policy-holders, but as an inducement to the public to insure. In the absence of fraud all the acts of the officers are conclusive.

THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL.

The Tokyo City Assembly is having a stormy time. Our readers remember that Mr. Taguchi Ukichi and his fellow-thinkers made a strong attempt to upset the decision adopted by the City Assembly with reference to the amount of royalty to be paid by the Street-Railway Company to the Municipality. Mr. Taguchi's party were within a hair's breadth of victory. They passed their motion by one vote in the special committee appointed by the City Council to consider the question. They passed the Committee's report by one vote in the Council, and they were defeated by one vote when the Assembly came to debate the Council's decision. Thereupon Messrs. Taguchi, Suzuki, Shibusawa, and Tatsuta resigned their positions on the Council. Mr. Shibusawa alleged his own convenience as a reason for resignation; Mr. Tatsuta alleged old age, but Messrs. Taguchi and Suzuki boldly declared that they considered the action taken by the Assembly in the matter of the Street Railway to be prejudicial to the interests of the citizens, and that they did not find it compatible with their duty to continue their service as Councillors. On the 22nd the Assembly had to consider these resignations, and a very storms debate ensued. Mr. Hoshi Toru, while admitting that no objection could be urged to the course adopted by Messrs. Shibusawa and Tatsuta, declared that the terms in which the resignations of Messrs. Taguchi and Suzuki were couched amounted to an insult to the Assembly, and that the resignations ought out to be permitted. After an animated controversy the Assembly rose without arriving at any decision.

THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF SOLDIERS.

We have received suggestions from correspondents with reference to getting up a subscription for the widows and orphans of British soldiers killed in the South African War. But though we should gladly render any aid in our power towards promoting an idea so good in itself, many considerations lead us to think that the expediency of the measure is at least doubtful. In an essentially cosmopolitan community various difficulties oppose the successful carrying out of a proposition of the kind. We venture to think that the better plan would be for desiring subscribers to wait until a fund is opened in London, when they can send their contributions direct.

JAPAN AND MORMONISM.

The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that Japanese are little better than Mormons so far as the relations between the sexes are concerned. They would repudiate the charge with great indignation were it pressed home, but many a man occupying a high social position is, in effect, a polygamist. The law, of course, does not allow him to have more than one wife, but the law does not protect that wife against his extra-marital *laches*, although it very effectually protects him against hers. Such a state of affairs is Mormonism to all practical intents and purposes.

We extend to the *Jiji Shimpo* our hearty admiration of the crusade it carries on so persistently against the immorality prevailing in Japan. The ability it shows is equalled only by its insistence, and that it must have already produced a wide and wholesome effect there can be little doubt.

THE PROGRESSISTS.

The general meeting of the Progressists in the Nakamura-ro on the 17th instant derived its chief interest from Count Okuma's speech, for, although Viscounts Miura and Tani spoke also, their utterances were not in any sense remarkable. Count Okuma acknowledged frankly that the Party had suffered three defeats. It had been defeated in connexion with the anti-land-tax agitation, it had been defeated in its attempt to elect a president of the House of Representatives, and it had been defeated at the recent elections for Prefectural Assemblies. (This last admission is noteworthy, for the Progressist organs have recently been telling a different story.) Nevertheless, their courage was not diminished. In the past, their enemies went by the name of "Liberals," or "National Unionists," or what not. But their enemy now was money. Since the thirteenth session of the Diet the political atmosphere had been full of corruption. Everything was accomplished by the strength of money. The light of probity seemed to have been extinguished. But the Progressists had not sold their souls. It had been said of them that they lay under the clouds of misfortune and that the Liberals, who were with the Government, basked in the sun of prosperity. He declared that the very opposite was the truth. Fortune always favoured the upright eventually and frowned on the corrupt. They stood forward as champions of righteousness against unrighteousness, and success would surely be theirs at last. Turning to financial matters, the Count said that the Progressists had been charged with advocating a negative rôle, while the Liberals advocated a positive. It was not so. Men formulating such a charge did not distinguish intelligently between positive and negative. If the Progressists had opposed the imposition of certain taxes, it was not because they denied the inevitable necessity of increased State expenditure. On the contrary, they freely admitted that as the country progressed its national outlays must grow larger, and that, to achieve the ends it had in view, a parsimonious programme would be fatal. What the Progressists objected to was the nature of the new or increased taxes. They were quite agreed that a larger revenue must be raised, not only for the purposes of domestic development but also to enable Japan to assist her great but enfeebled neighbour. They denied, however, that the method adopted in raising it was right, and strenuously objected to the levying of needless taxes in order that the proceeds might be applied to purposes of corruption. The Party might be of good cheer: they were fighting for the right, and the right was bound to win.

The platform voted by the meeting was partly vague and partly precise. Its most prominent planks were, first the reduction of the taxes on land, posts and

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telegraphs, and soy; and secondly, the adoption of an active (*bintatsu*) foreign policy, tending to maintain the country's prestige and interests and to preserve the integrity of China and Korea. After that, the document passed into generalities—the reduction of unproductive expenditures; the encouragement of education; the promotion of industry; the improvement of means of communication and of irrigation facilities; the correction of official abuses and of official interference in elections, and so on.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, while admitting that the Liberals have not been circumspect, and have failed to observe the proverbial precept "Don't tie your sandals in a melon patch or adjust your hat under a pear tree," bids the Progressists to look at home. Before they cry out against corruption on the part of their adversaries, they should consider how they behaved when they were themselves in office, and inquire whether at any other time in the *Meiji* era so many appointments were given to party men or so many posts created for their convenience. That is obviously our contemporary's answer to Count Okuma's indictment.

There is a good deal of criticism of the Progressists' manifesto, adopted by the Party at its last general meeting. They are accused of blindly advocating reduction of the taxes on land, on posts and telegraphs and on soy, without providing any compensatory source of revenue. Were such a programme adopted, no recourse would be possible except to cut down the *post bellum* scheme of military and naval expansion, and the nation is evidently not in the mood for any retrenchment of that nature.

The Councillors of the Progressist Party, in drafting a programme for submission to the Party at its general meeting, included a proposal for restoring the honorarium of members of the Diet to its original figure of 800 *yen*. But the proposal has disappeared. Whether it was rejected at the general meeting, or expunged before-hand in consequence of a discovery that it had no chance of passing, we do not know, but at any rate it is not to be found in the programme adopted at the general meeting. This fact has furnished a keen weapon for attacking the Progressists. Their distinguished leader, speaking at the general meeting, proclaimed that the tyranny of money was the foe against which they had now to contend, and that corruption was the great evil of the time. In connection with this some wise person on the Liberal side has invented the term *kōshi-byo*, or the "epidemic of gold," which bears a close phonetic resemblance to *kokushi byo*, the Japanese name for the Pest now creating so much alarm. The Liberal organ declares that its Party are in unlimited accord with the campaign against the despotism of money, but is curious to know whether the Progressists are entitled to lead the onset, seeing that they can not persuade themselves even to abandon the extra pay granted to members of the Diet. Meanwhile, what outsiders observe is that no great political questions seem to be occupying the attention of the parties. Their time is devoted to idle recriminations about problems of ethics and morals.

NOTES ON THE PEST

Saturday, Nov. 18.

Naturally the advent of the Pest is creating much uneasiness. There have been two or three fresh cases, or, at any rate, cases of a doubtful character.

Dr. Kitasato has gone to Kobe and is evidently taking very vigorous measures. He has visited the patients and delivered verbal instructions of a minute character to the local medical practitioners. It seems that the eminent specialist's plan of campaign includes a careful examination of the sound as well as of the sick, but for that purpose he requires a much larger staff of physicians than those now available on the spot. Accordingly a hundred doctors, all more or less versed in the science of bacteriology, have been summoned from various parts of Japan. There is evident prudence in this method of dealing with the malady, for every sufferer may become a centre of infection during the interval between the first symptoms of the disease and its attainment of disabling strength, and to detect the very earliest evidence of trouble would be most valuable from a preventive point of view, to say nothing of improving the sufferer's chances of recovery. Recent statistics show that, during the present year, four out of every five persons attacked by the Pest in Formosa succumbed to the disease. That is an appalling record. It justifies any precautions, however stringent.

The *Fiji Shimpo* says that ships will be examined for Pest at Shimizu and Shimoda, in Izu.

The number of cases of Pest thus far has been eight; one in Hiroshima and seven in Kobe.

The *Official Gazette* proclaims a crusade against rats as propagators of the Pest. There is certainly need of some invention for destroying this particular class of vermin. To tell the people to destroy them is one thing, but to help them to do it is another. The small Japanese householder shrinks from nothing more than ratpoisoning, for rats' corpses decaying under the floor or above the ceiling of such frail edifices as the Japanese inhabit, constitute a nuisance very nearly as bad as the plague.

The Government has issued an Imperial Ordinance authorizing the Minister of State for the Interior to temporarily suspend the importation of any goods which he considers likely to promote the spread of the Pest. In the exercise of the power thus vested in him, the Minister has issued a Notification vetoing the import of the following goods from all Chinese ports, from India, from Hongkong, and from Formosa:—(1) Old cotton wadding; (2) old clothes; (3) old papers; (4) old skins, whether fur or leather; and (5) old feathers.

Tuesday, Nov. 21.

There is reason to fear that the Pest has reached Yokohama. Three men, who were about to sail for Honolulu in the *Nanyo Maru*, have been taken ill, and as their cases present suspicious symptoms, they have been detained under examination. The emigrants on the *Nanyo* number 340 and are principally from Hiroshima. They went on board the ship at Kobe, where they had been collected by the Sanyusho Emigration Company. From Osaka, on the other hand, comes welcome news that the alarm telegraphed from that city on the 18th instant seems unfounded. A careful examination has been made without revealing any sign of disease.

With reference to the advice recently given by Dr. Baelz through these columns, our readers will be interested to hear that two rats, found dead in the district of Kobe where the Pest first made its appearance, have been examined, with the result that numbers of plague bacilli were found in their bodies.

Wednesday, Nov 22.

A case of Pest has appeared in Osaka, though the malady is said to have been contracted in Kyoto. The patient is a lad at school in Osaka. He paid a visit to his father, who works in a Kyoto cotton mill, and was taken sick on his return to Osaka. It is conjectured that the malady was communicated to him through the cotton used at the mill, but we fail to discover the rationale of such a theory. Another doubtful case is reported from Amagasaki, in the same city, and it is further stated that a stoker on the steamship *Ibuki Maru*, which arrived from Newchwang on the 20th instant, was found to be suffering from a suspicious disease.

At Sumoto also, in Awaji, a case is said to have occurred,

All the schools in the district of Kobe where the malady first made its appearance, have been closed, as a matter of course.

The police inform us that the Governor of this Ken has issued instructions that consignments of rugs, wools, old clothes, paper, leather, and feathers, cannot be landed in Yokohama from Kobe. Persons infringing this rule will be fined from 2 to 10 *yen*.

No further cases of plague had been reported within the limits of the city of Kobe on Nov. 15th, according to the *Kobe Herald* of that date. The clerk at Kobe Railway Station who was stricken down with the disease succumbed on Nov. 14th. This brings the number of known victims to four. They are as follow:—

Cutter (adult).....	Died 25th Oct.
Rice Dealer's Boy	Died 4th Nov.
Wife of Raw Cotton dealer ...	Died 12th Nov.
Railway Clerk (adult)	Died 15th Nov.

Besides these there is the case of a man employed at a candle factory in Fukiai Mura, who was seized with illness on Nov 14th and is still under treatment at the Higashiyama Hospital. In the case of the cutter who died as long ago as the 25th ult. it may be well to explain that it has only recently been discovered that he died from plague. Investigations pointed to plague as the cause of death, and the body was exhumed, when the suspicions were confirmed beyond doubt. The remains were then cremated. There were two other deaths before 25th Oct. which are now believed to have been due to bubonic disease, but as the bodies were cremated it is impossible to ascertain whether they were actually plague cases. The authorities undoubtedly deserve credit for the thoroughness of the means employed to deal with the danger, and great praise is due to the Police, who have been working at extra pressure since the outbreak was discovered. So far, says the *Herald* we see no reason for alarm.

It is thought possible that the disease may have been brought to the country by the N.Y.K. steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, which arrived in in port from Bombay on the 10th ult., with several thousand bales of Bombay raw cotton. About 2 catties of the cotton were sold to a man called Koike Kankichi, and resold to one Yada. Some of the cotton was again sold to another party after being mixed with raw cotton brought from other steamers. Three deaths occurred in the course of last month among the people who bought or sold this cotton brought

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by the *Kagoshima Maru*. Their symptoms were similar to those of the plague patients, but they were buried without special inquiry being made. It is now supposed that these cases were the first cause of the outbreak.

The Managers of Factories and other places where large numbers of men congregate have been directed to see that all shoe mattings are saturated with disinfectants. They have also been ordered to have all hands subjected to medical examination frequently.

The Aioibashi police authorities are burning all refuse and rags which have been washed up on the beach in their district during the past few days. All the refuse and dirt in the Kobe Station Compound and in Higashi-Kawasaki cho, where a plague case was reported a few days ago, have likewise been burned. The residents of Higashi Kawasaki cho, Ichome, and some of the employes at Kobe Station have undergone medical examination. Several baskets carried by beggars who go about picking up rags and rubbish were seized by the police authorities and burned. Scavengers who try to evade the orders issued by the authorities are to be punished.

It appears that the trade in old rags from China is not very large. Last year it amounted to *yen* 120,000 in value.

Sanitary inspection of trains coming from Kobe will take place, on the Tokyo line, at Omori, Shinagawa, and Shimbashi. Travellers alighting anywhere along the line in Shizuoka prefecture will be examined at either Shimizu, Shimoda, and Numazu; in Kanagawa prefecture the examining station is Yamakita.

There are estimated to be not less than 3,000 coolies in Yokohama, working on board ship and the hatoba, domiciled in *kichin yadoya*, or coolies lodging houses. From this date they are to be nightly visited by an inspector and physicians, and any case of suspected sickness is to be instantly attended to. These houses are situated in the poorest and lowest part of the town, Miyoshicho, Nakamura, and Ishikawa.

All the theatres and places of entertainment in Kobe have been ordered to close on account of the plague.

The Customs officials are being medically examined once every day, and those coolies engaged in loading and discharging steamers are undergoing the same examination every day at their Sakaemachi main office and its Hiogo branch office.

The Kobe doctors have responded to the call for assistance from the authorities and commenced a general medical examination of the whole population on Saturday afternoon. The doctors are accompanied by a Registrar from the City Office and two policemen.

Thursday, Nov. 23.

No new cases of pest are reported. The boy in Osaka, whose malady was doubtful, has been found to be suffering unmistakably from the pest, but, on the contrary, two other instances yesterday reported, prove to be false alarms. One is the case supposed to have occurred in Awaji; the other, that of a stoker on the *Ibuki Maru* which arrived in Kobe from Newchwang. The latter turns out to be typhoid fever. It is also alleged that the malady of the patient taken ill on the *Sadokuni Maru* is not plague. Thus, on the whole, it can not be said that any serious cause for alarm exists.

The chief of Police in Tokyo has issued instructions that all vessels coming from Hyogo Prefecture shall undergo the process of disinfection at No. 2 Fort in Shinagawa, and that any one importing old clothes, rags, feathers, leather, furs, cotton or wool from Chinese or Indian ports without duly submitting the articles for disinfection shall be liable to a fine of 10 *yen*.

The Governor General of the Amur District has issued an order that all vessels coming from infected ports in Japan and bound for ports in Russian waters, must first repair to Vladivostock to undergo disinfection.

Friday, Nov. 24.

There are no signs of the plague's spreading. It is true that another doubtful case is reported from Fukiai-mura in Kobe, where the malady first made its appearance. Indeed, so far as we can make out, the new patient, a maid-servant, comes from the very house where the pest broke out originally. On the other hand, the suspicious cases reported from Yokohama and Kyoto are now believed to be false alarms. As to the Kyoto case, it is confidently said to be of a different character from Pest, and with regard to the Yokohama patient, who is undergoing treatment in the Nagura hospital, several examinations have failed to detect the deadly bacillus. There is consequently no reason at present to entertain grave fears of an epidemic.

THE IMPERIALISTS.

The Imperialists, like the Liberals and the Progressists, have held a general meeting, such a step being regarded as a necessary preliminary on the eve of the Diet's assembly. We shall not invite our readers to peruse a translation of the Imperialists' manifesto, for, in truth, party manifestoes in Japan to-day are little better than a miscellany of platitudes and generalities. The only points calling for notice are that the Imperialists pledge themselves to support the Government in completing the *post bellum* programme; that they are evidently in favour of some official excursion into the region of religion, though their utterances on this subject are guarded; that they advocate the State purchase of private railways and the speedy completion of the lines borne on the official list; that they desire legislation to regulate the relations between capital and labour, and that they urge the transfer of all prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury. Their leader, Mr. Sasa Tomofusa, in a speech delivered at the meeting, claimed that the Party was conspicuous for having preserved its reputation for purity in the midst of much corruption.

It is notable that every one of the political parties is now an open advocate of the transfer of the prisons to the control of the Central Government, a step which would have been taken seven years ago had it not been for the determined opposition of these same parties.

SAMOA.

Reading the report of the commissioners despatched by the United States, Germany, and Great Britain last spring to inquire into the system of government and the state of affairs in Samoa, we understand something of the reason of the agreement recently arrived at between England and Germany, subject to the consent of America, that Germany shall have the Samoan group, except Tutiula, which goes to the United States. England retains the Tongas, but evidently effaces herself altogether in Samoa, though her trade with the latter in 1897 amounted to over £40,000 against Germany's £21,544, and America's £17,000. The fact is, the business if the recommendation of the Commissioners was to be accepted at all, two out of the three rival Powers must consent to stand aside. *The Times* summarizes the most important part of the report thus:—

> The essence of the Commissioners' report is the sweeping condemnation they pronounce upon the existing *tri-dominium*, as Herr von Bülow aptly, if barbarously, termed it in the Reichstag last February. After a graphic account of the evils long prevalent under that system, they announce the conclusion to which they have come in very plain terms. "We do not think," they say, "it will ever be possible to do away with this state of things under a tripartite administration, and we take this opportunity of recording our opinion that the only natural and normal form of government for these islands, and the only system which can assure permanent prosperity and tranquillity, is a government by one Power."

One-power rule being, therefore, essential, the only question to be answered was, which Power. From the point of view of preponderating interests it should have been England, but England has yielded the *pas* to Germany, not without compensation, we presume.

ARBITRATION.

Talking of the arbitration which the goody-goody folks would have invoked before drawing the sword against the South African Republic, *The Times* has this delicious paragraph:—

> One naturally looks round to see where the dispassionate arbitrators are to be found in a case like the present. There are certainly no signs of them on the Continent of Europe, and we are not sure that even Mr. Courtney could secure election as arbiter general. The Russian *Svet* has just been warning its readers against magnanimous and philanthropic Englishmen as being worse than the plague. It informs its readers that we habitually put up a few just men made perfect, such as M. Morley, Sir William Harcourt, and—*horribile dictu*—Mr. Stead, to protest against the iniquity of our policy. The simple and charitable foreigner at once says that England cannot be so black as she is painted since she includes these noble minded men, and, as soon as this effect is produced and time has been gained by producing it, this perfidious country puts the puppets away in their box and goes to business. Evidently the impartial arbitrator is not to be sought in a country capable of thinking that our noblest philanthropists thus play the part of bonnets for the wily Chamberlain or the domineering Salisbury. The urbane and always charming German Press does not hold out any better hope. It is engaged just now in abusing us with one accord, and of course with its tongue in its cheek. For when we have established order and liberty in the Transvaal, who will be more prompt than the high minded German to pocket his share of the gold mines we are charged with stealing? It is highly amusing to read at the end of one of these German communications that, if things were otherwise, Germany would no doubt go to the assistance of these poor, innocent, downtrodden Boers; but things being as they are, "Germany must think of her own interests "first," and must stand by while might conquers right. In France, however, they have discovered that there is hope for the world, since, according to the *Liberté*, the superiority of the Boers in artillery and rifles is such that, without losing a man, they will crush the miserable English troops, who have to be roped together in batches of ten, and, according to the intelligent *Temps*, beaten with sticks to get them out of their ships.

POST OFFICE ORDERS.

It is alleged that arrangements have now been completed for making post-office orders payable at the residence of the addressee, the additional cost involved being 5 *sen*. We trust that the statement may prove correct, for under the present system the collecting of money sent through the post is a most troublesome

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A POINT AS TO TAXES.

The Tokyo Authorities are taking with regard to taxes a step which can not, we imagine, have the sanction of the Government. It is the rule in certain cities of Japan—we are not sure whether it is universal—to impose what is called a *shinchō* tax upon every vehicle entered for the first time in the register: in other words, a "new-construction" tax, the principle being that a citizen should pay a special impost when he provides himself with a carriage, a *jinrikisha* or a bicyle for the first time. This tax amounts to one-half of the regular payment for a whole year. Thus since the yearly tax on a double *jinrikisha* is 5 *yen*; that on a single *jinrikisha* 3 *yen*; that on a two-horse carriage 20 *yen*; that on a one-horse carriage 13 *yen*, and that on a bicycle 3 *yen*, the payments exacted under the heading of "new-construction tax" become a serious matter. A family keeping a two-horse carriage, a single *jinrikisha* and two bicycles, has to pay a total tax of 14.50 *yen* for the privilege of being placed on the register, and becoming thenceforth liable for the regularly accruing taxes. That may be all very well under ordinary circumstances: people who can afford to keep carriages and bicycles ought certainly to contribute munificently to the support of the State. But is it quite fair that foreigners, who have been brought under Japanese jurisdiction by treaty, should be made to pay for placing their names on the taxation register? Ought the fact of their becoming liable to taxation to be regarded in the same light as the fact of a Japanese subject's providing himself with a vehicle for the first time? Whatever the answer may be, it is at all events desirable that our readers should understand what is going on, for we suspect that most of them will be taken by surprise. They have heard nothing hitherto of this *shincho* tax. When they were invited to pay a half-year's taxes in October, they imagined—certainly we ourselves did—that the payment would clear them until the end of March next; that it was, in fact, a half year's payment. But it now appears to have been nothing of the kind. It was a levy in consideration of being registered for the first time as taxpayers. Possibly some discovered the truth at the time. There was, indeed, a certain clue, for in the caption of the receipt for taxes the ideographs *zuiji* occur, which signify "extraordinary," and if any one was in a sufficiently inquiring frame of mind, he perhaps found out that this obscure and comprehensive expression was intended to refer to "new construction." We did not, however, though we took some trouble to post ourselves in the various details.

It is easy to be wise after the event, but we can not think it unfair to say that this whole question of taxation has been treated with singular *insouciance* by the negotiators of the treaties, in the first place, and by the Japanese and Foreign Authorities in the second. To people of ordinary intelligence it appears axiomatic that when the foreign negotiators were invited to sign documents bringing their nationals within the purview of Japanese taxes, they should have asked the Japanese Government to furnish an exact statement of the liabilities involved in the concession. National and municipal taxes are variable, of course. The Japanese could not have been asked to pledge themselves that the payments stated by them would represent the total liabilities of the foreign resident for all time. But they could have definitely named the kind of taxes for which he would be liable when the treaties went into operation, and had that precaution been taken, there would not have been any question now about House Tax, Registration Tax, or this freshly fired bomb, "new-construction" tax. As to the Japanese Authorities, they would have averted a vast deal of perplexity and complaint had they published some clear account of the taxes to be paid and the manner of paying them. The document need not have been in a foreign language, though an official translation of it in English or French could easily have been made. Japanese, however, would have sufficed, for the International Committee and the newspapers would have taken care to make the statement intelligible to the foreign community. The same criticism applies, we think, with still greater force to the Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Bodies. They might have helped us immensely under the difficult circumstances of our situation, but they have maintained a masterly inactivity, and left us to fight our way through the labyrinth as best we might. Sins of omission are generally venial, and we therefore confine ourselves to an expression of regret that some precautionary measures of the kind here indicated were not taken.

THE DIET REOPENS.

Such of the leading Tokyo journals as make any reference to the assembly of the Diet show remarkable unanimity in denouncing its corrupt condition. Not one voice is raised in its behalf. Some critics shrewdly remark that in reply to these accusations when preferred by one of the great parties against another, the latter has no retort except a *tu quoque*. The Progressists declare that the Liberals have subserved everything to the spoils of office; the Liberals reply that the Progressists themselves, when in power, did not show any stronger respect for the principles of morality, and such an answer seems to be considered sufficient. In short, what politicians contend for is not cleanliness, but to be equally tarred with the same brush. The only wholesome sign is to be detected in these criticisms. If there are publicists who see the evil and raise their voices against it, there is always some hope that a better atmosphere will ultimately be created.

One of the most disheartening utterances we have read appeared recently in the columns of the *Japan Times*. In a series of leading articles the editor, after confessing frankly that in the welter of change through which this country is passing, many guiding principles have been dropped and a lamentable condition of immorality has resulted, went on to survey the religions of the world, and finally arrived at the conclusion that not one of them is good enough for Japan, and that the only hope for her lies in the appearance of some great moral teacher and preacher who will galvanize the nation's moribund conscience into practical activity. Such an expression of opinion seems to us to illustrate forcibly the cancer that is eating at the vitals of this country. The leaders of thought are basking in a false notion of their intellectual superiority to the rest of the world. Yet we believe that there is silently and steadily at work a force which will regenerate Japan in spite of the arrogant nonchalance of her publicists. That force is Christianity; Christianity dismissed by so many Japanese as a mass of worn-out superstitions, but retaining all its vital strength, and daily producing effects not the less potent because they escape the attention of careless or hostile observers.

The official opening of the Diet took place on the 22nd, the Emperor in person conducting the ceremony. His Majesty delivered the following Speech:—

We hereby declare the opening of the Imperial Diet and inform the House of Peers and the House of Representatives that

We are gratified by the fact that the work of Treaty Revision has been completed, and that Our relations with the Treaty Powers are becoming more and more amicable.

We trust that Our loyal subjects will combine harmoniously to promote the prosperity of the country and to secure happy results.

We have instructed Our Ministers of State to compile the Estimates for the 33rd year of *Meiji* and to draft certain essential laws for submission to the Diet. We trust that you will comply with Our desire by carefully discharging your duty of deliberation and consent with regard to this important national business.

The House of Representatives has made the following reply to the Speech from the Throne:—

We, Your Majesty's subjects, are profoundly conscious of Your Majesty's condescension in personally attending to perform the opening ceremony of the 14th session of the Imperial Diet and in addressing to us a gracious message. It is the hope of Your Majesty's humble servants that, at this season of good fortune, when the work of Treaty Revision has been accomplished, they may satisfactorily discharge their legislative functions, in accordance with Your Majesty's desire and in obedience to the trust reposed in them by the people.

Your Majesty's humble servant, Kataoka Kenkichi, President of the House of Representatives, with deep reverence presents this.

On the whole the general impression is that this session of the Diet may pass off quietly. But experience has often proved that such impressions are very apt to be fallacious. The Progressists will certainly leave no stone unturned to make things unpleasant for the Government. They have two strong weapons of attack; one is official interference in elections for local assemblies; the other a charge of corruption in connexion with the Yokohama reclamation scheme. It is alleged that they intend to introduce an address to the Throne on the former subject as soon as the House commences business—namely, the 24th or 25th—, and that they will press it with all their strength. They have no chance of scoring a success on that issue, however. Their only promising possibility is the charge of corruption. Even journals favourable to the Ministry do not attempt to conceal their apprehension that some solid grounds may exist for such accusations, and, even though nothing can be proved to the satisfaction of the House, a great deal of damage may possibly be done to the reputation of the Liberals. We do not, for our own part, imagine that the Progressists can score a Parliamentary success in connexion with that matter, for

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nothing can give them a majority except some considerable secession from the Liberal ranks, and, however ready the Liberals were a short time ago to indulge in mutual recriminations and domestic squabbles, they are not likely to break their re-cemented compact at the instance of their political foes.

The Budget, of course, may furnish opportunities for attack We may mention that the total figures of next year's estimates have been published. They stand thus :—

	1900 1. Yen.	1899-1900 Yen.
Revenue	236 716 179	246 953 074
Expenditure.....	234 348 241	236 714,685
Excess of Revenue.	2,367 938	10,238,389

These figures show that the revenue will be smaller by 10 236,895 *yen* next year than it is in the current year, and that the diminution of expenditures will be 2,36?,444 *yen*. But such broad statements are quite valueless for the purpose of an intelligent understanding : it is essential to distinguish between the Ordinary and Extraordinary sides of the accounts in order to get a clear idea. Deferring that question for the moment, we may say that the Progressists will doubtless endeavour to cut down the taxes on land, posts and telegraphs, and soy, but since that policy has come to be associated with a reduction of the *post bellum* programme of military expansion, it has not much chance of success.

The Diet did not meet yesterd y, on account of the general holiday, and its business to day will be confined to the election of committees. The real work will begin from the 25th

THE VENEZUELA AWARD.

The Venezuela award seems to have given great satisfaction in England, as, indeed, appears natural when we observe that, to use the words of an American journal, "Venezuela gets a hundred thousand miles of worthless swamp land, and England five hundred thousand miles of the most valuable territory in South America." Here are two of the comments evoked by the award, one from the columns of *The Times* of London, the other from those of the New York *Times*:—

The award on the whole favours England, since with trifling exceptions, which do not appear of material importance to us, it practically approves the Schomburgk line as the true frontier. England has repeatedly offered to surrender the Barima point, with a much larger slice of territory than is now awarded, if Venezuela would abandon the more preposterous portion of her general claim. The monstrous nature of that claim is best shown by the text of the award. It included 60,000 miles of territory, while the award gives her about two hundred square miles of unsurveyed country and swamp, or very much less than any of the British ministries whose proposals for a compromise she rejected were prepared to offer her out of friendly regard.—London *Times*.

The determination of this vexed question is chiefly of importance and interest to the United States as an illustration of the superiority of arbitration over war as a method of settling international disputes. That principle having been admitted by Great Britain as one that should control civilized nations in their dealings with each other, the decision to be reached by the Paris tribunal became a matter of small consequence in comparison with the gratification afforded to all reasonable men in the consent of one of the strongest of powers to prove its right to be considered just by the submission of an international contention to the test of reason and justice rather than of violence.—New York *Times*.

NAVAL MATTERS.

The torpedo-destroyer *Sasanami* had left Portsmouth for Gibraltar *en route* for Japan, but a telegram has been received saying that, owing to inclement weather, she had to put back. It is evident that a storm prevailed lately in the Channel and the Bay of Biscay. The outward-bound transports probably had a rough time.

The report that the Japanese Government has urged the importance of expediency in the building of the *Asahi* directs attention to the four battle-ships ordered for Japan under the *post-bellum* programme. They are the *Shikishima*, the *Asahi*, the *Hatsuse* and the *Mikasa*. The *Shikishima* was laid down at the Thames Iron-works in March, 1897, and launched on Nov. 1st 1898. Her displacement is 14,850 tons and her speed 18 5 knots. She is now nearly completed, nothing remaining except to mount the 12-inch guns in her barbettes, and it is expected that her trial trips will have been concluded and delivery taken by the end of December at latest. The *Asahi* is building at Clydebank. She is expected to be ready for delivery in April. The *Hatsuse* is under constructinn at Elswick, and the crew for navigating her out have already left Japan. Finally, the *Mikawa* is in the hands of Messrs. Vickers at Barrow, but some time must elapse before she is ready for sea.

THE JAIL SYSTEM.

From statistics published in the *Jimmin* we gather that the returns of convicts during 1896—presumably the latest year recorded—were these :—

First offenders	89 888
Second offenders	22 335
Third offenders.....	8 831
Fourth offenders	4 664
Fifth offenders	2,613
Sixth offenders	1 637
Seventh and upward total	2 857

It thus appears that the total number of recidivists was 42,837, or very nearly one half of the aggregate of first offenders. Our contemporary argues from these figures that some efficient system of prison-door relief is badly wanted in Japan.

THE ANGLO-SAXON UNION.

Mr. James Creelman publishes an article denouncing the idea of an Anglo-Saxon union. He considers that " the whole British commercial and financial system in Asia is rotten and out of date;" that Americans "have more to expect from Russia than from Great Britain," and that "British interests and American interests, British methods and American methods, are radically different." We are glad to find Mr. James Creelman in opposition to this project. Not that his attitude matters one way or the other, but the class he represents is not wanted in the Anglo-Saxon camp, or in any other respectable camp for the matter of that.

SUICIDE AT THE RACE COURSE.

The corpse of a man, apparently a *hetto*, was found on Wednesday hanging on a tree inside the enclosure of the Race-course. It is believed that he committed suicide after losing money in betting speculations.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Patten Experiment, by MARY E. MANN; London, Mr. Fisher Unwin; New Set Colonial Library.

LONDON reviewers speak highly of this novel; but sooth to say it seems to be constructed of such flimsy material that one almost fears a sudden collapse at any moment all along the way. In one sense it is an amusing little book, for it describes how the family of a country squire repair to one of his labourer's cottages and honestly endeavour to live a labourer's life on a labourer's wages—eleven shillings a week and six mouths to feed—that is, two men, two women, and two little children. As the most capable of the two women is a girl of about sixteen, who knows no more of providing for the wants of a household than the canary, the experiment is doomed to failure. Their stock of money is almost all wasted in the first two days, but the struggles of the young simpletons arouse an interest at times by reason of the occasional humour employed in the narration. The breath of the free and open countryside in the golden summer-time blows freely through the book, sweetening and cheering the hardships of the way. Otherwise the tale is dreary. Of course a love story is interwoven, and this ends happily—about the only thing that does turn out a success in the Experiment.

One thing Miss Mann can place to her credit. Her narrative brings home in a most forcible manner the terrible struggle for life that is continually going on among the peasantry of old England. The authoress points out no remedy for the many evils that beset the agricultural labour question, but she clearly indicate one or two of the factors which have driven the peasants from the soil—driven them into the already congested towns, until at last the bitter cry is rising on all sides that " we cannot get men to till the land."

"*A Corner of Asia*," by HUGH CLIFFORD. Overseas Library, T. Fisher Unwin,. London.

THE Overseas Library maintains its reputation. Mr. Cuninghame Grahame's volume of short stories, with which the series commenced, has not been approached either in style or intrinsic interest by its successors, but still the latter are on a very fair plane of merit. The latest, "A Corner of Asia," by Mr. Hugh Clifford, is scarcely as interesting as this clever writer's "In Court and Kampong." But it is by no means dull. One portion of the "corner" referred to is an unregenerate little State in the Malay Peninsula, rotten with the worst Asiatic corruption, its court sunk in sensuality, palsied by long maladministration, and revelling in wicked intrigue. In such a situation is cast the lot of the hero Jack Norris, political agent of the British Government. The picture of the Oriental potentate, his bankrupt splendour, his ministers, his numerous wives, his ferocity, deceit and cowardice, is drawn with a skilful hand, and the adventures of Norris are exciting enough to hold the attention of people who might not be attracted alone by the literary value of the book.

The other stories range from grave to gay and all are redolent of the "atmosphere" peculiar to the Malay States.

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The Doctor, by H. DE VERE STACPOOLE.

London, Mr. Fisher Unwin.

THIS is a very delightful little book written in a most charming vein. It tells the homely story of a country doctor in the decline of life after years of activity spent entirely within the confines of a district of Somersetshire shadowed by the Mendip Hills. Dr. John Townsend inherited the practice from his father and thus held a position in the affections of the country-side more secure even than that of the parson. A loveable man must John Townsend have been.

"Children ran to him for apples; he chucked the young girls under the chin and called them by their Christian names and asked after their lovers, and would sit sometimes half an hour, forgetting that it was dinner time and that we were five miles from home, conversing with a beldame whose Eliza was in service up in London or whose Jack was at sea.

"I doubt very much if any of these old women or young girls, or little children, could have spelt his name; I believe many of them did not trouble to remember it—he was 'the doctor.' They came to him like animals when they were ailing, or sent him extraordinary entreaties to come to them written on the flyleaf of a prayer-book or the sheet of a child's copybook. These came to the surgery delivered by very little children, as a rule; for the bucolic mind had grown to recognise that a messenger who was able to talk and explain symptoms, generally returned with pills or a bottle of stuff to be taken at once, and a promise that the doctor would 'call in the morning.'

"I have known the old man travel five miles to a woman reported dying, and to find her on his arrival eating bacon and greens; and cases like this would have been common in his practice had he not by experience and superior intellect become more artful than his patients.

The summer and autumn of his days were peaceful, but with the winter came storms and distressful hours that finally brought the venerable head in sorrow to the grave. At seventy he was hale and hearty; at seventy-one he was glad "to go to rest." Characteristic of the man was the manner of his setting out for that last long journey. His niece, who is supposed to tell the tale of his closing years, describes it very simply :—

That night, at bedtime, I went into the surgery to say good-night to him; he was lighting his pipe and just preparing to attack the parish book, the fortnightly making up of which was his cross, or rather one of his crosses. Each pauper's name was set there with his or her age and disease and present condition, the number of times they were visited had to be entered, and there was a blank space for the extra relief.

I asked him to let me help him, but he refused. And when he kissed me on my departure, he said, "God bless you, my child, and may you be happy!"

Then I went to bed, and in the last glimpse I had of him as I looked back he was pressing the point of his pen on his thumb nail, and his head was surrounded by a halo of tobacco smoke.

I went to bed and slept soundly and did not dream, and for that reason I never shall believe in dreams again, for, surely, if they ever reveal to us anything I would have known of the tragedy in the room below.

For at 8 o'clock I was awakened by Hannah, breathless, and with her old face quivering and distorted.

"Oh, miss!" she cried. "The master is sitting in the surgery—dead!"

He was sitting just as I had left him, but with his head laid upon the parish book, and his figure was that of a man not stricken by death, but by some great grief. His hand still held the pen with which he had just signed his name to the fortnight's work. No one was forgotten in the list, and the people who required it had each got their extra relief safely signed for during the fortnight to come; the old briar-root pipe lay close to his elbow and the match with which he had lit it.

"The Doctor" should appeal to a wide circle of readers.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Official Gazette* announces that Gak chou in Funan was opened to foreign trade on the 13th instant, by an Imperial decree dated the 11th. This news was published some days ago.

The total expenses involved in raising the recent loan of 100 million *yen* are said to have been 658,000 *yen*, of which sum 500,000 *yen* represented the tax payable to the British Government at 0.5 per cent.

The eleventh graduation ceremony of the Military College has been held. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu attended as the Sovereign's representative. Four hundred and seventy cadets graduated for commissions in the Army,

People sending telegraphic money-orders to women are recommended by the *Official Gazette* to make the addresses as clear as possible, indicating not only the full name and the exact residence of the recipient, but also whether she is married or a spinster.

We learn that the Princess Yoshi, wife of Prince Ichijo Saneteru, is seriously ill. Her Highness, who is only in her thirty-third year, has been suffering for some time from consumption, and her condition has become worse of late. She is the younger sister of the Empress, and her Majesty is said to be showing much solicitude.

Following the example of America, we presume, the Japanese are going to have a House of Representatives Record (*Shugiin Kōho*), which will contain exact reports of the Proceedings. Hitherto full reports have been published by the *Official Gazette*, but it seems to be thought that greater expedition can be secured by having a publication specially devoted to that purpose. It is noteworthy that not a single vernacular newspaper attempts to give a full report of the debates. Important speeches by Ministers of State or Government Delegates are sometimes reproduced verbatim, but there is as yet no *Times* in Japan. After all, *The Times* is absolutely unique in the world.

The Buddhists have recommenced their agitation for procuring State recognition. This time they seem resolved to go to work in a thorough manner. The leaders of the movement have held a meeting in Kyoto, and have issued instructions to all the principal parishes of their sects throughout the country to elect committees for the purpose of furthering the scheme and presenting petitions to the two Houses of the Diet. There is also a rumour that a thousand of the Hongwan-ji priests will visit Tokyo during the session of the Diet, and that they will besiege the two Houses, five hundred at each. A sum of fifty thousand *yen* is to be provided for the campaign, and thirty-four branch temples have been called on to contribute 1,500 *yen* each for the purpose.

The monetary indemnification obtained from China by Japan in connexion with the Amoy outrages looks almost ludicrous when compared with the amounts demanded in similiar cases by Western Powers. A sum of 1,500 *yen* is to be paid by way of solatium to the officials who were molested by the mob, and 870 *yen* is to be handed to the Japanese subject whose property was injured. We can not but congratulate Japan upon the moderation shown by her in this matter. The exaction of large monetary indemnities is one of the most unsightly features of modern international intercourse. It is based, of course, on the idea of a fine, but it exposes those that receive the money to most damaging imputations, and it tends to reduce the whole question of interstate relations to a very low level.

We have been supplied with the following literary pearl, in which the Chinese residents of Yokohama congratulate the Empress Dowager on her birthday :—

TELEGRAM TO TSUNG LI YAMEN.
PEKING, CHINA.

We Chinese residents in Yokohama congratulate Empress Dowager on her Birthday and beg for our Emperor to be enthroned again, as he is quite healthy now When Reformation was began last year. We were very glad, thinking China would be a powerful nation. We heard with sorrow that He became unhealthy on the 8th moon and that Empress Dowager held the reins of government. It is our wish to have the Emperor reinstated and reformation Continued, so that the trouble the Empress Dowager brought on herself by seizing the power in all state affairs may cease. Hoping you will kindly forward our desires to Empress Dowager, we are respectfully.

THE NEW CHRIST CHURCH.

The foundation stone of the new Christ Church in course of erection on the Bluff was laid on Saturday morning in the presence of a large concourse of people. Beyond the laying of the foundation, little has yet been done, and the scene of the operations is at present a mere wilderness of scaffolding poles, giving little idea as to what the nature of the building will be when completed. Fortunately the weather on Saturday was brilliant, though slightly cold, and the ceremony took place under the most advantageous circumstances.

The first part of the service, a condensed form of Morning Prayer, was held in front of the parsonage, on the verandah of which stood Bishop Awdry, the Bishop's Chaplain, the Incumbent (Rev. E. Champneys Irwine), choir, and the organist (Mr. W Karl Vincent). The ceremony commenced by the singing of the Old Hundredth by the surpliced choir. The opening sentences and prayers were then read by the Incumbent, and prayers for the Queen, the Emperor of Japan, the President of the United States, and Royal Family were offered, after which Psalm xxxiv. was sung. The first lesson, 1 Chronicles, xxix., 9 18, was read by the Bishop, and the *Te Deum* followed. The second lesson was from 1 Peter, 2, and was read by the Rev. E. C. Irwine. The hymn, "O Lord of Hosts, whose glory fills,"—was then sung, and the clergy and choir proceeded to the north-eastern end of the building, where the stone was suspended ready for laying. The prayer of invocation having been offered by the Incumbent, Mrs. James Walter was handed a trowel by the architect, Mr. J. Conder, and declared the stone well and truly laid in these words: "In the faith of Jesus Christ we place this Foundation Stone in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, Amen." The prayer of dedication, which was offered by Bishop Awdry, was as follows: "Here let true faith, the fear of God, and brotherly love ever remain. This place is set apart for prayer and for the praise of the most holy name of Our Lord Jesus Christ who ever liveth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end, Amen." A portion of Scripture was afterwards read by the Rev. E. C. Irwine, and the well known hymn, "The Church's one Foundation" followed. The concluding prayers were given by the Incumbent and the Benediction was pronounced by the Bishop. The ceremony ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

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FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE news of France's nominally high-handed doings at Kwangchou was received comparatively calmly. The public is well assured that China will not, or can not, fight under present circumstances, and consequently the incident seemed to resolve itself into France's taking what she wanted, or what she considered necessary. We now know, from telegrams published this morning, that the story is in the main a *canard*, but the incident is none the less interesting. The Chinese Court rules without administering, and, since it can not control its subjects, it must consent to be fined for their misconduct. As to France's supposed methods, they are precisely the methods that have been constantly advocated by the English local press of China as the only really effective way of dealing with the Middle Kingdom's tergiversations and lawlessness, and while we have no doubt that from a Chinese point of view there is a certain measures of harshness and even arbitrariness in such doings, we are obliged to admit that an European Power, confronted by mob violence in an Eastern country where local authority is incompetent to preserve order, must take the law into its own hands, and that the more resolute and drastic its manner of doing so, the better in the end for all parties concerned. What we find suggestive, however, is the unexcited, not to say unconcerned, mood of the public towards this development. A few years ago, it would have roused keen interest and probably provoked a great deal of criticism. But the world has of late accepted the conviction that although no mechanical parcelling out of China with scale and compass has been effected, she is, for all practical purposes, divided into spheres of influence, and that so long as a Western Power's operations are confined to its own sphere, they will escape censure or interference. France was said to have employed her own forces to repair the *laches* of the local authorities, and to have followed Germany's Kiaochou example by exacting payment for her trouble in the form of a slice of territory. Yet she was evidently considered to be acting not only in accord with the principles that appear best adapted to China's case, but also in agreement with the fashion of the time. On the whole we are bound to admit that displays of armed force in disturbed localities of China, and subsequent capture of territory as compensation for the effort, are international devices which antedate the sanction they have received from England's constant practice. We are not without sympathy for China. The spectacle of impotence she presents and the encroachments she is compelled to endure must excite pity even in the breasts of those who do not, as we do, appreciate the high qualities of the individual Chinaman. But never in the history of the world has there been previously seen a country so suicidally resolved not to organise and employ its own immense resources for defence, and our regret for its misfortunes is almost obscured by a feeling of contemptuous astonishment at its imbecility.

The sensation is still kept up about France's doings in Southern China. Telegrams are published to the effect that the crew of the Chinese gun-boat said to have been captured by the French have been given up, but that the vessel has been retained. There are also other stories, but in view of the official telegram from the Governor-General of Indo-China which, through the courtesy of the French Minister in Tokyo we were enabled to produce on the 20th instant, there does not seem to be any occasion to repeat in these columns the alarmist rumours sent over the wires by correspondents.

THE FOREIGN PRESS AND GREAT BRITAIN.

IT is curious to find the German press preferring against Great Britain wholesale charges of land-fever and unscrupulous aggressiveness in connexion with the Transvaal; curious because a very brief retrospect of their own history should show the Germans an act before which the Transvaal affair, even under its worst possible aspect, fades into mere insignificance. The seizure of a friendly Power's territory at Kiao-chou in a time of profound peace, before even a pretext for the seizure had been officially advanced, and the subsequent retention of the territory as a basis of naval, commercial and industrial operations, was a performance which beats the record achieved by any other State in modern times. The British press, however, did not raise any shout of fustian indignation on that occasion. Every possible allowance was made for Germany's incentives, and a remarkably lenient verdict was passed. But the Germans have forgotten their own doings. As for the French, they are, as usual, finely frank. They want England to be beaten in South Africa—or, at least, so their newspapers say—because her defeat would avenge Fashoda. Has France really fallen so low? Is it conceivable that she entrusts to a Boer republic in South Africa the duty of taking vengeance on the English for her sake? That, indeed, would be the essence of littleness. To have shrunk from fighting for what she regarded as her own rights, and then to pray that other hands may punish the Power before whom she cowered! Not for a moment do we believe such things of the French. Some hysterical newspaper editors may lose their heads and talk silliness, but the heart of the French nation beats to a different kind of music. For Germany, also, great allowance has to be made, seeing that her colonial interests in South Africa will be directly imperilled should Great Britain annex the two republics. With that prospect before them, the Germans are naturally unwilling that England should prosper in her campaign. But it might occur to the Germans to trust their own Sovereign. The Emperor WILLIAM has proved himself a faithful guardian of his country's interests, and if he is a consenting party to England's proceedings in South Africa, it is because he has secured a *quid pro quo* somewhere else.

The plain truth is that England's great fault is her success. Her rivals are jealous. That is the whole story. If they were really solicitous about high principles of inter-State morality, and if for that reason they were disposed to interfere, their conduct would at least be respectable. But while we have them crying out against England's cupidity, and threatening to combine against her, what is it that they themselves want? Russia wants Persia, Constantinople and the northern provinces of China. France wants a slice of China and the recognition of her claims upon Egypt. Each wants a free hand to do the very thing which all so vehemently denounce England for doing. It is an instructive spectacle.

THE BRITISH ARMY.

THE *Nippon* has an article about the British Army, and the conclusion arrived at by the writer is that the so-called weakness of the Army is only comparative. The British Navy is equal to the combined navies of any three Continental Powers, but the Army is inferior in strength to the military force of any one of them. Hence, just as the moon looks pallid by sun-light, the Army seems small when compared with the Navy. But our contemporary thinks that it is a good fighting machine for all that; that the soldiers are brave and strong, and that the Generals are able.

It seems to us that the British Army is to be looked at in two lights; first, from the point of view of invading the territory of a Great European Power; secondly, from the point of view of defending Great Britain and fighting her colonial battles. For the former purpose, it is undoubtedly impotent. The colossal armies maintained by Powers like Germany, France and Russia render their territories absolutely secure against any invasion by the troops of an over-sea enemy. Eighty thousand Englishmen standing in line with the forces of one of those Powers to attack one or both of the other two, or to resist attack, would be a most valuable addition; but since the leading continental States be-

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came so distrustful of each other as to think it necessary to extend their systems of conscription, and devote a great part of their energies to the maintenance of immense land forces, England's potentialities for purposes of Continental warfare in Europe are comparatively small. But when we come to consider her strength for defending her own territories beyond the sea, or even for attacking the outlying territories of foreign Powers, she is incomparably the greatest military State in the world. No Power could do what she is now doing without her permission, even supposing that any other Power possessed the facilities of maritime transport that she possesses. No other Power could despatch an army of sixty thousand men to fight in South Africa if England was not a consenting party. It comes to this then, that while England is fully defended at home, she can strike, in any quarter of the globe outside of Europe—we are not considering America, of course—, blows very much stronger than any other Power could strike. That is all she wants. She has not a wastefully strong army, but she has an army strong enough for all her present purposes. If continental Europe develops great facilities for the overland transport of troops to the Far East or to Central Asia, England may have to reconsider her policy of voluntary service, and impose upon herself, in part at any rate, the terrible burden of conscription which is the price paid by European Powers for their huge standing armies.

VARYING VIEWS.

It is really curious to contrast the following utterances, one representing hysterical sentiment, the other, sober common sense :—

"Imagine the position of these families of humble country folk, left without the natural protectors and masters of the farms. Wives know that they have none to look to for help except their little boys, their trusty rifles and their God. Whatever happens, the country is stripped of its strong men. They are on the frontier, singing the psalms which comforted their fathers in the desperate loneliness and peril days when Dutch South Africa was won from savage beasts and more savage men. They stand as a thin little line of defenders of their native land against the armies of a mighty empire. They are to do battle against the murderous dum dum bullets and Lyddite shrapnel shells of the richest and largest realm that the world ever saw. In such a situation the faith of the Boers in the God they worship becomes extremely touching. The men in the camps and the women and children in the scattered farmhouses are relying on the favour of heaven to offset the vast preponderance of the enemy's forces. No people equally calm and sensible would ever have found courage for such a terribly one sided war if they had been less sincere and simple minded in their faith. If these conditions in South Africa leave anything wanting to make a complete picture of one of the most pathetic wars in all history, we do not know what it is. A brave, devout, and honest people, only a few thousand families in all, stand at bay in the interior of South Africa. They are cut off from the sea and from outside help. They have staked their whole hope of preserving their independence upon their self-devotion and their faith in God. The good wishes of the world go out to them. But the hard lessons of the past teach that they must go down to ruin and death before the tremendous superiority of their foe in numbers and munitions of war. One of the darkest and saddest tragedies in the long story of our race has begun."—*The Cleveland Leader*.

The writer of this diatribe failed unhappily to perceive that, *mutatis mutandis*, his lamentation might be accurately applied to the doings of his own country in the Philippines.

"Americans will not fail, moreover, to observe that the British are contending for much the same principles that they themselves and their ancestors have contended for in more than one war. The Outlanders have been protesting against taxation without representation, and Great Britain is backing them up in it. It was to enforce that identical protest that this nation fought its first war. Again, the British are contending that a British subject, wherever he be, is entitled to British protection. Was not that what the United States was fighting for in 1812? Again, it is said Great Britain has refused arbitration and has insisted that the dispute must be settled between her and the Transvaal without alien intervention. Would we have accepted alien intervention in 1861? Or would this country have submitted the settlement of its dispute with Mexico to the arbitration of a European power? Nor, finally, will it escape notice that there is a similarity between the Boer courting of war with Great Britain and the Spanish course toward the United State. The Boers declare that Great Britain forced the war upon them. So the Spanish complained of the United States. This country can scarcely admit that of Spain. In brief, then, Great Britain is acting precisely as this country would have to act if it did not wish to repudiate its principles and its record. That is the great salient, fundamental fact which is likely, as it seems to us, to determine the direction in which the overwhelming mass of American sympathy will be given."—*The New York Tribune*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SOCIAL EVIL TEST CASE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Judgment in the social-evil test case was rendered to-day. The plaintiff's plea is granted in full, which means that prostitutes quit this trade whenever they choose, irrespective of contract or debt. Full text of decision will be furnished both parties within a few days, and I shall take pleasure in giving you a translation.

Plaintiff is still in prostitute quarters and not allowed to communicate with any one, her lawyer not being permitted to communicate the decision of the court to her even.

Yours. U. G. MURPHY.

Sir,—Will you be kind enough to allow me to say through the medium of your paper that no contributions are needed *in re* the social evil test case instituted here, so those who have offered to assist may wait until there are further developments.

Yours, U. G. MURPHY.

636 Yaba-cho, Nagoya, Nov. 17.

TOYAMA FIRE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail"

Sir,—It will doubtless interest those who so kindly contributed to the relief of the Toyama fire-sufferers to know what disposal was made of the money. The total amount contributed by the summer residents at Karuizawa was *yen* 326. The committee appointed visited the scene of the fire in September. While the Government had a large sum for relief, nothing but rice had been given out. The poorest families had no vessels in which their rice could be cooked, nor any *hibachi* or *shichirin* to build a fire in, and consequently were eating the rice uncooked. When we gave the money out, some could not even produce a seal to indicate that they had received the money. They had lost everything.

We decided to aid, with our little mite, the very poorest. One hundred and seventy-six of these very poorest families were sought out, and given the very meagre sums ranging from *yen* 1 to *yen* 2. They were instructed to purchase clothing or cooking utensils. All were deeply grateful, one or two old *obasan* crying for joy because anyone would think of them in their misery. These 176 families represented 672 persons. As most of the givers were Christians, we felt at liberty to put a portion of Scripture and some tracts in the hands of each, and these also were seemingly gratefully received.

Thanking you for this deed of charity.

I am, yours gratefully,

HARVEY BROKAW,
(For the Committee).

Kanazawa, Nov. 17th, 1899.

IN AND AROUND BOSTON.

(Written for the "Japan Mail.")

My last chronicled the giving of degrees by Harvard University. Two other natives of Japan have recently received university honours. One is Rokuro Nakaseko, formerly of the Doshisha, who received the degree of doctor of philosophy from Johns Hopkins University. His Excellency Minister Komuro was present at the ceremony. Dr Nakaseko is now a Fellow of Yale University. The other was D. Crosby Greene, Jr. who received the degree of M.D. "cum laude." Dr. Greene is said to have unusually fair prospects for success in his profession.

The summer just passed was an unusually cool one. In early September we had uncomfortably cool weather; in late September it was cooller still, the thermometer falling as low of 20 just outside of Boston; in the first week of October it was still colder so that even snow—a very little—may be reported. Now it is quite summer-like, warm and so calm that to the disgust of everybody there have been seven fizzles in the international yacht race.

Two quite remarkable religious conventions have recently taken place, the Panpresbyterian Council which met in Washington, and the International Congregational Council which met in Boston. The former is said to have represented twenty five millions of Christians.

The Boston gathering was a very notable one indeed. The speaking was of an extremely high order and so well sustained that for eight days the interest never flagged. Tremont Temple was crowded to its utmost capacity of 2500 at every sitting. Those who say that Christianity in America and England is moribund would do well to explain the reason of these large meetings.

One of the striking events of the Council was an address in Japanese by Rev. Tsunetesu Miyagawa the well-known pastor of Osaka. His mellifluous periods, with the admirable translation by another member of the Council, Rev. Otis Cary, of Kyoto, fairly took the audience by storm. Speaking of the position and influence of Christianity in the United States, I may say that I have been impressed as never before with the immense influence upon the morals of the community of the vast army of Sunday School teachers. What a spectacle it is to see more than ten millions of children week after week receiving the instruction of a million and a quarter of the best young men and women of the land? Much of this teaching may fall far short of perfection; still the simple fact that this great company spend an hour a week in the contemplation of the highest ideals must be productive of great good.

The question of the relation of religion to education, of the position of the Bible in public and private schools, is constantly being agitated in Japan and is frequently discussed in your columns. The following paragraph taken from one of our most reliable newspapers may therefore be of interest to your readers:

The Bible in Schools.

In only nine States in the Union does the reading of the Bible as a function of school exercises rest on a legal basis, plainly written in the State constitution or in the school law. These States are Massachusetts, New Jersey, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Georgia, Mississippi and North and South Dakota. In eleven States there is no specific

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mention of the Bible in the constitution or law, but the decisions of courts and State superintendents upon legal provisions for instruction in morals give an authoritative character to the custom of Bible reading. New York is included in this list. Another list of States has none of these legal safeguards, but the custom of reading the Bible prevails, being supported by established usage and public sentiment. In five States, viz, Missouri, Minnesota, Montana, Washington and Wisconsin, the decisions of courts, attorney-generals and school superintendents are adverse to the reading of the Bible, but books containing selections from the Bible are in use.

This seems to be the season for the inauguration of new college Presidents. Pres. Hadley of Yale, Harris of Amherst, Faunce of Brown, Hazard of Wellesley, either have been, or are about to be inaugurated. President Erots' address at the inauguration of Pres. Hazard reopened the question whether the higher education of the sexes should be the same. He declared that "It still remains to be proved that higher education for women may be as useful as education for men." He is reported as saying that "it is the task of Wellesley College to unite the physical training which gives elasticity and grace with the moral training which gives character; the intellectual training which gives truthfulness and discrimination and the religious training which honors the intellectual strenuousness of Congregational worship free from ritualism or adornment, the type which is independent and self-controlled."

The day before yesterday Boston gave a welcome to Admiral Dewey. It was a wonderful display of bunting, a great outbreak of patriotic devotion to a national hero. It was your correspondent's privilege to hear the 25 000 children gathered on the common sing their songs of welcome, and to see from a distance a cocked hat covered with gold lace, in a carriage whirled along by four bay horses. Many in that vast crowd could not have claimed so much. M.L.G.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

FIRST DAY. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20th.

PATRONS.—H.I.H. Komatsu-no-Miya, H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, H.I.H. Arisugawa-no-Miya.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE.—Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; Messrs. Y. Asada, W. B. Walter, Jas. Dodds, F. Strahler, Baron d'Anethan, Count Orfini, Messrs. T. Thomas, R. D. Robison, W. W. Till, E. Knaff, G. Philip, S. Isaacs, W. F. Mitchell, T. Rinoiye.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Mr. W. W. Till, Chairman; Messrs. E. Knaff, T. Thomas, J. C. Nicholson, A. J. Easton, Geo. Philip, K. Mori.

CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. A. J. Easton.

SECRETARY.—Mr. J. E. Beale.

The autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club opened on Monday under the most favourable circumstances as regards weather. It was a perfect autumn day, bracing without being too cold, and beautifully bright and sunny. There was a large attendance, though not so many ladies as usual graced the proceedings with their presence. Possibly the lateness of the season had something to do with the fact.

The sport was fairly good on the whole, and one record was established, Mr. Nemo's Australian Mare, by doing the course in 1.23⅘ in the Adelaide Stakes, breaking Saikio's previous best of 1.23¾ in the 1898 Spring Meeting. The day opened with the Mandarin Plate. Nightingale was the favourite, and justified the expectations of his backers by winning by a head. The Criterion Stakes was a win for Oregon, the favourite, after a close race. The Sydney Stakes was the first race in which the newly imported Australian horses appeared, and a good deal of loose speculation resulted. Lady May was the favourite, but she woefully disappointed the punters, Kasuga winning. The Maidens' Plate was practically a match between Speranza and Old Maid, the former winning easily. In the Adelaide Stakes Savoia, who a head, while Fleur-de-lis was close up at third, was chiefly fancied, ran a good first. The Shanghai Plate was regarded as a certainty for Aberdeen, and the dividend at the pari-mutuel was small, only 7 50 *yen*. The Mongolian Plate was secured without difficulty by the favourite, Suzume. The Melbourne Stakes fell to Tacitus, Mira, who was fancied by a good many, on the strength of a smart finish in the Sydney Stakes, being only third. Lady May, however, though finishing second, was disqualified on account of her jockey dismounting before reaching the weighing room. The last race of the day, the All aged Stakes, was an easy thing for Tomboy, against whom odds were taken. The start in this last race was an exceedingly tedious affair, Tomboy giving a great deal of trouble. Mr. Kingdon had a cordial reception on entering the paddock. It should be mentioned that Tsuru is scratched all engagements.

The arrangements were carried out by the following officials:—Starters, Mr E. Knaff and Mr. A. J. Easton, assisted by Mr. Philip; Clerk of the Scales, Dr. Wheeler; Judge, Mr. Bianchi, assisted by Mr. Warming; Time-keepers, Mr. F. J. Hall and Mr. McArthur; Stewards, Messrs. G. W. Middleton, G. Woolsey, R. D. Robison, M. Pors, F. Strahler, and V. Blad.

We are glad to mention what may appear to be a trivial matter, but is really a great convenience to members of the Press. The Committee have been good enough, acting on suggestions made at the last meeting, to provide a table in a roped-in inclosure on the Grand Stand for the use of reporters, who are thus spared much discomfort and inconvenience. To the public this is of course a matter of very small consequence, but we desire to give a public acknowledgment of the Committee's compliance with a wish also publicly expressed.

The Town Band was present during the afternoon, and played a good selection of music. Mr. C. B. Clausen provided the tiffin and refreshments, and the catering gave complete satisfaction.

Following are details of the racing:—

1.—The MANDARIN PLATE, for Subscriptions China Ponies of 1899; weight as per scale; Winners in Japan at date of entry 5 lb extra, winner of more than one race at date of entry excluded; Winner yen 200, second yen 50. 1⅛ mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Avis' Nightingale, *152lb.....(Hakodate) 1
Mr. News' Evenement, 147lb. .....(Mayeda) 2
Mr. Tandem's Firefly, 153 b. .....(Mr. Elliott) 3
Mr. Starlight Mars, 153lb. .....(Nakagumi) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Sobu, 153lb. .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Basuto, 150lb (Mr. Nicholson) 0
M'rs King & Kardy's Donatello, 147lb....(Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Derby's, Echo 150lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. .....(Goto) 0
Major Trick's Tuluutu, *153lb. (Mr. Longin) 0

* Winner.—Penalty, added.

Time, 2 36¾.

Nightingale was a warm favourite. The horses passed the post in a cluster, Nightingale lying rather in the ruck. During the journey round, however, they strung out, and entering the straight Nightingale, Evenement, Firefly, and Donatello were all close together. A capital race ensued down the home stretch, Nightingale winning by a head, with Firefly an excellent third. There was hardly a length between the first four.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Mars 3, Sobu 4, Chingiz 2, Basuto 9, Nightingale 45, Firefly 4, Evenement 8, Donatello 29, Echo 4, Manifesto 2, Tuluutu 1. The Field 1; total, 560 yen—Nightingale 11 yen.

2.—The CRITERION STAKES, for all China Ponies; weight as per scale; winner yen 250; ¾ mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. States' Oregon, 150lb. .....(Sugiura) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 147lb. .....(Riki) 2
Mr. Durand Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. ...(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Worthington's Old Lease, 144lb ...(Yasu) 0
Mr. Nemo's Madar, 153 b .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Starlight's Pollux, 150 b. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Nishimura's MacMoise, 150lb.(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Orion, 147lbs (Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Tandem's Gadfly, 150lb. .....(Matsuya) 0

Time, 1.38½.

There was a good finish, Oregon winning by

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Old Lease 1, Kotaka 60, Madar 12, Pollux 2, MacMoise 10, Orion 14, Gadfly 6, Oregon 86, Fleur-de-lis 12; total, 1,015 yen—Oregon, 10.50 yen.

3.—The SYDNEY STAKES, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1899 class A (odd numbers,) weight 147 lbs.; winner yen 250, second yen 50, Five furlongs. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Kasuga, 147lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Russia's Mira, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 2
Mr. R. Field's Tacitus, 147lb. .....(Goto) 3
Mr. Worthington's, Num Nicer, 147lb...(Yasu) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kogarsu, 147lb.....(Riki) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Tobu, 147lb.....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. States' Dacota, 147lb.....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. H. Bent's Boomerang, 147lb. (Kobayashi) 0

Time, 1 9⅗.

Kasuga and Tacitus were racing neck and neck as they entered the straight, Mira lying a length or so behind. Just on the post Mira rushed into second place, but failed to reach Kasuga, who won by a short head.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Num Nicer 10. Kogarsu 96, Tobu 4, Mira 6, Dacota 3, Tacitus 47, Kasuga 50, Boomerang 6; total, 1,110 yen—Kasuga, 20 yen.

4.—The MAIDENS' PLATE, for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry; weight as per scale; winner yen 200. Three quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nemo's Speranza, *137lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Hugo's Old Maid, *140lb. .....(Goto) 2
Mr. Satsuma's Tsurugaeki, *140lb.....(Rikizo) 3
Mr. Starlight's Minerva, *137lb.....(Katsu) 0
Mr. Durand's Heroine, *137lb.....(Kobayashi) 0

* Mare.—Allowance deducted.

Time, 1.27⅘.

This resolved itself into a match between Speranza and Old Maid, the former winning by a neck.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Speranza 19, Minerva 17, Heroine 98, Tsurugaeki 63, Old Maid 41; total, 1,190 yen—Speranza 50 yen.

5.—The ADELAIDE STAKES, for Australian Subscription horses of 1899 Class B (even numbers); weight 147 lb.; winners yen 250, second yen 50. Three-quarter of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5

Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 147lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. R. Field's Thespis, 147lb. .....(Goto) 2
Mr. Avis' Mavis, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 3
Mr. Worthington's Non Such, 147lb.....(Yasu) 0
Mr. Starlight's Southern, 147lb. ...(Nakagami) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Pibei, 147lb. .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Russia's Zorka, 147lb.....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Tandem's Silvertail, 147lb. .....(Matsuya) 0
Mr. News' Etoile, 147lb .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. David Jackson's Fin MacCoul, 147lb. .....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. Guignol's Claquette, 147lb....(Mr. Longin) 0
Mr. Lowal's Kangaroo, 147lb....(Mr. Kingdon) 0

Time, 1.23⅘.

No fewer than twelve started and some trouble was experienced in getting them off. Savoia led throughout, and entered the straight a couple of lengths ahead of Mavis. Half way down Thespis challenged Mavis and passed her, but failed to reach the favourite, who won very easily. This was a record time, beating Saikio's previous best of 1.23⅘ in April, 1898.

PARI MUTUEL 5 yen—Non Such 20, Savoia 150, Southern Cross 5, Pibei 83, Zorka 7, Mavis 10, Silvertail 2, Thespis 12, Etoile 7, Fin MacCoul 9, Claquette 11, Kangaroo11; total, 1,635 yen—Savoia 10 yen.

6.—The SHANGHAI PLATE, for all China Ponies; weight as per scale; winner yen 250; One Mile and a half. Entrance fee yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 153lb. ...(Yasu) 1
Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 150lb.....(Ichi) 2
Mr. Wayfoong's Orion, 147lb.(Mr. Nicholson) 0

Time, 3 24½.

This was an easy thing for Aberdeen, who led all the way round, and came in never troubled, lengths ahead. Orion gave out before half the journey had been completed.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Aberdeen 209, Mr. Darcy 105, Orion 42; total, 1,780 yen—Aberdeen 7 50 yen.

7.—The MONGOLIAN PLATE, for Subscription China Ponies of 1899, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; weight as per scale; winner yen 200, second yen 50. Half a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144lb. .....(Rikizo) 1
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. Tandem's Firefly, 153lb. .....(Mr. Elliott) 3
Mr. Nishimura's Sobu, 150lb. .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Basuto, 150lb. (Mr. Nicholson 0
Mr. Avis' Cockatoo, 135lb. .....(Hakodate) 0

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Mr. Hyogo's Moji, 153lb ..... (Mr. Pearson) 0
Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. .....(Goto) 0
Mr. King's Muzukashii, 147lb ..... (Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Worthington's Superficies, 147lb.(Hayashi) 0
Mr. Worthington's Emphyteusis, 147lb. (Yasu) 0

Time, 1.1⅘ secs.

Suzume won easily with several lengths to spare, with Open Door second, and Firefly well up, as third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Superficies 3, Emphyteusis 13, Suzume 144, Open Door 56, Sobu 33 Basuto 7, Cockatoo 12, Firefly 37, Moji 11, Manifesto 8, Muzukashii 9; total, 1665 yen—Suzume, 10.50 yen.

8.—The MELBOURNE STAKES for Australian Subscription horses of 1899, Class A (odd numbers); weight 147lb.; winner yen 250, second yen 50. 1¼ Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. R. Field's Tacitus, 147lb .....(Goto) 1
Mr. Russia's Mira, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 2
Mr. Philadelphia's Lady May, 147lb.
(Mr. Gause) 3
Mr. Cobb's Rusben, 147lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0

Time, 2.15⅘.

Tacitus led from the start, with Lady May second, while Mira was third, and Rusben was left far behind. Mira challenged Lady May half way round, but Tacitus held his own and won easily. Lady May came in ahead of Mira, but her jockey was disqualified for dismounting on the course, his saddle girths having burst.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Mira 68. Tacitus 60, Rusben 11, Lady May 109; total, 1240 yen—Mira 18.50 yen.

9.—The ALL AGED STAKES, for Country breds; weight as per scale, maidens at date of entry 10lb. allowance; winner yen 200; Three quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb ..(Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. .....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. Yodo's Saikio, *137lb. .....(Ichi) 3
Mr. States' Idaho, *140lb .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. Russia's Hermine, *137lb .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 135lb. .....(Hakodate) 0

†Maiden.—Allowance deducted. *Mare.—Allowance deducted.

Time, 1.22⅘.

Won by a length; good third. Great difficulty was experienced in the start, which occupied almost half an hour.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tatsuta 90, Hermine 12, Peacock 24, Idaho 132, Tomboy 85, Saikio 129; total, 2355 yen—Tomboy 25 yen.

SECOND DAY, NOVEMBER 21st.

The Ladies' Day was favoured with beautiful weather, and the attendance was large. The sport, too, was more interesting than on the opening day, the finishes being generally close, while in several races the unexpected happened. The programme opened with the Peking Cup, for which Suzume was warmly backed. The expectations of the spectators, however, were not realised, Evenement snatching first place, while Donatello took second. The Taiwan Stakes was a win for Mr. Darcy, on whom most money was placed.

For the Queensland Plate Savoia was a warm favourite, and won easily as expected, making a record time for the distance, 1 min. 8 sec. for five furlongs against Saikio's 1 min. 8⅘. The Brokers' and Bankers' Cup was a fairly easy thing for Donatello, who was capitally ridden by Mr. Kingdon. Open Door was the favourite, but only succeeded in getting third place. Lady May, Kasuga, and Tacitus were chiefly fancied for the South Wales Cup, the former obtaining the majority of backers, but Mira, who had run both well and badly in races the previous day, signalised herself by a neat win on the post. The Niicapu Stakes resulted in a rather unexpected win for Saikio, Tatsuta, the favourite, being only second and Tomboy, also strongly favoured, nowhere. Aberdeen did what was expected of him in the Manchurian Stakes, winning without any trouble. In the Nankin Stakes Suzume was the favourite, Evenement being also largely backed on the strength of his performances in the morning and on the previous day. The result was a close thing, Suzume winning by a very small margin. The favourite was nowhere in the Brisbane Cup. Thespis was largely backed for this event, but proved a complete disappointment, as he was not even placed. Kangaroo is scratched all engagements.

Among those to be seen on the course were Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies; the Belgian Minister and Baroness d'Anethan; the Italian, American and German Ministers; the Russian Minister and Baroness Rosen; the Dutch and Chilian Ministers, Mrs. and Miss Morla Vicuna, and a large number of gentlemen attached to the various Legations and Consulates.

The Emperor's prize for the Niicapu Stakes, a beautiful silver cup inlaid with gold, was presented to the owner of Saikio, the winner, by Baron Sannomiya.

1.—The PEKING Cup, for Subscription China Ponies of 1899, non winners in Japan at date of entry; weight as per scale, winner of two races at the meeting 5 lbs. extra; winner yen 250. One and a Half Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. News' Evenement, 147 b. .....(Mayeda) 1
Mrs. King & McKardy's Donatello,
147 b...(Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144 b. .....(Rikizo) 3
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 153 b .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Basuto 150lb.(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Tandem's Firefly, 153 b. .....(Mr. Elliott) 0
Mr. Derby's Echo, 150lb. .....(Miyagawa) 0
Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. .....(Goto) 0

Time, 3.30⅘.

On passing the stand the first time Evenement, Suzume, and Donatello were racing neck and neck, heading the field about half-a-dozen lengths. At the trees Evenement came away, and won easily by several lengths. Suzume was a fairly close third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Suzume 91, Mars 3 Chingiz 2, Basuto 3, Firefly 15 Evenement 41, Donatello 75, Echo 1, Manifesto 2; total, 1165 yen—Evenement 25 50 yen.

2.—The TAIWAN STAKES, for all China Ponies; weight as per scale, winners of one race at the meeting 5lb; of two races 7lbs. extra; winner yen 250; One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nemo's Mr Darcy, 150lb.....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 147lb. .....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 150lb.(Takahashi) 3
Mr. Starlight's Pollux, 150lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Orion, 147lb. (Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. States' Oregon, 150lb. .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. Durand's Fleur de-lis, 147lb...(Kobayashi) 0

Time, 2 13⅘.

The field went away well together and did not commence to thin out till going up the slope. Oregon then took the lead, attended by Mr. Darcy, Kotaka, and MacMorse. Oregon fell behind just before entering the straight, and Mr. Darcy held the lead. A capital neck to neck race ensued down the home stretch, Mr. Darcy winning by a half a length. Bad third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kotaka 27, Mr. Darcy 136. Pollux 1. MacMorse 12. Orion 2, Nightingale 37, Oregon 43. Fleur-de-lis 17; total 1,380 yen—Mr. Darcy 9 yen.

3.—The QUEENSLAND PLATE, for Australian Subscription horses of 1899, class B (even numbers); weight 147lb.; winner yen 250, Second yen 50; Five Furlongs. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 147 b. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. R. Field's Thespis, 147lb. .....(Goto) 2
Mr. Avis' Mavis, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 3
Mr. Starlight's Southern Cross,
147lb. ...(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Russia's Zorka, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. News' Etoile, 147lb .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. David Jackson's, Fin MacCoul,
147lb.(Mr. Nicholson) 0

Time, 1 8.

Savoia was a warm favourite. She led from the first, followed by Thespis, with the rest strung out. On entering the straight Savoia had a long lead, and came in an easy winner. Bad third. Savoia established a record for the five furlongs, the time being ⅘ of a second better than Saikio's.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Savoia 220, Southern Cross 6 Zorka 5, Mavis 18, Thespis 80, Etoile 4 Fin MacCoul 12, The Freed 1, Total, 17.30 yen Savoia 7 yen.

4.—The BANKERS AND BROKERS' CUP (Presented) for subscription China Ponies of 1899, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; to be ridden by members of the Club or Visitors, whose names must be sent to the Committee before the meeting and approved by them; weight as per scale with 10lb. added. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Messrs' King & McKardy's Donatello,
157lb...(Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Tandem's Firefly, 163 b.....(Mr. Elliott) 2
Mr. Nemo's Open D[illegible], 160lb...(Mr. Andreis) 3
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 163 b ... .(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Sobu, 160 b. (Mr. Nishimura) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Basuto, 160 b.(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Moji, 163lb.....(Mr. Pearson) 0
Mr. Worthington's Superficies,
157lb...(Mr. McClure) 0

Time 1.40⅘

Donatello and Open Door showed the way, the others being strung out. At the Shakespeare they were still leading, but shortly after Firefly passed Open Door, and a good race ensued down the straight between the three, Donatello finishing first by about a length. Good third. Mr. Andreis rode a capital race. The prize was £20 to the owner and £15 to the rider.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Superficies 4. Open Door 137, Mars 6, Sobu 68, Basuto 13, Firefly 95, Moji 7. Donatello 157; total, 2,105 yen—Donatello 15 yen.

5.—The NEW SOUTH WALES CUP, for Australian Subscription horses of 1899 class A (odd numbers) weight 147lb.; Winners at the meeting 5lb. extra, of two races excluded; winner yen 250, second yen 50. Three quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Russia's Mira, 147lb.....(Horikoshi) 1
Mr. R. Field's Tacitus, 147lb.....(Goto) 2
Mr. Yodo's Kasuga, 147 b.....(Ichi) 3
Mr. Worthington's Nun Nicer, 147 b.....(Yasu) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kogarasu, 147lb. ..... (Rikizo) 0
Mr. States' Dacota, 147lb.....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. H. Bent's Boomerang, 147lb.....(Kubota) 0
Mr. Cobb's Rusben, 147 b.....(Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Philadelphia's Lady May, 147 b.
(Mr. Gause) 0

Time 1.24⅗.

Tacitus led most of the way, with Kasuga and Mira close up. Just after entering the straight Mira made a strong bid, and a neck to neck race ensued, Mira just snatching the win by a short head. Poor third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen,—Nun Nicer 12, Kogarasu 18, Mira 74, Dacota 13, Tacitus 104, Kasuga 149, Boomerang 3, Rusben 3, Lady May 151; total, 2,625 yen.—Mira 32 yen.

6.—The NIICAPU STAKES, for Country breds; weight as per scale; Maidens at date of entry 10lb. allowance; winner yen 200. One Mile; Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb.....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb.....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. States Idaho, 140lb. .....(Sugiura) 3
Mr. Russia's Hermine, 137lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Avis Peacock, 136 b. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. R Field's Tomboy, 144lb.. (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Durand's Heroine, 124lb.....(Kobayashi) 0

Time, 1.53.

Idaho led most of the way round, with Saikio and Tatsuta in close attendance. Tomboy came away from the field near the Trees, but could not reach the others, Saikio winning by two lengths; Idaho close up.

7.—The MANCHURIAN STAKES, for all China Ponies; weight as per scale; winner of one race at the meeting 5lb extra, of two races excluded; winner yen 200. 1¼ Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 150lb. ...(Yasu) 1
Mr. Starlight's Pollux, 150lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Kasasagi, 153lb. .....(Goto) 3
Mr. Worthington's Old Lease, 144lb.(Hayashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Madar, 153 b. .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Tandem's Gadfly, 150lb. .....(Matsuya) 0

Time, 2.37⅘.

Mr. Worthington declared best to win. This was a capital race. The field ran in close order till half the distance was completed, when Aberdeen began to come away, entering the straight with a lead of a couple of lengths, which he maintained to the finish. Poor third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Aberdeen 300, Old Lease 20, Kasasagi 34, Madar 43, Pollux 27, Gadfly, 51; total, 2,375 yen—Aberdeen, 7 yen.

8.—The NANKIN STAKES, for Subscription China Ponies of 1899; weight as per scale; winners in Japan at date of entry 5lb. extra, winners of more than one race at date of entry or at the meeting excluded; winner yen 250, second yen 50. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144lb.....(Rikizo) 1
Mr. News Evenement, 147lb. .....(Mayeda) 2
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb .....(Ichi) 3
Mr. Nishimura's Sobu, 150lb .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Gioko, 150lb. (Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Avis Cockatoo, 150lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Moji, 153lb .....(Miyagawa) 0

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Major Trick's Turlututu, *158 b. (Mr. Longin) 0
* Penalty added.

Time, 1 38.

There was a capital race down the straight, Suzume and Evenement racing neck and neck. Evenement, however, just failed at the post, Suzume winning by a head; poor third.

PARI MUTUEL 5 yen—Suzume 216, Open Door 63, Sobu 8, Ginko 9, Cockatoo 12, Evenement 56, Moji 2, Turlututu 10; Total, 1,880 yen—Suzume, 8 yen.

9.—The BRISBANE CUP, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1899 class B (even numbers) weight 147 b., winners at the meeting 5 b extra, of two races excluded; Winner yen 250, Second yen 50. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Nishimura's Piber 147lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Avis' Mavis, 147lb. ..... (Hakodate) 2
Mr. Worthington's Non Such, 147lb. ...(Yasu) 3
Mr. Russia's Zonka, 147lb. ....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Tandem's Silver Tail, 147 b. ...(Matsuya) 0
Mr. R Field's Thespis, 147 b .....(Goto) 0
Mr. David Jackson's Fin MacCoul,
149l ...(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Lowal's Kangaroo, 147lb..... (Mr. Longin) 0
Mr. Starlight's Southern Cross,
147lb...(Nakazumi) 0

Time, 1.57⅘.

Thespis was a warm favourite, but greatly disappointed his backers. Piber and Mavis came out from the field just before entering the straight, and the former won after a good race by a length. A couple of lengths between second and third.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Non Such 60, Southern Cross 8 Piber 186, Zonka 12, Mavis 50, Silver Tail 9, Thespis 229, Fin MacCoul 13, Cloquette 4; total, 2,855 yen—Piber, 14 yen.

THIRD DAY, NOVEMBER 22ND.

The third day, like its predecessors, was favoured with splendid weather, though perhaps a trifle colder than the two previous days. The attendance was large, though lady visitors were not numerous.

Sport was again excellent. The programme opened with the Australian Handicap. Savoia was the favourite, but Mira, who had shown the previous day what she was made of, upset the calculations of speculators by coming in first, earning a very satisfactory dividend for her backers. The favourite again was nowhere in the Cezarewitch stakes, Mac morse, who had been neglected by most of the backers in favour of Kotaka, coming in winner. The Prix des Haras resolved itself into a hollow win for Peacock. Idaho was favourite, but was beaten with great ease. The China Subscription Consolation ended in a win for Sobu who had made no mark of any kind so far, Firefly, the favourite, running second. In the Australian Consolation Lady May who was considered a certain winner, and was heavily backed, did not even get a place, Mavis pulling off the event, while Thespis, the second favourite, was third. The Country-bred Champion was a very doubtful event, but Saikio justified his backers by winning a fine race against Tatsuta, and Tomboy. Mr. Darcy was a warm favourite and an easy winner in the China Champion, and Hermine, another of "Mr. Russia's" ponies, won the Country-bred Consolation. The Solace was a sure thing for Kotaka, the favourite, who showed that the expectations formed of him were not groundless by effecting an easy win. The last race, that for Australians and country breds—a very interesting test event—was the most sensational of the day. Mira was the favourite, but for half the distance she was a long way behind the field. Then she shot through in marvellous style, and, beating one after another, won by a short head. Details:—

1.—The AUSTRALIAN HANDICAP, for Australian Horses of 1899, a forced entry of yen 10 of all horses entered at the meeting; Non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing; First Horse yen 300 added to yen 300 presented by the Worthington Stable; Second Horse yen 100. One Mile.

Mr. Russia's Mira, 157lb. .....(Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Philadelphia's Lady May,
147lb....(Miyagawa) 2
Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 161lb.....(Ichi) 3
Mr. Worthington's Non Such, 144lb. ...(Yasu) 0
Mr. Starlight's Southern Cross, 135lb....(Katsu) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Piber, 157lb. .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Avis' Mavis, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. States' Dacota, 133lb [carried 2lb. over]
(Sugiura) 0
Mr. R. Field's Tacitus, 154 b. .....(Goto) 0
Mr. News' Etoile, 138lb. .....(Mayeda) 0
Mr. David Jackson's Fin MacCoul,
133lb .....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. Yodo's Kasuga, 154 b. .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Cobb's Rusben, 131lb. [carried 3lb. over]
(Kobayashi) 0

Time, 1.55⅘.

Thirteen started out of 24 entries, Savoia being a warm favourite. Some difficulty was experienced in starting so large a field, and they eventually got away in rather bad order. They were strung out all the way round, Mira lying in the rear, but on entering the straight she came away, and won easily by a couple of lengths; good third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Non Such 23 Savoia 146, Southern Cross 4 Piber 51, Mira 40, Mavis 32, Dacota 2, Tacitus 19, Etoile 1, Fin MacCoul 3, Kasuga 2, Rusben 2, Lady May 41; total 1,830 yen—Mira 41 yen.

2.—The CEZAREWITCH STAKES (Handicap), a forced entry of yen 10 of all China Ponies entered at the meeting; Non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after the second day's racing; winner yen 300, second yen 100 One Mile.

Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 140lb. (Takahashi) 1
Mr. States' Oregon, 154lb.....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 150lb.....(Hakodate) 3
Mr. Worthington's Old Lease,
138lb. .....(Yasu) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 149lb. .....(Rikizo) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 147lb.....(Goto) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kasasagi, 145 b .....(Fujisaki) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 137 b.....(Katsu) 0
Mr Nemo's Madar, 140lb.....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Orion, 140lb.....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. Major Trick's Turlututu,
139lb.....(Kobayashi) 0

Time, 2.15¼.

Kotaka was the favourite, Suzume also attracting a fair number of backers. Eleven started out of 34 entries. A good start was effected, and the whole lot went away well together. A blanket would have covered the first four as they entered the straight. MacMorse then came away, and though Oregon made a game race down to the post he failed to reach Takahashi's mount, who won by a length. Good third.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Old Lease 2, Suzume 66 Kotaka 110 Kasasagi 2, Madar 25, Mars 6, MacMorse 30, Orion 1, Nightingale, 51, Oregon 18, Turlututu, 4; total, 1,570 yen—MacMorse, 47 yen.

3.—The PRIX DES HARAS (Handicap), for all Country-breds; a forced entry of yen 10 of all Country-breds entered at the meeting; Non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing; winner yen 250, second yen 50; One Mile.

Mr. Avis' Peacock, 128lb. .....(Hakodate) 1
Mr. States' Idaho, 137lb. .....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Starlight's Minerva, 121lb. .....(Katsu) 0

Time, 1 54⅘.

Idaho was fancied for this, but it proved a hollow win for Peacock.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Minerva 8, Peacock 51, Idaho 137; Peack 17 50 yen.

4.—The CHINA SUBSCRIPTION CONSOLATION, a Consolation Race for Subscription China Ponies of 1899, non-winners in Japan at date of entry, that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale; winner yen 150. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Nishimura's Sobu, 150lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Tandem's Firefly, 153lb. ....(Ichi) 2
Mr Wayfoong's Basuto, 150lb.....(Tomioka) 3
Mr. Worthington's Superficies,
147lb. .....(Yasu) 0
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb. ...(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 153lb. .....(Katsu) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Ginko, 150lb.(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Avis' Cockatoo, 150lb.....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Moji, 153 b. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. King's Muzukashii, 147lb.....(Mayeda) 0

Time, 2.15½.

Going up the hill from the Dip Ginko led, but Sobu passed him and took the lead before the Shakespeare was reached, and in the distance increased his lead, Firefly also passing Ginko at the same time. Sobu finished an easy winner by three or four lengths, bad third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Superficies 6, Open Door 45, Mars 1, Sobu 70, Ginko 13, Basuto 7, Cockatoo 5, Firefly 190, Moji 2, Muzukashii 27; total 1,830 yen—Sobu 23 50 yen.

5.—The AUSTRALIAN CONSOLATION, for all Australian Horses that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; weight 147lb.; winner yen 50. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Avis' Mavis, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 1
Mr. Tandem's Silver Tail, 147lb.....(Matsuya) 2
Mr. R. Field's Thespis, 147lb. .....(Goto) 3
Mr. News' Etoile, 147lb.....(Mayeda) 0
Mr. David Jackson, Fin MacCoul,
147lb....(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. H. Bent's Boomerang, 147lb...(Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Guignol's Cloquette, 147lb....(Mr. Longin) 0
Mr. Philadelphia's Lady May, 147lb.....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kogarasu, 147lb. .....(Rikizo) 0
Mr. States' Dacota, 147lb.....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. Worthington's Non Nicer,
147lb...(Hayashi) 0
Mr. Worthington's Non Such, 147lb. ...(Yasu) 0
Mr. Russia's Zonka, 147lb.....(Horikoshi) 0

Time, 1.25½.

Lady May was a warm favourite, and led half the way round, when she was passed by Thespis. On entering the straight Mavis came away and won easily by five lengths.

PARI MUTUEL, 6 yen—Non Nicar 2, Non Such 14, Kogarasu 49, Zonka 32, Mavis 68, Silvertail 1, Dacota 2, Thespis 106, Fin MacCoul 6, Boomerang 2, Cloquette 1, Lady May 157; total, 2,200 yen—Mavis 29 yen.

6.—The COUNTRY-BRED CHAMPION, a Champion Race for all Country-breds; a forced entry for winners at the Meeting, of one race yen 10, of two races yen 20, of more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten Horses at an Entrance fee of yen 25; weight as per scale; Winner yen 500. Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb.....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. .....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. R Field's Tomboy, 145lb. ...(Mr. Kingdon) 3
Mr. State's Idaho, 140lb.....(Sugiura) 0

Time, 2.25⅘.

Saikio passed the post first, followed by Idaho, Tomboy, and Tatsuta. So they ran half way round, when Tomboy came into second place. Saikio was still leading on entering the straight, and won without difficulty. A good race took place down the straight for second, Tatsuta challenging Tomboy and beating him on the post by a head.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tomboy 102, Saikio 136, Tatsuta 239, Idaho 41; total, 2,590 yen—Saikio 17 yen.

7.—The CHINA CHAMPION, a Champion Race for all China Ponies; a forced entry for winners at the Meeting, of one race yen 10, of two races yen 20, of more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten Ponies at an Entrance fee of yen 25; weight as per scale; winner yen 500; Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 150lb.....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 150lb.(Takahashi) 2
Mr. States' Oregon 150lb.....(Sugiura) 3
Messrs. King and McKardy's Donatello, 147lb.(Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. News' Evenement, 147lb. .....(Mayeda) 0
Mr. Starlight's Pollux, 888lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0

Mr. Darcy was a hot favourite, and justified the expectations of his backers by winning easily by three or four lengths. Oregon was a fair third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Nightingale 23, Oregon 32, Evenement 30, Mr. Darcy 215, Donatello 77, MacMorse 33, Pollux 28; total, 2,235 yen—Mr. Darcy 9 50 yen.

8.—The COUNTRY-BRED CONSOLATION, a consolation Race for all Country breds that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; maidens at date of entry 10lb. allowance; weight as per scale; winner yen 150. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Russia's Hermine, 137lb. .....(Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Hugo's Old Maid, 130lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. Satsuma's Isurugaeki, 133lb.
carried 3lb. over.....(Fujisaki) 3
Mr. Starlight's Minerva, 130lb. .....(Katsu) 0
Mr. Durand's Heroine, 136lb.
carried 9 lb. over.....(Kobata) 0

Some difficulty was experienced in starting the field. When they at length got away Old Maid made the running as far as the trees, when Hermine made a bid and passed her. On entering the straight Tsurugaeki challenged Old Maid and a capital race between them ensued down the straight. Old Maid, however, held her own, and also hard pressed the Russian pony, which snatched the win by a head. Good third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Minerva 28, Hermine 220, Heroine 40, Tsurugaeki 12, Old Maid 186; Total, 2,430 yen—Hermine 10 yen.

9.—The SOLACE, a Consolation Race for all

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China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale; winner yen 200. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee yen 5.

Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 147lb.....(Rikizo) 1
Mr. Nemo's Madar, 153lb.....(Nakazumi) 2
Mr. Durand's Fleur-de lis, 147lb...(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Starlight's Pollux, 150lb.....(Mr. Motto) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 153lb. .....(Katsu) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Orion, 147lb..(Mr. Nicholson) 0
Mr. Worthington's Old Lease, 144lb.....(Yasu) 0
Mr. Tandem's Gadfly, 150lb. .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Kasasagi, 153lb..... .....(Goto) 0
Major Trick's Turlututu, 153lb....(Mr Longin) 0
Mr. Wayfoong's Basuto, 150lb. .....(Tomioka) 0
Time 1 38¾.

Kotaka was the favourite, Fleur-de-lis being also extensively backed. Kotaka had the best of the start, with Gadfly second, leading the field by many lengths. Gadfly was overhauled at the Trees, and on entering the straight Kotaka had a easy lead, Fleur-de-lis racing second. A few yards further up Madar came on terms with Fleur-de-lis, and rushed into second place. Kotaka was never troubled and won with ease.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen,—Old Lease 4, Kotaka 212, Kasasagi 15, Madar 12, Pollux 32, Mars 3, Orion 12, Basuto 1, Gadfly 56, Fleur-de-lis 107, Turlututu 2, The Field 1; total, 2,255 yen —Kotaka 9 50 yen.

10.—THE AUSTRALIAN SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFINS AND COUNTRY-BREDS, 1⅛ Mile. Entrance fee 10 yen; first race 300 yen, added to 200 yen presented by Mr. Nemo. Weight for age.

Mr. Russia's Mira, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb. .....(Yasu) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. .....(Rikizo) 3
Mr. Nishimura's Piber, 144lb.....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 138lb. .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. R. Field's Tacitus, 134lb. .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 135lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Time, 2.11¼.

Saikio showed the way to Savoia, with Tacitus third, and Peacock fourth. At the half mile Peacock passed Tacitus, and at the Shakespeare Mira, who had rushed through the field, came into third place. At the Trees Mira was racing second, and on entering the straight she and Saikio were going neck to neck. A splendid race ensued down the home stretch, Mira just snatching the win by a short head. Tatsuta a fair third. The win was a most sensational one, for Mira was for at least half the race an almost hopeless distance behind the rest of the field.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Mira 155. Piber 10 Savoia 139, Tacitus 7. Peacock 5, Tatsuta 86, Saikio 79; total, 2 405 yen—Mira 14 yen.

WINNING OWNERS AND PONIES.

The following table shows the number of wins scored by owners, and also the winning ponies, at the Autumn Races. Mr. Nemo, it will be seen, is the most successful owner with five wins to his credit, Mr. Russia being second with four. Mira has proved herself a great acquisition to the Russian stable, heading the list of winning ponies with three triumphs to her credit. Aberdeen, Mr. Darcy, Saikio, Savoia, and Suzume have two each.

Winning Owners.		Winning Ponies.	
Mr. Nemo	5	Mira	3
,, Russia	4	Aberdeen	2
,, Avis	3	Mr. Darcy	2
,, Tatsuta	3	Saikio	2
,, Yodo	3	Savoia	2
,, Nishimura	3	Suzume	2
,, Worthington	2	Oregon	1
,, Field	2	Kasuga	1
,, States	1	Speranza	1
,, News	1	Tacitus	1
,, King	1	Tomboy	1
	—	Evenement	1
	28	Donatello	1
		Piber	1
		MacMorse	1
		Mavis	1
		Sobu	1
		Kotaka	1
		Hermine	1
		Nightingale	1
		Peacock	1
			—
			28

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The death is announced of Admiral Colomb

There are, it appears, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, six foreigners with the Peiyang squadron; Mr. R. E. Nelson, R.N., naval instructor, Mr. Brassey, instructor in seamanship; a contract engineer; and three German officers.

The case brought by Hikotaro Watanabe, who claims *yen* 1,828 66 from W. S. Stone, of 77, Main Street, Yokohama, value of railway sleepers supplied, is set down for hearing before Judge Fujise, in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Nov. 30, at 10 a.m.

Vailima, the Samoan home of the late Robert Louis Stevenson, has been sold to a wealthy German gentleman named Kunst, who spends one half of the year in Germany and the other half cruising about the Pacific. The Vailima estate comprises 320 acres, and the purchase-money is said to have been £3,000.

The Zeiho Ken Kyu Kai, Yokohama Local Tax Bureau, are bringing out a revised, enlarged, and more complete translation in English and Chinese of the new taxation laws, which will be sold to subscribers at the rate of 50 *sen* a copy. The first edition has been withdrawn.

A European saloon keeper lately in business at 131 Settlement assaulted a Japanese boat man named Hamasaka last month and the aggrieved man brought a case against the foreigner in the Chiho Saibansho. A day was set for hearing, but in the meantime the saloon-keeper sold up his place and left Japan rather hurriedly.

Mr A. H. Emanuel, who represented the Schlitz Brewing Company, in Yokohama, is reported to have been arrested in New York some three months ago, for trying to smuggle diamonds from Europe. The jewels were hidden in his wife's dress. He was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment, and the wife to 2 years. We doubt the accuracy of the terms of imprisonment.

There are now about 900 prisoners in Negishi Prison, of whom 30 are females. There are five Chinese, all of them sentenced for smoking opium, and they are serving terms of from 2 months to 6 years. There is only one Occidental in Jail, the American, Kent. He get his meals from outside daily, eats European food and is allowed everything but one luxury the deprivation of which he bitterly laments—smoking.

A suit has been brought against Mr. O. Bergmann, of Messrs. Worch and Co., by Mr. Otake Mohe, a wine merchant in Tokyo, for non fulfilment of a contract. The Japanese merchant agreed to take over 7 000 cases of wine, valued at 142.000 *yen*, but Messrs. Worch and Co. did not fill the order, hence the suit. The hearing is set down before Judge Fujise for Dec. 14th.

The *Nagasaki Press* has the following:—It is said to be the fashion in Japan for actors and members of the sporting fraternity to select their own tombstones and have them ready in case of accident. On completion of the monument a celebration is usually held. In connexion with this, the chief wrestler of the company now in Nagasaki has just received his tombstone and in order to celebrate the event has built a large arena in Tomachi near Mr. Fujita's park, where wrestling competitions will take place during several days.

The Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, younger brother of the Emperor Nicholas, and next heir to the Russian throne, is going to Balmoral on a visit to the Queen. It is whispered at Court that there is some idea of a marriage between the Grand Duke Michael and Princess Margaret of Connaught, elder daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, who will celebrate her eighteenth birthday on January 15. The Grand Duke Michael was born in November 1878. His early marriage is much desired by his mother and brother.

Ishii Kenji and Kato Shimazo, wine merchants of Tokyo, have brought actions against Mr. T. Bickart, of Messrs. Oppenheimer Frères, No. 13, Yokohama, for non-fulfilment of contract. The first case involves a sum of 15.744 *yen*. It is to come on for hearing before Judge Fujise on Nov 28th. In the second case the plaintiff declares that Mr. Bickart agreed to sell him 6 000 cases of wines, valued at 129 600 *yen*; defendant received some 4,000 *yen* as bargain money but the goods did not come to hand—hence the claim for non fulfilment of contract. The case is to be heard on Dec. 5th.

The exhibits to be sent to the Paris Exposition from Kanagawa Prefecture are now being shown at the Town Hall, Yokohama. Conspicuous among the fine art exhibits is a very fine peacock screen in mother-of pearl and other materials. Several porcelain pictures, pretty but not particularly striking, a collection of cloisonné vases, a beautiful screen of gold lacquer, some fine wood carvings, statuettes and vases in *shakudo* and silver, and a few kakemono are among the principal objects of art. A few cases of butterflies and beetles represent the insects of the Prefecture, and specimens of hats, shirts, oils, silks, &c., serve to give an idea of the more useful productions of the district.

Among the gems of general knowledge which sometimes serve to illumine the dul routine of elementary education, the following "Essay on St. Stephen," from the vicinity of a Church of England school in Surrey, is worthy of a place. The author, says *Literature*, appears to have derived his misinformation from both lay and ecclesiastical sources. He writes:—"We have heard that St. Stephen was the first one to find out how to make the steam engine. He first made the puffin Billy and many others, and he went on makin' 'em, and some he made better than all the others, and these be the ones you see in the stashuns." This is pretty good, but one's admiration is boundless when, with infinite gravity and brevity, the youthful essayist concludes: "'Lay not this thing to my charge,' said he, 'when he was a-dyin of bein stoned.'"

WAR NOTES.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland has given three thousand guilders for the benefit of the Transvaal combatants.

The British Government has accepted the services of the eminent Surgeon, Sir William MacCormac, who goes out to join Sir Redvers Buller's force in South Africa.

Captain Sir E. Chichester, R.N., now Chief Transport Officer in Natal, has been appointed Naval A.D.C. to the Queen. This additional honour to a popular officer is well deserved.

A war balloon, very small and so light that two men can hold and haul it down with a wire strand and which can ascend 3 000 feet, is in use at Ladysmith, and by it the full position of of the Boer guns can be ascertained.

According to a special despatch dated Oct. 28th rumours of dissension at Bloemfontein, capital of the Orange Free State, have reached Cape Town. It is said a movement is on foot to depose President Steyn and install Mr. Fraser as President.

The *Spectator* says:—"If we could only bring the militia up to the army level of discipline we should be safe beyond any conceivable danger. It cannot any longer be contended either that education and examinations take the pluck and daring out of either officers or men."

Colonel Schiel, the German mercenary wounded and captured at Elandslaagte, has

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been fully identified as the man who acted as military adviser to Cetewayo during the Zulu war in 1879. After the fight at Ulundi the British Government offered a reward of a thousand guineas for his capture.

The *Times'* correspondent at De Aar, wiring on October 20th, says that dissatisfaction in the Free State is on the increase. The Burghers feel that they have entered upon a hopeless struggle, since reports of the Glencoe and Elandslaagte fights have got abroad, and the Free State Commissariat is much inferior to that of the Transvaal.

Mr. Stead was moved to send a copy of his brochure, "Shall I Slay my Brother Boer?" to two London editors. One reply ran somewhat thus:—"Dear Mr. Stead,—What, in Heaven's name, have I to do with your family affairs?—Yours sincerely,....." And the other:—"My dear Sir,—By all means—if he insists upon it.—Yours faithfully,....."

Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig Holstein, who has gone to South Africa on special service, has already served in five campaigns. He is a major in the King's Royal Rifles. He is not likely to be the only prince at the front, however, as Prince Alexander of Teck, who has already served in South Africa, with the 7th Hussars, has expressed his desire to take a share in the present "scrap."

The Parliamentary bye election for the Bow and Bromley division of Tower Hamlets, London, to replace the Hon. Lionel R. Holland, Conservative, was fought on the Government's Transvaal policy and resulted in a big victory for the Government, the Conservative candidate, Mr William Guthrie, being elected The Conservative majority was practically twice that secured at the election of Mr. Holland.

Even the London correspondent of the *Kreuz Zeitung*, a bitterly anti English paper, says that Mr. Schreiner's Ministry has committed acts which are as much like high treason as one egg is like another Their conduct is all the worse, the correspondent appears to think, because the well-to do Boers in the colony are not in the least disposed to risk their property and lives for their friends in the Transvaal.

Lady Sarah Wilson, the Duke of Marlborough's aunt, accompanied her husband, Captain Wilson, to Mafeking, declaring her intention of nursing the wounded. She also engaged to act as correspondent of the *London Daily Mail*, but she fled before the investment of Mafeking by the Boers. She was last seen riding at full speed in the direction of a native village. This intelligence acted rather as a damper on other fine ladies who proposed to emulate Lady Sarah's example.

The Colonial Office has made public the following telegram received from Governor Hutchinson, dated Pietermaritzburg, October 26th:—The following telegram has been received from Greytown from D. Greig, a resident of Dundee, formerly in the telegraph service: "I left Dundee this morning. General Symons died on Monday at 5 p.m., and was buried the following morning close to the English church by the Rev. W. Daly There was a firing party, and a few medical officers and a few civilians attended the funeral."

Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, speaking at Glasgow against Lord Rosebery's candidacy for the rectorship of the university, said he admired the Earl's character and brilliancy, but opposed him as a politician. The speaker charged Lord Rosebery with following instead of leading public opinion, and asserted that he was largely responsible for the Transvaal resistance and the present war, because he had remained silent until war actually began, and the Transvaal had interpreted his silence as meaning that the country was divided on the issue

All eyes being turned upon Sir Redvers Buller just now, it may be mentioned as not being commonly known that the motto of the Buller family is *Aquila non capit muscas*—"An eagle does not catch flies." This strikes one as singularly apropos at the present moment, and round about Crediton, in Devonshire, where Sir Redvers Buller has his charming estate, and is held in as high esteem as a typical country gentleman as he is as a distinguished soldier, "An eagle does not catch flies" has become a popular saying, which has created some remarkable demonstrations of enthusiasm in the country around.

The work of the British artillery in the first fights with the Boers reflects credit upon Colonel Cameron M. H. Downing, who was sent from England to take command before the breaking of the peace. Colonel Downing is one of the leading ordnance experts of the day. Before leaving England he was chief instructor at the School of Gunnery at Shoeburyness, and associate member (for field artillery) of the Ordnance Committee of the Army. Colonel Downing, who was born in 1845, entered the Royal Artillery in 1866, and served in the Abyssinian expedition of 1867 68 and the Afghan war 1878-79.

Lord Salisbury, in reply to an inquiry from the Earl of Albemarle, commanding the Prince of Wales's Own, 17th Middlesex, Civil Service Rifles, as to whether a detachment of the regiment might place their services at the disposal of the Crown for employment in South Africa, has written:—"The Volunteer Force was formed primarily for home defence, and there seem special objections to a regiment like the Civil Service Rifles serving abroad. The men have their public duties to perform at home, and, if they were sent abroad, untried men must be temporarily employed in their places for the performance of Civil Service professional work.'

Many dispatches from the Transvaal refer to the armoured trains which are used to transport troops and passengers through the district in which military operations are going on, an inquiry naturally arises as to what constitutes a train of that kind. It is nothing more than a train of ordinary goods cars which have been strengthened with sheets of metal and pierced with holes, through which rifles and small field pieces may be used on an attacking party. A flat car or gondola, with a heavy piece or two of artillery, may be a part of such a train, and in some instances enough of the closed cars may be taken away to allow a Maxim gun to be placed in position.

Lady Randolph Churchill presided on Oct. 30th at a meeting of the committee of the American fund being raised to send a hospital ship for the use of wounded soldiers in South Africa. It was announced that Mr. Frederick Gardiner and Mr John Hays Hammond, the American engineer, had contributed £1,000 each to the fund The subscribers of large amounts include Mr. August Belmont, Mr. William K. Vanderbilt, Mrs. Bradley Martin and Mrs. Burns. The fund had already reached £5,320 on October 30th, and offers of medical stores and professional services were pouring in from all points in the greatest profusion.

Sir George White's losses at Reitfontein were 13 killed and 96 wounded. The killed included Lieut. Douglas, of the 42nd Battery; Major Abdy, of the 53rd Battery; Lieut Perrean, of the 53 d Battery; Lieut. Sobart, of the 34th Battery; Lieut. Holford of the 19th Hussars; and Lieut. Hickie, of the Gloucesters. The War Office learns unofficially, that Captain Lonsdale, Lieut. Le Mesurier, Lieut Gavie, and Lieut. Grimshaw, of the Dublins; Lieut. Majendie, of the King's Rifles; Moeller (*sic*), and Major Greville and Captain Pollok, of the 18th Hussars, have been all taken prisoners; and presumes that the whole squadron which they commanded in the pursuit of the enemy at Glencoe are prisoners also.

It is interesting to recall the fact that the "Fighting Fifth" is one of the few British regiments in which a woman has fought side by side with the men. On her grave at Brighton the fact is thus recorded:—"In memory of Phœbe Hessel, who was born at Stepney in the year 1713. She served for many years as a soldier in the 5th Regiment in different parts of the Europe, and in the year 1745 fought under the command of the Duke of Cumberland in the battle of Fontenoy, where she received a bayonet wound in her arm. Her long life extended from the reign of Queen Anne to that of George IV., from which monarch she received comfort and support in her later years. She died at Brighton, Dec. 12, 1821, aged 108."

The British officer in command at Kimberley is Lieutenant-Colonel Robert G. Kekewich of the first battalion of the North Lancashire Regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Kekewich has seen a great deal of active service. Born in 1854, he had not long entered the service when he took part in the Perak expedition, for which he received the medal and clasp. During 1884-85 he was again on active service with the Nile expedition, for which he was decorated with the medal and clasp, the bronze star and the brevet rank of Major. In the Suakim campaign of 1888 he was mentioned in dispatches, and the Khedive conferred upon him the fourth clasp of the Medjidieh. He was recently been with his regiment in Ceylon.

General White received the following telegram from Commandant-General Joubert with reference to the death of General Symons:—"I must express my sympathy. General Symons unfortunately was badly wounded and died. He was buried yesterday (October 24.) I trust the great God will speedily bring to a close this unfortunate state of affairs, brought about by unscrupulous capitalists, who went to the Transvaal to obtain wealth and, in order to further their own interests, misled others and brought about this shameful state of warfare all over South Africa, in which so many valuable lives have been sacrificed, as for instance, General Symons and others. I express my sympathy to Lady Symons in the loss of her husband."

But for the supineness of Mr. Gladstone's Government at the time of the retrocession of the Transvaal to the Boers Great Britain would now be able to use Delagoa Bay for the landing of British troops and ammunition, while also having the right of transit through British territory. A correspondent, in a long and interesting letter to *The Times*, recalls this "half-forgotten page of contemporary history," remarking that Sir R. Morier, to the end of his career, regarded this treaty, negotiated by him when British Minister at Lisbon, as the most valuable piece of work he had ever accomplished. By taking no steps to ratify this valuable treaty of 1879, when we withdrew from the Transvaal, Mr. Gladstone was guilty of a "deliberate and wanton" blunder, which his successors have hitherto laboured in vain to repair.

Emperor William's farewell message to the British Royal Dragoons, of which regiment he is honorary Colonel, on their departure for South Africa, expressing his Majesty's hope that all might return "unscathed and well," is generally taken as a proof of Germany's official neutrality. One of the evening papers, referring to the dispatch, points out its high political significance, and says it is the best answer to "Pan-Germanic leagues, Anglophobia, and predictions of foreign intervention, in which Germany is to play a leading part." The *Boersen Courier* says:—The repeated foreign efforts to inveigle Germany into interfering in a question absolutely foreign to her national interests have palpably the sole object of discrediting her policy. Germany declines the role of acting manager in foreign interests detrimental to her own.

Describing the evacuation of Dundee, the *Daily Mail* says:—The residents of Dundee had a weary tramp of forty miles to the nearest town, where they arrived in a pitiable plight, having lost everything. The refugees included Harry Escombe, former Premier of Natal, and the Dundee magistrate. One of the Dundee

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people says that all day Saturday (October 28th) trains were arriving at Commandant-General Joubert's headquarters at Dannhuser from the Transvaal border, bringing Boers, and that there must have been 10,000 in the hills around Dundee. The natives report that the Boers took six wagons loaded with their dead from the field of the first battle at Glencoe. Among the killed were several Natal Dutch. A sad feature of the engagement was that three Englishmen, who were impressed at Krugersdorp, fought with the enemy, one of them being killed.

BUSINESS NOTES.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi* promissory notes and cheques, issued by private individuals, but which have remained unpaid in the Notes Exchange Office since this spring, amounted to 45,310 *yen*, the number of issuers being 164. The rate of insolvency has increased this month; the number of insolvents up to the 20th instant being 26 and the amount of unpaid notes 11,089 *yen*.

The revenues of the Kwansai, Nankai, and Sangu Railways companies for the ten days from the first to the 10th inst. were as follows:—

	Yen.	Per mile per day. Yen.
Kwansai	32,330	13,620
Nankai	16,251	41,722
Sangu	5,785	21,427

Ten days have elapsed since subscriptions for the shares of the new Colonial Bank were publicly invited, but no proposal for any large amount, remarks the *Maiseki Shimbun*, has yet been received. The total subscription up to the 20th instant did not exceed 9,497 shares, amounting to 474,850 *yen*. The subscribers were as follows:—The 1st National Bank, 2,164 shares; the 3rd National, 3,287; the 27th National, 1,172; the Aichi Bank, 575; the Kyoto Commercial and Industrial Bank, 991; the 130th National, 382; a branch of the Hokkaido Reclamation Bank, 556, the Otaru Bank, 39; the 113th National, 331.

The receipts of the Nippon Railway Company for the three months from July to September inclusive have increased, says the *Jimmin*, by ten per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year. Goods as well as passenger traffic having considerably augmented since October and a 20 per cent. increase in revenue is expected, the increased receipts on the average being estimated at 24,000 *yen*. The company is now in a position to declare a dividend of 12 per cent. for the present term, but it is rumoured that it will distribute only ten per cent. in order to maintain uniformity in the rates of dividends.

The following table shows the foreign trade of the 22 ports opened on the day when the new treaties came into force:—

	August. Yen.	September. Yen.	Total. Yen.
Moji	508,078 67	461,213 25	969,281 92
Shimonoseki	305,632.11	491,763 59	797,395 70
Kuchinotsu	341,537 10	393,518 76	735,055 86
Oita	58,667 32	135,832.95	194,500 27
Misumi	82,379.00	57,201 20	139,580 20
Sasebo	35,600 00	77,220 00	112,820 00
Sonoda	42,289.12	55,840 22	98,129 34
Yokkaichi	34,511 93	58,386 40	92,898 33
Takenoya	51,318.16	20,040 98	71,389 14
Karatsu	12,994 90	3,444.00	16,438 90
Fushiki	3,821.08	10,623 88	14,444 96
Sukaumi	1,244 90	2,688 57	3,933 47
Sakai	2,702 48	1,121 26	3,823 74
Tsukahara	1,136 33	1,901 44	3,037 77
Hamada	691 15	2,233.46	2,924 81
Hakata	103 20	670 08	773 28
Tsuruga	434 42	230 30	662 72
Total	1,483,170.07	1,773,930.34	3,257,100.41

According to the *Shogyo* about [illegible] cases of kerosene oil ordered by Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. are expected to arrive in Yokohama from the end of this month to the end of January next. The stock at present is not less than 200,000 cases, and the market will soon be glutted with one million cases. Under these circumstances prices are expected to fall. Moreover, four sailing vessels laden with petroleum, which left their respective ports in June last, are now expected in Kobe. A steamer which lately arrived in Hongkong with oil also comes on to Japan at no distant date, and there can be no reason to doubt that we shall soon see a downward tendency in kerosene.

According to the *Yomiuri*, the production of tea in Formosa has decreased considerably of late, the output this year being estimated at 330,000 catties less than that recorded last year. This big falling off in the output is ascribed to the new regulations which grade the taxes on the leaf, and which correspond in amount to 30 per cent. of its value. The tea trade long ago ceased to be a profitable enterprise, and there seems to be no doubt that the onerous taxation imposed in the island has brought about a tendency to manufacture spurious leaf. The amount of tea reshipped from Amoy as unfit for sale during a period of seven months from April last is reported to have already exceeded 150,000 catties. Apprehension is now entertained that if the present state of affairs be suffered to continue for any length of time, the tea industry in Formosa will ruin itself. In view of the circumstances vigorous steps are now being taken by the representatives of manufacturers to secure the total abolition of taxes on tea.

AMERICAN NOTES.

Admiral George Dewey has decided to spend a part of the winter at least in Santa Barbara. He will arrive in January, and has engaged the same suite of rooms at the Arlington Hotel which he occupied during his visit about twelve years ago.

The substitute band, of Springfield, Mass., is an organization with the motto: "Put a man in my place." Their purpose is to secure as members those who can not go to the mission field, but will give $25 a year or more to support a substitute missionary or native worker. Already over $3,000 have been forwarded to the foreign field in the first six months of this year.—*Missionary Review.*

Spruce trees in the forests of Maine are disappearing, therefore the people of that state are agitated to such an extent that a bill will be introduced in the next legislature prohibiting the cutting of spruce for a term of years. On this account papermakers, who have caused the depletion in the amount of standing spruce timber, are considering the feasibility of substituting poplar or birch for spruce.

The *North American* on Nov. 1st announced: One of the greatest financial combinations of the century is in process of formation. The organizers of the Continental Telegraph, Telephone and Cable Company, recently incorporated in New Jersey, have obtained control of all the independent telephone companies in the United States and aim to combine these with the great telegraph companies and the five Atlantic cable companies. The office of the new concern is in the American Surety Company's building, New York City. From various sources information reached the *North American* that the capitalists interested in the venture include J. Pierpont Morgan, George J. Gould, John Jacob Astor, William C. Whitney, P. A. B. Widener, and William L. Elkins.

The *Literary Digest* says:—The expression of American opinion on the Transvaal struggle is abundant and full of interest; but an unusual hesitation is shown in pronouncing final judgment. The quick and hearty sympathy expressed for Greece in her war with Turkey finds no parallel in the present attitude of our press. The only tendency, indeed, that can be [illegible] alleged general is a disposition to think both sides partly right and partly wrong; and while the grievances of the Uitlanders are assumed as real, the Boers are not blamed for making a last desperate stand for their independence. When called upon to choose between Anglo-Saxons fighting against "taxation without representation," and hardy pioneers fighting to retain their independence, the American press shows a disposition to pause and consider.

It is believed that, on account of his able services in the Philippines, Colonel William A. Kobbe of the Thirty-fifth United States Volunteers will be promoted to be Brigadier-General of Volunteers. In the regular Army Colonel Kobbe is a Major of Artillery. On the breaking out of the Spanish war he was placed in command of the defences at the mouth of the Columbia river, but was subsequently given command of the battalion of the Third Artillery which was sent to the Philippines. His battalion led the advance of General MacArthur's division, and his services have been commended both by correspondents and in official reports. Colonel Kobbe comes from the old volunteer service of the Civil War. At the outbreak of that war he was a private in the New York National Guard, and enlisted as a private of the 178th New York. He became a Captain and a brevet Lieutenant-Colonel of Volunteers, and afterwards, securing a Second Lieutenant's commission in the regular Army, received regular Army brevets as Captain and Major for gallantry in action in the Battle of Nashville and in the capture of Fort Blakely, Ala. He was regimental adjutant in every regiment to which he was attached. When he became a Captain of artillery he was detailed as an instructor in military history and science of war to the Artillery School at Fort Monroe for seven years. This detail usually lasts three years.

It is announced that the pulpit committee of the Fifth-avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, will recommend to the congregation the selection of the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan of New Court Congregational Church, London, as successor to the Rev. Dr. John Hall. The Fifth avenue pulpit committee is extremely anxious for early action, since the Rev. Mr. Morgan has received four other formal and informal calls to American churches, among them the Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago. Dr. Morgan is noted for his eloquence. Now 36 years old, he comes of a Nonconformist ancestry, his father having been a Baptist minister and his mother the daughter of a Baptist deacon. His career as a minister of the Gospel was begun at the age of 13 years. He was educated at Cheltenham, from which place, at the age of 20, he passed to a mastership in the Jewish Collegiate School, Birmingham. Three years later he went to Hull, where he remained as an evangelist for thirteen months. From there he was called to the pastorate of one of the Congregational churches in the midland counties, and two years later to Rugeley. He was at Birchfield in 1893 and in August, 1897, he went to Northfield and later to London.

The Bureau of Ordnance of the Army has just completed arrangements to ship to Manila guns, ammunition, ordnance supplies, and equipments for use by the U.S. army in the coming campaign against the insurgents. The cost of equipping the army in this branch alone will reach several million dollars. Each service has its particular equipments. For the infantry there will be more than 70,000 rifles, for which 25,000,000 rounds of ammunition are provided. Eighteen million rounds are already on hand in the Philippines and 7,000,000 will be distributed among the different volunteers regiments ordered to Manila. The cost of this ammunition is about $25,000 for each million rounds, or a total of $625,000. In addition to infantry, the Secretary of War has given to General Otis nine batteries of 3.2 inch field guns, each battery consisting of six guns. The cost of each battery and its equipment is placed at $20,000, making the total cost of the nine batteries $250,000. They are to have

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1000 rounds of ammunition for each gun. The ammunition consists largely of shrapnel, costing $5 a round. It is estimated that the ammunition for these batteries will cost an additional $270 000. The Philippine army has also twelve Colt automatic guns, with an aggregate ammunition supply of 1,000 000 cartridges; thirty-three Gatling guns, with more than 7 000 000 rounds of ammunition, about one third of which is smokeless powder; twenty-one two-pounder mountain guns, twenty one twelve pounder mountain guns, with 1000 rounds of ammunition for each gun, and twelve Sims-Dudley dynamite guns. Orders have been issued by the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance for the shipment to Manila of 25 000 sets of infantry equipments and 2 000 cavalry equipments. Orders have also been issued for supplying the field mortars and siege guns now in the Philippines with the necessary ammunition for the coming campaign.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Nov. 17.

Eighteen thousand troops have arrived at Capetown. Over 8,000 have been sent to Natal.

According to various reports that have been received General Joubert has been killed.

A telegram dated Ladysmith 9th November says a native runner reports that the Naval guns were silent on that day.

A heavy cannonade was heard at Ladysmith from the direction of Estcourt on the 12th inst.

A telegram from Buluwayo states that on the 9th the Boers attacked King Khama, who, supported by a hundred British, succeeded in repulsing them.

Four of the largest Cape liners have been chartered to convey Warren's Division.

News from Fort Tuli (Matabeleland). dated the 3rd inst., reports activity on the part of Boer raiders on the North-west frontier.

Shanghai, Nov. 18.

News from Escourt, dated the 15th instant, says that the Boers shelled an armoured train reconnoitering at Chieveley, 5 miles southward of Colenso, and shattered a seven-pounder gun. They derailed the two trucks carrying the gun and disabled the train. The engine escaped with the wounded. The crew numbered 180, of whom 50 of the Dublins and 40 of the Naval Volunteers are missing, as is also the newspaper correspondent, Mr. Winston Churchill.

A Boer force with guns is on the south of the Tugela and eight miles from Estcourt.

Later.

Two thousand Boers with 8 guns are posted at Ennersdare, four miles from Estcourt.

The censor is suppressing all indications of General Buller's plans, but it is probable that Lord Methuen will command the column sent to relieve Kimberley, which is short of provisions, and that Gen. Hildyard's column will proceed to the relief of Ladysmith.

Shanghai, Nov. 19.

A message from Estcourt, dated the 16th inst., says that at two o'clock that morning heavy rifle firing was heard for a few minutes, followed by an explosion in the direction of Ladysmith.

At Kimberley on the 9th inst. the enemy cut the main water supply and lifted the cattle. They are closing in on every side.

Shanghai, Nov. 20.

The enemy's patrol are advancing throughout the whole country from Gourtonro (?) to Ulundi. Various bodies from 500 to 700 strong are advancing towards Estcourt.

The Boers have destroyed the great railway bridge over the Tugela river.

General Lord Methuen, with the brigade of Guards, is advancing from the Orange River to relieve Kimberley.

A runner from Ladysmith on the 17th inst. brings news that all was well with General White's force.

The Boers have endeavoured to make the investment of Ladysmith closer, but General White then made a sortie and drove the Boers from their advanced position with heavy loss.

Reinforcements to the number of 27,000 have now reached the Cape.

The Boers attempted to rush Estcourt but were repulsed.

The Boers have occupied Barkly-west, Douglas, Burghersdorp, and Colesberg (in Cape Colony) unopposed.

Shanghai, Nov. 21.

The Times of Natal publishes a despatch from Ladysmith saying that the Boers made a general attack on the 9th inst., but were repulsed at every point, the Boers losing from 700 to 800 men.

It is understood that Major-General C. F. Clery, C.B., will have about 10,000 Infantry and a few batteries of Artillery wherewith to relieve Ladysmth. It is generally felt that he will have a severe task.

[Major-General Clery, late 19th Hussars, was Deputy Adjutant General of the British Army when the war broke out. He was specially selected by Gen. Buller to serve on his staff in South Africa, being a splendid administrator. ED *J. M.*]

The whole of the first Division is now with General Lord Methuen, who is taking with him a big railway repairing staff.

It is reported that General Joubert is moving southward.

All the British officers have been ordered to discard distinguishing marks.

Lady Salisbury died yesterday.

Their German Majesties have arrived at Portsmouth where they had a grand reception.

Their Majesties have proceeded thence to Windsor.

Shanghai, Nov. 23.

A large force of Boers are controlling the railway between Escourt and the Moo-i River. There has been no communication with Escourt since Tuesday.

A considerable number of the Dutch Colonists in the north of Cape Colony have joined the enemy.

The British have re-occupied Naauwpoort.

The Boers beseiging Kimberley have been reinforced.

The British force in Natal approximately numbers 24,000 men.

The Boers have formally established administrations in all towns that they occupy, and Generals Clery and Gatacre have notified waverers against the consequences of disloyalty.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Saigon, Nov. 17.

There is little news from South Africa. The bombardment of Ladysmith was continuing on the 12th instant.

The interrogations have commenced in the High Court. M. Buffet, the principal Orleanist accused, denies the existence of a plot.

Saigon, Nov. 18.

In the Chamber of Deputies M. Waldeck-Rousseau, Prime Minister, justified the measures taken by the Cabinet for the defence of the Government of the Republic, and the procedure of the High Court, on the ground that the adversaries of the Republic were preparing an insurrection.

The Chamber, by a vote of 340 to 215, approved the Government's defensive measures.

Saigon, Nov. 19.

In the High Court the interrogation of the Royalists has terminated without any incident.

The Boers are advancing to the south of Ladysmith, the investment of which continues.

Shanghai, Nov. 22.

Ladysmith was safe on the 20th. There is ample supply of provisions and ammunition to hold out indefinitely.

Tremendous rains are hampering operations on both sides.

The Boers admit a sharp reverse at Ladysmith on the 9th.

Gatacre's division is landing rapidly at East London and assembling at Queen's Town.

Saigon, Nov. 22.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs' announced to the Council that the delimitation of Kwangchung-wan had been signed in accordance with the demands of Admiral Courrejolles, Commander-in-Chief of the French Naval Force in the Far East. The French Representative in China has instructions to demand from the Tsungli Yamen reparation for the murder of two French missionaries.

An interpsllation in the Chamber of Deputies with reference to the display of the Red Flag was terminated on the demand of the Cabinet by a vote of 329 to 230 in favour of proceeding with the order of the day pure and simple.

The Boers are advancing to the south of Estcourt. Some small engagements have taken place.

Saigon, Nov. 23.

The French Chamber of Deputies has terminated the general discussion of the Budget, and has commenced to examine it by sections.

The High Court continues the interrogations without any incident.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDO-CHINA TO THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE IN JAPAN.)

Hanöi, Nov. 18, 7 p.m.

There has, it is true, been some trouble in the Bay of Kwangchou, and a certain number of acts of piracy have taken place which it has been necessary to repress, but of which the importance has been ridiculously exaggerated.

The most perfect accord exists between Admiral Courrejolles, Commander-in-Chief of the French naval force in the Far East, and Marshal Sou, the Imperial Chinese Commissioner. The final act of delimitation of the Franco-Chinese frontier was signed last Wednesday, November 15th.

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(From the "China Gazette.")

London, Nov. 14.

The Correspondent of the *Times* cabling from Lorenzo Marques on the ninth instant, gives the first connected account of the disaster which befell Sir George White's left flank column in the battle outside Ladysmith, at a place called Nicholson's Nek, on the 30th-31st Oct. The narrative was related by the Rev. Father Matthews, Chaplain of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, after his release by the Boers, to the *Times* Correspondent.

The Correspondent proceeds:—Father Matthews describing the disaster to me said:—We (the Fusiliers, Gloucesters, with the 12th Mountain Battery Artillery) were sent out by Sir George White to occupy the position (at Nicholson's Nek) in order to prevent the two forces of Boers, (those from the Transvaal and Orange Free State) effecting a junction.

"We marched ten miles from our base, before we reached the hill, which we did at one o'clock in the morning.

"The first mishap that befell us was the stampeding of the mules with our mountain battery, which had the effect of starting off and scattering the whole line of mules forming our military train.

"We, however, formed up into line again, and reached the top of the hill.

"But our guns were all gone with the stampeded animals, but not all our ammunition.

"I don't know what caused the mules to stampede, but in their wild career they knocked me down.

"The night was pitch dark. We had one hour's sleep before active operations began. The firing commenced at daylight It was at first slack, then grew furious and under it the Boers crept round (our flank).

"After twelve o'clock, noon, there was a general command to "Cease fire," but our fellows would not stop firing.

"Colonel Ayde, commanding the Fusiliers, came up and confirmed the order and the bugle sounded in our *sangar*.

"In the confusion it was rumoured that the white flag was raised by a young officer who thought his batch of ten men were the sole survivors of the furious engagement.

"But we still numbered 900 alive. We had started perhaps a thousand strong.

"The officers and men were furious at having to surrender, more especially as the Boers did not seem to really be in great number.

"I heard that their main body had galloped off."

"Our men had to give up their arms and our officers were sent on as prisoners of war to General Joubert, and were afterwards despatched by train to Pretoria.

"I think the surrender was a great blunder, due to a misunderstanding. Colonel Adye was much put out."

"The white flag was not raised by the Royal Irish Fusiliers."

Mafeking, Oct. 31.

To-day General Cronje, the Boer Commandant at Mafeking, sent a messenger into the town, under cover of a flag of truce, to deliver a despatch to Colonel Baden Powell, the British Commander. The message made known Cronje's objection to the British flying the Red Cross over several buildings inside Mafeking simultaneously. He also protested against the British employing dynamite mines in their scheme of defence.

He further objected to the British employing the natives to fight against white men, (the Boers).

Colonel Baden Powell, in reply, said that under the Geneva Convention there was no limit prescribed to the number of the Red Cross stations in the time of war. Mafeking possessed three places covered by the Red Cross flags which number was necessary for its requirements, and he expected the enemy to respect the Hospital, the Convent and the *laager* containing the women. As to the mines, these were a recognised mode of civilized warfare. Pretoria was defended by them. The Boers had fired upon the natives, burnt their kraals, raided their cattle and the natives only had defended their lives and property.

Despite this reply, the Boer artillerists continued to deliberately direct their shells against the Red Cross Hospital, and the women's *laager*.

CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No 446.

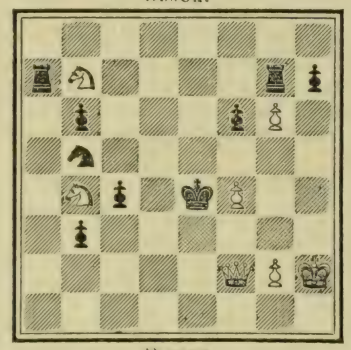
By J. Jespersen, Svendborg

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K 6	1—P takes B
2—Kt to K 4 !	2—K takes R
3—Q to B 4 mate	
	2—Any other
3—R to Q 6 mate	
	1—K takes Kt
2—Q to QB 2 ch	2—K moves
3—Q to B 6 mate	
	1—P to B 4
2—Kt to Q 7 !	2—K takes R
3—Q to B 4 mate	
	2—Any other
3—R to Q 6 mate	
	1—P to Kt 6
2—P takes P	2—Any other
3—Q B 4 mate	

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, L.M.A., and Marco.

PROBLEM No. 449.

Black.



White.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 569.

The judges appointed to award the prizes offered by Aristides Martinez, the president of the Manhattan Chess Club, for the best game played in the interstate chess match between New York and Pennsylvania at the recent Saratoga meeting of the New York Chess Association, have decided that the prize should go to a Sicilian Defence, won by S. Lipschutz of that club against D. Stuart of the Franklin Chess Club of Philadelphia.

As soon as the decision of the judges was communicated to Emil Kemeny he found a continuation for Black, namely, 38, Q R2 ch., which according to his analysis, would have drawn the game, and he therefore entered a protest with the judges that a game in which the winner secured the prize for a wrong move of his adversary could not be considered the best game played. The judges, William M. de Visser and P. Richardson, saw that there was a draw in the position, although a very difficult one, and they informed President Martinez that they would be willing to reconsider their decision in the matter. President Martinez, however said that the judges would have to stand by their decision and the prize therefore goes to Lipschutz

The score of the prize game follows:—

Sicilian Defence.

White.—Lipschutz.		Black.—Stuart.	
WHITE.	BLACK	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P QB4	10 Q Q2	P QR3
2 K Kt B3	Kt QB3	11 Q R Q q	P Q K 4
3 P Q4	P x P	12 K x K	B x K
4 Kt x P	K B3	13 P K B3	Q R B q
5 K QB3	P K K 3	14 K Q5	B x Kt
6 B K3	B K2	15 P x B	Kt Q2
7 B K2	P Q3	16 P B3	K K 3
8 Castles	Castles	17 B Q4	B x B
9 P KR3	B Q2	18 Q x B	K R5
19 Q Q2	Q B2	35 P R5	K x BP
20 R B2	K R Q q	36 R x Kt	R x R
21 P K B4	K B4	37 P x P	P K4
22 B B3	Q Q2	38 P x Pep	Q K Kt2
23 Q K3	R B2	39 P x Pch	Q x P
24 P K Kt4	P K B3	40 P K7	R K Kt5
25 B K2	K K2	41 K B q	R x B
26 R K2	R K q	42 K x R	R x P
27 Q Q4	K B2	43 Q x Q ch	R x Q
28 Q R K q	Kt R5	44 K K3	K B2
29 Q B2	Kt B4	45 K B4	P Kt5
30 Q R4	K K2	46 K x P	R R5
31 P K5	P B4	47 P K 6th	K B q
32 Q R6 h	K Kt q	48 R K4	R R4ch
33 P K R4	K Q6	49 K B6	Resigns.
34 R K B q	R B5		

Has the Attack an Advantage.

It is a generally received opinion that the player having the first move has the advantage. Reichelm has, in the following table, given the various Openings and results of the games played in the London Tournament:

Opening.	Att.	Def.	Dr.	Opening.	Att.	Def.	Dr.
P to Q 4	14	24	24	2 Kts' Def.	0	1	2
Ruy Lopez	12	14	3	Ginoco	2	2	0
French	10	8	5	Staunton	3	0	0
Sicilian	1	5	0	Evans	0	2	0
4 Kts	1	1	3	K's Bishop	0	1	0
Scotch	1	4	1	K's Gambit	1	2	0
Hamppe	1	7	1	Caro Kann	4	0	2
Philidor	0	4	0	All other	4	3	5
Petroff	1	1	1		—	—	—
	—	—	—	Total	14	11	9
Total	44	70	38				

This shows that the Defence won 81 times, while the Attack won only 55 times.

NOTES.

The prize of ten guineas given by Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Harry Lewis for the most brilliant game played in the recent London International Tournament was awarded by the committee appointed for that purpose to E. Lasker for the game won against Steinitz in the Second Round.

The second prize, a gold badge given by the Ladies' Chess Club, fell to J. H. Blackburne for the game won against Lasker.

One of the problems which received honourable mention in a tournament recently conducted under the auspices of the New York *Sun* turns out to be a bald plagiarism. The problem in question, which is a product of the brain of Dr. Tolosa Carreras, who caused it to be published several years ago, was submitted by T. T. Glynn of Ryde, New South Wales, who has now been asked to furnish an explanation. It is matter for surprise that a plagiarism of this kind should have been detected, considering that the production appeared in a French work not at all well known in the United States.

The Hon. Sec. of the British Chess Club has sent the challenge to the Brooklyn Chess Club for the annual cable match for the "Newnes" Trophy between Great Britain and America.

A match between ex-Champion Steinitz and the noted English expert, Amos Burn, is likely to be arranged. The match would be played in London.

Among the possibilities of the coming winter is a tournament for American masters, to be held in New York city.

The great Paris International Tournament of 1900 is to be a one round contest, says an exchange, and the number of competitors is to be limited to 24.

A match for $100 a side has been practically arranged to take place at the Chicago Chess Clubrooms between S. P. Johnston of Chicago and F. J. Marshall of Brooklyn. Marshall, as champion of the Brooklyn Chess Club, recently won his mastership title by securing the first prize in the minor tournament in connection with the London International Tournament.

The death is chronicled of the distinguished master, writer, and critic, His Excellency Tassilo von Heydebrand und der Lasa, at the advanced age of eighty one. Herr v. d. Lasa was one of the greatest players of his time; the first theorist, analyst, author, and critic as well. As practical player he beat Staunton in a match, and achieved victories over Anderssen, Horwitz, Mayet, Bodow, Jaenisch; in fact, against the best players of the period before his retirement into privacy at Wiesbaden. Afterwards he devoted his leisure to the literature of the game.

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Original from

The Chess Club at Calcutta, which was formed last March, has concluded its first tournament, played in two sections, one of Europeans, the other of natives. The two winners in these sections contested a final match of two games, which resulted in the first prize being won by a native.

For several years Mr. Blackburne has been urged to furnish the chess-playing public with a collection of his numerous games scattered about in metropolitan and provincial papers. He always turned a deaf ear to the entreaties of his admirers until now, being probably induced to the laborious task of collecting the games, by the aid of Mr. P. Anderson Graham, who also supplies the preface, remarking, as is known to everybody, "that Mr. Blackburne's match games, arranged in openings and by date, form in themselves a history which will not only show the student how to play but at a glance explain to him why certain tactics have become old fashioned and others have come into vogue. The work will prove a pleasanter and quicker method of learning the analysis of the openings than the old method, if the reader chooses to play over the games of the master; and Mr. Blackburne's games possess unique advantages for this purpose."

The American *Chess Magazine* will issue a double number covering the months of October and November early next month. The publishers promise that in future the magazine will appear with regularity.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON VII.

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In our previous lesson we gave an example of an ordinary "mate" and likewise one of a "smothered mate." There are other kinds of mate, which the beginner should be familiar with, foremost of which stand the "Fool's-mate," the Scholar's-mate and the Stale mate.

The Fool's-mate may be given in two moves and can easily be avoided once the student is acquainted with it:—

1. P—KB 4	1. P—K 3
2 P—KKt 4	2 Q—R 5 mate

It is White's second move that causes the disaster. Any other but the text move avoids the mate, The Scholar's-mate is brought about in this way:—

1. P—K 4	1. P—K 4
2. B—B 4	2. B—B 4
3 Q—R 5	3. P—Q 3
4 Q×BP mate	

Black should have played on his third move Q—B 3, thereby defending his BP and at the same time attacking White's BP. The mate would then have been impossible.

Of the Stale mate we will treat in our next lesson.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Nov. 14th:—

Dr	Yen,
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15 810 636
Amount of convertible notes issued...	216,846 296
Government deposits	53,601,285
General deposits	3,219,818
Exchange liability	29,743
Total	319,507 779

Cr.	
Discount notes	57 902.964
Foreign discount notes	14 053 922
Loan to Government	22 000,000
General loans	63 869.504
Exchange liability	1 324 883
Government bonds	57 185,593
Property...	1 952 414
Bullion and Specie	101,217.498
Total	319.507.779

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	216,217,813
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	100,159,748
Silver	—
Total	100,159 748
Securities:—	
Government bonds	34.044,121
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,501.009
Commercial notes	60,512.935
Total	119.053.065

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,101,268
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	2 690,778
Government deposits	—	2,142,992
General deposits	—	139.101

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert 1	Sa. Nov. 25
America	P. M. Co.	China 2	Tu Nov. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India 3	Th Nov. 30
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Oceanien 4	Th. Nov. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Th Nov. 30
Hongkong	P. & O Co	Rohilla	M. Dec. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	W. Dec. 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa Dec. 9
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th. Dec. 14

1 Arrived at Nagasaki on the 22nd inst., at midnight.
2 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 22nd inst at noon.
4 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 17th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Nov. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	F. Nov. 24
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	W. Nov. 29
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W. Nov. 29
Canada, &c..... ..	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F Dec. 1
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 2
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Sa Dec. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th Dec. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Dec. 12
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Dec. 15

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 16th Nov.—Kobe, 14th Nov. General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 16th Nov.—Nagasaki via Kobe, 14th Nov. General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 2,438, J. Murray, 16th Nov.—Kobe, Kobe 14th Nov. General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Recind, Austrian steamer, 1,504, Antonio Antich, 16th November,—Batoum, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 17th November,—Kobe 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,064, E. A. Chaplin, 17th Nov.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 16th November, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Hugh Nish, 18th Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 17th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 17th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 16th November, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 18th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, 11th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Bainbridge, 18th November,—London via ports, and Hongkong, 12th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 19th Nov.,—Bonin Island, Mails and Genral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 19th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 1st November, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 20th November,—Kobe, 18th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idomeneus, British steamer, 4,298, James Riley, 20th November,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 19th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rosetta British steamer, 2,039, G. C. Talbot, 20th Nov.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 19th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 21st November,—Yokkaichi 20th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bobrik, Russian schooner, 119, Yanovsky, 22nd Nov.,—Petropaulowski, Salt Salmon.—Captain Powers.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, Poul, 22nd Nov.,—Petropaulowski, Salt Salmon.—Captain Powers.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 22nd November,— Kobe, 20th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Christiansen, 22nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Hongkong 12th Nov., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 22nd Nov.,—Kobe, 20th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 23rd November,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe 22nd November, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Mayer, 16th Nov.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via port, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 16th Nov.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 16th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Y. Oda, 16th November,—Otaru via port, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, Schönfeld, 17th November,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 2,438, J. Murray, 17th Nov.,—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 17th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 17th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, W. Townsend, 18th November,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General:—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 19th November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nobeta, 17th November.—Moji via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, E. Warrall, 20th Nov.,—Port Pirrie, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 20th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,064, E. A. Chaplin, 21st Nov.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 21st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. Burch, 22nd Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu and San Diego, Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Hugh Nish, 22nd Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 22nd November,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 22nd November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 22nd November,—Otaru via portr, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 22nd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Rogliano, 22nd Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 23rd November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 23rd November,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Fujiwara, Mr. and Mrs. Iromoto, Mrs. Greathouse, Mr. Chan, Mrs.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Gifford, Mrs. Trenushin, Dr. and Mrs. Vinton and 4 children, Mrs. Galosky, General T. Kuroki, Capt Sohn Hetush, Mr. C. Blum, Mr. I. Shibata, Mr. F. S. Goodison, and Mr. and Mrs. Fellows, in cabin; Mrs. W. B. Adams, Mr. T. Fukushima, and Mr. U. Nishinohara, in second class; 18, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. K. Amano and family, Mr. K. Nakagawa, Mr. S. Terano, Mr. Otto Schinne, Mrs. T. H. Rice, Mrs. T. S. O'Leary, Miss E. A. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. S. Isaacs and family, Mrs. H. T. Elliott, Mr. G. H. M. Gleeson and family, Mr. S. T. Hutton, Mr. Douglas Marriott, Mrs. Leo D'Miner, Mr. A. L. Helmore, Mr. Chas. C. Cohn, Mr. Chas. Schlesenger, Miss C. T. Keith, Mrs. J. H. De Forest, Rev. Otis Cary and family, Mr. H. A. Grubb, Mrs. H. D. Green, and Mr. E. L. Hutchinson, in cabin, and 104 Asiatic steerage. For Nagasaki:—Mr. H. G. Murray and Mr. Jas. R. Duff. For Shanghai:—Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Galt, Mr. H. M. Tibbeg and Mr. Jas. Beech. For Hongkong:—Mrs. James Todd, Mrs. John O. Shea, Miss Susie Hollomb, Mr. F. P. Gilmore, Mrs M Gustin, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. J. Finnuck and infant, Mrs. H. B. Orwig and 3 children, Mrs. Jas. Regan, Miss Nettie Regan, Mrs. C. R. Noyes, Mrs. I. Keithly and 2 children, Mrs. D. Tompkins and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Putnam, Rev. A. E. Street & family, Miss I. M Humphreys, Mrs. B. S. Higley and child, Mrs G. N. Holf, and Mrs. Hopkins, in cabin; and 176 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Copmann, Mr. Arnoux, Mr. Abbot, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Joy, Mr. McCredie, Mr. Lansing, Mrs. Collier, and Mr. Halstead, in cabin; 4 on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from Hongkong via ports;—Mrs. I. W. Mangles, Mrs. Thomsen, Mr. Ah Ling, Mrs. C. C. Wadsworth, Mr. Geo. W. Hooper, Mrs. Geo. W. Hooper, Mr. C R. Holcomb, and M. J. E. Elerton in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. F. Ellon, Miss Vera Ellon, Miss D. Clayburgh, Mr. P. F. Magee, Capt. Lange, Mr. J. F. McLees, Dr. J. J. Guisti, Ch. de Wonters d'Oplinter, Mr. Von Grot, Rev. E. E. Aiken, and 3 children, Mr. Sutherland, Mrs. Sutherland, Rev. C. A. Stanley, Mrs. C. A. Stanley, Mr. H. R. Williams, Jr., and Mr. R. H. Woolfall in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. R. Agassiz, Mr. R. Akiyama and servant, Mrs. C. H. Bramhall, Miss Agnes P. Barney, Miss Julia Barney, Mr. W. A. Bradley, Captain F. A. Blake, Mr. and Mrs J. Cassanova, Mr. C. W. Clifton, Mr. J. Edelstein, Vicomte I. d'Ilfley, Mr. F. P. Fall, Mr. F R Fernald, Mrs. Fletcher and two children, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Haywood, two children and maid, Rev. N. Hansen, Mr. W. Heitmann, Mr. Low Ching Hoon, Mr. Leigh Hunt, Mr. K. Iwakami, Mr. A. Johnstone, Mr. G. H. Kingswell, Mr. S. H. Kuhn, Mr. T. Lemon, Mr. Young Lock, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Marsh and child, Miss McIntyre, Mr. Geo. Morriss, Miss Muller, Mr. R. Oldham, Mr. A T Pattison, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. Pugh, Miss M. E. Pugh, Miss Parmelee, Miss Perrine, Miss Palmer, Mr. B Pranischnikow, Mr. C. Skerrett Rogers and child, Miss Riggs, Mrs. Renjes and daughter, Major J. E. Sawyer, U.S.A., Mr. A. Simon, Rev. J. B. Thompson and 2 children, Miss C. J. White, Mrs. G C. Williams and three children, and Mr. C. H. Basil Woodd, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sanuki Maru*, for London via ports:—Capt. T. Inouye, I.J.N., Mr. K. Horiguchi, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Fawkner, Mr. W. W. Austin, Mr. W. J. Kenny, Mr. A. Serno, Mr. J Kohn, Mrs. Yoshi Ogata and child, Miss Hana Ogata, and Mrs. Tome Hirouchi, in cabin; Miss Tsugi Shimamura, Mr. J. Suzuki, Mr. H. Hoshioka, Mr. C. H. Bryant, Mr. J. B. Lord, and Mr. U. Machida, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. James R. Duff, Mrs Ira Keithley, and 2 children, Mr. H. M. Tibbey, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Putnam, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Street, and infant, Mrs. James Regan, Miss Regan, Mrs. Josephine Fenwick, and child, Mrs. Tompkins, and 2 children, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Galt, Mrs. Chas. R. Noyes, Mr. V. Heller, Com. T. P. Gilmore, Mr. James Beach, Mr. H. E. Murray, Mr. H. W. Arthur, Mrs. M. C. Gustin, Mrs. J. W. Richardson, Mrs. Todd, Miss Humphreys, Mrs. Orwig, and family, Mrs. L. T. Wingate, Mr. Hattori, Mr. R. T. Mulkern, Mrs. B. S. Higley, Jr., and child, Mr. A. Kawanke, Mrs. C. F. Snow, child, and amah, Mrs. T. S. O'Leary, Mrs. L. R. Wolfe, Mrs. John O'Shea, Miss Susie Holcomb, and Mrs. L. D Miner in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Wm. Friedlander, Mr. G G. Brady, Mr. H. J. Rothwell, Mr. H. Keswick, Mr. E Savouret, Mr. T. Basandray, Miss Wickham, Mr. Ulrich Odin, Mr. G C. Sarolidis, Mr. H Merecki, Mr. Woog, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. N. Masaki, Mr. E. Otsuka, and Mr. Shishudo in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. T. Niwa, Mr. and Mrs. Asamuma, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Nomura, Mr. Tojo, Mr. T. Miyazaki, and Mrs. Jones, and child in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Abergeldie*, for Portland, Oregon:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL PACKAGES
Shanghai	—	—	—	111	—	111
Kobe	—	—	2,446	—	—	2,446
Yokohama	1,951	—	459	157	—	1,467
Total	1,951	—	2,105	268	—	4,024

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were the silk shippers per N. P. steamer *Energia* for Tacoma, Nov. 20.

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	103
Siber, Brunnwald & Co.	74
Otto Reimers & Co	42
Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha	185
Total	404

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is not much doing in yarns, grey shirtings, and fancy cottons or woollens, but prices are very firm. Carbolic acid is showing a considerable rise, owing partly to the Pest scare.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yd. 39 inches	$2 6 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 37 yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth 7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirting—24 yards 31 inches.	2.20 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Alpaca Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.10 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—2 rape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 & 56 inches	0 60 to 0.85
Cloth—Presidents, 54 & 56 inches	0 85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9 50 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1 00 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2 45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/21, Singles	$40.00 to 42 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos 32, Doubles	44 00 to 46 00
Nos. 42 Doubles	53 00 to 55 00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	75.00 to 78 00
Nos 2 80, Plain	9 .00 to 94 00
Nos 2 100, Plain	118 00 to 120.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	88.00 to 92 50
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	105.00 to 109.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	133 00 to 140 00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23 50
Chinese	24 50

METALS.

The market remains quiet, but prices are firm.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square 1 inch and upward	6.20 to 6 40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6 45
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6 90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12 50 to 13 80
Wire Nails assorted	7 60 to 7 70
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	3.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1¼ inch)	7.15 to 7 40

KEROSENE.

The market is strong, and prices firm.

American	$1 00
Russian	3.95
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market remains steady at about last quoted prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6 00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Swatow	4 40 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.70 to 6 90
White Java and Penang	7 .0 to 8.80
White Refined	7.80 to 9 50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is excited and prices are more or less nominal. Much speculation on the native silk exchange has forced quotations up to the figures we give below. The foreign markets are following slowly, but are still five per cent. below these prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	1400 to Nom.
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1360 to 1370
Filature—No 1, Fine	1340 to 350
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1340 to 1350
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1330 to 1310
Filatures—No 1½ Coarse	1300 to 1310
Filatures—No 2, Fine	1280 to 1290
Filatures No. 2, Coarse	1270 to 1280
Commercial Extra	Nominal
Reels—Extra	Nominal
Reels—No 1	1290 to 1300
Reels—No. 1½	1260 to 1270
Reels—No 2	1230 to 1240
Reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas No. 1	1260 to 1270
Kakedas—No. 1½	1230 to 1240
Kakedas—No 2	1200 to 1210
Kakedas—No 2½	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

This market shares the excitement of the raw silk market, native spinners competing with the shippers for the best grades of Noshi and Kibiso. Good qualities are scarce, and it is difficult to execute orders.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	200 to 210
Noshi Filatures, Good	180 to 190
Noshi—Oshu Best	200 to 210
Noshi—Oshu, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu Medium	170 to 175
Noshi—Sendai, Best / Noshi—Sendai, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Best / Noshi—Bushu, Good / Noshi—Bushu Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$125 to 140
Noshi—Joshu Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, seconds	140 to 150
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	50 to 60

TEA.

The market has been inactive, and prices are practically nominal.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
First	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 23

Breweries can be had at *yen* 180. Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 237 50. Club Hotels, a few shares can be had at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 125. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Laundries can be had at *yen* 60. Helms, a few shares are obtainable at *yen* 55. North and Raes are wanted at *yen* 215. Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108. Marusan Breweries, *yen* 46 paid up can be had at *yen* 44.20.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $50	210 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. *yen* 50	180 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $100	237.50 St.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $100	80 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $100	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd (Debs.), $108	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., $10	9.25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., $100	100 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Hugo Gas Co., Ltd. $100	170 N.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	51 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund—1, *yen* 5,100 equalization of dividends and *yen* 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2, *yen* 17,770.80; 3, *yen* 6,398.44; 4, *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,218.05 at Co. of Working cc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 23.

Silver from London ¼ higher followed by a rise in sterling rates in China of ⅛ at ¼ have caused local rates on China to decline but no change otherwise. The Specie Bank was closed to-day being a National Holiday.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2 0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2 1 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49½
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3¼% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74½
— Private 10 days' sight	76
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	153½
Bar Silver (London)	27¼

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Yokohama, October 10th, 1899.



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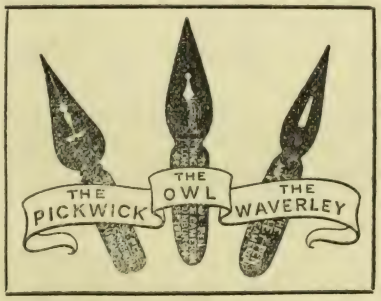
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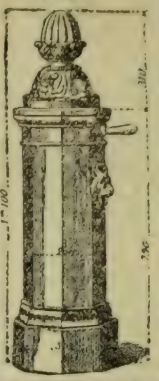
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 2ND, 1899.

DEATHS.

In England, early in November, ALFRED ERNEST TREW, very deeply regretted.

At 9.15 a.m., on November 28th, 1899, Mrs. LOUISE H. PIERSON, of the American Mission Home, 212, Bluff, age 68 years.

At Chemulpo, Korea, on the 22nd ultimo, the Reverend JOHN CHALMERS, M.A., LL.D., of the London Missionary Society, Hongkong.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A MOVEMENT is on foot for the promotion of a hockey club at Kobe.

THE present sittings of the Diet have so far been distinguished for their quietness.

A BOY on board the *Neisei Maru*, which arrived at Fukuoka from Karatsu, has died of the plague.

ALL Her Britannic Majesty's ships on this station that are Post Captain's commands are to be painted black.

THE Singapore Diamond Jubilee Memorial has come to hopeless grief, and the subscriptions are to be returned.

HONGKONG wins the interport rifle match this year with a score of 952 points, against Singapore's 926, and Shanghai's 887.

A JAPANESE servant in the employ of a Chinese tailor, while walking on the Bluff, found a hundred-rouble bank note. The note is now at the Bluff Police Station, awaiting its owner.

THE Inspector of the Kotobukicho Police Station received information from Sapporo on Tuesday morning that snow fell in that district to the depth of five inches on the 25th ult.

A SHANGHAI contemporary states that the third Secretary of the Russian Legation at Tokyo has been appointed Adviser to the Korean Government, vice Mr. Greathouse, deceased.

SEVERAL severe battles have taken place in South Africa between the Boers and the troops under Lord Methuen which are advancing to the relief of Kimberley. Ladysmith and Mafeking still hold out

CAPT. J. G. S. WARRENDER is appointed to the *Barfleur*. Capt. Warrender was previously on this station as Gunnery Lieutenant on the *Orion* eleven years ago, and subsequently on the *Centurion* as Commander.

RICE continues to rise; retail quotations, according to the *Jiji*, being 6 3 *sho* for best, 6 4 for seconds, 6.6 for 3rd quality, 6 8 for 4th, and 7.1 for 5th. Compared with the quotations in the begining of this year and the end of last, the appreciation is really extraordinary.

THE *Yomiuri* denies the rumoured amalgamation of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. As the business of both companies is progressing satisfactorily, nothing of the kind is likely to happen. With regard to the financial condition of the Japan Railway Company, the same journal places the average receipts per day at 23 500 *yen*.

AN old man was found by the police on Sunday morning trying to hang himself from one of the houses now in course of construction in the part of Isezakicho, Yokohama, devastated by the late fire. The man was about 64 years of age and belongs to Okagawa-mura in the neighbourhood of Yokohama. He injured himself while at work some two months ago, and lost hope of recovering strength. He is still alive.

THE *Yomiuri* states that on the 20th instant extra Shinshiu silk was sold at a price about 80 *yen* higher than any previous quotation, the quotation being 1,500 *yen*. This Hashiu and San in silk, which enjoys the highest reputation in respect of quality, was delivered to the Shibusawa Firm at the above mentioned price, although the transaction did not exceed ten bales, of which six were of the *Armour* chop and four of the *Cherry*.

THE *Maiseki* calls attention to an improvement in the regulations on Government railways with regard to tickets. Hitherto passengers were required to take the train exclusively at the station where they procured their ticket; the system is now so altered as to enable passengers to take the train at any station provided they proceed towards the destination mentioned on the ticket; but they forfeit the milleage which they do not use.

THE *Nichi Nichi* is surprised at the extraordinary expansion of the port of Moji. Recent investigations show that in 1896 the number of families in the port was 1,346; in 1897 it had increased to 1,453; in 1898 to 4,055, and in 1899 to 5,322. The place now contains a population of 28,698—16,621 males and 12,077 females, the average increase of families per year being no less than 2 400. In ten years time, our contemporary thinks, Moji will probably be one of the largest cities in the empire.

ANOTHER railway agitation is reported from Hokkaido. Some of the promoters of the scheme in Abashiri, Mombetsu, and Tokoro, recently presented a petition to the Government, asking that the 2nd working section of the Government railways between Kamikawa and Noyorota in Ishikari Province might be placed in the first section of the work. The project seems to have obtained the approval of the Director of the Abashiri Administrative Office as well as of influential inhabitants of the district.

AT the recent conference of English and American bishops held in Shanghai, it was unanimously decided that it would not be advisable for the bishops of the Anglican Commission either to ask for, or to accept, a political status in China such as that which has recently been conferred by Imperial edict on Roman Catholic bishops. There were present at this conference Bishop Moule of the Mid-China diocese, Bishop Graves of Shanghai, Bishop Scott of North China, Bishop Corfe of Korea, Bishop Cassels of Western China, and Bishop Hoare of Victoria, Hongkong.

AN association has recently been organised under the name of Japan Railway Common Rolling Stock Company (*Nippon Tetsudo Sharyo Kyotsu Kaisha*), with a proposed capital of one and a half million *yen*. Messrs. Sakurai, Horiye, and Kunizawa, well known for their connection with railway enterprises, are taking vigorous steps to secure subscriptions. They will also select the site for the buildings. The main object of the company, as the name implies, is to loan any number of passenger cars and goods vans to the railway companies now in existence, or to sell them if need be.

ACCORDING to the *Kokumin* a project is on foot to construct between Makabe and the Iwase Station on the Mito line a distance of about three *ri*, a railway over which carriages propelled by men would be run. The work is estimated to cost some 40,000 *yen*, and is to be completed in less than fifty days from the time of obtaining permission from the *Kencho*. The work is to be divided into three sections, the second section being placed in the hands of Mr. Ogure Kamezo of Uyeno, Tokyo. A similar railway in Iwafune, Tochigi Prefecture, has recently been completed and traffic will commence from the beginning of next month.

THE *Habutae* industry in Kochi, remarks the *Nichi Nichi*, has suffered no small inconvenience on account of the want of suitable institutions for refining and inspection. The silk has hitherto had to be sent to Fukui Prefecture where, after being subjected to refinement, it was remanufactured so as to make it fit for export. To obviate this difficulty the Fukui Chamber of Commerce is now taking vigorous steps towards amalgamating all the minor factories into one big corporation for which a government subsidy is to be obtained. In view of these circumstances a general meeting of the Chamber is shortly to be held to discuss the method and the amount of subsidy to be applied as well as the methods of export.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Saturday, Nov. 25.

The Boers seem to be making a desperate attempt to retrieve the strategically false position in which they find themselves in Natal. Their present difficulties do not appear at first sight, but can be easily explained. It is a question of lines of retreat. Briefly stated, the point is that if they meet the British forces under Clery—namely, the forces advancing to relieve Ladysmith—at any place to the northward of Pietermaritzburg, their only feasible line of retreat will be by Ladysmith. That would probably mean destruction. They have not succeeded in sensibly weakening White's forces. All their attempts to carry his position have failed signally, and it can not be doubted that White's men are as strong as ever for offensive purposes. Should the Boers have to retire after an encounter with Clery's troops, and should their line of retreat take them within easy striking distance of Ladysmith, they would inevitably receive a crushing blow at White's hands. But if they succeed in occupying Maritzburg before Clery's coming, and if they give him battle there, then, in the event of defeat, a line of retreat would be open to them by the main road which trends north-east from that place to Greytown, crosses the Tugela River at the Tugela Ferry, and goes thence by Helpmakaar to Dundee, leaving Ladysmith 40 miles on the West. Of course the Boers never expected to be held at Ladysmith until the British reinforcements arrived. They were fully persuaded that they could crush White's forces at an early date, and then take up at Pietermaritzburg a position covering the railway and the direct road to the Free State *viâ* Ladysmith, as well as the road to Dundee and Glencoe—*i.e.* the road to the Transvaal—*viâ* Greytown and Helpmakaar. But they have failed in all their plans—failed disastrously. Evidently the prudent course for them now would be to raise the siege of Ladysmith and fall back to the mountain passes. But they seem determined to make another struggle for their original programme, and we admire their pluck more than their strategy. A few days ago, it appeared as though they were going to let themselves be caught between White and Clery—going to take up a position in the neighbourhood of Chieveley, allowing Clery's men to come quietly to Escourt by rail, and fighting ultimately with a strong enemy in front and in rear. They are evidently alive to that danger, however, and are making a desperate dash which, unless the experience of the past six weeks is to be signally belied, will land them in terrible difficulties. If they have not been able to capture either Mafeking or Kimberley or Estcourt, under circumstances so favourable to the attack, we may reasonably expect that they will fail at Pietermaritzburg also. It will be perceived that Clery had not commenced his forward movement on the 23rd inst. We explained in our issue of the 22nd that the news of his having done so was probably premature. But if Pietermaritzburg is seriously threatened, he will surely send some battalion thither without waiting until his preparations are fully completed. The distance from Durban to Maritzburg is only 70 miles, and there is sufficient rolling stock to carry four or five thousand men there a day. We have little fear for Maritzburg therefore. Joubert has been said to be a great strategist. If he manages to extricate his army from the position in which it is placed, he will deserve the title.

There is an alternative hypothesis, however. Joubert may not be contemplating an attack upon Maritzburg. His idea may be to merely prevent Clery from moving by the road which, passing eastward of the railway and striking the Ladysmith road at a point 8 miles from the town, would place the British columns in the rear of the position occupied by the Boers now besieging Ladysmith. If that is Joubert's plan, it means that he is adopting a most dangerous course, namely, dividing his forces on the eve of an engagement. If he could get possession of Maritzburg and entrench himself there, covering the roads and the railway, he might give some trouble. But if he is going to hold the easterly roads with seven or eight thousand men, leaving twelve or fourteen thousand to continue the investment of Ladysmith, he has set himself a tough task.

We presume that the 3,000 Free-Staters who are said to be marching eastward are to re-inforce the Natal army. That means, however, a so much smaller force available for the defence of the Western frontier, where Methuen will soon be operating.

Friday, Dec. 1

The Foreign Office in Tokyo issues a notification to the effect that, in consequence of notice received from Her Britannic Majesty's Representative, a state of war is recognised as existing between Great Britain and the two South African Republics. The war dates from October 11th, when, according to the British Government's statement, the forces of the two Republics invaded Her Majesty's territories. It is observable that the Minister of Foreign Affairs merely gives publicity to the information conveyed to him by Her Majesty's Representative, and makes no announcement of Japan's neutrality; in other words, does not recognise the South African Republics as belligerents. Obviously England's interests are not at all concerned in procuring such a recognition, for its only use would be to give her the right of stopping all supplies of arms or ammunition to the Boers, and she possesses that right already in a practical manner, since, Delagoa Bay excepted, the whole coast of South Africa is in her ownership, and doubtless she has come to some understanding with Portugal about the control of imports at Delagoa. On the other hand, were the Republics recognised as belligerents, England might be embarrassed in procuring transport animals from neutral countries. It is plain, therefore, that she best consults her convenience by the course adopted. She also consults her consistency, for she denies the independence of the Transvaal, and can not therefore recognise it as a belligerent.

The following are a few specimens of the language used by Irish M.P.'s with reference to the Transvaal:—At the Dublin meeting on October 1, Mr. P. O'Brien is reported to have said that he "Would not say shame to the Irishmen who belonged to British regiments because he had hopes that before they lined up against the Boers they would remember they were Irishmen, and that instead of firing on the Boers they would fire on the Englishmen," and Mr. T. D. Sullivan prayed that God might "give the victory to the just and confound the enemies of human freedom—the pirate of the nations, the oppressor of Ireland." On October 8, in Dublin, Mr. John Redmond declared that the sympathies of Ireland will be "with the gallant people rightly struggling to be free," and his brother, the member for Clare, asked for "three cheers for gallant old Paul Kruger." Mr. James F. X. O'Brien, M.P., said:—"Every honest man must wish success to the Boers in their desperate struggle for life, property, and independence again English brigandage." Mr. J. G. Swift MacNeill, M.P.:—"The contemplated attack by England on the Transvaal cannot be regarded as an act of war—it comes rather under the category of murder for the purposes of robbery" Mr. Donal Sullivan, M.P.:—"My sympathy, and I believe the sympathy of every Irish Nationalist, is with the Boer Republic in its defence of the people and their liberties against the rapacity of England." Mr. M. J. Flavin, M.P.:—"I sincerely hope that the Transvaal will fight for freedom should the occasion arise." Mr. William Field, M.P.:—"I regret unavoidable absence, being strongly opposed to an invasion of territory which by treaty and occupation belongs to the Boers, with whom the Irish nation has no quarrel."

It must be confessed that the Boers take a great deal of beating. General Methuen has now defeated them three times in succession within a distance of 24 miles. The last fight seems to have been the hottest of all, and has probably broken the strength of the Boers on the Hopetown-Kimberley line altogether. But seeing that they rallied twice after tolerably severe thrashings, there is no telling whether they may not rally again between the Modder and Kimberley, a distance of 25 miles. At all events, there can be no question about their pluck and determination.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Saturday, Nov. 25.

Special telegrams to Tokyo newspapers—particularly the *Chuo Shimbun*—report that the Chinese Government has acceded to France's demands. Liu Kun-yi has been removed from office, and France has received a concession of 300 square miles in Kwang-chun-wan. So far as the removal of Mr. Liu is concerned, we must all be in accord with France's resolute action. Liu may be a very able official. His reputation stands high. But if a great provincial dignitary in China commits any fault *vis-à-vis* the Central Government, there is never the least hesitation about punishing him, and undoubtedly the same principle should apply when his fault is *vis-à-vis* the Central Government's treaty obligations. The effect of severity in the one case and leniency in the other is to create among the Chinese an impression that the security of person and property guaranteed to foreigners by treaty is a matter of little consequence. There has always been talk of insisting on the degradation of the chief official of a district where outrages were committed against foreigners, but in the rare cases where such reparation has been insisted on, the Chinese Government has cleverly contrived the matter in such

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a way as to conceal the facts from the people at large. We trust that the French negotiators have taken steps to provide against that contingency. The issue of an Imperial Decree stating clearly the reason of Liu's removal would be the obvious course.

As to the concession of territory, there is little to be said except that such measures have become the fashion of the time. England has repeatedly obtained territorial concessions from Oriental Powers, but she has always done so either in the sequel of a victorious war, or by friendly negotiations in time of peace. The device of taking so many square miles of land by way of compensation for the murder of a missionary or of an officer, was inaugurated by Germany at Kiao-chou and has now been followed by France at Kwang-chun-wan. Perhaps it may be defended as a method of inflicting a fine upon the offending Power. At all events, to discuss the morality of *fin-de-siècle* inter-state methods is quite idle. France, in this case, is understood to have asked for 600 square miles in the first place and to have been content with half of that amount in the end. China will not feel the loss. Kwang-chun-wan may be regarded as one of the many out-lying chattels that she has at her disposal for purchasing temporary relief from importunate creditors. The time must come, however, when this store of tempting trifles will be exhausted, and she will have to part with property that is nearer and dearer to her. But vivisection does not seem to hurt her. She presents to the eyes of the world the strangest anomaly of historical times. A magnificent country, peopled by men of the highest intelligence, great refinement and most patient industry, she seems to be absolutely without the elementary sentiment of all other peoples, patriotism. There are no precedents to guide us in forecasting the future of such a State. We can only say the China is much more impotent to resist foreign aggression to-day than she was ten years ago, and that the aggressors are incomparably more aggressive now than they were then. Throughout the breadth and length of the vast empire there must surely be some men with very sore hearts.

Tuesday, Nov. 28.

Various reports continue to be sent from Peking with reference to the Franco-Chinese complication. A few days ago, we were told that France had obtained a concession of 300 square miles of land. To-day, the story is that she has not asked for any territorial concession whatever but has confined herself to demanding the capital punishment of the responsible officials and a small fine—terms to which the Chinese are said to have assented gladly and wonderingly. We are unable to credit this new version. That France is showing moderation in connexion with this unfortunate affair can not be doubted. The murder of two officers is a serious matter, and might, if precedents were followed, be employed as a pretext for extensive demands. But the French are obviously determined not to press China too importunately. It is highly improbable, therefore, that they have asked for the execution of officials. Men's lives are not held to be forfeited merely because they show perfunctoriness or culpable negligence, in the discharge of their duties. It is possible, of course, that there may be circumstances unknown to the public which fix the guilt of blood unquestionably upon certain local officials. Of such circumstances, however, we should probably have heard already had they existed, and we are therefore inclined to regard this last story as a *canard*.

Meanwhile the moderate and liberal views expressed by M. Delcassé in the Chamber of Deputies will be received with great satisfaction. The Minister not only disavowed all aggressive intentions on his country's part, but also announced a new and essentially practical interpretation of the principles of "spheres of influence." Instead of saying that China pledged herself not to make any territorial concession to a foreign State in the provinces adjacent to Indo-China, M. Delcassé said that she had pledged herself not to open those provinces exclusively to any foreign Power. It may appear, at first sight, that the difference is merely euphemistic; a happy phrase such as might be expected from a Frenchman. But taken in conjunction with M. Delcassé's further declaration that France adheres to the policy of keeping China open to all foreign enterprises, the Minister's programme seems to be that, whereas France will welcome the opening of any or all Chinese provinces to the enterprise of the world, she sets her face against the establishment of special national interests with correspondingly special rights and privileges in the provinces immediately adjacent to her own colonies. Of course, since the greater includes the less, and since a territorial concession inevitably includes the grant of exclusive tradal privileges, China's pledge can be interpreted as extending to territorial concessions also. But if this French definition of a sphere of influence were authoritatively and universally accepted—namely, that it signifies merely a region within which all foreign States must be placed on an absolutely equal footing, no one State enjoying concessions which are denied to all the rest—, it is evident that the so-called, "parcelling out" of China would assume a much less disquieting aspect. For the rest, the policy of France in the Far East, as interpreted by M. Delcassé, is identical with the policy of Great Britain—a fair field and no favour.

CRONJE.

General Cronje, who, if he be still alive, commands the attack against Mafeking, has been roundly abused by more than one public writer, partly, perhaps, because he was the victor in the Jameson raid. But the London *Daily News* says of him:—"He is a very religious man. When the shelling was going on at Krugersdorp he was squatting on the ground in a position which struck one of his companions as being exposed. 'Come over here, this is better,' said the companion, but old Cronje remained squatting and replied: 'God has called me here to do a certain work. If God means me to be taken I shall be shot, wherever I sit, and if He does not I am as safe here as anywhere else.' It was he, too, who at one point gave an order to fire at the horses, as it would stop the column just as well. His son was wounded during the battle. He is a tough, shrewd old Boer, whose kindliness, fatalistic religion and crookedness about nice points of honour are all thoroughly typical."

THE RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

Saturday, Nov. 25.

Everybody, of whatever nationality, will learn with great regret that the universally popular Russian Representative, Baron R. Rosen, is about to be transferred to Munich. It was always understood that Baron Rosen's stay in Tokyo would probably be limited, as he had already served twice in this country, and he came here at a considerable sacrifice of personal convenience. But so long as he remained there was always a hope that the evil day of his departure would be postponed. We daresay that, however pleased he may be to return to Europe, his final leave-taking of Japan will not be untinged with regret for the severance of many close friendships. We believe that Baron Rosen's successor will be Mr. Iswolsky. Perhaps it may be worth while to add a contradiction of a strange statement made by the *Chuo Shimbun* that Baron Rosen is removed because Russia wants a more aggressive kind of diplomat in Japan. That is quite incredible.

Monday, Nov. 27.

Baron Rosen's departure from Tokyo is evidently causing much interest in Japanese political circles. His successor, Mr. Iswolsky, is a comparatively young man—about forty, it is said—, and has earned in Europe the reputation of being particularly active and enterprising. The rôle of the Russian Legation in Tokyo has hitherto been chiefly one of observation. Very rarely does a question of any kind press for solution. There devolved upon Baron Rosen, immediately after his arrival, the somewhat difficult task of negotiating a Convention with regard to the respective attitudes of the two countries towards each other in Korea, and he managed the matter with admirable tact. It is true that such agreements possess no great practical value. They generally serve as pretexts for subsequent disagreement rather than as aids to amity. Still the discussion of Korean affairs must always be a declicate business between Japan and Russia, and in other hands than those of Baron Rosen, it might easily have progressed less smoothly. We do not remember that any other problem has presented itself for solution by Russian diplomacy in Tokyo during many years. There was, of course, the Otsu incident, a lamentable occurrence, not less regretted by Japan than resented by Russia. We have little doubt that had Baron Rosen been in Tokyo when that incident occurred, his management would have made it the occasion for an enduring *rapprochement* between Russia and Japan. Fortunately he was not here—fortunately from a British point of view. Perhaps it will occur to our readers that we are overlooking Liaotung in this retrospect; Liaotung which certainly furnished a phenomenal example of international morality such as we have it in the nineteenth century. But the credit (?) of manipulating the Liaotung manœuvre belongs to St. Petersburg: Tokyo had no part in it. In short, Russia's material interests in Japan are so small, and her statesmen at home leave so little to their Representatives in the East, that we are not exaggerating when we call Tokyo chiefly a point of observation. It may not continue to occupy that negative position, but we do not anticipate that the change will be solely, or chiefly, due to the personal equation of a Russian Representative.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FINANCE.

Monday, Nov. 27.

The Kwanto Association of Bankers found themselves, at their last meeting, in the happy position of having nothing to discuss. In the evening, however, at a social *reunion* in the Imperial Hotel, speeches of some interest were delivered by Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Bank of Japan, and Count Matsukata. Mr. Yamamoto dwelt on the fact that an extraordinary increase had taken place during the past year in the deposits of the banks. The great public expenditures in connexion with the war of 1894-5 had dissipated a large quantity of the stores of accumulated capital, and scattered it among individuals. Then followed an interval of feverish industrial enterprise, with a correspondingly keen demand for money, high rates of interest and depletion of the banks' funds. But that season had passed, and once more money had flowed into the strong-rooms of the banks all over the country. He urged the advisability of not converting these deposits into fixed capital by lending them for enterprises involving the sinking of large funds; the money should be placed in such a manner as to be easily recoverable.

Count Matsukata spoke of the extraordinary development of banking business that had been witnessed in Japan. Twenty-two years ago, the country had only a few national banks. Now it had more than a thousand banks counting their capital by hundreds of millions. At the same time, it was to be observed that there existed a number of petty banking institutions, which Count Matsukata compared to small stations on a line of railway that merely impeded the progress of the train without bringing any commensurate accession of business. He recommended the amalgamation of these insignificant concerns.

The Minister also alluded to the signs of a gold famine that are becoming apparent, and to the measures that the various countries of the world are beginning to take for the purpose of preventing the exodus of their stocks of gold. He anticipated that Japan would soon feel the influence of these conditions.

Tuesday, Nov. 28.

The Bank of Japan has raised its daily rate of interest to 2.1 *sen*, or 7.665 per annum. It is generally understood that this measure is dictated by apprehensions of an outflow of gold. Count Matsukata dwelt on the subject when addressing the Kwanto Bankers Union a few days ago, and it can not be denied that the example of other countries warrants the Bank's procedure. Step by step Japan is taking on the likeness of foreign countries—completing the process of protection by mimicry. She has now joined them in the scramble for gold.

Count Matsukata's name has been connected with many financial reforms in Japan. He has had to undertake great tasks, and he has never made a failure. It is a fine record. We note with satisfaction that he has now earnestly taken up the subject of personal credit. That important element of commercial and industrial progress is scarcely known in Japan. Virtually all loans are made on the security of tangible property; it is impossible to say otherwise of that which is occupy a large section of the native side the impulse of improvement should come, but in one respect the attitude of bankers towards borrowers may be compared to the attitude of the public towards the press. So long as people do not trouble themselves about the slanders and falsehoods published in newspapers, just so long will there be no such thing as a self-respecting, responsible press; and so long as bankers make no discrimination between men whose character and reputation constitute good security, and men whose chattels represent immediately available security, just so long will one of the chief inducements to commercial probity be wanting. If Count Matsukata can add this reform to his list of successes he will have a just title to his country's thanks.

Wednesday, Nov. 29.

It appears that a further increase of its rate of interest is contemplated by the Bank of Japan. There are two reasons. One is that the demand for money has again become very keen; the other that, in spite of the excess of exports over imports, gold is flowing out of the country. Concerning the former point, it is to be observed that whereas the loans and discounts of the Bank aggregated 107,650,000 *yen* on the 16th of September, they had risen to 115,770,000 *yen* on the 18th of November, an increase of 8,200,000 *yen* in two months, the Bank's deposits declining, during the same interval, from 6,110,000 *yen* to 3,210,000 *yen*. Thus, on the two accounts, the money in circulation increased by 10 million *yen*, approximately, in the course of two months. Then, again, the outgoings of gold exceeded the incomings by 580,000 *yen* in September, by 170,000 *yen* in October and by 2,890,000 *yen* during the first half of November. These circumstances seem to justify some drastic action on the part of the Bank, and it is anticipated that, in addition to the increase of 0.365 per cent. recently announced in the Bank's rate of interest, the public will soon be informed of a further increase of 0.73 per cent.

AGRICULTURE IN JAPAN.

We presume that the *Jiji's* very pessimistic picture of the state of agriculture in Japan is not untrue to the life. Agriculture has never been comparable to industrial enterprise from the point of view of emoluments and profits, and since Japan began to turn her attention to manufactures, it is inevitable that the life of the farmer with its small gains and incessant toil, should seem more than ever unattractive. Yet we find it difficult to share the *Jiji's* opinion that agriculture has entered a definitely downward grade in this country. If Japan, like England, could draw her supplies of bread-stuffs from abroad, we might soon see her agricultural population flocking to the cities, and seeking employment in the factory and the warehouse. But the staples of diet in Japan are special. Even the rice grown in foreign countries does not find favour here. There will always be the necessity of feeding from 40 to 50 millions of people with bread-stuffs produced in Japan, and although the price of farm products may increase in proportion as the profits of manufacturing enterprise create a new standard of reward, agriculture, we venture to think, will still continue

MINING IN JAPAN.

The Government has submitted to the Diet a Bill embodying amendments of the Mining Regulations. The changes do not extend beyond the addition of certain mineral products to the list of those already contemplated by the Regulations No alteration is made in the clause which provides that only Japanese subjects may engage in mining operations, or become members of mining companies or hold shares in mines. Concerning the Government's failure to propose any modification of these restrictions the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes in terms of the strongest condemnation. The gist of its remarks is that Japan's mineral wealth can not be developed without the aid of foreign capital, and that it is simply suicidal to exclude the latter merely because its employment would necessitate the granting of certain privileges to foreigners. We are glad to see the *Nichi Nichi* taking such a line. But although the Government believes, as we imagine it does, in the expediency of mitigating, or even totally removing, the restrictions upon foreign enterprise in this country, there is an evident reason why the Diet should not be invited to legislate immediately, and that reason is that failure to pass a measure of the kind might have the effect of greatly postponing ultimate success. It is the Government's duty to educate public opinion as far as possible, but it is also the Government's duty not to precipitate controversies which may beget, rather than remove, prejudices. There can be no doubt that public opinion in Japan is gradually ripening towards the abolition of the vetoes upon foreign ownership of land and foreign participation in mining enterprise. The Government, we presume, is watching the process and doing what is possible to promote it, but is not disposed to create a set back by undue haste.

TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The first meeting for the season of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society was held on Thursday evening, Nov. 23rd, at the Parish Building, Tsukiji, and was well attended. Miss Schereschewsky played and recited, Miss Neely and Mr. Mason gave piano selections; Miss Thompson recited, and Mr. Mason and Mr. Welbourn had a piano and mandolin duet. At the business meeting which followed, Mr. Gardiner in the chair, the following officers were elected for the year:—President, Col. Buck; Vice-President, Mr. R. J. Kirby; Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. J. A. Welbourn. Executive Committee:—Messrs. Gardiner, Watkins, and Cowen, Mrs. McKim, Mrs. Evans, Miss Schereschewsky and Miss Thompson.

A new and short constitution was drawn up, by which all members of the Society who signed the constitution pay the sum of one *yen* a year to the treasurer. The meetings are to be held on every alternate Thursday evening in the Parish Building, at 8.30 o'clock. Any persons wishing to join the Society for the coming year are requested to be present at the next meeting, December 7, or to send their names and subscription to the treasurer, at No. 7, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

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TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

"THE SCHOOLMISTRESS."

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its first performance this season on the evening of the 28th, to a crowded house. As usual the object was charitable, and the Empress showed her appreciation of the fact by purchasing a hundred tickets. The audience included some of the Imperial Princes and Princesses, several Ministers of State, and nearly all the members of the Corps Diplomatique. Pinero's three-act farce, "The Schoolmistress," was chosen. It has a numerous caste, sixteen characters in all, and it is rich in improbable conceptions and situations—a father who has never seen his own daughter though she is grown up, and there has been no valid reason for their failure to meet; a bridegroom whose bride has been sent from the church door to a boarding school where he is not allowed to approach her; and a husband who becomes jealous of a little boy's attentions to his wife. But the whole thing is excellent fooling, and even if it had fewer merits, the verve and swing with which it was carried through, and the conscientious study that the performers, without exception, had evidently bestowed on their parts, must have ensured success. The principal character—the "Hon. Vere Queckett"—fell to the lot of Mr. Pattison, who, as usual, rendered it admirably. On the whole it is perhaps, one of the most difficult parts that has hitherto been undertaken by Mr. Pattison in Tokyo, for while he was required to be a creature without any of the instincts of the true gentleman, he had always to observe the canons of politeness and refinement. He achieved the feat without any disfiguring exaggeration, and his rendering presented an excellent foil to the bluff, imperious old "Admiral Rankling" (Mr. J. Conder), who drives his way through society as though he were an iron-clad on a ramming expedition, and who never, even when sitting at supper among ladies, puts off his quarter-deck manners. This kind of personage has been a favourite creation of English playwrights from time immemorial, but Admiral Rankling, as personified by Mr. Conder, was not at all of the common type. He owed something of his inimitable get-up to that master of green-room art, Mr. E. Beart, but the acting was all his own, and it gave the audience many hearty laughs. "Queckett" and "Rankling," as they were personified by Messrs. Pattison and Conder, were alone suffioient to make the piece a hit, but they had excellent assistance from the ladies. "Miss Dyott," the principal of a ladies' seminary, who, between her straitened circumstances, her romantic silliness, and her histrionic talents, becomes involved in the most extraordinary complications, found a very good representative in Miss Hayes. Amateurs seldom achieve such self-possession and repose of manner upon the stage as Miss Hayes displays, and her performances are always refreshing. "Peggy Hesslerigge," as conceived by Pinero, must have been a lady bearing the outward impress of a very enterprising and self-assertive disposition. From that point of view the part might have found a more suitable representative than Miss Aoki, who can never be anything but a personification of amiability and grace. None the less it was a sparkling and delightful bit of acting. Here, too, the contrast with the staid, prim Miss Dyott was most artistic. Concerning Miss Nishikawa as "Mrs. Rankling" we can only say that she was delicious. Her performance deserves to be called one of the gems of the evening, whether she simulated the plaintive, subdued wife, cowering under the dictates of the raucous Admiral, or the spirited little dame, who discovers that even the commander of a naval squadron must strike his colours to a woman at the first broadside. It is indeed a relief to find in Miss Nishikawa an amateur who never perpetrates the exasperating trick of prologuing and apologuing all her sentences with a "prowl." The minor female parts—"Dinah" (Miss F. Dening); "Gwendoline Hawkins" (Miss G. Nishikawa); "Ermyntrude Johnson" (Miss Weipert) and "Jane Chipman" (Mrs. Pattison)—were all well taken. The rôle of "Dinah," indeed, can scarcely be called minor, for it demands considerable ability. Miss F. Dening's representation of it did full justice to the author's conception. After the main characters, special credit must be given to Mr. Carleton's acting in the part of "Tyler;" a page with an inordinate affection for fireworks. This was really a clever study; and scarcely less praise is due to Baron Richtofen's personification of Mr. Otto Bernstein," a popular composer. "Tyler" and "Bernstein" both contributed materially to the general success. Mr. Vickers, who has already shown his competence for important parts, did not have much opportunity to display his talent as "Lieut. John Mallory." It is a colourless rôle, of which, however, he certainly brought out all the possibilities. His nephew, "Mr. Saunders," a midshipman, was Master Willie Kirby, a young gentleman who gives promise of great aptitude. The two firemen, "Jaffray," Mr. Gardiner, and "Goff," Mr. Kirby, had studied their parts carefully and taken much trouble with their costumes, though a few minutes measured the time of their appearance on the stage. Indeed "Goff," in Mr. Kirby's hands, though his share in the dialogue is limited to three or four sentences, made quite a mark. Finally, the absurdly jealous husband, "Mr. Reginald Paulover," was most faithfully acted by Mr. Miller. The public verdict of the whole piece can not fail to be favourable. Of course Baroness Sannomiya, as usual, rendered invaluable assistance, and Mr. Clay McCauley performed the thankless task of prompter. Mr. Pattison, in addition to acting the principal part, discharged the duties of stage manager most ably. The success of the piece bore testimony to his competence. We do not know who was directly responsible for the staging and decorations; probably Baroness Sannomiya and Mr. Conder. At all events the results were very happy. A word of thanks must be paid in conclusion to the Imperial Band, which played some good music in the *entre-actes*.

We understand that the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society contemplates repeating "The Schoolmistress" on the 13th instant. It is certainly worth while to take that step, for not only will the public be pleased to have another opportunity of enjoying an excellent representation, but also when one considers the great expenditure of time and trouble involved in getting up such a piece, it seems unreasonable to limit the result to a dress rehearsal and one regular performance. Both the full dress rehearsal on Monday and the performance on Tuesday drew crowded houses, and there is no reason to fear that another good audience can not be commanded.

We take the opportunity of suggesting that more efficient means should be devised of regulating the wheeled traffic at the close of the performance. Last Tuesday the confusion at the exit from the hall was bewildering, and the absence of serious accident must be attributed to good fortune rather than good guiding. Marquis Ito had to go out on foot among the welter of vehicles to find his carriage, and he had a narrow escape of being knocked down, if not driven over. Considering the ample space within the enclosure of the *Shorei-kai*, there is no reason why the vehicles should not be marshalled in an orderly manner. The Tokyo police know how to manage these things thoroughly if they are given a free hand.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The accounts to be presented at the approaching general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are thus summarized:

HALF-YEAR ENDED OCT. 31ST.

	Yen.
Net Profit	1,562,363
Brought over from previous account	652,098
Total	2,214,461
To Reserve	78,118
To Reserve for Equalization of Dividends	660,000
Rewards to officers	57,182
Dividend (2½ *yen* per share=10 per cent per annum)	1,100,000
Carried to next account	319,161
Total	2,214,461

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha held its half-yearly meeting on the 27th instant. There was a very large attendance—1,984 shareholders representing 270,920 shares—, and the proceedings were absolutely uneventful, not an objection being raised or even a speech made. The accounts and the dividend of 10 per cent. evidently satisfied the shareholders thoroughly.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The President and Vice-President of the Lower House of the Diet sit throughout the period of the House's existence—4 years at most—, but the Chairman of Committee of the Whole is elected at the beginning of each session and his election always gives occasion for a party struggle. This time, the Liberals put up Mr. Haseba Jun, and the Progressists Mr. Kono Hironaka—both well known men. It was anticipated from the first, however, that Mr. Haseba would have an easy victory, the general estimate of the votes being 165 for Mr. Haseba and 136 for Mr. Kono. Yesterday the election took place, and the result was in Mr. Haseba's favour

It is apparent therefore that the Liberals have a majority, and that if they suffer any defeats, it will be in consequence of discord among themselves.

Marquis Tokugawa Iyesato was elected to the corresponding position in the House of Peers.

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THE IMPEACHMENT OF OFFICIALS.

Monday, Nov. 27.

The Progressists have determined to introduce a measure impeaching Government officials on the ground of corruption. At a meeting of the Party's parliamentary representatives on the 24th ultimo, the question was discussed whether the motion should take the form of an Address to the Throne or a Representation to the Government, and some very vehement speeches were delivered. Mr. Tanaka Shozo most excitedly insisted that no attempt to secure supporters should be made by sacrificing principles. The milder measure of a Representation might win more votes, but this was a matter which, in Mr. Tanaka's opinion, ought to be taken up on its merits by clean-handed men, without any consideration as to the result of the voting. Mr. Mochizuki delivered a still more uncompromising speech. He declared that before accusing others of immorality they should see their own record was clean. They talked of the Yokohama reclamation scheme, and of corrupt connivance between its chief projector, Mr. Oyamada, and the Liberal leaders. But had they not on their own side a man who boasted openly of having received a bribe from Oyamada, and who had failed in an action at law to recover the value of a promissory note forming part of the bribe?

We do not clearly understand what Mr. Mochizuki intended to advocate, but it is refreshing to find at least one party politician stand up boldly and denounce the disgraceful conduct of that political adventurer Koyama Kinnosuke, who is still suffered to occupy a seat in the House of Representatives. The meeting finally decided, on a motion by Mr. Ozaki Yukio and by a vote of 49 to 29, that the method of Representation, not Address, should be adopted. It seems to us quite absurd to proceed by Representation in such a matter. A Representation accusing high officials of corrupt practices is like inviting the Government to sit in judgment upon itself.

Tuesday, Nov. 28.

The latest story is that the Progressists, seeing the hopelessness of attempting to pass a motion about official corruption, are changing their tactics, and directing their attack against Mr. Hoshi Toru. In such a campaign they look to receive the co-operation of a considerable section of the Liberals themselves, and the probable result would be a serious split in the Liberal camp. Of course the Yokohama reclamation scheme is the immediate subject of onset. That spectre refuses to be exorcised. Its period of apparition has been exceptionally protracted.

Wednesday, Nov. 29.

The Progressists seem to be setting their faces against the irregularities that disfigure parliamentary procedure in Japan. They have enacted a species of code for the guidance of members of their Party sitting in the Diet. It enjoins circumspection of demeanour; strict attention to amenities of language, and careful avoidance of everything calculated to obstruct the progress of business, for the sake of obstruction. This code will be a serious thorn in the side of the redoubtable Mr. Tanaka Shozo. He will have to ignore it altogether, or rigorously deny himself the pleasure of ascending the rostrum.

THE PEERS' REPLY TO THE THRONE.

The reply of the House of Peers to the Speech from the Throne is as usual marked by the use of much more reverential language than that employed by the House of Representatives. The latter, for some reason not apparent to ordinary minds, refrains from making use of the expression *Yeisei bumbu Tennō* (your revered Majesty great in learning and in arms), which the Peers never omit, and in other respects do not seem to delight in terms of such studied humility as the Peers. It is not easy to translate the Peers' Reply so as to convey its full import, without resorting to language that would seem very extravagant in English ears, but the following is an approximation :—

We subjects, members of the House of Peers, with the profoundest reverence and the profoundest humility, venture to address Your Imperial Majesty, illustrious in learning and in arms.

In respectful accordance with the gracious message which Your Majesty condescended to address to us on the occasion of the ceremonial opening of the 14th session of the Imperial Diet, we, Your Majesty's servants, will reverentially endeavour to strictly conform with the Imperial instructions, and by cōoperation and harmony to successfully promote and extend the national prosperity, reverentially and carefully discharging our legislative functions so as to further Your Majesty's great purpose.

THE COMPOSITION OF THE DIET.

Monday, Nov. 27.

The *Jimmin* (Liberal organ) publishes an analysis of the composition of the House of Peers :—

	Members.
The Kenkiu kai	62
The Konwa-kai	47
Independents	43
The Chawa kai	27
The Mokuyo kai	23
The Asahi Club	23
The Teiyu kai	18
Uncertain	66
Total	309

Of these the Kenkiu-kai, the Independents and the Uncertain, numbering in all 171, are said to be supporters of the Government.

Concerning the composition of the various committees of the Lower House, the analysis is this :—

BUDGET COMMITTEE.

Liberals and Liberal associates	33
Progressists	9
Independent	3
Total	45

PETITIONS COMMITTEE.

Liberals and Liberal associates	23
Progressists	12
Independents	1
Total	36

FINAL ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Liberals and Liberal associates	18
Progressists	8
Independent	1
Total	27

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.

Liberals	11
Progressists	7
Total	18

PRINCE KONOYE, COUNT LEYDEN, AND BARON ROSEN.

We read in Tokyo Journals that Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household, is about to entertain at dinner in the Shiba Detached Palace their Excellencies Count Leyden, Representative of Germany, and Baron Rosen, Representative of Russia, to meet Prince Konoye. It appears that when the Prince was about to start on his recent trip to Europe and America, he received from the Russian and German Ministers letters which proved of the greatest service to him in Germany and Russia. Viscount Tanaka was instrumental in procuring these letters, and the projected banquet is for the purpose of thanking the two Representatives. It is also to be a farewell entertainment to Baron Rosen.

GOLD AND THE TRANSVAAL.

We observe that the Japanese press is beginning to take up the question of the world's supply of gold in connexion with the War in South Africa. The following from the *New York Journal of Commerce* is therefore interesting at this juncture :—

The effect of war in South Africa upon the world's supply of gold is not likely to be seriously felt outside of England, if it is felt there. The Transvaal has become one of the great gold producing districts of the world, but the yield of other districts has so rapidly grown in recent years that the whole Transvaal product could be eliminated without reducing the net gold product per year within the limits of a few years ago. The official figures of the Mint Bureau put the total production of gold in the world in 1897 at $237,504,800 and in 1898 at about $287,000,000. The share of the whole of Africa, mostly Transvaal gold, in 1897, was $58,306 600, and in 1898 about $80,000,000. The production of the Transvaal district for 1899, down to the close of August, was 3,502,048 ounces as compared with 2, 697 917 ounces for the same eight months of 1898. This is equivalent to about $63,000,000 this year and $48,600,000 last year. At this rate the production of the whole year 1899 would reach nearly $95,000,000 The yield for the last four months of the year will be entirely lost in case of war, except so far as September and early October have already afforded a considerable product which has been laid down for export. If the war is limited to the present calendar year, its effect upon the gold supply will be simply to wipe out a little more than the normal increase in the Transvaal over last year. If the entire product of the district should be lost for the whole of the year 1900 (which is not very probable) and other districts should remain stationary in production, the product of the year throughout the world would be about $260,000,000 There is no occasion to fear a scarcity of gold in the world at large, even with the entire Transvaal product cut off. A product of $260,000,000 is far ahead of the production of any year prior to 1898 The yield throughout the world since 1886, with the yield of Africa stated separately, appears in the following table :

WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

Year.	World's Production.	African Production.
1887	$105,774.955	$ 1,919,006
1888	110,196 915	4,500,000
1889	120 971.514	8,586,632
1890	118,149,620	9,887,000
1891	130 650,000	14,199,600
1892	148,297,600	24,232,000
1893	157,494,800	28,943,500
1894	181,567,800	40,271,000
1895	198,763 600	44,728,400
1896	202 682,300	42,581,100
1897	237 504,800	58,306,600
1898	287,000,000	65,000,000
1899	320,000,000*	75,000,000*

*Estimated.

It is evident that upon the world at large the constantly increasing product of Australia, the mines of the United States, and the Klondike are contributing a sufficient increment of new gold to maintain the supply, even with the African mines forever closed.

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COUNT INOUYE.

Count Inouye celebrated his sixty-third birthday on the 28th instant at his residence in Azabu. About a hundred of his most intimate friends were present, including Marquis Ito, Viscount Katsura, Marquis Saigo, and many other notables. The Count's house at Azabu is comparatively new, having been finished some four years ago. It is one of the most beautiful specimens of Japanese architecture in existence, every plank, every panel, and every beam being of the choicest timber, and the decorations by the greatest artists. It is understood that Count Inouye devoted his leisure moments during about a quarter of a century to collecting materials for this house; a task which included a search for sliding-doors painted by the celebrities of former ages, and ventilating panels chiselled by the glyptic masters of pre-*Meiji* days. One room in the building is devoted entirely to objects of Buddhist decoration—exquisitely graceful and majestic statuettes; grandly carved doors; richly lacquered shrines; mellow old paintings, and altar furniture of the rarest kind. The Count also possesses a magnificent collection of works of art, paintings, porcelains, lacquer and bronzes, which, *more Japonico*, are sparsely exhibited in the alcoves of the principal salons. We need scarcely say that the garden is worthy of this beautiful mansion. To a true Japanese his garden is of more importance than his house. The artist of Count Inouye's garden took the celebrated park of Koroku-yen for model, and being assisted by a site which commands a delightful prospect and has other natural advantages, he achieved a signal success.

Marquis Ito proposed Count Inouye's health at the banquet on Tuesday, and spoke with much feeling. He and the Count had been the closest friends he said, for over forty years. They had shared perils of life and death; they had elaborated and carried out many projects, but never once had their personal relations been disturbed. Many a time keen controversies had arisen between them concerning problems of State, but not a single question had disturbed their friendship as man and man. That, the Marquis fairly thought, was an almost unique record, and while congratulating his old friend and comrade on the manner in which years had dealt with him, he invited his hearers to join him in drinking the health of one so valuable to his country, and in hoping that many more years might be added to his career of usefulness. The toast was received with much enthusiasm. During the afternoon a bronze statue of the Count, by the well-known artist Okuma Ujihiro, was presented to their host by Prince Mori, Baron Mitsui, and Messrs. Masuda, Hara, and Nakamigawa.

HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

Any one that has studied Japanese manners and customs knows something of the exceptional extent to which landscape gardening and horticulture are carried in this country. It is not to be supposed that Europe and America are without their own special distinctions in this field; but whereas the chief purpose of the Occidental horticulturist is to cultivate rare exotics, the Japanese are contented with the flowers and trees they possess at home, and it is not too much to assert that they have carried this art to a point far beyond the conception of people in the West. Of course, when we say that they confine themselves to indigenous trees and shrubs, the orchid has to be excepted. But the orchid, though an exotic in Japan, has been cultivated here for so many centuries that the people have learned to regard it as a home-product, and the beautiful specimens that arrive from the Philippines do not disturb the illusion. Japan, indeed, has become a kind of half-way house for the orchids of the Orient *en route* for the Occident. The delicate plant requires protracted and careful treatment before it can be started upon its long voyage to Europe, and there appear to be many reasons which render Japan the most convenient place for giving that treatment. Orchids are therefore brought here in considerable quantities, and prepared for shipment to Europe and America. We believe that the industry was inaugurated by the late Mr. Boehmer of Yokohama, and is still prosperously carried on by his successor. However, what we set out to speak of was not orchids, but the Horticultural Association (*Yengei-kai*) of Japan; a society which has existed for some time, and numbers among its members some of the leading men of the time. Not every Japanese is a connoisseur or a special admirer of his country's works of art, but all, virtually without exception, love landscape gardening and flowers, and take in these things a delight which the ordinary stranger can not appreciate. The Horticultural Association is therefore a very flourishing affair. It held its eighth meeting in Count Okuma's beautiful garden at Waseda on the 25th November. Count Okuma, when he puts his hand to anything, is tolerably certain to make a striking success, and gardening in all its branches being his pet hobby, he has now at Waseda, not only one of the most picturesque parks in Japan, but also unique collections of chrysanthemums, potted shrubs and orchids. The Horticultural Association could not have been received at a more appropriate place, and it need scarcely be said that the 350 members who assembled at Waseda on the 25th received a most hospitable welcome. Several speeches were delivered, the most interesting being one which advocated a large extension of the parks in Tokyo, and suggested that one great park should be formed on the north and another on the south of the city. Tokyo is magnificent in projects, but most insignificant in performance. We may add that Viscount Hanabusa was elected President of the Association, and Messrs. Fukubane and Tanaka (Yoshio), Vice-Presidents.

TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The new building of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce was opened on the 26th instant. Our Tokyo readers are doubtless familiar with the edifice. It stands opposite to the Meiji Marine and Life Insurance offices, and is one of the imposing structures that are gradually growing up on the land of the Mitsu Bishi Company outside the Palace enclosure. The building covers 318 *tsubo* and contains 58 rooms, many of which show interior decoration of a very handsome nature. It goes without saying that the Tokyo Chamber can now congratulate itself on possessing incomparably the finest edifice occupied for a similar purpose in any part of Japan. Quite a solemn ceremony took place on Sunday in connection with the official opening, and various congratulatory addresses of commendable brevity were subsequently delivered, after which refreshments were served to the guests—about a thousand in number—, and there was a display of fire-works, juggling, and so forth.

THE PEST.

Monday, Nov. 27.

The Pest seems to have been arrested, if not stamped out. Since the 17th instant there has been no fresh case at Fukiai-mura (Kobe) where it originally broke out, and hopes are entertained that the six cases representing the total hitherto at that place, will not be exceeded. Meanwhile news comes from Newchwang, by the Captain of the *Chiyoda Maru*, that not a single patient was suffering from Pest when the ship left that port.

It is stated that the investigations conducted at Fukiai-mura have convinced Dr. Kitasato of the incorrectness of his theory that the pest bacillus is propagated in the blood, and have proved the accuracy of Yersin's contention that the lymphatic glands are the chief seat of its cultivation in the human body.

Tuesday, Nov. 28.

The rejoicings over the apparent stamping out of the Pest seem to be premature. Another case is reported from Kobe. It occurred in Benten-machi, and the victim is said to have been engaged in cleaning one of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's China going steamers, or in transporting refuse from the wharf—the point is somewhat doubtful. We need scarcely say that so long as the advances of the malady maintain this sporadic character, not much cause for alarm exists, but every fresh case suggests unpleasant contingencies.

Wednesday, Nov. 29.

A suspected case of Pest is reported from Kobe—a lad of eight whose father is employed at a tea-firing establishment in the foreign settlement. There seems to be much doubt as to the nature of the child's sickness, but he has been sent to the hospital for contagious diseases and the school at which he attended has been closed.

A case which admits of no manner of doubt occurred on board the *Neisei Maru* which entered Fukuoka from a Chinese port on the 26th instant. The victim was a cabin-waiter, and the case ended fatally.

DEATH OF PRINCESS ICHIJO.

We regret to have to announce the death of Her Highness Princess Ichijo. The Princess' dangerous condition was mentioned by us in a recent issue, and it had been well understood for some time that her illness was hopeless. It would seem now that the deceased lady was not the younger sister, but the niece, of the Empress. Apparently Court mourning will not be ordered. The funeral of the late Princess Ichijo took place on the 29th ultimo, at the celebrated temple Tokai-ji in Shinagawa.

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EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

Professor Inouye Tetsushiro is a very prominent figure in educational circles. We do not think that his influence has been altogether beneficial to his country, but as to his prominence there can be no question. He now stands committed to two doctrines, each very interesting in its line. The first was enunciated in a lecture recently delivered to the Philosophical Society. We await the publication of the lecture in detail, but in the meanwhile there seems to be no doubt of its general import, namely, that there is not in the whole world at present any religion suitable to Japan. The second doctrine was advanced in a speech made at a recent meeting of the Educational Society. Its gist is that the essential features of all the chief religions are identical, and that when the unessential differences are rejected, as they soon will be according to Professor Inouye, there will emerge a universal religion which Japan can accept. We confine ourselves to stating these wonderful propositions.

SI VIS PACEM.

That usually thoughtful and always interesting journal the New York *Nation* draws a curious inference from the South African War. It says that the procedure of the Boers gives the lie to the old proverb, if you want peace prepare for war, inasmuch as England, who had long been standing arms in hand and ready at all points, was forced into war by a State which had no sort of preparations. The premiss seems to us quite false. Everything goes to show that the Boers were prepared for war, and that they fully believed themselves capable of running the English into the sea and establishing a huge South-African republic. Happily for the cause of humanity they are not likely to succeed, but to say that their unpreparedness precipitated war appears a singular phantasy. There is probably a feeling of most bitter disappointment throughout the whole of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State to-day, seeing that their troops have signally failed to utilize the golden opportunity, and that they are no nearer the consummation of their ambition now than they were when they issued their wonderful ultimatum six weeks ago.

ITALY IN CHINA.

Tokyo journals assert that Italy, failing to induce China to meet her liberally and reasonably on the ground of commercial concessions, has reverted to her demand for a territorial concession at San-mun, and having shown a disposition to press her claim by force, has broken down China's resistance. If that prove true, it will be a signal vindication of the policy pursued by the Chevalier de Martino in the first instance. It is hard for China to turn a deaf ear to Italian demands when Russia is sitting at Port Arthur, England at Wei hai-wei, Germany at Kiao-chou, and France on two newly acquired islands in the Bay of Kwang-chun. It is true that Japan's name does not appear on the list, but Italy would probably be indisposed to regard that as a reason for her own omission.

GOLD QUESTION.

The gold question is creating a great deal of uneasiness in Japan. Last August, the gold reserves of the Bank of Japan stood at 104 million *yen*, but they have now fallen to 99½ millions, and a further diminution is feared, in view of the fact that European States are adopting every means of drawing the yellow metal to their treasuries. The latest news from London is that the Bank of England has ceased to discount bills, and that rates of interest have been everywhere raised. At the same time, the demand for money is becoming very keen in Japan. On the 27th of November, the Bank of Japan had issued convertible notes up to within 350,000 *yen* of its legal limit (120 millions). The Government then deposited with it a sum of five million *yen* in silver subsidiary coins, and the Bank proceeded to issue notes against these. But such a measure of assistance appears to have proved very inadequate, for by the close of the month the Bank's margin of issuing power—including the 5 millions—was found to be only 1½ millions, its total note issues then aggregating 223,000,000 *yen*.

Perhaps it may be well to explain here that the 5 millions alluded to above formed part of the addition made to the subsidiary coinage in connexion with the establishment of the gold standard. Of the 75 million *yen* worth of silver which the Government had to dispose of, 47½ millions' worth was sold in Hongkong, Shanghai and Singapore, or stamped for circulation in Formosa, and 27½ millions' worth was used for striking subsidiary coins. It has not been found easy, however, to get the latter into circulation. Already the market is inconveniently glutted with silver 50 *sen* pieces, and the Treasury was doubtless glad to avail itself of an opportunity to temporarily utilize 5 million *yen* worth of the coins.

Meanwhile, what is chiefly feared is that the convertible notes may be presented for exchange in large quantities with the object of exporting gold. Count Matsukata is understood to be fully alive to the danger, but the question is how to avert it. The general impression is that the Diet will be asked to pass an urgency measure empowering the Minister of Finance to take whatever step may seem necessary for protecting the national reserves of gold, and that Count Matsukata will then issue an Ordinance providing that a discount shall be charged on the exchange of notes. That is the system adopted in France, and according to present indications, Japan will have to adopt it.

THE NETHERLANDS INDIA AND THE PEST.

The Government of the Netherlands India has issued a notification that Kobe is to be regarded as an infected port, and that a quarantine of 10 days will be enforced against all ships coming thence, the period to count from the date of leaving Kobe or from that of the last outbreak of sickness on board. The import of certain goods is also prohibited; namely, wools, furs, skins, hoofs, horns, horse-hair, waste paper, &c.

THE LAW OF ELECTIONS.

The Liberal leaders show a lamentable want of progressive spirit in their manner of treating the question of elections. They have hitherto persistently opposed the Government's attempts to introduce a system which shall procure proper representation for the urban population and for minorities, and which, by means of unsigned ballots, shall reduce the opportunities for corruption. It was hoped that the Liberals had of late developed a mood better becoming their name, but it would seem from resolutions recently adopted by the various sections of the Party that they think more of securing and extending their own influence than of promoting the success of parliamentary institutions in Japan. The system they have determined to advocate presents the following features:—(1) Each election district to have only one representative (an arrangement which totally destroys any chance of minority representation); (2) one member to be returned for every hundred thousand of the rural population, and one for every town irrespective of its size, provided that for every excess over eighty thousand inhabitants, or over any multiple of eighty thousand, an additional number shall be returned; (this would give Tokyo, 18 members against 12 which it now returns, but the Government's scheme is much more liberal); (3) the qualifications for the suffrage to be a full age of 20 years, and the payment of 5 *yen* of Land Tax, or 3 *yen* of direct national taxes in any other form; (3) the qualification for a candidate for election to be, uniquely, the full age of 25; (4) voting to be by signed ballots, (which, of course, enables party leaders to control the constituencies effectually, and fatally militates against independent exercise of the right of suffrage); and (5) the inclusion of Hokkaido in this general system. In this matter the Liberals are showing themselves thoroughly unprogressive.

THE NEW SHINAGAWA RAILWAY BRIDGES.

One of the most defective pieces of engineering we have ever seen is the new railway bridge at Shinagawa. The bridge has to give passage to traffic of the busiest character, yet it has been built so narrow that two carriages have only just room to pass each other, and there is no foot-path. The latter defect can easily be remedied by extending the road-way on either side, but the absurdly restricted proportions of the bridge for wheeled traffic are irremediable, and they reflect badly on the parsimony of the railway—which is making enormous profits—or on the competence of the engineer, we do not know which.

POST OFFICE ORDERS.

From the 1st of next January, it will be possible to have post-office orders paid at the house of the addressee. It is a weary matter to negotiate a postal order in Japan, and if this new system mends matters in that respect, the public will be gratified. The charge for an order involving a sum of more than 3 *yen* will be 5 *sen*, and the charge for one less than that amount, 2 *sen*. These facts are announced by the *Official Gazette*.

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THE DIET.

SATURDAY, NOV. 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met on Saturday afternoon, and read several Government Bills for the first time, handing them subsequently to special committees as provided by law.

Among these Bills the most important were:—

Two Bills for amending the Criminal Code and the Code of Civil Procedure, respectively.

Bills for amending the Law of Testaments and the Mining Law, and a Bill for amending the Law relating to Diseases of Animals.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at the usual time and sat for nearly two hours. Various Government Bills were read and handed to Special Committees. The most important of these measures were:—

A Bill for exempting imports of raw material from customs duty.

A Bill for transferring all Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury.

The other Bills were of a fiscal character.

THE BUDGET.

Count Matsukata addressed the House with reference to the Budget. He commenced by submitting the following figures:—

BUDGETARY TOTALS FOR THE YEAR 1900-01.

	Yen.	Increase or Decrease compared with current year. Yen.
Ordinary Revenue	192,230,000	+13,670,000
Extraordinary Revenue.	44,480,000	—23,900,000
Total	236,710,000	
Ordinary Expenditure.	148,950,000	+ 8,440,000
Extraordinary Expenditure	85,390,000	—10,800,000
Total	234,340,000	
Excess of Total Revenue over Total		2,360,000

His Excellency explained that the House would be invited to approve a supplementary Budget, applying this surplus to defray the expenditures of the prisons taken over by the Government, and for educational purposes.

Concerning the increase (13½ millions) of Ordinary Revenue, it was mainly due to the fact that the newly adjusted taxes would be producing their full return next year, and concerning the decreases of Extraordinary Revenue and Extraordinary Expenditure, they were due to the fact that the requirements connected with the *post-bellum* programme were growing less every year.

The Revenue was in a most healthy condition. That was especially true of the Incense Tax and the Stamp Tax, which were expected to yield larger sums than ever next year.

With regard to the Extraordinary Revenue (44½ millions), 23,750,000 *yen* would be obtained by an appropriation from the Indemnity, and 17,330,000 *yen* by a loan, in accordance with the *post-bellum* programme which had already received the Diet's assent.

"I have further an important fact to report to you with regard to finance. The Government, appreciating the necessity of raising a foreign loans, submitted a Bill to you in that sense and obtained your consent. Accordingly, last summer, I proceeded to float a loan of 10 million pounds (English) sterling in London. It was undertaken by a syndicate consisting of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Parr's Bank, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank. The agreement was concluded on the 1st of June, the main conditions being 4 per cent. interest; issue price £90 per £100 bond; 4 per cent. commission to the syndicate; 10 years without redemption, counting from January 1st, 1899, and a redemption period of 55 years, within which which the Government may redeem the bonds at its convenience. The Syndicate has faithfully fulfilled its part of the bargain, and the money was all paid by October."

Passing to the question of reassessing the taxable value of land, the Minister explained that the work had been completed by August, the results being that the following total reduction had been effected:—

	Yen.
Reduction in taxable value of Wet Fields	114,890,000
Reduction in taxable value of Dry Fields	33,700,000
Total	148,590,000

With regard to operations connected with the establishment of the gold standard, the withdrawal of silver *yen* from circulation and the disposal of the coins had been completed by the close of 1898. The withdrawal commenced on the 1st of October, 1897, and terminated on July 31st, 1898, during which time the amount withdrawn was 45,580,000 *yen*. There had been apprehension that large quantities of these coins would be sent from abroad for exchange, but Count Matsukata's estimate had been about 10 million *yen*, and the actual figure was 10,800,000 *yen*. In addition to the above coins, there were in circulation 29½ million *yen* worth of silver certificates, so that the total to be dealt with by the Treasury was 75 million *yen*, in round numbers. The method of dealing with it had been this:—A sum of 27,560,000 *yen* was employed for purposes of subsidiary coinage, and a sum of 47,520,000 *yen* was sold in Shanghai and Hongkong, or put into circulation in Korea in the form of stamped coins, these various operations being concluded by the close of 1898 The losses incurred in connexion with the rates of silver had been 5,500 000 *yen*, but, on the other hand, the profits resulting from the subsidiary coins had been 5,650 000 *yen*, so that the result had been, on the whole, satisfactory. The gold monetary system had hitherto worked excellently, and had greatly facilitated the floating of the recent loan in London.

His Excellency concluded with these words:

"During recent years the finances of the country were somewhat embarrassed, but, most fortunately for the national interests, your House, in its 13th session, consented to certain increases of taxation, the surplus accruing from which is now devoted to meeting the extraordinary expenditures. Economical conditions, also, have at last shown signs of improvement. The trade returns indicate that from January to October of the current year exports exceeded imports in value. It may therefore be said that both the finances and the economics of the nation have entered a prosperous period, and that the *post-bellum* programme also has passed its first stage of completion. The Budget for next year has been compiled on lines of sound finance, and I trust that, after due examination, you will give it your approval."

Some attempt was made by Opposition members to challenge the success of the London loan, but the House was evidently indisposed to consider that point, and Count Matsukata was allowed to resume his seat without any of usual "badgering," having explained that he had not expressed "satisfaction" with regard to the loan, but had merely characterized the result as "good."

TUESDAY, NOV. 28TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers was engaged in Committee work only.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at the usual hour. The strangers' gallery was crowded, a report, apparently well founded, having gone abroad that a Bill would be introduced by the Opposition forbidding Mr. Hoshi Toru to sit as a member of the House during the present session. No such measure made its appearance, however, and the proceedings were of the most common-place nature being confined to the preliminary stages, of some comparatively unimportant Bills, and to the passing of two measures, one relating to the purchase of articles for the Hokkaido Railway, the other to steps for the prevention of the Pest. Much amusement was caused by an announcement from the chair that a private Bill had been received for the better control of usurers. It is understood that many of the members are in embarrassed circumstances, and that they have been obliged to have recourse to moneylenders who exact harsh terms and are inconveniently importunate in their methods of dunning. The Bill in question is to restrain these folks, and as some of its provisions betray the exasperation of the debtor rather than the prudence of the legislator, the House laughed heartily when the measure made its appearance for admission to the Order of the Day. It will probably come up for its first reading tomorrow. The House rose after an hour's session.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29TH.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at a few minutes past ten o'clock, and proceeded to read for the first time various Government Bills, which, after some questions had been asked by members and answered by the Government Delegates, were handed to special committees.

CONTROL OF ROADS

The first Bill related to be control of public thoroughfares. Its purpose was to fix clearly the responsibility for the maintenance of such roads. According to its provisions, national, prefectural, and communal roads are to be under the charge of the Local Authorities, whose duty it will be to keep them in thorough repair, and also to construct new roads wherever necessary. They are also invested with power to grant to private persons special privileges in connexion with the use of public thoroughfares, provided that the traffic be not interrupted, and provided also that due fees be paid for the privilege. Thus the Tokyo Municipality, for example, would be empowered to grant permission for the construction of street railways on roads other than national or prefectural and to levy a royalty for the right.

VARIOUS BILLS.

The second Bill related to the amendment of Ship Inspection regulations; the third to an amendment of the Regulations for punishing Offences connected with the Payment of Customs Duties or National Taxes; the fourth enacted new rules concerning the method of employing savings bank deposits, and the fifth had reference to Customs Warehouses for storing goods. This last consisted of the following eleven Articles:—

Art. I.—Foreign goods when landed may be temporarily stored in Customs warehouses.

Custom Houses where warehouses may be constructed shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. II.—The Minister of Finance is empowered to define the classes of goods to be thus stored.

Art. III.—Goods stored in such warehouses shall be regarded as not imported.

Art. IV.—Goods thus stored may be repacked, or divided, or otherwise handled while in store.

Art. X.—The period of storage shall be limited to three months, provided that the Customs Superintendent shall have competence to extend the term if necessary.

Art. VI.—The Customs Superintendent may issue directions for the removal of goods, or adopt other measures, if he deems such a course necessary for maintaining order, or exercising due control.

Art. VII.—Any person failing to observe the limit of the period of storage, or to remove goods when directed by the Customs Superintendent, shall be liable to have the goods detained in accordance with the Customs Regulations.

Art. VIII.—The Customs Authorities are empowered to inspect all goods stored, or to search persons entering the warehouses.

Art. IV.—The Government will not accept any responsibility for damage sustained while goods are in store.

Art. X.—The transport of goods to a warehouse must always be preceded by due notice to the Customs Authorities.

Art. XI.—Articles preserved in a warehouse shall not be removed without permission of the Customs Superintendent, or until after special permission has been obtained for their importation, re-shipment, or marine transportation, or for storing them in a bonded warehouse.

The House rose at a few minutes past eleven.

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TOKYO WATER WORKS.

The beginning of next year is to see the three districts of Kanda, Nihonbashi and Honjo in full receipt of water from the new works. Other districts will have to wait a little longer, but as the pipes have been laid in several places, it is not likely that the delay will extend over many months. According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, the main reservoir is constructed with a capacity for 1½ days' supply for 1½ million people at the rate of 18 gallons per head daily. Our contemporary naturally criticises such figures. The population of Tokyo in 1897 was already 1,403,769 and it is growing at the rate of at least 35 per thousand yearly—official statistics make the figure 50 per thousand—, so that before many years have elapsed the total must reach two millions. The *Jiji* alleges that when the Tokugawa power was at its zenith, Tokyo had a nominal population of 3 millions and a real population, probably, of 5 millions. Such an estimate is difficult to credit, though it can scarcely be doubted that if the area now covered by the city were as thickly peopled as is London or New York, the inhabitants would number quite the double of the present figure. At all events, the Tokyo of to-day bears no comparison to the Tokyo of the future—a not very distant future either—and we can scarcely believe that the engineers of the Water Works have made such small estimates. The programme doubtless includes the construction of additional reservoirs. If the supply of water were limited, there might be reason for uneasiness, but ever since the completion of the celebrated aqueduct at the beginning of the 17th century, the quantity of water entering Tokyo has been fully twice the quantity which now suffices for the needs of all London. It is thus only a question of distribution, and we have no doubt that the engineers of the Water Works understand what they are about. Be that as it may, however, 18 gallons a day is scarcely a sufficient allowance. We observe that the *Jiji* thinks even the new Yokohama scheme too small, and looks forward to a population of much more than 300,000 for this place before many years have passed.

MR. H. W. DENISON.

Mr. H. W. Denison leaves Japan by the *Koenig Albert* to-day, and will probably be absent for ten months, during which time he intends to visit Europe and America. A number of farewell parties were given in his honour; luncheons by Count Okuma and Viscount Aoki, and dinners by Count Inouye and the officials of the Foreign Office. This last entertainment was in Japanese style and took place at the Maple Club. His hosts presented to Mr. Denison a large piece of embroidery, having the rising sun in the centre, and the words "Farewell dinner to H. W. Denison Esq." in a flower scroll round the border. The members of the Tokyo Club were anxious to entertain Mr. Denison, who served as Vice-President for two years in succession and is exceptionally popular, but his numerous engagements made it impossible for him to accept the hospitality of his Club friends. We wish Mr. Denison a pleasant trip, and the most complete period of well-earned [illegible] restore his health, somewhat impaired by untiring devotion to duty.

THE RECLAMATION SCHEME.

It appears that the great question of the Yokohama reclamation scheme has been settled. The wildest rumours have been circulated about this affair, but whatever may have been the amount of exaggeration there can be no doubt that a very large sum of money was involved. As is usual in Japan, there has been a compromise, and as is also usual, the parties to the compromise have held a convivial meeting at a tea-house, where, no doubt, the gentle *geisha* smiled upon the restoration of harmony. The details of the settlement are not published, but it is understood that the Yokohama projectors have succeeded in asserting their interests in a satisfactory, manner, the Oyamada section's plum losing something of its lusciousness.

THE "POPE" OF JAPAN.

Count Otani, chief prelate of the Hongwan Temple, is called the *Hossu* of Japan, which title is regarded as the equivalent of Hoo or pope. The Count is about to visit Europe and America. The disciples of the great sect he represents have put up a sum of a hundred and eighty thousand *yen* for the expenses of the journey, twenty thousand of which is to be used for the personal expenses of the Prelate himself, and the remainder will pay for his suite and for the purchases he contemplates making abroad. It appears that the dimensions of this allowance gave rise to some controversy, but the public has been successfully left in ignorance of the details.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

An extension—9 miles—of the Boso Railway (Awa-Kazusa) has been opened for traffic. The new line runs from Ichinomiya to Ohara, and is expected to be very prosperous.

Mr. Shimamura, formerly Consul-General for Japan in Hawaii, whose appointment to the position of Minister Plenipotentiary, *en disponibilité* was announced a few days ago, has resigned that position.

We observe that Mr. Shimamura Hisashi, who held the position of Japanese Consul-General in Hawaii during the time of strained relations last year, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary *en disponibilité*.

The *Jiji* sounds a wise note of warning to Japanese sericulturists. It says that the altogether exceptional prices which have been obtained for raw silk this season have betrayed many people into putting upon the market an inferior article, which will inevitably have the effect of deterring foreign buyers, and pulling down prices.

The Daigo case was re-opened on the 25th ultimo when once more counsel for the defence applied to have the prisoner medically examined, with a view to determining his condition during the past few weeks. This time the Court granted the application and the trial was suspended. We confess that the reluctance of Japanese Judges to permit the summoning of witnesses seems very difficult to comprehend.

A fire of unusual dimensions occurred in Shimbori-machi, Shiba, Tokyo, on Saturday morning at half past four. Eighty houses were destroyed, including a Shinto shrine (of Fudo) and an elementary school, and eight firemen were injured. The conflagration is said to have been caused by a lunatic.

According to telegrams from Japanese correspondents of Tokyo journals, the British Representative in Söul is vigorously pressing the claims of his nationals to mining concessions. These reports must be received with great reserve. Korea, as we have often observed, is the happy hunting ground of sensational correspondents.

Telegraphic news from Korea, published by Tokyo newspapers, says that of the 39 lots forming the foreign settlement at Masampo, 16 have been purchased by Japanese subjects, 10 by foreign missionaries, 8 by Austro-Hungarian subjects, supposed to be acting in Russian interests—though why there should be any such supposition or why Russia should not buy openly on her own account if she wants land we can not see—and 1 by the commander of the *Vladimir Monomach*.

Prince Konoye's visit to Europe and America has convinced him that the national assemblies of the Occident do not conduct themselves with more decorum than does the Diet of Japan, and that government by political parties has proved a failure, which survives chiefly because there is nothing better to take its place. The Prince found the Russians very friendly, but he seems to have carried away rather surprised impressions of the measure of liberty enjoyed by the people of Russia, where no one can travel without a passport; where every newspaper is subjected to rigid censorship, and where no foreign journal is allowed to cross the border until it has been examined.

DEATH OF DR. JOHN CHALMERS.

The older residents in Yokohama, as well as all Europeans in South China, will be sorry to read of the death of the Rev. John Chalmers, M.A., LL.D., of the London Missionary Society. Dr. Chalmers died at Chemulpo on the 22nd ult. He had been in Europe the last year or two, having left Hongkong some three years ago, when it was not anticipated that he would return to China. Evidently, however, the spell of the Far East, or a longing to see again the field of his best labours, proved potent enough to cause him to leave England again, and he crossed the Atlantic in September on the *Scotsman*, bound from Liverpool for Montreal. The ill-fated steamer struck a rock on the Newfoundland coast, and the passengers had a terrible time before they reached land, suffering very much from cold and exposure. Dr. Chalmers probably sustained more injury to his constitution from this terrible experience than he at first thought, and most likely it materially shortened his life. He was proceeding in leisurely fashion to Hongkong *via* Korea when his death took place. Dr. Chalmers was well known throughout Southern China, where his venerable figure and his fine old world courtesy will long be remembered with affectionate regret. He was father of Mr. A. M. Chalmers, formerly of the British Consulate at Yokohama, and now H.B.M.'s Consul at Hakodate; and he had another son a mining expert in South Africa. His daughter is the wife of Mr. F. S. Bourne, H.B.M.'s Consul General at Shanghai.

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THE USURERS' BILL.

THE Usurers' Bill, now in the hands of the House of Representatives, is creating much amusement. It is certainly one of the most extraordinary measures ever framed by grave legislators. In all ages and all countries attempts have been made to prevent usury and control rates of interest. Japan was no stranger to this kind of legislation in mediæval times, but like other countries, she failed in her object. Like other countries, however, she proceeded, for the most part, by the reasonable method of fixing a maximum legal rate of interest, and forbidding the compounding of interest beyond certain limits. But some members of the House of Representatives think that they know a much more effectual device. Their Bill is framed on purely sentimental grounds. It says that any one who, taking advantage of another's pecuniary extremity, lends him money at a high rate of interest, or extends the period of redemption on harsh conditions, shall be regarded as a usurer, and become liable to a punishment with hard labour for a period not exceeding one year, together with a fine of from 10 *yen* to 1,060 *yen*; and any person promoting such transactions, in the capacity of agent or go-between, shall be liable to the same punishment reduced by one degree. The severest penalty, however, is reserved for the usurer by profession. He is to be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a term of three years, and to a fine of from 100 to 10,000 *yen*, though the Bill makes no attempt to define what is meant by professional usury. Quainter still is the clause for preventing public importunity. Any one who uses a postal card to dun a debtor, or who takes steps to importune him in a public place, is to be liable to a fine of 1,000 *yen*.

Of course there is not the smallest chance of this Bill's being adopted by the House of Representatives, although among its supporters are counted some men whose names one does not expect to see associated with a fiasco. Tokyo newspapers laugh at the whole affair. It is well understood that the idea of such legislation was suggested by the pecuniary embarrassments of the members themselves, and by the inconvenience they suffer at the hands of creditors clever enough to press their claims in such a manner as to bring the debtor into discredit with his fellow-members unless he discharges his liability. It is not agreeable to be handed a post-card proclaiming one's impecuniosity to the world, neither is it inspiriting to a legislator to find a dun awaiting him in one of the apartments of the Diet when he comes in all his parliamentary glory to discuss questions of State. We are surprised that the framers of this Bill did not go a step farther, and ask the House to restore the *tokusei* system of Ashikaga days, which enabled the law-making authority to draw its pen finally and conclusively through all debts by whomsoever owed at whatever time. That was a fine lordly way of doing things.

RICE AND GOLD.

PUBLIC attention is keenly directed in Japan to the appreciation of rice, and the rise in the rate of interest charged by the Bank of Japan. Rice is now quoted at 13.16 *yen* per *koku*. There is no apparent connexion between that fact and the question of the Bank's rate of interest, except that a high market price for the cereal signifies correspondingly increased imports, and consequent outflow of gold. To the average Japanese, however, dear rice means a great deal more than any problem of political economy. It means wide-spread distress and an increase of crime. Whenever rice is high, incendiaries go to work, and prosperous men, who would not otherwise be inconvenienced by having to pay an additional two or three *yen* per *koku* for their rice, are thus involved in the general trouble. The Bank of Japan, doubtless, is anxiously watching the quotations of the cereal, and, at the same time, is not a little perturbed to find that the exodus of gold from Yokohama and Kobe is increasing rapidly, although the balance of trade is at present in Japan's favour. The Directors' uneasiness is sufficiently indicated by the fact that during the fortnight ended the 27th inst., they twice raised the rate of interest, the two changes totalling 1.095 per cent. The fact is that Japan is now fairly involved in the gold current, and that she must expect to be carried along just as other gold-standard countries are. At present, the European money-market is suffering from considerable stringency owing to the South African war, which not only demands large outlays but also cuts off one of the most important sources of gold supply. During the second half of October, all the great Banks of Europe raised their discount rates, the Bank of France alone excepted, and it became apparent that Continental Europe was likely to suffer more than England from the suspension of the South African supply. Russia and France have large accumulations of gold from which they might spare enough to relieve the stringency, but it is not at all likely that they will do anything of the kind. Thus a game of "pull devil pull Baker" has commenced, and Japan feels the strain, which she must resist as best she can. It is one of the pleasures of a gold-standard, and one of the experiences which go to prove the correctness of the theory that gold is quite able alone to bear the burden of the world's financial operations!

IMPRESSIONS ON VISITING EUROPE.

PRINCE KONOYE'S impressions of his trip to Europe are very interesting, and not without a spice of humour. The Occident's opinion of Japan, he found, has changed greatly since the war with China, but it has not by any means changed to the extent of regarding the Japanese people as equals. What Europe now thinks of Japan is simply that she is a Power not to be despised. In England the Prince received a most hospitable welcome in both official and private circles, and at social gatherings he often heard the view expressed that a coalition between his country and Great Britain would be the most effective method of preserving the peace of the Orient. But when he went to France, he found people saying that as France's sphere of influence was confined to southern China, and as she had no ambition whatever to figure in the north, there was no reason why she and Japan should not join hands. Finally, in Germany the declaration was that since Germany had acquired the Carolines, her relations with Japan would be more intimate than ever, and the two Powers should act in harmony. There was, in short, a general disposition to cultivate Japan's alliance, but beyond that the sentiment of unity did not go.

Much more striking, however, was the conclusion which the Prince arrived at with regard to the business man and the gentleman of the West. He found that when people in Europe spoke of a gentleman, they referred to a man's moral qualifications rather than to his material condition. A "gentleman" was a man of honour, who scrupulously fulfilled all his engagements, and who would forfeit his right to the title at once if he committed any of the acts which in Japan are condoned or overlooked. The Prince thinks that an immense reform is needed in this country. He disclaims any advocacy of the introduction of Christianity, but he had no hesitation whatever in asserting that the "gentleman" of the Occident is a product of Christianity—Christianity taught in the nursery and permeating the atmosphere of the schools and universities as well as of society in general. There Prince KONOYE arrests himself in his statement of his impressions. It is a pity that he does not explain why, having seen the fruit borne by Christianity and compared it with the dead apples produced upon the withered stem of Buddhism, he still shrinks from advocating the planting of the Christian tree in Japan's soil.

The Singapore Diamond Jubilee Memorial scheme has come to hopeless grief. At a meeting of the Committee held on the 6th inst. it was resolved that a Bill be introduced in the Legislative Council authorising the return of the subscriptions.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the *Tenchijin* are given the views of Mr. Miyoshi Taizō on the revision of the Criminal Code which is now going on. The following is the gist of his remarks:—The abolition of capital punishment is a topic over which there is much controversy among the members of the Revising Committee. Mr. Murata Tamotsu is an earnest advocate of abolition. When the subject comes up for discussion in the House of Peers it will be seen that a certain number of members will support abolition, although they will not be numerous enough to pass a bill in its favour. Capital punishment has been abolished in Switzerland. In Italy and Sweden, though not actually abolished, it is not carried out. There is in all Western countries a tendency to favour abolition. . . . . It has been found necessary to make the revision of the Criminal Code very thorough. The revision will be in the direction of giving more liberty to the judge in the application of laws and the determination of degrees of penalty. The scale of punishments now in force needs much alteration. The penalty for crimes which though contemplated were not committed needs to be made lighter, as was shown by the case of the woman Makita Nobu, who intended to kill a cruel husband, but did not effect her purpose, a case that was discussed in the newspapers last year. However much disposed to pass a light sentence on such offenders a judge may be, the present criminal code gives him no liberty in this respect.

* * *

Dr. Tomii Seishō makes some valuable remarks in the *Taiyō* on "The Result of the recent Law Examination at the Imperial University." It seems that in the examinations held last July out of 745 law students no less than 315 were plucked, The following reasons for this phenomenon are given by Dr. Tomii:—Deficiency in the knowledge of law was doubtless the immediate cause of the failure of so many students. But in late years there has been a great falling off in the knowledge of foreign languages possessed by students entering the University. In former days when the schools which now bear the name of High Schools (a name which dates from 1894) were "High Class Middle Schools" and were regarded as preparatory schools to the University, they turned out students better qualified for the University course than do the present High Schools. The High Schools do not aim at merely training men for the University. They impart a general education as well. The preparation of students for the University is a subordinate duty of these establishments and by no means their chief concern. Their failure to produce men with an adequate knowledge of English is manifest.* . . . It is very sad that so many students should have to be rejected. The Japanese student has many disadvantages when compared with a European or American lad. His physique is not good. Though he develops early, he grows old proportionately early, and in addition to his other troubles he has to master all the difficulties of Chinese characters and Chinese construction and is expected to learn at least two foreign tongues. Then of late years the length of the course in most schools has been extended and the number of subjects studied made very large. All schools are overcrowded, and it is quite impossible for proper attention to be paid to each student.

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The *Taiyō* discusses in an interesting manner the influence of the newspaper in Japan at the present time and comes to the conclusion that it is very insignificant. What has the *Yorodzu Chōhō* gained in the way of influence over the minds of reading men, asks the *Taiyō*, by all its revelations? Does anybody respect the writers of its so-called spicy paragraphs? Is anybody guided by the line it takes on any subject? We trow not. Has its publication of details about concubines and illegitimate children tended to the reform of undesirable practices? Not in the least. It comes to this, that its circulation was increased by the line it took and that that is all the tangible result of the highly vaunted moral campaign against vice which for so many months it professed to be carrying on. Take the cases of other papers. They are equally powerless to radically alter the state of public opinion. The *Taihei Shimbun* for a long time heaped all the abuse it could put into language on the head of one of the Exhibition Commissioners. But this gentleman holds his head as high as ever in the circles where he is best known. The *Nippon*, on account of the character of the chief contributors to its columns, such men as Messrs. Kuga and Miyake, is undoubtedly highly respected. A short time ago, however, in company with the *Yomiuri*, it wrote very strongly on the subject of the loss of a large amount of paper money belonging to the Bank of Japan. But its strictures had no effect whatever on the management of the Bank. Not only was the President exonerated by the shareholders of the Bank from all blame, but strong approval of the course he took in the matter was expressed. Take the crusade against educational methods and the blindness and perversity of the Mombushō which has been carried on by the *Yomiuri*, the *Asahi* and the *Jiji* for months. It has effected nothing. Last summer the *Yomiuri* published over 20 articles on the despotism of the Imperial University, which was compared to that of the Pope of Rome. These articles were well written. They were worth study if only for the verve which they displayed. But those eloquent phrases had no more effect on the course of events than the volumes of smoke that daily pass through the air over the city of Tōkyō. Not a single word of reply did they elicit from the institution that was so fiercely attacked. Since the *Yorozu Chōhō* made a pecuniary success of the divulgence of secrets, with little regard to truth or falsehood, numbers of small newspapers have followed suit, and as a consequence during the past eight or nine months literary wiseacres have from day to day dished up sensational stories with the object of damaging the reputation of individuals and public bodies indiscriminately. Banks, companies churches, societies, officials and private persons have all in turn come in for a quota of abuse from the sensation-mongers. But the public is not really prejudiced against anybody or anything on account of what the newspapers have written. It is fully understood that the papers which choose this way of making money are unscrupulous. It cannot be said, then, that in Japan to-day the public newspaper is a true reflection of intelligent public opinion. Whatever professions of high moral motives newspapers may make, they certainly do not represent the conscientious convictions of the bulk of the nation. The insignificant position occupied by the press in this country calls for the serious consideration of all earnest newspaper editors.

The above remarks, it seems to us, mostly apply to the second-class papers and are not true of great dailies like the *Jiji* and the *Nichi Nichi*. It is reported, however, that the sale of the scurrilous sheets referred to above is far larger than that of any of the great dailies, and this principally on account of this personalities in which they indulge.

* * *

In the *Kyoiku Kōhō*, Rear-Admiral Kimotsuki Kaneyuki dwells on the advantages that Japan should derive from the fact of her being an island empire. After extensive quotations from Captain Mahan's works and a number of general observations as to the position England has won for herself by her navy, Admiral Kimotsuki goes on to observe that the strength of a country depends on the size and density of its population and the amount of progress it makes as compared with rival countries. He then gives the following figures bearing on the population, as compared with the area, of various countries. Russia stands first with a population of 129 millions, next comes America with 74 millions, then Germany with 53, Japan with 46, Austria-Hungary with 45, England with 40,190,000, France with 38,600,000; Italy with 31,100,000. As regards density of population, England has 1,980 to the sq. mile, Japan 1,723, Italy 1,680, Switzerland 1,500, France 1,200. The population in Belgium and Holland is abnormally dense and hence Japan need not be compared with these countries. The average rate of increase of the population of Japan between 1887 and 1896 was 104 for every 10,000 inhabitants. With this rate of increase the population cannot maintain itself on agriculture principally as hitherto. We must strive to become a great commercial and industrial country. Marine enterprise was crushed by the Tokugawa Shōguns. Prior to their action numbers of Japanese explorers went to foreign countries. Japan's subsequently developing into an agricultural country was a result of the suppression of her natural tendency. Compared with the Powers with whom she is competing, she places far too much reliance on agriculture as a source of revenue. The following figures give the per centage proportions in which 5 countries rely on agriculture, industry and commerce.

	Agriculture.	Industry.	Commerce.
England	19	68	13
France	57	30	13
Germany	48	41	12
America	52	29	19
Japan	79	7	14

The figures given as regards Japan are

* It should be noted here that the number of foreign instructors in the High Schools is ridiculously small and makes anything like efficient instruction in English or German quite impossible. Many of the classes consist of over 40 students and the number of hours spent weekly in the study of foreign tongues under foreign instructors is 4 at the very outside.—(*Writer of the Summary.*)

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about 7 years old, but there has not been much change. Not a few of us have the conviction that we are not following the destiny of islanders, who before all things should aim at becoming a great ship-building and sea-faring people.

* * *

A new fortnightly magazine has made its appearance called the *Jitsugyō-tsūshin Zasshi*, the object of which is to publish information on trade, industry and business affairs generally. It is observed in the first number of the magazine that business men in Japan may be divided into three classes. (1) There are the men who have made large sums of money and who have established their reputation in the business world to such an extent that no further strenuous efforts are required of them. Many of them have practically retired from business. (2) There are men who are engaged in making their names and fortunes and who are on the whole trusted by the public. (3) There is still a large class consisting of mere speculators, in whom the world has no confidence. They run banks and companies, trade in stocks, and employ numbers of dishonest devices for getting money. The intention of the promoters of this magazine is to hold up for imitation the lives of those who belong to one or other of the first two classes and to attack unsparingly the men whose acts are doing so much injury to Japan's trade with foreign countries. The first number contains an article by Mr. Kaneko Kentarō entitled, "A talk about my study of business in America," and a long article on the "Serpollet" system, with special reference to Tōkyō traffic.

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The following recently published works are worthy of brief notice. The 集古十種, *Shūko Jisshu*, is a work consisting of 88 volumes, the subscription price of which is 60 *yen*. It was first completed in 1798, having been compiled under the superintendence of Matsudaira Sadanobu, the famous Shirakawa *daimyō*. It is published by the Suzandō, Nihonbashi, Tōkyō, and, judging from the press notices, should prove a most valuable work of art, containing as it does numbers of pictures of art objects by Tani Bunchō and others. Some idea of its contents may be formed from the following list of subjects treated in the volumes: Epitaphs, bells, armour and helmets, standards, flags, etc., musical instruments, writing materials, seals, scrolls, and other hanging ornaments, old pictures, ancient verses, noted pictures, &c. The *Shigaku Zasshi* says that, considering that all the illustrations were copied from the objects represented without any artificial aid whatever, their execution is marvellously perfect.

The *Nihondai-Jirin* is a lexicon compiled by Dr. Mozume under the direction of the Imperial Household Department. Its original price was 7 *yen* per copy, but it is now offered at 3 *yen* 50 *sen* by the Mizuhoya, 20 Honchō, 3 chōme, Nihonbashi, Tōkyō. The book is well bound, and it has a great many illustrations. Its contents we have not yet examined.

As a proof of what may be done in the line of cheap printing in Japan we may cite the fact that a book calling itself "Best Pocket Webster's Dictionary," which contains 30,000 words, is offered for sale by the Nakanishi-ya, 2 Omote Jimbō-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō, at 27 *sen* per copy, subscription price, and at 35 *sen* ordinary price.

The 新聞學 *Shimbun Gaku*, by Dr. Matsumoto Kumpei, who studied in America and took a literature degree there, should prove most useful to journalists, as it points out in a clear manner what are the necessary qualifications for a successful newspaper reporter or editor. The work covers 320 pages and is published by the Hakubunkan.

A lithographed edition of Webster's International Dictionary (unabridged) is offered for sale at 7 *yen* per copy, subscription price (list already closed), and at 10 *yen* ordinary price by the Seishōdō, Awaji-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō. The size of the volume is in Japanese measurement 8 *sun*, 8 *bu* in length and 6 *sun*, 3 *bu* in breadth. It covers 2,140 pages.

The *Ei Kwa Jiten* (English-Chinese Dictionary) is Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō's edition of Dr. Lobscheid's Lexicon, which was first published in 1883, but had fallen into disuse, and was selling in second-hand bookstalls at about 1 *yen* a copy up to a few months ago. It is now republished, unrevised, as we understand, and offered for sale at 5 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy. It seems there is a demand for the work in China and Korea. In its unrevised state it certainly is not likely to find many purchasers among the Japanese.

The Hakubunkan are about to publish a work that ought to prove very helpful to writers as well as to readers of Japanese. Its title is Sakubun-Jukugo-Jiten (A Dictionary of Phrases and Idioms). The compiler is Mr. Hyakusoku Jichū. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō has written the preface, so it may perhaps be inferred that he guarantees its correctness, though this is by no means certain. The work covers 980 pages, and is offered for sale at 75 *sen* per copy, subscription price, (the list closes November 30th) and at one *yen* ordinary price.

The *Joshi-futsū-bunten* is a grammar written specially for girls, a kind of work we have never before seen advertised in this country. There is no doubt much language used by women that would bear being grammatically treated in a special manner. Whether this writer does this we are unable to say. The author is Mr. Shimoda Utako, Superintendent of the Peeresses' School and Head of the Teikoku Fujin Kyōkai.

* * *

A monthly magazine called the 學窓餘談, *Gakusō-yodan*, issued by the Shunyōdō, which has been in existence over two years, is the Japanese "Leisure Hour." It publishes a good deal of light, interesting matter. Dr. Toyama contributes an article entitled "Dining-rooms," to the November number. And the President of the *Keiōgijuku*, Mr. Kamada Eikichi, writes in the same number on "Physical and Moral Education." Dr. Inouye also has some interesting remarks on "Memory for figures and its laws." The subjects treated are very various and many of the writers are men known to fame. The magazine is illustrated and the price is 87 *sen* for 10 monthly copies, or 10 *sen* for single copies.

* * *

The *Shin-eigo* (New English) is a fortnightly magazine the first number of which has just appeared. Its design is to help students of the English language by offering them advice as to how to proceed and by furnishing them with a number of examples of idiomatic English. Messrs. Takahashi Kitashima, and others have contributed articles to the first number. One of the staff signing himself K. S. is publishing a collection of proverbs in Japanese and English, and the new organ has many other attractive features. It is published by the Shin-eigo-sha, Kiji-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō.

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Since extracting from the *Taiyō* certain observations on the position occupied by newspapers in Japan, later numbers of the magazine have reached us containing further contributions on the same subject, which we now proceed to summarize under the headings given in the articles:—

I.—*The rank occupied by newspapers in Japan.* In Europe the journalist is highly thought of. In Japan newspaper writers may be said to have created a certain position for themselves, but it is on a lower platform than that occupied by Occidental journalists—inferiority in knowledge and personality being the chief cause of this discrepancy. Yet we can point to quite a number of men in Japan whose reputation has been established by newspaper writing. Such are Mr. Fukuchi Genichirō, formerly editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*; Mr. Yano Fumio (now Minister at Peking), formerly editor of the *Hōchi Shimbun*; Mr. Numa Shinichi, formerly editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*; and Mr. Narishima Ryūhoku, formerly editor of the now extinct *Chōya Shimbun*. To this list may be added the names of Mr. Suematsu, and Messrs. Ozaki and Inukai. But during the last ten years men of superior education have as a rule preferred to enter official or business ranks rather than become journalists. Hence, compared with other lines of life in modern Japan talented men who have taken to journalism are rare. But it must be borne in mind that journalism has progressed and that more is required of a newspaper writer to-day than was expected of him ten or twelve years ago.

II.—*Writers and Business-men.* A newspaper does not succeed as a rule by means of writers alone. The management of the paper goes for a great deal. Mr. Asaina, editor of the *Nichi Nichi*; Mr. Shimada, editor of the *Mainichi*; Mr. Kuga, editor of the *Nippon*; and Mr. Tokutomi, editor of the *Kokumin*, have all done much to make their organs widely read. But the most signal successes of modern times have been scored by business men rather than by mere writers.

III.—*Successful men of very recent times.* First and foremost among these are to be mentioned Mr. Murayama, of the *Asahi*, and Mr. Kuroiwa, of the *Yorozu Chōhō*. Mr. Murayama is a mere business man and does not pretend to be a writer. Mr. Kuroiwa is both a writer and a business-man. When he left the staff of the *Miyako Shimbun* and joined the *Yorozu Chōhō*, he was only known as the author of detective tales such as delight women and children. But his knowledge of what would take with the public was so keen that in a few months he succeeded in increasing the circulation of the paper to an enormous extent. Although what he writes is often of a character to make high class readers pull a long face, he has such a captivating way of putting things that people always want to read all he says. The success of the paper has undoubtedly been owing to the nature of the revelations published on its third page,

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but it is only just to mention that its reports of current events and its comments thereon are very concise and to the point and are marked by the absence of the irrelevant details that appear in many other journals. The success of the paper as a business concern is a subject that can be considered apart from the lawfulness of the means it has relied on for this success. Mr. Murayama's feat surpasses even that of Mr. Kuroiwa. He is not a scholar, nor is he a writer, but a mere man of business. He had not been on the staff of the Osaka *Asahi* a year when he so transformed the journal that it became the most noted paper in the country. When he moved to Tōkyō and began to work up the *Tōkyō Asahi* he struck consternation into the ranks of the proprietors of small newspapers by the rapid strides which his organ made from week to week. This led to the *Asahi* being boycotted at one time, but this persecution only increased its circulation. The triumph which Mr. Murayama has scored is solely owing to his business insight. He pays a high price for good literary contributions. He spends large sums in telegrams and all the office arrangements of the paper are most efficient.

IV.—*Unknown men of power.* There are writers like Mr. Ueno Riichi, on the *Asahi*, and Mr. Miki Zempachi, on the *Hōchi*, to whose pens these papers owe much of their influence, but few people know of their existence.

V.—*The most influential writers.* To the four names given above, Messrs. Asaina, Shimada, Kuga and Tokutomi, we must add those of Mr. Nakai Kitarō, of the *Yomiuri*, and Mr. Ikebe Kichitarō, of the Tōkyō *Asahi*. Messrs. Shimada and Tokutomi are more politicians than writers. Mr. Tokutomi is too emotional to make a first-class newspaper writer. He is easily provoked to anger and his writing is apt to run to extremes. He is impressionable to an undesirable degree. His nature would be highly improved if it could be blended with some of the leading qualities of North-Eastern Japanese. As it is he has all the merits and all the demerits of an excitable, Kyushū man. But as a writer and the head of a newspaper office he is second to none. His influence on the staff is enormous and his handiwork is to be traced in the numbers of useful reforms instituted in the office. Mr. Kuga hails from the North-East and has all the coldness and indifference of manner which characterise typical specimens of North-Eastern Japanese. He is a very intimate associate of Mr. Takahashi Kenzō, and the lines which the *Nihon* has taken on various questions are to be attributed as much to Mr. Takahashi as to Mr. Kuga. The organ has figured as an advocate of increased nationalism, as a defender of the policy of strict enforcement of the Treaties, as an opponent of the Ito cabinet, and a supporter of the Matsukata ministry. Mr. Kuga is a Europeanised Chinese scholar. The conflict between conservatism and liberalism going on in his mind is very perceptible, yet on the whole he manages to avoid sudden curves in his course, and may be described as a consistent writer. Though he has established the reputation of the *Nihon* as one of the leading papers of the empire, he does not regard the editing of a paper as his chief function. He is at heart a politician, and only uses the newspaper as a vehicle for expressing his opinion on current events. There is somewhat of the devil-may-care character of a free lance about his writing. The *Nihon* is eminently a pugilistic paper, and hits out right and left on all sides.

As a logical, serious leader writer Mr. Asaina has no equal. That is acknowledged by everybody. Though as a writer on Law and as an advocate of Imperial Cabinets as distinguished from Party Cabinets, he showed the world what he could do, in the opinion of the present writer, his articles on foreign policy eclipsed all his previous achievements. Since the China-Japan war he has consistently defended Marquis Itō's views with rhetorical power that is most rare in this country. Though there are times when the reader of his articles may feel that truth is being twisted somewhat by the rhetorical methods adopted to express the writer's opinions, yet one can but admire the courage and depth of the thoughts expressed. There is only one defect in Mr. Asaina's writing. It is altogether devoid of feeling.

Mr. Nakai, the present editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, was at the University with Mr. Asaina, but he was so eager to enter on his journalistic career that he did not wait to graduate. Since that time he has devoted all his energy to the *Yomiuri*. His writing is lacking in polish and his reasoning is often slipshod, but nevertheless there is great force and unconventionality in many of the leading articles that appears in the *Yomiuri* from his pen. This journal regarded as a whole is not well edited, however, too much space being devoted to the publication of matter that has no connection with current events and hence is unsuitable to a newspaper. This it is that has led people to call the *Yomiuri* the "daily magazine."

Mr. Ikebe, the editor of the Tōkyō *Asahi*, has studied French. For some time he wrote to the *Nihon* under the pseudonym of "Tetsukonron." Those letters were much admired for their lucidity and pointedness.

Mr. Ishikawa Kammei, of the *Jiji Shimpō*, is too much overshadowed by Mr. Fukuzawa to be often heard of. But most of the leaders in the *Jiji* are from his pen. He manages to personate Mr. Fukuzawa in a striking manner. His articles read as though they had been written by the Mita sage himself. His language is always clear and to the point. Mr. Kikuchi Gunzō, on the staff of the *Nichi Nichi*, who edited the paper while Mr. Asaina was in Europe, is worthy of honourable mention. His style very much resembles that of Mr. Asaina. Mr. Ninomiya Kumajirō, of the *Kokka*, also deserves notice. Among rising journalists Mr. Tagawa Daikichirō, of the *Hōchi*, Mr. Kayahara Rentarō, of the *Jimmin*, Mr. Ishikawa Yasujirō, of the *Mainichi*, and Mr. Onjōji Kiyoshi, of the *Yorozu Chōhō*, are the chief. Our leading journalists are all editors or leader writers. A literary man acting in the capacity of manager of a paper is not to be found among us. This is a defect which renders the columns of newspapers very unequal reading.

A Reuter's telegram bearing date, London Nov. 23rd, which appears in Shanghai papers, says:—Mr. Chamberlain was at Hatfield on Wednesday and visited Windsor on Thursday. After holding a conference with Count Hatzfeld, he was received by Herr von Bülow and H.I.M. the German Emperor.

THE ENGLISH EDITOR OF THE "YELLOW JOURNAL" OF JAPAN.

We have received assurances that the Tokyo correspondent of the *Japan Herald* is in no way connected with the *Yorozu Choho*, and we must certainly apologise to that gentleman for suspecting him of such association.

LATE VICE PRESIDENT HOBART.

When the last mail left America, it was thought that Vice-President Hobart's days were numbered. For some time, remarks a correspondent, it had been known to his intimate friends that his real ailment was heart disease superinduced by stomach disorder. He was personally the most popular member of the administration. As a presiding officer of the Senate he was popular, his rulings uniformly fair and his influence on questions of party policy in the Senate very marked. He did not, like most vice-presidents, stand as a mere figure-head in the administration. His judgment was consulted by the President and Cabinet officers.

The nomination of Mr. John W. Griggs as attorney-general was a personal triumph for the vice-president. One of Mr. Hobart's Paterson neighbours said that Mr. Griggs would probably never have figured in national affairs but for Mr. Hobart. The latter always liked young and able men. He urged Mr. Griggs first for the State Legislature, later for Governor, and finally put him in the Cabinet. Vice-President Hobart brought about the resignation of Secretary Alger, when other influences failed.

At the Vice-President's home some of the most pleasant social entertainments of Washington were given. He and Mrs. Hobart were widely famed as host and hostess. It was here the Vice President was first stricken with what appeared to be only a case of indigestion, but was later diagnosed as stomach trouble. The ailment clung to him tenaciously and was ultimately accompanied by sympathetic heart trouble. Being fond of society and naturally genial of disposition, he participated freely in the gaieties of the capital and accepted the invitations so freely tendered. This was his physical undoing.

Few men who wielded the influence he did in Washington have been so democratic. He knew every page and messenger of the senate by his first name. They knew and loved him. He was charitable and ever ready to do them a kindness.

For some time it has been apparent to republican leaders close to the President that Mr. Hobart would not be his running mate in 1900. His condition of health forbade it. All sorts of conjectures have been indulged in as to his successor on the ticket. If Theodore Roosevelt will accept it he will likely be the man. He is preferred, but it is the judgment of Roosevelt's friends that he dreads the oblivion that has been historically associated with the office. The names of General Fred Funston, General Fred Grant and others are heard. A New York or New England man, it is said, will be preferred, and Secretary Elihu Root's name is discussed. As to the name of Mr. Hobert's official successor for the rest of the term there can be no doubt. The constitution provides the president pro tempore of the senate shall act, and Senator William P. Frye of Maine would be the man.

A former resident of Yokohama, Mr. S. H. O'Dell, has sailed for the Cape with the British Columbia contingent. The party—50 in all—left Vancouver on October 23rd, and the *News-Advertiser* says a graceful token from the contingent was received dated: North Bend 9.45 p.m. *News Advertiser*, Vancouver, Victoria boys thank Vancouver most heartily for their share of enthusiastic send off. Seymour Hastings O'Dell.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TIDAL WAVE RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The contributors to the Yokohama fund for the relief of the Tidal Wave Sufferers, three years ago, will be gratified to learn that their generosity at that time is still gratefully remembered. When I had finished the work with which I was honoured in the distribution of this fund, I made a full report, which was kindly published in the *Japan Mail*: the substance of its appeared also, I think, in other papers. Since then I have, at different times, received letters expressive of gratitude but not of a nature that seemed to call for public mention. This week, however, a substantial testimonial has come from the Government, and in justice to those whose gifts I handled demand that it should be reported at least to the readers of the *Japan Mail*.

In response to a summons, I went on Tuesday to the *Kencho* at Yokohama and became the recipient of a *Kimpai*, or gold cup. The Governor in person presented it together with a document stating that it was in recognition of the more than five thousand *yen* I had disbursed at the time of the tidal wave. I need scarcely say that I was wholly unprepared for such an unmerited reward (*hobi*). The official document with my name and nationality inserted was dated a week or more earlier than the day I was summoned, and there was nothing for me to do but to humbly accept. I felt, as others may feel, that if the Government was gracious enough to confer such an honour, it would more fittingly fall on Mr. Chas. V. Sale—so active in collecting and forwarding money and articles needed—than on the one who did but distribute them. I accordingly wrote Mr. Sale about my taking some steps to have the laurels placed on the head that should wear them, but he most generously asserts that no change ought to be made, and insists that none shall.

The cup is a beautiful one, adorned with the Imperial *kiri* crest. It is also of intrinsic value,—a value which, owing to the amount of its gold, its workmanship, &c., has been estimated at from two hundred and fifty to three hundred and fifty *yen*. Its gift at this time adds another to the evidences the Government has already given of its desire to be on friendly terms with resident foreigners.

Respectively submitted,

ALBERT ARNOLD BENNETT.

Yokohama, Nov. 25th, 1899.

THE "YORODZU'S" ENGLISH COLUMN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the "pink" journal, the *Yorozu*, of yesterday's date, which is the Japanese equivalent for yellow journal, I noticed a diatribe against your paper. As a matter of fact, the *Yorozu* has no clean record, being made up of lies and scandals. Its English editor, a youth with no creditable history, is known as possessing a remarkable faculty for joining together sentences taken from various sources. He has foreign papers to take his materials from. His own writing is soon detected, whenever it is interwoven, from the context of the appropriated sentence or article, as it invariably shows crude workmanship and awkward English. As a rule, nothing original or strikingly happy in its conception appears in the *Yorozu's* English column. It contents itself with the undignified rôle of copying others' ideas. To quote one instance, the *Yorozu* in the beginning of the article replying to your criticism, steals the following paragraph from the *Japan Herald* of some two weeks ago:—"He is credited to say mostly the opposite of what he believes." Then, last month the Tokyo correspondent of the *Herald* published in that journal a cleverly written review of the Japanese papers. Later on I find the *Yorozu*, in the course of its comments on the foreign press in Japan, imitating faithfully the style of the said correspondent. Even some of the sentences begin with exact reproductions from his writing.

In the beginning, when the *Yorozu* was started years ago, it attracted the public's attention on account of its trenchant, though sometimes too virulent, criticisms of the Government then in power. The writer was, it is stated on very good authority, threatened with expulsion from the country for his writings. He became ill and cut off his connection with the paper. Then he was succeeded by an American, then followed by a Japanese Christian who had a missionary to assist him. Then he resigned, to be succeeded by the present editor. It is a well known fact that the educated Japanese are disgusted with the wretched aping manner in which its English column is conducted. The proprietors do not spend a sen for having their English column revised by a foreigner. If there was ever a foreigner connected with it, such difference of quality and style, as is witnessed, would never be shown in its English articles, the very fact warrants the premise that they were the work of more than one man, whether paid for or purloined from other sources. But if it is true, as you write, that a foreigner is inditing the articles, he is a man, I should think, who has not the least claim to do anything with enlightened journalism.

Enclosing my card and thanking you in anticipation.

I remain yours, etc.,

SEKEN SHIRAZU.

Tokyo, Nov. 22nd, 1899.

FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS

I am glad to see that "Student" has ceased trying to refute my deductions in general, and now restricts himself to one point only. Before finally disposing of this point also, I beg leave to state that I never said, as "Student" asserts, that "the wording of the Anglo-Japanese treaty must give way to the technical terminology of the new Commercial Code"; but what I said is that the technical terminology of treaties made before the Codes came into existence cannot be made use of for interpreting the technical terminology of the Codes. This is a very different thing.

The last point raised by "Student" can easily be disposed of, because it is also based upon a mere misunderstanding of the wording of the treaties. The treaties referred to by "Student" are the British, German and Austrian. The passages in question read as follows:—

1. British treaty, Art. 3: "The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the dominions of the other, either in person or by agents, *singly or in partnerships* with foreigners or native subjects."

2. German treaty, Art. 4: "Die Angehörigen eines jeden der vertragschliessenden Theile dürfen überall in den Gebieten des anderen Handel treiben, sei es persönlich oder durch Beauftragte, *einzeln* oder *in Vereinigung* mit Fremden oder Inländern." (The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the dominions of the other, either in person or by agents, *singly or in combination* with foreigners or native subjects.")

3. Austrian treaty, Art. 3: "Les ressortants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront en quelque lieu que ce soit des territoires de l'autre faire le commerce, soit en personne, soit par leurs agents, *seuls ou en entrant en société* avec des étrangers ou avec des nationaux."

These three provisions are apparently equivalent to each other and are intended to bear the same meaning. In Japanese the essential part of all of them is translated in the same way: "*Ichijin nite aruiwa gaikokujin moshikuwa naikokushimmin to kumiai wo musubite.*" Now if "Student's" interpretation according to which the treaties use the word *kumiai* as equivalent to "ordinary partnerships" were right, foreigners would under the treaties only have acquired the right to do business either as single merchants or in the form of ordinary partnerships, but they would not be entitled to establish Joint Stock Companies; and therefore "Student's" interpretation would not bestow a privilege upon foreigners, as he believes, but would deprive them of a very substantial and important right. But the mistake of "Student" lies clearly before the eyes. He has been led astray by the English text. He interpreted the words "in partnerships with" in a too narrow sense. In this phrase the word "partnership" is opposed to "singly" and is used not to designate "ordinary partnerships" only, but all kinds of commercial business to be done *in common*. This may be in ordinary partnerships, but also in Joint Stock Companies. That this is the meaning of Art. 3 of the British treaty is clearly shown by the corresponding articles of the other treaties, especially those mentioned by "Student," namely the German and Austrian. The corresponding German words are "in Vereinigung mit," and any German in Yokohama could have told "Student" that these words mean not "as ordinary partnerships," but "in combination with, jointly with," and that their intention is to secure to Germans the right to do business together in any of the forms found in Japanese law, in partnerships as well as in Joint Stock Companies. I cannot but express my astonishment at the audacity with which "Student" refers to the German treaty as an evidence for his assertions, while in the contrary the very wording of this treaty fully shows their fallacity. The same is the case with the Austrian treaty, whose original text is French. The French use the word "société" not only for ordinary partnerships (sociétés en nom collectif), but also for Joint Stock Companies, (sociétés anonymes), so that the meaning of the Austrian treaty fully agrees with that of the German.

This shows clearly that the Japanese translation—*kumiai wo musubite*—of the words "in partnerships with" "in Vereinigung mit," "en société avec" simply means "in combination with, jointly with" and that the word *kumiai* is not used in the treaties as equivalent for partnerships in the sense of the English Partnership Act. Thus also the last point of "Student" falls hopelessly to the ground.

The following facts have been fully proved by me, namely,

1. That *kumiai*, which is only a private agreement under the general law and not able to create the legal standing of a firm, is absolutely unfit for mercantile business;

2. That *gomei kwaisha*, not *kumiai* is the equivalent of English, German and French commercial partnerships; and

3. That even in the treaties *kumiai* is not used to signify "commercial partnerships" in the sense of the English Partnership Act.

This disposes finally of "Student's" deductions, and I may be allowed to add that I regret every single minute of my little spare time which I have been obliged to sacrifice to a discussion whose basis was not an objective uncertainty of the law, but simply a mere misunderstanding on the other side.

DR. L. LOENHOLM.

Tokyo, November 19th, 1899.

The Thanksgiving Service at Union Church, Yokohama, on Thursday was of the heartiest description. The Rev. A. A. Bennett preached a most appropriate sermon from the words, "To whom much has been given, of him shall much be required." The decorations were very ornate and suitable.

Yokohama was made gay on Thursday by the return of 1,200 time expired conscripts belonging to the town and the departure of about a similar number of new conscripts for various garrisons in Japan. A band of music (?) and many coolies bearing huge scrolls of laudatory ideographs escorted the lads to their homes or to the railway station.

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THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

The association of ladies known by the title of "the King's Daughters" held a highly successful holiday fair in the Public Hall on Friday afternoon, the object of the gathering being the provision of the nucleus for an Emergency Fund. The bazaar was capitally arranged, and the tasteful manner in which the hall was decorated, almost entirely by members of the circle, was most creditable to the fair workers. At the entrance to the large hall was an elaborately arranged flower stall, taking the form of an arbour gay with morning glory and other artificial flowers, while the choice blooms and buttonholes which formed the stock-in-trade made a very pleasant picture. The holders of this stall were Mrs. Gowey, in charge, Misses Bessie Burns, Annie Moss, and Addie Page. Close to this was a Dutch windmill large enough to strike terror into the heart even of the dauntless Don Quixote, and to make Rosinante rear and neigh in terror. A coolie situated in the dark and mysterious background made the sails revolve at decent intervals, for even the best of windmills will not go of itself without wind, and in this case the wind had still to be raised. The ladies in attendance at this stall, which was stocked with fancy articles, appropriately wore Dutch caps—or at any rate caps that were not English or American, which is really much the same thing. They were Mrs. Borthwick and Miss Nickerson in charge, and Mrs. Sampson, Misses Daisy Abbey and Carol Merriman. The space generally occupied by the stage was arranged for refreshments, and was very artistically done by Messrs. Bœhmer and Co., festoons of wistaria hanging from the ceiling, while pot plants were placed here and there by the daintily decorated tables. Mrs. Lowder was in charge, assisted by Misses Maydie Cahusac, Frances Cameron, Rosa Cameron, Cissie Carst, Jennie Manley, Dorothy Page, and Kate Page. The sweet stall was in the centre of the hall, and the fair attendants here were Mrs. Ioline, Misses Sophie Dewette, Rosa Kuhn, and Gertrude Page. A cushion and pillow stall was under the management of Mrs. Scidmore, assisted by Misses Alice Goddard, Bella Goddard, and Helena Page, while there was a second fancy stall under the supervision of Mrs Hubbard, who received assistance from Misses Violet Abbey, Lizzie Herb, Hilda Page, Annie Watt, Jane Watt, and Edith Wilson. The New England Kitchen was just beneath the Gallery, and was arranged with canvas walls painted like red brick, with a kitchen range to add verisimilitude to what might have otherwise been bald and unconvincing. Inside were exposed for sale cakes of all kinds. The ladies presiding here were Mrs. Manley, Miss Gertrude Mendelson, and Miss May Merriman.

The eighth anniversary of the Yokohama Circle of The King's Daughters was very appropriately celebrated on Saturday evening by a very bright entertainment at the Public Hall, when the whole 35 active members literally covered themselves with glory There was a good attendance. After a spirited overture by the Town Band—which, by-the-way, deserves special commendation for the great improvement in technique, expression, and sympathetic treatment of its themes displayed of late—the curtain rang up upon the first scene in the burlesque of "Bluebeard." The burlesque followed the traditional lines of all dainty "skiet" on the dear old fairy legend, and of course was chock-full of the most atrocious puns, puns which the fair, girlish players delivered most roguishly and with keen appreciation of their shocking badness. But all this is by-the-way. The programme was silent as to the real names of the performers, and so we must respect the proprieties and keep the secret too, though long before the evening was through it was a *secret de la comédie*. Seldom have we seen a more winsome *Fatima* or a more magnificently wicked *Bluebeard*; while *Anne*, sweet sister Anne, was incomparable. The young ladies spoke up well, their enunciation leaving nothing to be desired, and their deportment did credit to the old stagehand that trained them. But if the acting was good, the dancing was better; so good in fact was it that *Bluebeard* and *Fatima* were recalled to go through their graceful steps again. The Ghost Dance of the *Dear Departed* was very weird, and many in the house felt quite "creepy" before the curtain finally fell on the deluded victims of *Bluebeard's* jealousy. Poor *Bluebeard*, we think he deserved a more artistic and less sudden killing off than the little Chinese Military Mandarin effected, though the strokes and capers of the tiny fellow were very wondrous and quite too-too Gilbertian in their mimic savagery. Then "a vision splendid" flashed before us as sixteen sweetly bold warriors marched on, in all the glory of gorgeous baggy Turkish attire, and commenced a series of evolutions quite *à la militaire* (as it is known to stageland). Of course the gallant band were recalled, and so were the principals. Altogether *Bluebeard* is one of the prettiest things that any young ladies have placed upon the Yokohama stage.

Part the Second was occupied entirely by "The Animated Song Sheet,' and introduced a buxom "niggah gal" with a charming voice, whose living music sheet proved as well-trained as it was mirth-provoking. Another recall must be placed on record. Part III. was rather a disconnected piece of work, but it served to bring before the public several fresh young voices which we trust will be heard frequently in the future. The decorations of *Mrs. Geo. W. Johnson's* inquiry office were fully up to date, one of the "business announcements" reading, "To Let, An Australian Race Horse." Mrs. T. J. Morriss is to be congratulated on the success achieved by her band of spirited young ladies; they have earned the thanks of many for their kindly charity to the sick and suffering in the past, and they may now honestly take to themselves the thanks of a very well-pleased house for Saturday's entertainment. Thanks are also due to Mrs. Manley for her accompaniments to the songs and incidental dances.

The performance, we are glad to hear, is to be repeated.

THE "KOENIG ALBERT."

A visit to the *Koenig Albert* convinces one that it is not only her size that makes the German liner remarkable. She is fitted in a manner for which we in the Far East are unaccustomed to look, though probably the appointments are no newer nor better than on many of the more important American, South African, and Australian liners. It would be an exhausting task to describe every little contrivance adopted to add to the comfort and luxury of the passengers—the heating apparatus for cool latitudes, the cooling apparatus for the tropics, the manifold conveniences in the cabins, the gorgeous saloons and smoke-rooms, the thousand and one details down to the printing office where each day's menus are turned out by a gentlemen who is compositor, machinist, and proof reader in one. One suite of rooms—bedroom, sitting room, and bath room—which is reserved for the caste of Vere de Vere or Vanderbilt, is almost too luxurious. The saloons, ladies' room, and smoke room are spacious, and very elaborately decorated—perhaps, indeed, a happier effect would have been arrived at by more simplicity. The plan of decoration is quite German, and does not, in our opinion, compare favourably with the scheme followed in the larger and newer of the M. M boats. This, however, is a small point, and the traveller would indeed be foolishly fastidious who let it obscure the solid advantages of generously spacious cabins, fine airy saloons, good promenade decks, and the hundred et ceteras which make life at sea a pleasant experience. There is a true German thoroughness in all the working departments of the ship—from the mighty engine room down to the smallest winch on deck. It is worth notice that the trial of an apparatus for lowering the temperature of the berths—much on the same principle as a coil radiator—has proved most successful. Sir Claude MacDonald, who travelled to China on board the *Koenig Albert*, found it necessary to use a couple of blankets even in the tropics.

BUSINESS NOTES.

The *Nichi Nichi* gives the amount realized by the Shinyetsu railway from freight during the past month as follows:—Naoyetsu section, 13,555 *yen*; Nagano, 2,643 *yen*; Uyeda, 2,028; Oya, 2,021; Takada, 1,915; Toyono, 935; Komoro, 853; Arai, 805; Kashiwabara, 722; Yoshida, 706; Yokokawa, 467; Miyota, 457; Iizuka, 445; Karuizawa, 416; Yashiro, 405; Taguchi, 300. Among the government railways Naoyetsu occupies the fifth rank in respect of receipts.

The *Shogyo* gives the following statement regarding the notes issued by the Formosa Bank.

Average per week.	Amount of issue. Yen.	Reserve Silver. Yen.
Oct. 16-21	434,051,000	434,051,000
Oct. 23-28	426,628,000	426,628,000
Oct. 30-Nov 4..	921,711,000	921,711,000
Nov. 6-11	1,036,923,000	1,036,923,000

The Formosan Bank thus doubled its issue of convertible notes between the middle of October and the middle of November.

The journal quoted above states that owing to a decline in the export of coal, caused by scarcity of steamers, the foreign trade of Moji remains nearly the same as last month, the figures for exports and imports for the first half of this month being 70,173 *yen* and 15,167 *yen* respectively. The amount of ships' supplies, however, seems to have exceeded 42,000 *yen*. The customs receipts for the term referred to aggregated 803 *yen* in tonnage, 681 *yen* in import dues, and 135 *yen* in miscellaneous receipts, making a total of 1,621 *yen*.

Investigations made at the Hiroshima Prefectural Office, as published in the vernacular journals, show that immigrants from Hiroshima Prefecture to Hawaii during the 31st year of *Meiji* (1898) numbered 5,310, which, together with the former estimate, makes a total of 15,194. Of these labourers 822 returned to Japan, carrying with them specie to the amount of 203,736 *yen*, while 3,956 still in Hawaii are reported to have sent remittances amounting to 409,815 *yen*, which, added to the former amount, will make an aggregate of 613,951 *yen*. Of this sum 205,503 *yen* were set apart as savings; 111,676 *yen* were appropriated for the purchase of household properties as well as farming implements, 176,120 *yen* employed to pay off debts, and the remaining 120,250 *yen* to meet miscellaneous expenses.

Intelligence from Tacoma published by the *Shogyo* announces that various steamship companies maintaining services between Japan, China, and the United States have, in conjunction with the Great Northern Railway Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, as well as the Northern Pacific, the East and West Pacific, and the Japan Steam Navigation Companies, determined to raise the rate of freight on flour and timber. Hitherto flour exported from Tacoma to Japan and China has been charged $10 per ton, while that from San Francisco had to pay freight of $4 American gold (8 *Yen* in Japanese currency.) The rate is now to be raised to $12 American gold from the 1st of November and the freight on timber will be increased by 25 per cent.

Lord Rosebury, in a speech at a private dinner of politicians, referred to the unfriendliness of the foreign Press and foreign public opinion. He said:—"This is no little war. There are nations watching with eagerness every trip, every stumble, and much more every catastrophe and disaster that may overtake our arms. War waged under these conditions, therefore, is not a little war. I do not know why we should

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attract such ill-feeling. There is one simple test that will apply to the British empire as compared with other empires who watch her with so much, I won't say malevolence, but candid feeling. We would be only too glad at the present moment to strike a bargain with the world that every frontier should remain as now. Of what other empire can that be said? Yet we, who are not trying to gain, but to maintain an empire;—we, who in the best and highest sense are the most conservative force in the world, are the object of the concealed dislike of Governments who, I think, are less single-minded than ourselves."

The number of men who have obtained licences to gather gold dust in Hokkaido this year totals 2,500, according to the *Mainichi*. They are chiefly, with the exception of fifty who were formerly coal miners in Sorachi futo, Utashinai, and Yubari, fishermen from various provinces in the North and labourers from Akita, Iwate, and Aomori. The implements or appliances which they are using are extremely imperfect, consisting only of buckets, planks, levers, saws, and mats. Steps are now being taken by officials of the Mining Superintendence Office to supply suitable tools which will greatly facilitate the enterprise. It is said that as the mining district is about 8 *ri* distant from the abodes of the labourers, they generally provide themselves with tents, blankets, and food, while they have to force their way through trackless woods for two days to reach the placers. They carry on their work in small companies of eight or six persons.

According to the *Shogyo*, a special meeting of the Japan Industrial Bank was held on the 24th instant with a view to securing the election of Directors and Overseers to posts which have recently become vacant, and also to discuss the method of raising bonds. Messrs. Igarashi Keishi and Kawakami Naonosuke were appointed to the vacant posts, the former as Director and the latter as Overseer. With regard to the issue of debentures, full powers were vested in the President. The most important points decided were as follows:—First, the total amount of debentures is to be limited to three million *yen* issuable at one or several periods at the convenience of the Bank; secondly, the face value of debentures is to be 20 *yen*; bearing not more than 5 per cent. interest per annum; thirdly, they are to be issued above par and are not to be redeemable until the lapse of one year; fourthly, the full period of redemption shall be 40 years; fifthly, redemption shall take place each year by lot; and lastly the amount of premium, if any is attached to the debentures, is to be determined by the President at the time of issue. As, however, a quorom of shareholders was not present the above items were passed in the form of provisional resolutions.

Since Yokohama is singularly liable to attacks of dysentery and pest every year, the Governor of Kanagawa recently issued instructions to enforce a special method of cleansing and inspection throughout the town. The citizens are now required to cleanse the inside as well as the outside of their dwellings removing at the same time all dust or impurities that may be found under the floors. Any family infected by the plague or the inmates of any dwelling which is considered to be situated on damp ground are now compelled to keep their carpets and clothing dried from time to time, and to spread lime under the floor and in the water closets. They must also maintain the drains in good order. Moreover, they are required to provide a special box for dirt and rubbish, and to repair at once all closets, drains, and washing places which are in bad condition. When all these precautionary measures are adopted, official inspection will follow, and if the works of improvement thus undertaken are considered unsatisfactory, they must be undertaken again without delay. The *Jiji* is our authority for this statement.

With regard to the question of the State purchase of private railways, the *Maiseki Shimbun* states that many politicians who applied to the principal officials of the railway companies with a view to extort from them so-called *undobi*, or promotion expenses, were met with positive refusals. Whether on this account or from some other cause Mr. Hoshi is represented as having become extremely indifferent to the scheme of State ownership. The Government, on the other hand, has now openly displayed its inability to take up the project owing to lack of funds. Would it be possible to resort to a public loan, asks our contemporary? Success of course is doubtful in so far as the present financial condition of the country is concerned, but how would a foreign loan suit? Admitting that a domestic loan could be raised, the eventual result, in our contemporary's opinion, would be economic confusion. For these reasons any programme involving the appropriation of 220 million *yen* is certainly to be rejected by the Diet. Nor is it likely that a scheme to disburse only 300,000 *yen* for the present would be app oved.

The silk market in Yokohama continues quiet, says the *Nippon*. Large purchases made by the Doshinsha, however, seem to have led to a certain degree of activity. Foreign merchants in general are looking for telegrams from home, most of them anticipating a downward tendency. Quotations at present stand as follows:—Joshiu *Zakuri*, 1,230 *yen*; "Five Girl" brand 1,280 *yen*; Joshiu filatures, 1,300; Shimosa filatures, 1,260; Bungo silk, 1,290; Kazusa, 1,275; *Orikayeshi*, 1,250. The stock on the 25th instant amounted to 9,280 bales, while arrivals did not fall short of 533, thus making a total of 9,813. Of this amount 58 bales were sent to the various provinces and 107 were taken over by the merchants of the port, leaving a balance of 9,647. The stock is classified as follows:—Filatures, 3,638 bales; *Zakuri*, 3,792; hanks and *Orikaveshi*, 1 975; Ou, Sendai, and Hamatsuki silk, 242; total 9,647. In waste silk but little business is done, buyers hesitating to enter into any large transactions. Negotiations, however, are said to have been concluded with the firms at No. 163 and No. 91 for the sale of waste *Zakuri* to the amount of some 300 bales.

The *Osaka Asahi* publishes a table showing the average rate of interest on loans in Osaka during October last:—

LOANS ISSUED ON SECURITY.

Up to	Maximum interest. Sen.	Minimum interest. Sen.	Average. Sen.
1,000 *yen*	2.15	1 86	1 99
10,000 *yen*	2 12	1 87	2 05
Above 10,000 *yen*.	2 09	1 85	1 96

LOANS ISSUED ON CREDIT.

Up to 100 *yen*	2 52	2 07	2 28
" 10,000 *yen*	2 39	2 01	2 17
Above 10,000 *en*	2 25	1 88	2 05
Daily interest on discounted notes	2 22	1.68	1 86
Daily interest on over drafts	2.39	2 07	2 21
Daily interest on on temporary deposits	1 14	0 93	1.05
Annual interest on fixed deposits	0.65	0 543	0 578

The corresponding figures ascertained by the banks in Tokyo were as follows:—

Interest.	Maximum. Sen.	Minimum. Sen.	Average. Sen.
Loans issued	2 43	2 12	2 24
Discounted bills.	2 15	1.89	2.14
Temporary deposits	1 4	1 21	1 26
Fixed deposits	0 61	0 552	0.558

The shrewdness of Osaka merchants and manufacturers is almost proverbial, says the *Shogyo*. They have never hesitated at anything where pecuniary interests were concerned. The least bungling on the part of bankers, however, has always thrown them into confusion or embarrassment; and other irregularities to which their system is liable have frequently proved disastrous to the whole financial community of Osaka. The bankers, too eager for the acquisition of immediate profits, are wanting, in our contemporary's opinion, in that far-sighted precaution which alone enables them to discharge their functions in a legitimate or satisfactory manner. The abuses in which they are now involved appear to have reached a climax. Early in the latter half of this year, dullness in the money market became universal throughout the empire, and Osaka seems to have experienced a sudden influx of currency from the various provinces in Kinai as well as from Chiugoku and Kinshiu. It was at this time that the city boasted of the lowest rate of interest on loans. The banks not only vied with each other in issuing loans, on the security of rice which was then accummulated in the various godowns to the amount of over 500,000 *koku*, but also sought to dispose of their funds against whatever goods they considered fair security. In short, they only devoted their attention to issuing as large an amount of loans as possible, taking little or no precaution as to the quality of securities placed in their hands. The out-turn of the rice crop for this year, together with the restoration in the price of the staple, has suddenly increased the demand for loans, and it is now feared that the banks will not be able to meet the contingency.

According to vernacular papers the results of transactions concluded by the various banks in Tokyo during the past two months were as follows:—

	During October. Yen.	During September. Yen.	Increase or Decrease. Yen.
Fixed deposits	24,862,562	24,973,500	110,938
Temporary deposits	39,504,632	36,909,069	+2,598,563
Savings and other deposits	11,496,142	11,299,589	196,556
Miscellaneous deposits	16,825,789	16,847,490	21,701
Appreciable bonds	48,527,415	46,576,169	+1,951,246
Loans issued	20,350,003	21,285,568	935,965
Temporary overdrafts	17,890,694	17,803,113	87,581
Discounted notes	65,119,503	63,906,679	+1,212,824
Gold and silver coins	11,472,999	10,754,495	718,504
Remittances issued	14,079,237	11,802,917	+2,276,320
Remittances paid	29,297,419	26,044,078	+3,253,341
Money advanced on goods	633,343	562,349	70,994
Funds of this nature restored	2,646,215	2,726,949	80,736
Discount notes from other banks and miscellaneous receipts	7,017,552	6,196,739	820,813
Other receipts of a similar nature.	9,176,012	9,652,438	476,426

On the 26th instant the Bank of Japan's issue of convertible notes, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, amounted to 217 million *yen* against 85 millions in loans and discounted notes, thus reducing the margin of note issue to only 2 millions approximately. The close of the month being at hand, the demand for loans is rapidly increasing, and it is anticipated that the Bank will be obliged to further augment its issue by 90 millions. Recourse to an issue over the legal limit will probably be inevitable, but the Bank, is considering some other method of meeting the contingency.

From January to October there was an excess of exports over imports in gold and silver to the amount of 7 million *yen*, remarks the *Jimmin*. Exchange rates at the beginning of June stood at 2s. $\frac{11}{16}$d., but now they have fallen to 2s. $\frac{7}{16}$d. Remittances from London to Japan, for which 2s. $\frac{1}{2}$d. was paid on the 1st June could be sent in August at the lower rate of 2s. $\frac{1}{4}$d., and at present the rate has been further reduced to 2s. $\frac{1}{8}$d. From these circumstances apprehension is entertained by our contemporary that an exodus of Japanese specie will be inevitable.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A doctor was seized with Pest on the 25th inst. at Okayama. Information was received by the Kotobukicho Police. So far the reported cases of Pest have numbered eleven, and all the patients have died.

On Saturday, the Water Police arrested at Yokohama three Japanese women who were trying to stow away on the *America Maru*. They acknowledged that their purpose was to pursue an immoral life.

The remains of Mr. Sato Kizaemon, formerly Mayor of Yokohama, who died in Honolulu, were interred at Yokohama on Sunday at 2 p.m. The cortège included a large number of the leading Japanese residents of the town.

Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle, who but recently gave up the command at Devonport, will start shortly, with Lady Fremantle, for India, on a visit to two of their sons, who are stationed out there, and will probably return *vid* Japan.

The death is announced at the age of 68 of Mrs. Louise Pierson, one of the veterans in the Missionary body in Japan. For more than 28 years she was connected with the Women's Union Missionary Society, and her life was an example of unostentatious charity and simple piety.

The case of the Japan (Kirin) Brewery Company against a Japanese dealer, in which 2,500 *yen* damages are claimed for infringement of trade labels, was partly heard in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, but has been adjourned to December 11th. Forty empty bottles were produced in Court.

A clerk on his way to the German Legation at Peking, named Hans Lange, who embarked on board the German mail steamer *Koenig Albert* at Genoa, committed suicide by shooting himself while the vessel was lying at Woosung. Trouble of a private nature is supposed to have led to the act.—*N. C. Daily News.*

Major Alfred A. E. Wrottesley, R.E., who was stationed in Hongkong a few years ago, has been drowned at Teneriffe, probably whilst bathing. He was brother of Lord Wrottesley, whose son, Captain the Hon. W. Wrottesley, died at sea while returning home from India a few weeks ago, thus wiping the name out of Army list within a month, except for another uncle, who is retired.

The hearing of the appeal in the label case —Wilkinson v. the Ishimichi Koosen Kabushiki Kaisha—took place before Judge Fukano and his associates, Messrs. Tooyama, Tamaka, Tanimura, and Yanagida, at the Osaka Koko In on Tuesday afternoon. Mr J. C. Wilkinson was represented by Mr. Masujima Rokuichiro, and Messrs. Ishimichi Koosen Kabushiki Kaisha by Mr Tai Yoonosuke. Judgment was reserved for the 5th December next.

A telegram has been received from New York, to the effect that the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York has just handed down a decision in favour of the defendant in the case of the Bank of China Japan, and the Straits, Limited, v. Morse, and has reversed the judgment obtained some months ago by the Bank against Morse as a shareholder in respect of his alleged liability to pay calls made by the liquidator under the scheme for the reconstruction of the plaintiff company.

In the Yokohama District Court on Tuesday morning the hearing was commenced of an action brought by Mr Ishii Kenji, a silk dealer of Nanjo, Shizuoka Prefecture, against Mr J. Bockart, of Messrs. Oppenheimer Freres. The plaintiff and defendant were respectively represented by Messrs. Ogura and Ota. The plaintiff in his petition to the Court stated that he entered into a contract with the defendant on May 20th, 1899, for the purchase of 120 cases of alcohol valued at *yen* 18,744, and paid to the defendant firm *yen* 1,100 as bargain money. The defendant, however, failed to carry out the contract within the time contracted for. The plaintiff therefore prayed the Court for an order on the defendant to fulfil the contract. After hearing statements on both sides the Court adjourned till December 26th.

The Yokohama Chiho Saibansho has sentenced a man named Makino Shuichi, formerly in the employ of Messrs. C. Illies & Co., to two years and six months' hard labour, succeeded by six months' police surveillance. Prisoner stole a cheque for *yen* 66.60 drawn on the Mitsui Bank by a foreign firm in favour of Captain Weston, and cashed it at a Chinese exchange-shop.

The writer of "Brothers-in-arms" in the *London Letter* has a note on British naval leave-breakers on the China station. He says:—

I am sorry to hear that there has been a good deal of leave-breaking in Japan on the part of the men belonging to the squadron in the Far East, and that there have been several cases of attempted desertion. In the Channel and Mediterranean squadrons—to take two instances—things are very different, and one is led to inquire whether there is any explanation for the exceptional behaviour of our men in Japanese waters.

The Yokohama police force is composed as follows:—

The Chief is Mr. Kuroiwa Tomoyoshi, whose headquarters are the Central Station, next to the Post Office. The Bluff Police number 90 with three *keibu*, or Inspectors, under control of Mr. Okada Kataro, Chief Inspector. There are 123 policemen at the Kagacho or Settlement Police Station, Chief Inspector Mr. Ikariyama Susumu; 60 policemen at the Kotobukicho Police Station, which has control of the Yoshiwara district and its neighbourhood, where all the lowest and poorest people reside (Mr. Sakakibara Katsuishi is Inspector); 113 policeman under four Inspectors at the Isezakicho Police Station, Chief Inspector Noda Kofu; and 33 policemen at the Water Police Station under Inspector Yuwasa Hideto-i.

In compliance with the decision of the meeting of the principal officials of the Kwansai Railway Company, held in Tokyo on the 21st instant, measures are shortly to be taken by the Company to construct a new line between Amishima station in Kita-ku, Osaka, and Umeda station on the Government railway, at an estimated cost of 800,000 *yen*. The company also proposes to establish another railway from Hanate to the vicinity of Mizuyoshi bridge at Matsuya cho, Minami-ku, at a cost of 1,400,000 *yen*. The expenditures for the extension of the Umeda line are to be defrayed out of 3,600,000 *yen*, which amount was raised some time ago in the form of increased capital, but part of which—about 720,000 *yen*—still remains unpaid. The line to the Mizuyoshi bridge is to be completed by recourse to fresh loans.

For a genuine, unequivocally bad prediction we think that Labouchere's utterance in *Truth* on the eve of the war "takes the cake":—"The idea of a formal Boer invasion of Natal is chimerical, and can only have originated in the panic stricken imaginations of the Bob Acres family in that colony, who are apparently numerous. The Transvaal Government knows that such a step would be impolitic, and for a volunteer army, without military organisation and without transport, it would be an act of strategic suicide. The only danger of a collision lies in the bellicose spirit of any younger Boers who might stray over the frontier; but there is no indication at present that this element is not well in hand. I may be wrong, but I suspect that the Boer Commander in Chief will have more difficulty during the next month in keeping his burghers from returning home when they find no prospect of fighting, than from crossing the frontier in search of an enemy."

WAR NOTES.

The garrison of Ladysmith is described as being in good spirits and confident, and the troops are said to be full of fight.

According to the *Cape Times* the Boer loss at Reitfontein was 70 killed and 200 wounded. Three hundred horses were captured.

A despatch from The Hague says that Dr. Leyds, the Diplomatic Agent of the Transvaal, has received a friendly intimation that his visits to Holland during the war must cease.

The attitude of England generally is represented with wonderful accuracy and insight by Sir John Tenniel's cartoon in *Punch*. '*Plain English.*—'As you *will* fight, you shall have it. *This* time it's a fight to a finish.'"

Lord Minto, Governor-General of Canada, himself a soldier with a good record, has made a stirring speech in defence of Gen. White, who he declared had won his Cross time after time and who deserved sympathy in his hour of sorrow.

Among those invested at Ladysmith are Col. Rhodes, brother of Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Sir John Willoughby, and it is believed Dr. Jameson, as well as most of the press correspondents and probably the Earl of Ava, son of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava.

Lord Frederick Roberts of Kandahar, commander of the forces in Ireland, while reviewing the troops at Kilkenny, said: "It it useless to disguise the fact that we are engaged in a very serious war—a war which will put our resources and courage to a severe test."

The Sultan of Turkey sent a telegram to the Turkish embassy in London, after hearing of the capture of the squadron of the Eighteenth Hussars, saying it was a great sorrow to him, and he only regretted that he could not come to the aid of his friends, the English.

Exact information about the Boer artillery is lacking, but it is known that General Joubert's detachment, before it was reinforced, consisted of 16 Krupp field pieces of the latest pattern and two heavy Creusot siege guns, which, but for the opportune arrival of the British naval brigade, would have rendered Ladysmith untenable.

At a meeting of the Caithness electors a resolution was unanimously adopted condemning the attitude of Mr. Gavin Brown Clark, Radical, M.P. for the Division, on the South African question, and asking him to resign. Mr. Clark was formerly consul-general of the Transvaal in London.

A despatch from Vryburg dated October 25 gives a report of a speech of Commandant Dalarri when hoisting the Boer flag there. He declared that the flag of the Republic was now flying over the whole country north of Orange River and that the British flag could never again fly there unless hoisted over dead bodies of the burghers.

It is reported from a Boer source that the big gun with which Gen. Cronje had hoped to demolish Mafeking is not a success. It is believed to be a Schneider-Canet gun weighing with the carriage about ten tons. The recoil is so tremendous as to throw the gun out of gear every time it is fired. After using the weapon two days, the Boers gave it up.

Lady Symons, the widow of Gen. W. P. Symons, has received the following cable despatch from the Premier of Natal. "Pietermaritzburg, Oct. 27.—On behalf of the government of Natal I tender you my sincerest sympathy on the death of your husband, who was beloved by all who knew him. He has given his life in defence of this colony."

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, speaking of the war, has declared that Great Britain had brought on the war by her desire for gain. He added that

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"the war against the Boers is most infamous and unjust; it was brought about by England's lust for domain, and is on a par with the United States' attack on the Philippines."

The ease with which the Boers reorganized the German corps, which was almost annihilated at Elandslaagte, and Gen. Lucas Meyer's column shattered at Talana Hill, show, says an American paper, how great are their recuperative powers, and the fertility of their resources. The perseverance the Boers have shown in transporting heavy ordnance and posting it in a commanding position has forced admiration even from their enemies.

Mail news from South Africa shows how inaccurate have been the estimates of the Intelligence Department and the Government experts. It is now gleaned that a fair estimate of the Boer forces is as follows: Around Ladysmith, 25,000; traversing Zululand, 4,000; advancing on Burghersdorp, 5,000; Colesburg, 3,000; Kimberley, 7,000; Mafeking, 4,000; and on the Transvaal border, 7,000; total 55,000

The gloom caused by the British disaster near Ladysmith was in a measure relieved by the story giving an account of the heroic stand made by the decimated battalions until their last cartridges were gone. British nerve was momentarily shaken by General White's use of the word "capitulate" in his first telegram, but it is now known the Gloucesters and Fusiliers fought with their back to the wall against overwhelming odds, and upheld the best traditions of the British army.

A native eye-witness of the battle on Nov. 2nd, near Ladysmith, says the Boers were caught on the open ground and raised several white flags. The British then advanced, without firing to accept the surrender of the Boers, but were received with a volley at close range. Enraged at this treachery, the Lancers, Hussars, and Dragoons, followed by the infantry with fixed bayonets, charged through and through the enemy and did great execution. A lot of prisoners and loot were captured.

The Transvaal and Free State Governments before the war placed large orders with the gunmakers at Le Creusot, but not all the weapons could be delivered owing to the suddenness with which hostilities began. The guns the Boers are actually using are Creusots, 75 millimetre quick-firing and 155 millimetre siege and garrison guns, all mounted on light carriages and adapted in every possible way for use over muddy roads. They had two months' firing practice under competent Creusot agents. If they could have had another month's practice, says an American paper, no European artillerist could have withstood them (!)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

Shanghai, Nov. 24.

The Boers are apparently making a determined rush towards Pietermaritzburz. Their chief force, consisting of 7,000 men with guns, under General Joubert, is reported to be 25 miles from Howick. Three thousand Free State Boers are marching eastward.

Sorties were made from Kimberley on the 16th and 17th. There was sharp fighting, but the British casualties were trifling.

Yesterday the Boers commenced shelling the British camp on the Mooi River, but did no damage.

Clery has been collecting his forces, and resting the newly landed horses.

President McKinley has instructed General Otis to carry out in the Philipines the provisions of the Chinese Exclusion Act as applied in America.

Later.

Methuen has gained a complete victory at Belmont.

The British loss was 58 killed and 167 wounded and missing.

Buller has gone to Natal.

Shanghai, Nov. 27.

General Lord Methuen had a severe fight on Saturday at Graspan. The British troops stormed the position held by the Boers. There was heavy loss on both sides.

[Graspan is a position about 5 miles north of Belmont on the road to Kimberley.]

A despatch from General White dated the 22nd says that the position at Ladysmith was then unchanged.

General Buller has proceeded up country from Durban.

Colonel Wingate has attacked and killed the Khalifa, capturing 9,000 prisoners.

Shanghai, Nov. 28.

The enemy have been driven back in Natal and communications with Estcourt are restored.

Joubert is retiring on Ladysmith. General Buller is at Maryburg.

Hildyard advanced on the 23rd against the enemy at Beaconshill and the Boers retired. The British loss was 14 killed and 50 wounded.

Orders have been issued at Estcourt for a general advance upon Colenso and the Mooi River. The railway has been open to Freere.

There is nothing more from Methuen.

Shanghai, Nov. 29.

The Special Service Squadron has been ordered to Gibraltar after taking part in the farewell ceremony to their German Majesties at Sheerness.

All was well at Ladysmith on the 24th inst.

The total casualties at Graspan were 198.

Ten thousand British troops are now at Frere.

The United States has declined to accept the Samoan agreement, and has submitted instead a draft treaty which it is believed will prove acceptable.

The Japanese torpedo boat destroyer *Kasuga* has sailed for Japan.

Shanghai, Nov. 30.

On the 28th November Lord Methuen attacked the Boers, who occupied a strongly entrenched position on the Modder River. The Boers were 8,000 strong. They had two large guns and 4 Krupps. After desperate fighting, which lasted for 10 hours, the British made the enemy quit their position. The list of casualties has not yet been received.

General Gatacre has occupied Bushmans Hoek.

The Boers are disappearing from the vicinity of Kimberley, and are moving southward.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

Saigon, Nov. 24.

Interrogations in the High Court have terminated and the examination of witnesses has commenced.

A telegram from Durban says that communications with Estcourt have been cut. A body of 7,000 Boers has been observed on the North of Pietermaritzburg.

Saigon, Nov. 25.

The French Chamber of Deputies, discussing the section of the Budget relating to the Department of Commerce, has adopted a motion introduced by Deputy Lemire, pointing to the creation of a Ministry of Labour.

It is telegraphed from London that General Methuen has beaten the Boers at Belmont, on the south of Kimberley. The English casualties were 58 killed and 146 wounded.

Saigon, Nov. 26.

The section of the Budget relating to foreign affairs is causing discussion in the Chamber of Deputies. Mr. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, speaking of the situation in China, said that the French had found a footing in the corner which seemed most suitable; and that what was of most consequence to France in China was that China had pledged herself not to open to any Foreign Power exclusively the provinces adjacent to Indo-China. The Minister added that France should adhere to the policy of keeping China open to all foreign enterprises, and that France's position in China had not suffered any impairment.

M. Delcassé concluded by saying that France had not to seek any colonial aggrandisement, but only to derive the best advantage from her actual possessions, and that the alliance with Russia assured to the country security for the pesent and opened to her long designs for the future.

Saigon, Nov. 29.

Telegrams from London announce that General Methuen has beaten the Boers at Graspan, losing 200 men. The English are advancing in Natal, and the Boers are retreating before them.

Saigon, Nov. 30.

General Methuen has beaten eight thousand Boers on the River Modder. The combat was desperate, and lasted ten hours.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, Nov. 25.

Li Hung-chang has been appointed an Imperial Commissioner for commercial affairs and has been commanded to visit various treaty ports to investigate commercial affairs thoroughly.

(From the "China Mail.")

Shanghai, Nov. 16.

The firm of Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. has offered H. E. Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of Hupeh, a loan of four million marks for fifteen years, at 7 per cent. interest, to enable him to construct a line of railway from the Pingshan coal mines to the iron works at Hanyang.

They ask as security the railway and the coal mines, with, as a *dernier ressort*, the wharves of the China Merchants Steamship Company at Kinleeyuen and Shanghai in case of non-payment.

The scheme awaits the sanction of the Imperial authorities at Peking.

Four girls were arrested by the Water Police on Wednesday afternoon for attempting to stow away on the *Nanyo Maru* bound for Hawaii.

Mr. P. Mackenzie Skinner, for some years editor of the *Hiogo News*, has ceased his connection with the law firm of Mr. W. A. G. Tilleke, of Bangkok, upon the termination of his agreement, and will start work on his own account.

In our advertising columns will be seen the advertisement of Mr. Jno. W. Hall's half-yearly sale of race horses, hacks, carriages, &c., and we see that many of the Negishi favourites are to change hands. The sale will be held at the stables No. 118, and commences at 1 30 p.m. day.

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CHESS.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Friedlander, to whom all Communications on Chess Matters should be addressed, care of *Japan Mail*.]

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 447.

By C. L. Fitch.

(From the *New York Clipper*.)

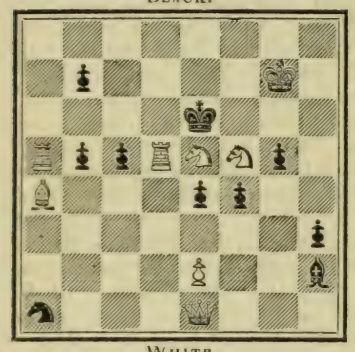
Key-move, K to B 4.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, L.M.A., Marco, Miss S., Voila, and Mariner.

PROBLEM No. 450.

By A. F. Mackenzie.

Black.



White.

White mates in three moves.

Game No. 570.

A Blackburne Brilliant.

Apropos of the proposed testimonial to J. H. Blackburne, the distinguished English master, *The Times*, Philadelphia, publishes a "short and sharp" example of his play. Mr. Blackburne has been one of the Masters for thirty-seven years. Here follows what Herr Reichelm calls one of Blackburne's "bits of Morphy":—

White—Burt. Black—Blackburne.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—B to Kt 2
5—P to Q B 3	5—P to Kt 5

"White's attack, that now follows, is inadequate to the piece-sacrifice."

6—Q to Kt 3	6—P takes Kt
7—B takes P ch	7—K to B sq

"The next capture makes matters worse, but gives the English Master an opportunity for one of his gem game-endings."

8—B takes Kt	8—R takes B
9—Castles.	

"Castling is, usually, a very safe proceeding, and one that is recommended by the best authors. There are, however, exceptions to the rules, and when Mr. Blackburne, at this point, announced mate in nine moves Mr. Burt was inclined to pronounce the books very unsafe guides."

Game No 571.

La-ker "Plays" with Maroczy.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Maroczy. Black—Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	P Q 4	15 P x P	K x P
2 Kt K B 3(a)	K Kt B 3	16 K x K ch	B x Kt
3 P B 4	P K 3	17 Kt K 5	Q R Q sq
4 P K 3	P B 4	18 Q B 2	P R 3
5 Kt B 3	Kt B 3	19 B K 4	B x Kt(c)
6 P Q R 3	Q P x P	20 P x B	B x B
7 B x P	P Q R 3	21 Q x B	Kt K 6
8 Castles	P Q K 4	22 Q Q Kt 4(d)	Kt x R
9 B K 2	P x P	23 B x Kt	Q B 3
10 P x P	B K 2(b)	24 B Q 4	R Q 4
11 P Q Kt 4	B K 2	25 Q K 2	Q B 5
12 B Kt 2	Castles	26 B B 3	R B sq
13 B Q 3	Q K 3	27 B K 4	Q Q 6
14 Kt K 4	P Q R 4	28 Resigns.	

NOTES.

(a) Maroczy reverses the moves, but doesn't get along with it very well.

(b) Already, Black has the better development.

(c) Notice how Lasker wins the exchange.

(d) If R on Q R sq moves, Kt to Q 7 forking Q and R.

NOTES.

The conditions of the proposed Championship match have not been definitely settled, as Lasker proposes eight games up, draws not counting, while Janowski declines to play for less than ten games up, relying on precedent as a right to his claim, Lasker having won the championship under these conditions. The stakes are $2,000 a side. Reichelm in *The Times*, Philadelphia, says:—"The consensus of opinion, like the handle of a jug, points to Lasker as the winner, but he will have to exert himself, as the Frenchman is a very dangerous adversary. In the three tourneys in which they have met the results were:

"Hastings, 1895, Lasker, 1; Janowski, 0.
"Nüemberg, 1896, Lasker, 0, Janowski, 1.
"London, 1899, Lasker, 1½; Janowski, 1½."

Under the heading of "A Chat with Steinitz," the *Jewish Chronicle*, London states that members of the Semitic race have been among the most enthusiastic votaries of this most scientific of all the games of skill. From Ibn Ezra to Steinitz and Schneider, Jews have contributed to the literature of chess. It is no accident that some of the greatest players of modern times, like Kolisch, Horwitz, Löwenthal, Zukertort, Steinitz and Lasker, have been Jews. Steinitz considers that genius which Jews have for chess is due to their good nature and pure breed. Having been the most and longest persecuted race on the face of the globe, they had the least power to do harm, and have become the best natured of all peoples. And their religion has contributed powerfully in the same direction. It has combined with persecution to preserve their morals and their good nature. Then the purity of their breed is another factor in the remarkable success they have achieved in every walk of life. Mr. Steinitz thinks there is a notable connection between chess and music, and that the man who excels in the one usually excels in the other. Blindfold playing, Mr. Steinitz is of opinion, is not hurtful, on the ground that it never does harm to exercise any mental power, provided you don't over-tax it."

Pillsbury, the American champion, is now a resident of Philadelphia.

The Chinese call their form of chess by the name of "Chok-Choo-hong Ki," literally "the play of the science of war."

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS.

LESSON VIII.

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Drawn Game and Stalemate.

We have seen in Lesson IV. that a game is drawn when neither player can checkmate his adversary.

Such an eventuality might occur in the following instances:—

1, if both sides remain with a King only or with King and one minor piece.

2, if in an end game the stronger force cannot checkmate within 50 moves as required by Law XI.

3. if both players persist in repeating the same moves, neither of them feeling strong enough to venture upon another line of play.

4. by perpetual check.

5. by stalemate.

An example of cases 3 and 4 combined will be found in the following amusing game played more than 20 years ago at the Vienna Chess Club between M. M. Hampe (white) and Meitner (black):—

Game III.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P—K 4	1. P—K 4
2. Kt—Q B 3	2. B—B 4
3. Kt—K R 4	3. B x P ch
4. K x B	4. Q—R 5 ch
5. K—K 3	5. Q—B 5 ch
6. K—Q 3	6. P—Q 4
7. K—B 3	7. Q x P
8. K—Kt 3	8. Kt—Q R 3
9. P—Q R 3	9. Q x Kt ch
10. K x Q	10. Kt—B 4 ch
11. K—Kt 4	11. P—R 4 ch
12. K x Kt	12. Kt—K 2
13. B—Kt 5 ch	

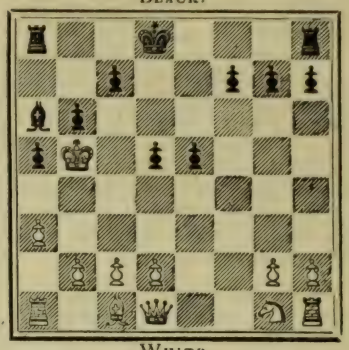
This was the only way to avoid mate in two moves (viz. by P—Kt 3 and B—Q 2.)

	13. K—Q sq
14. B—B 6	14. P—Kt 3 ch
15. K—Kt 5	15. Kt x B
16. K x Kt	16. B—Kt 2 ch
17. K—Kt 5	17. B—R 3 ch

Drawn by perpetual check.

(See Diagram.)

Black.



White.

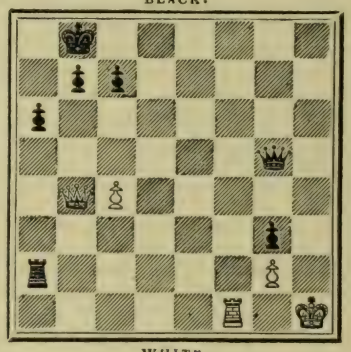
If White were to continue 18—K to R 4 then ..... B to B 5 followed by P to Kt 4 checkmate. If again, instead of the text move, 17—K takes B, then ..... K to Q 2; 18—Q to Kt 4 ch, K to Q 3 followed by K R to Q Kt sq checkmate.

Therefore nothing remains for White but to continually move his K from Kt 5 to B 6 and vice versa; whilst Black follows him up with perpetual check (by B to Kt 2 and B to R 3) thereby drawing the game, although numerically so much weaker than his adversary.

As to case 5, a "stalemate" follows if the player whose turn it is to move, is so placed that whilst not in check, he cannot legally move his King or any other pieces or pawns.

A fine example of a stalemate is given by Satratt in his "Treatise on the Game of Chess," with the remark that "though White appears to have lost the game irretrievably, he may, by a skilful manœuvre, draw it."

BLACK.



WHITE.

The solution is as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R—B 8 ch	1. K—R 2
2. R—Q R 8 ch	2. K x R
3. Q—B 8 ch	3. K—R 2
4. Q—Q B 5 ch	4. Q x Q

and White is, stalemated, the game therefore "drawn."

If instead of Q takes Q Black moves the King, White replies with Q to B 8 check, followed by Q to Q B 5 ch, thus drawing by perpetual check. If he covers the check from Q B 5 by advancing P to Kt 3, White Q takes B P ch and also draws by perpetual check.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Nov. 25th:—

	Dr. Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15 875.294
Amount of convertible notes issued...	218,511,293
Government deposits	58,013,920
General deposits	4,165.956
Exchange liability	35.583
Total	326,602,048

	Cr.
Dscount notes	62 696,698
Foreign discount notes	13 870.214
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	65.186,494
Exchange liability	2.148.599
Government bonds	57,185,593
Property...	1.954 033
Bullion and Specie	101,560,414
Total	326,602,048

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ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	217,249,350
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	99,537,466
Silver	—
Total	99,537,466
Securities :—	
Government bonds	21,777,588
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,692,082
Commercial notes	64,242,214
Total	117,711,884

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	622,282
Silver	—	—
General loans	1,316,990	—
Government deposits	4,412,634	—
General deposits	946,138	—

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. D. Bowles, 24th Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., 12th Nov., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, J. Miyagi, 24th Nov.,—Kobe, 22nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer 3,500, Peterson, 24th Nov.,—Nagasaki, 21st Nov., Iron Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer 1,567, N. Okano, 24th Nov.,—Kobe, 22nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 25th November,—Kobe, 23rd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 25th November,—Otaru via ports, 21st General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 25th November,—Yokkaichi, 24th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, G. K. Wright, 25th November,—London via ports, and Kobe, 24th Nov., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Crason, 26th Nov.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 24th Nov., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 26th November,—Seattle, Washington, 8th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 26th November,—Fushiki 22nd November, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O. Cueppers, 27th Nov.,—Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 26th November, Mails and General.—Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Nanyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,670, M. Tomita, 27th November,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, 27th November, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 28th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, 23rd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nobeta, 28th November,—Kobe, 26th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, M. Nishihara, 28th November,—Hakodate, 25th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

T. D. McKay (Formerly *Oto Maru*), American Brigantine, 250, John Kernan, 28th November, —Shinagawa, Ballast.—Captain.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 29th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 29th Nov.,—Hongkong, 21st Nov., Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 30th November,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 9th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 30th November,—Kobe 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 30th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 29th November, Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 24th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kohura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 24th November,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 24th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer 771, J. Arakawa, 24th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer 3,003, G. D. Bawles, 24th November,—Kobe, Mails and General.—C. P. R Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 25th November,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Bainbridge, 25th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 26th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Recina, Austrian steamer, 1,504, Antonio Antich, 26th November,—Kobe, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 27th November,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 27th Nov.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Christiansen, 28th November,—Havre, Hamburg, and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Idomeneus, British steamer, 4,299, James Riley, 28th November,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 28th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Crason, 28th November,—Port Arthur, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 29th November,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 29th November,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Norta, 29th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nanyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,670, M. Tomita, 29th Nov.,—Portland, Oregon via Honolulu, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd,

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, M. Nishihara, 29th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 30th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 30th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* from Vancouver, B.C. :—Miss Allen, Mr. Mendellsohn Bartholdy, Mr. C. A. Burgess, Mr. Bingard, Mr. Mr. G. B. Blanchard, Mr. Brockhurst, Mr. Herman Cooper, Mr. Paul Crompton, Mrs. A. C. Clarke, Mr. A. J. H. Carhill, Miss E. L. Cooke, Captain Campbell, Dr. and Mrs. Cousland and two children, Mr. H. Dent, Mrs. Dowler, two children and maid, Miss I. M. A. Ellmers, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Frank, Mr. Geo. R. Gregg, Mrs. J. M. Greene, Mr. and Mrs. H. Henneberger, Mr. H. Henneberger, Jr., Miss Henneberger, Miss M. C. Huntington, Mr. T. Katayama, Mr. Juan Landal, Mr. R. A. McCallum, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. E. Soubeibielle and valet, Rev. William and Mrs. Ridel, Mr. B. Tamaki, Mr. L. Tubs, Mr. S. W. Tubs, Mr. W. A. Thurman, Mr. H. C. Wach, Miss F. Wardwell, Miss R. Wardwell, Mr. C. H. Ward, and Captain M. Yamanouchi in cabin; 31 intermediate; and 702 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash. :—Mr. W. D. Eastlake, Mrs. G. Warita, Mr. A. M. Drake, and Mrs. Florense W. Drake in cabin; Mr. Masayuki Kato in second class. For Kobe :—Mr. E. Fish Wait in second class, For Hongkong :—Mr. and Mrs. J. C. S. Tabor, Mr. J. D. Murray, Mr. J. M. Assencio, Mr. Moritz Thomsen, Mr. B. T. Ladley, Mr. D. L. Smith, and Mr. E. S. Smith in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Miss L. Daniel, Mr. T. T. Windsor, Mrs. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. H Benedix, Mr. M. Blumer, Mrs. J. S. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Mr. F. Muhlhausen, Mr. and Mrs. H. Payot, Mr. R. F. Colborne, Mr. F. G. Carpenter, Mrs. H. P. Watt, Mrs. M. R. Foster, Mrs. M. M. Gearin, Miss Gearin, Mr. H. Gearin, Rev. T. T. Alexander, Mr. R. A. de Mouchy, Jr., Mr. M. Lamadrid, Mr. W. R. Devin, Mr. W. W. Funge, Jr., Mrs. E. F. Noble, Miss Noble, Mr. A. de Liagre, Mr. C. Pereira, Mrs. Jas. Doyle, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Mr. A. H. Emanuel, Mr. H. Lord, Mr. A. S. Young, Mr. W. H. Howe, and Mr. D. M. Baldwin in cabin. For Kobe :—Miss M. Bonnell and Mr. and Mrs. F. Parrott in cabin. For Nagasaki :—Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Walne and 4 children in cabin. For Shanghai :—Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Eubank and child, Mrs. M. Stanleigh, Mrs. M. Wood, Miss E. Wood, Mr. Jas. Harvie, Mr. L. W. Mustard, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Crocker, and Mr. F. G. Morse in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mrs. F. M. Bostwick, Mrs. C. A. Adams, Mr. W. E. McGill, Mrs. G. L. Edie, Mr. W. W. Daland, Mrs. F. Hardeman and child, Mrs. A. E. Ray, Miss Ray, Mrs. F. O. Johnson, Miss G. Tracy, Mrs. A. W. Bryan, Mrs. H. C. Clement, Miss Clement, Mrs. E. E. West, Mr. and Mrs. F. Palmer, Mrs. Col. Greenleaf, Miss Greenleaf, Mrs. R. E. Walker, Miss M. B. Kip, Mrs. E. Cromwell, Captain H. C. Benson, Mr. G. H. Waters, Mrs. R. A. Brown, Mrs. H. B Coy, Mrs. A. L. Parmenter, Mrs. T. B. Anderson, Master Anderson, Miss E Wilkinson, Mrs. B. Browning, and Mr. H. Estinghausen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports : - Mrs. M. Stanford, Mr. P. D. Donald, Mr. W. Rinck, Mr. M. Holmgreen, Mr. G. Gibbens, Miss Mellmish, Mr. F. N. Bartlett, Mr. J. R. Morse, Rev. J. R. Hykes, Mr. G. Brady, and Mrs. Gibbens, in cabin. For Vancouver :—Mr. and Mrs. J. McCauley, Mr. H. E. F. Austin, Com. Chin Ngen Too, Mr. and Mrs. J. Macroy, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Gregson, Dr. S. W. Bushell, Lt. Polushkin, Mr. Lew Yok Lin, and Mr. G. E. Wolfe, in cabin; 2 intermediate, 350 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Bremen via ports :—Dr. P. Stubel, Mr. T. Klatte, Carl Kroger, Dr. T. Takaki, Mr. Crusen, Mr. V. Kindell, Mr. R. Schilling, Mr. Schinzinger, Mrs. Schinzinger, Mr. Fon, Mr. Yonevama, Mr. Newton, Miss Newton, Lord Thynne, Mr. F. Townley, Mrs. Crawford, Mr. Wallace, Miss Wallace, Mr. E. Wismer, Mr. L Boyle, Miss L. Boyle, Mr. E. Fank, Mr. A. Scott, Mr. Bathgate, Mr. Stempel, Mr. G. Peterson, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. V. Heller, Mr. W. Friedlander, Mr. Grauthoff, Mr. J. Yamakami, Mr. M. Ezaki, Mr. A. Hasche, Miss A. Hasche, Mr. E Austen, Mr. F. Austen, Miss Hogan, Mr. Nettleship, Misses Nettleship (2), Mr. W. H. Patric, Mr. W. T. Austen, Mrs. W. T. Austen, Misses Austen (3), Miss Koeppert, Mr. Wendt, Mr. Reuss, Mr. J. T. Eberlein, Mr. R. Loscher, Capt. A. Ruhe, Capt. C. Ruhe, Mr. F. Haustein, Mr. S Beliuleske, Mr. Dessidere, German Seamen (11), and Mr. S. Ikeda, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Kobe :—Miss Brooksmith, Mr. J. W. Taylor, Bishop McKim, Bishop H. C. Potter, Rev. Percy S. Grant, Mr. F. C. Bhesania, Mr. C. H. C. Mottu, Mr. T. S. Gordison, Mr. S. Donnenberg, Mrs. Skeer, Miss Gooham, Mrs. Skeer's 2 maids, Miss Ure, Mr. S. Strauss, Prof. H. Sharpe, Mr. Sharpe, C. Gibbens, Mrs. D. E. Brown, Mr. A. J. Hart, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. A. I. Hart, Mr. T. E Brown, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Baldwin, Master Baldwin and Miss Iverson, Mr. N. Sato, Mr. M. Yamada, Miss Bulley, Mr. J. Shibata, Mr. P. H. Abott, and Mr. M. Ginsburg in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Rev. E. E. Aiken, 3 children, and servant, Mr. B. W. Change, Miss D. Clayburg, Mrs. F. Ellon, Miss V. Ellon, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Fellows, Mrs. M. E. Greathouse, and servant, Dr. J. J. Guisiu, Mr. and Mrs. K. Isoshima, Mr. F. A. Johnson, Mr. R. Lenzmann, Mr. J. T. McLees, Captain Lange, Mr. Philip T. Mager, Mrs. I. W. Mangles, Mr. M. Nakamura, Chev. de Wouters d'Oplinter, Mrs. R. Skeal, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. M. Sandecki, Mr. M. G. Squiers, Mrs. Squiers (3), Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Stanley, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Von Grot, Mr. H. R. Williams, Jr., Mr. R. N. Woolfall, and Mr. C. O. Waldwin from cabin.

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Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. W. Taylor, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Collier, Miss Holstead, Mr. A. G. Hudson, Mr. Lambert, and Mrs. G. G. Stadelmenn, in cabin; 8 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. T. Watanabe and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. K. Amano and 2 children, Mrs. A. Treninhin, Miss Kiku Shimada, Mrs. Masano Ochi, Miss Shidzuye Ochi, Mr. S. Martinoff, Mr. B. M. Sactacoff, Mr. S. Hirano, Miss Tsune Tamana, Mr. Y. Watanabe, and nine Chinese Military scholars, in cabin; 47 Japanese, Chinese, and Korean, in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kamakura Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. K. Takeda, Mrs. P. H. Going, Admiral Matsunaga, I.J. Navy, and Constructor General Sachiu Sasso, I.J. Navy in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 69 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 260 bales.

The following are the silk shippers per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, which sails for San Francisco, to-day.

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	24
Bavier & Co.	13
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	293
Kiito Shokai	129
Total	459

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Algoa 1	F. Dec. 1
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Dec. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 2	W. Dec. 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Dec. 9
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Dec. 9
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	——	Tu. Dec. 12
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 3	Th. Dec. 14
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Dec. 18
America	P. M. Co.	On Sang	Su. Dec. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 28

1 Left Hongkong on the 23rd ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.
3 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 2
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Sa. Dec. 2
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	W. Dec. 6
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Dec. 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Dec. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Dec. 12
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Dec. 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Dec. 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 18
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Dec. 20
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Onsang	Su. Dec. 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Dec. 28

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is more doing in Egyptian cotton, but prices still lag behind Manchester values. American cotton is dull, and rates prevailing in the States cannot be obtained. Grey shirtings are quiet; fancy cottons and woollens firm, with a tendency to advance; woollen cloths are in some demand.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds 35 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 32½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 50 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Moussoline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Plain, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	$8.50 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-5 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 oth, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$40.00 to 42.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	52.00 to 55.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos 2 80, Plain	92.00 to 98.00
Nos 2 100, Plain	120.00 to 125.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	92.00 to 95.50
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	106.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	135.00 to 145.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23 50
Chinese	45.00

METALS.

Little business has been done owing to the high prices prevailing, which show a tendency to advance owing to the high cost of production at home.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	6.20 to 6 40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6 90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12 50 to 13 80
Wire Nails, assorted	7 60 to 7 90
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅛ to 18 inch)	7.15 to 7 40

KEROSENE.

There is no change, prices being as quoted last week.

American	$3 00
Russian	2.95
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market remains steady at about last quoted prices. Brown Sugars slightly lower.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6 00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Daito	4 40 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.70 to 6 90
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.80 to 9 50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Prices are now entirely nominal. The spirit of speculation continues in the native market, and the last few days foreign firms have been unable to do any business. The market, indeed, has been confined to Japanese speculators. As much as 1,400 *yen* has been given on the silk exchange for No. 1 Filatures delivered end of January.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	
Filatures—No 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	
Re-reels—No 1	
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No 2	
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

The stock is small and poor; there is little suitable for export, and the prices demanded for this are too high for buyers.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 210
Noshi—Filatures, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu, Best	190 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	185 to 190
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	180 to 185
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$135 to 145
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	160 to 170
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	150 to 160
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	70 to 80
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 65

TEA.

The season may be regarded as practically finished. There has been very little doing, and the stock is reduced to about three thousand piculs. The quotations below are nominal.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 30

Silver from London $\frac{5}{16}$ higher, but no change in sterling rates from China, and local rates have undergone no change for the mail per steamer *Empress of India*.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2 0⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8 to 2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2 1⅛ to 3/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight *	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight *	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight*	74
— Private 10 days' sight *	76
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	153½
Bar Silver (London)	27 5/16

* Nominal.

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 30.

Breweries—A small lot of shares can be had at *yen* 175. Engine and Iron Works changed hands to-day at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 237.50. Club Hotels were sold to-day at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 127.50. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Helms—A few shares can be had at *yen* 55. North and Raes are wanted at *yen* 215. Offers are wanted for Bretts.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld. $50	220 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	175 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	237.50 St.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	127.50 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $125	Nominal
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9 25 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	100 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., $50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., $50	51 N.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 17,770.89; 2, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 30.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 237.50. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, are steady at *yen* 130.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	217 Sales.
Grand Hotel	237.50 Buyers.
Club Hotel	80 Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	130 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	180 Sellers.

Tokyo, November 30.

Redemption Loan Bonds	98.10
War Loan Bonds	98 10
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100.10
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	279.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	68.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	82.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	70.10
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	70 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	120 00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	30.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	75.50

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Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	63.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	26.00
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45 ... . 1...	123.50
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25 ..... 1...	83.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47 ..... 1...	56.00
Kansai Railway—pa d up yen 50	47.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50 ..... 1...	41.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40 .. ... 1...	46 50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	100.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'w y, 2nd issue-paid up yen 28	80.50
Sobu Railway—pa d up yen 50.....	98 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50 ..... 1...	49.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50.....	31.80
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50.....	18.50
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen38	31 40
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25.....	12 80
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13..... 1 .	42.50
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 40
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50.....	250.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—p id up yen 12.50.....	207.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50.....	72 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new - paid up yen 10	14 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	31 80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	42 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20...	32.00

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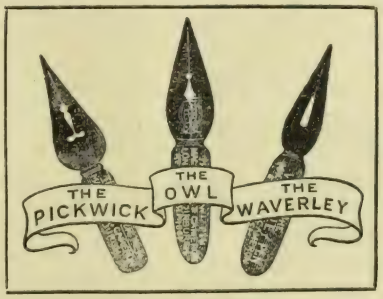
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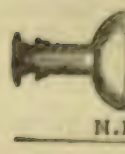
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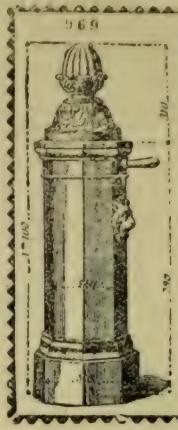


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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 9TH, 1899.

DEATH.

In England, early in November, ALFRED ERNEST TREW, very deeply regretted.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AMERICA has signed the Samoa agreement.

MR CHAMBERLAIN'S Leicester speech is generally condemned as injudicious.

GENERAL CLERY reached Fiere on Saturday 2nd December. It is believed that in spite of their re-assuring messages Ladysmith urgently needs relief.

A BRITISH transport has been lost near Cape Town. All the men were saved.

MR. BARNES, the Managing Director of the Peninsular and Oriental S.S. Company, is dead.

THE *Daily Mail* publishes a telegram from Mafeking saying that all was well on the 28th of November.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S message to congress is favourably reviewed on the continent for the courtesy of its tone.

GENERAL JOUBERT is indisposed and has gone to Volkrust. During his absence Schalkburger assumes supreme command.

MR. KENT, of the N.Y.K. service, has been sentenced to imprisonment for 6 months' for striking a quartermaster. He has appealed.

A SMALL fire occurred at a wine merchant's shop in Yoshidamachi, 1 chome, Yokohama, on Tuesday night. It was put out, fortunately, before any serious damage was done.

DURING the week Reuter has kept us fully supplied with war news. The battle of Modder river was very fierce, the losses on both sides being heavy. A battle may shortly be expected near Ladysmith.

A CHINESE living at No. 130, Yokohama, has been sentenced to ten days' major imprisonment for assaulting a fellow countryman. The offender is an old culprit, having served several terms for various offences.

AN *amah* employed at a foreigner's house on the Bluff, was held up by a highwayman on Tuesday night, on the road leading to the General Hospital. The robber took one *yen* from her purse, and escaped. The matter was reported to the Bluff Police.

THE Government, remarks the *Fiji*, has not submitted to the Diet a Bill for exercising a stricter control over the factories and workshops in consequence of the necessary investigations not having been completed. It proposes to continue the investigation from next year at an estimated expenditure of only 7,300 *yen*. This, the *Fiji* remarks, is quite inadequate.

ACCORDING to the *Hochi* the number of released prisoners now under the protection of the well known philanthropist, Mr. Hara, has increased to 49, including one blind man. They are employed as carpenters, plasterers, masons, engravers, door makers, &c. Mostly above the age of twenty three, the offences of which they were convicted were armed robbery, theft, murder, and incendiarism.

THE *Shogyo* states that the Nippon Ginko's branch in Osaka had issued loans to the amount of 18,670,000 *yen* up to the 27th ult. The other banks in that city have now determined to pursue, as far as possible, the policy of retaining capital obtained from the Nippon Bank, as the same is not likely to be available to them again, after it has been restored to the vaults, as long as the present financial condition lasts.

THE *Osaka Asahi* publishes the trade report for Osaka for the month of October. The chief points are as follows:—Exports to British India, 8,338 *yen*; to China, 154,369 *yen*; to Korea, 541,993; to Hongkong, 154,628; to Asiatic territories under the jurisdiction of Russia, 28,774. Imports are:—From China, 153,887 *yen*; from Korea, 296,737; from France, 199; from Germany, 325; from England, 4,438; from Russia, 236.

THE *Yomiuri* states that Mr. Yokoseki, of Nagano, and seven others who some time ago applied to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office for permission to undertake reclamation work in Yokohama, but whose application was rejected, have again presented their petition to the Kencho. According to the scheme, two portions of the seashore would be reclaimed, the one covering an area of 95,396 *tsubo* and the other of 64,319 *tsubo*. The former extends from the projecting embankments at Yamate-machi to the boundary of the land set apart for the use of the Army; the latter comprises the area from No. 2 to No. 20, Settlement, with the exception of the seashore close to the eastern breakwater.

A SPECIAL contract has existed between the Union Spinning Companies and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha providing that three steamers shall run to Bombay at fortnightly intervals, and the freight was reduced from 17 rupees to 12. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers, however, have been unable to transport more than two-thirds of the cotton offering as freight and the Spinning Companies now feel the necessity of applying to the Yusen Kaisha to increase the number of voyages from 18 to 36 a year. The Yusen Kaisha's service to Bombay, however, having proved unprofitable in spite of a subsidy of 190,000 *yen* from the Government, the Company proposes to petition the Diet for an increase of its allowance.

THE Osaka Cotton Manufacturing Company recently floated with a paid up capital of 200,000 *yen*, has just had two work-shops burned down. The total loss is estimated at 137,000 *yen*, including the cost of buildings, machinery, and cotton. The Company's buildings appear to have consisted of business offices, warehouses, workshops, and machinery depots, all which were insured for 55,000 *yen* by the Tokyo, Nippon, and Meiji Fire Insurance Companies. The actual loss, therefore, will not exceed 100,000 *yen*. The company, it is said, has at present a debt of 25,000 *yen* with the Japan Industrial Bank, while debentures still remain unpaid to the extent of 22,500 *yen*.

THAT Hokkaido abounds in gold dust is unquestionable. Applications for miners' permits received by the Government from the 1st to the 15th of October numbered 25, and the placers now number 28, including Omu, Horonai, and Tombetsu. The licensed miners are really, according to the *Hochi*, a species of big contractors who employ labourers for the actual working. In June of the current year, brokers established themselves in Esashi and Otaru to make purchases of gold dust collected in the above-mentioned places. They now number 30 in all, but they are known to be unqualified for the enterprise, as their capital does not exceed from 5,000 *yen* to 10,000 *yen*, nor do they appear to be honest in the operations. The value of dust differs, but the quotations at present are 4.15 *yen* per *momme*. Dust is now used as the medium of exchange, being freely accepted at the restaurants and other places.

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THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

Saturday, Dec. 2.

The gold problem is creating much excitement in Japan. News that the Specie Bank had ceased to discount bills or exchange notes seems to have received undue importance, and the disquiet has been increased by the action of various well-known banks in raising their rates of interest. The Bank of Japan has not yet taken the step predicted, namely, imposed a premium on the exchange of notes for gold, but evidences that the Directors regard the situation with uneasiness are not wanting. There has necessarily been a restriction of credit all round, and as December is the month when money is in keenest demand, great inconvenience is likely to be felt. Indeed, the *Nippon* alleges that, unless some relaxation takes place soon, a panic is inevitable in Osaka at any rate, since that city has special relations with the Specie Bank. The Government is understood to be seeking to attract supplies of gold from China and Korea by offering exceptional facilities of transport, but it does not appear to be expected that any large measure of relief will thus be obtained. News has arrived that the Bank of England has withdrawn its veto upon the discounting of bills, and that its rates are 5½ per cent. for private paper and 6 per cent. for banks. An easier feeling prevails, therefore, in the London money-market, and a telegram published in Tokyo says that, according to the opinion of the best judges, the South-African trouble will be finally disposed of by the middle or end of January.

What is particularly regrettable about the situation, as the *Jiji Shimpo* truly remarks, is that this trouble has come just at the moment when Japanese trade was fairly recovering from the disorders consequent upon the war. There has been a large increase of exports this year, and the development of a brisk demand for imported goods has had the effect of clearing off all the accumulated stocks, so that a highly prosperous import trade might have been anticipated for next year. It is to be earnestly hoped that the Treasury and the Banks will show a bold front, and not allow themselves to be unduly perturbed by a state of affairs which must surely be soon ended.

The Government possesses considerable stocks of gold in addition to those now lying in the vaults of the Bank of Japan. Its deposits in the Bank of England are understood to be 2 million *yen* approximately, remaining from the Chinese Indemnity, and 56 millions of the recent loans. The amount of the Indemnity actually remaining in England is 12½ millions, but only 2 millions are in gold, the rest being in securities, which, however, have doubtless suffered from the general depreciation caused by the South African war. The total realised by the recent loan was 86 million *yen*, but 30 millions of that amount have already been brought to Japan. Nevertheless, with some sixty millions of *yen*, a large part of which can be used by and by to replenish the gold reserves if necessary, we do not see why Japan should be much perturbed about the present small exodus of the precious metal.

Monday, Dec. 4.

The leading Tokyo papers devote their editorial columns to comment on the gold problem. Their general opinion is that no cause for alarm exists, and that the country's reputation would be seriously impaired did the Treasury adopt the course which it is said to be contemplating, namely, the charging of a premium for exchanging its own notes for gold. It is evidently believed by our vernacular contemporaries that, though such a measure might be tolerable in the case of countries whose financial reputation is thoroughly established, Japan could not resort to it without exposing herself to the greatest misrepresentation, and probably precipitating the very danger she is anxious to avert, for if a belief went abroad that her exchangeable notes were liable to be repudiated, their holders would all hasten to convert them into gold. As a matter of fact only 8 million *yen* worth of gold has flowed out of the country, and since that does not represent more than 7.6 per cent. of the Treasury's hard-money reserve, there is no apparent reason for uneasiness. The Bank of Japan, in the opinion of these critics, has acted with undue precipitancy. They do not deny that it has been wise in raising its rate of interest, but they claim that the step was too hasty, and that two consecutive rises, aggregating 3 *rin per diem*, should not have been made in such a short interval as a fortnight. Above all they condemn the Bank for suspending the exchange of its convertible notes at its Yokohama and Kobe branches. In short, the almost universal view seems to be that the circumstances do not warrant any alarm, and that the present demand for gold will be of very brief duration, since the South-African war must soon terminate in England's favour.

We ourselves are disposed to think that the newspapers themselves are somewhat to blame for the disturbance that has occurred in the money market. They took up the question so keenly from the first, and gave it so much prominence, that a false conception of its dimensions was created. The brokers followed suit, and it results that even in far-off Japan, which should scarcely have felt the access of the gold-fever resulting from the South-African war, there has been a general drop in securities to the average extent of ten per cent.

When we come to learn the views and intentions of the Bank of Japan as expounded by the President, Mr. Yamamoto, to a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo*, we find that the Bank itself is not at all perturbed, and that it is proceeding with due deliberation. In fact, the South-African war as a probable cause of an exit of gold does not seriously enter the Bank's calculations at present. It holds twenty million *yen* worth of China loan-bonds, which it can convert into gold at any moment, and it also holds from 50 to 60 million *yen* of the recent loan. Should there be any occasion to largely replenish the stock of gold in the Treasury, these sources are amply sufficient. Then the Bank's recent raising of its rates is a measure directed not so much against the possible effects of the war, as against the keen demand for money that has recently been developed among the Japanese themselves. Looking ahead, the Bank Authorities are disposed to think that next year will see a large volume of imports. There has of late been a very prosperous business in exports, but the main staples immediately available for exportation have been almost exhausted, and so have the stocks of imports accumulated in advance of the increased tariff. Add to this the generally healthy state of business, and it seems a fair assumption that next year will see a very brisk inflow of imports. At the same time, the Bank finds a more-than-sound demand for money. It is not indisposed to lend freely. Thus, whereas its loans at the beginning of November aggregated only 80 million *yen*, they had risen to 120 millions by the end of the month. Neither does it seem that the raising of the rate of interest materially checked the demand, for on the 29th ultimo the Bank lent 4 millions and on the 30th 3½ millions, or 7½ millions in two days. It is prepared to maintain a liberal policy, but it will as far as possible avoid lending money for enterprises which would convert it into fixed capital. There will, of course, be the usual demand at the end of the year. Probably another sum of 20 millions will have to be supplied. The Bank is quite ready to meet that call, however, inasmuch as money thus lent continues to be floating capital, and will return, in great part, at an early date next year. It will be seen, therefore, that the Bank is chiefly influenced by considerations relating to internal trade, and that its precautions are not adopted with reference to any apprehensions as to the financial consequences of the South-African war. Neither is there any apparent truth in the assertion that a premium is to be charged for exchanging notes for gold.

Count Matsukata himself has spoken very frankly and reassuringly on the subject to a deputation of business men, telling them that the steps hitherto adopted by the Bank of Japan have not been inspired by any uneasiness as to an embarrassing exit of gold, but have been dictated mainly by the conditions existing in the home money-market. The Minister further stated that the Bank has no intention of reducing its scale of accommodation, and that it will continue to respond liberally to the public demand. Concerning his own recent remarks on the subject of the gold question, they were principally designed, he said, to direct Japanese attention to the necessity of studying the problems of foreign finance more carefully. His Excellency mentioned incidentally that the Bank of Japan keeps a sum of twenty million *yen* in London to cover the balance of exchange operations.

Tuesday, Dec. 5.

The assurances given in a semi-public manner by the President of the Bank of Japan and the Minister of Finance, have had the effect of allaying the perturbation resulting from recent misapprehensions as to the Treasury's intentions and the Bank's policy. People now seem to understand that there is nothing to apprehend. It is justly urged, however, that the Specie Bank ought to be at once allowed to resume its old functions as an exchanger of the Bank of Japan's convertible notes. So long as the former regimen is not restored completely, there will be some remnants of public uneasiness.

Thursday, Dec. 7.

There has been a great deal said in Japanese newspapers and in our own columns about the question of the exodus of gold. We ourselves, indeed, never attached great importance to the point, but we did suppose that it was connected

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chiefly with the South African war and the consequent demand for gold in Europe. Our foreign readers, and the Japanese also, will be interested to learn what view the business men of Yokohama entertain of the question. It may be summed up as follows:—

The dilemma has been brought on by the Specie Bank (backed presumably by the Nippon Ginko and the Treasury), having forced exchange down below the par of gold *yen* as expressed in sterling terms and indeed below its intrinsic worth in the great gold market of the world—London. From April to July of this year the rates of exchange were steady at 2/0⅝ T/T—and 2/1. 4ms, Credits. (Such a price does not admit of the export of gold *yen* at a profit. It is worth about 2/0 15/16 on the London market; if it can be bought here at 2/0⅝ it gives a small margin of profit to the exporter. On the other hand, to buy gold in London and bring it here will cost about 2/0⅞ when delivered at Osaka or Tokyo.) All the Bankers were agreed on these rates and it was fully expected by merchants and bankers alike that when the silk export season commenced these rates would *rise*: as it was well known that, prices being high and silk in much demand, a large quantity of *yen* would be needed to pay for that produce. Contrary to all expectation we have seen a *decline* in the value of the *yen* until it has sunk to a point where export is profitable, viz. 2 0⅝ for T/T. Why is this?

The Specie Bank, when the silk season opened, began to underbid the other exchange banks for the silk bills, with the result that rates have sagged to the present point, and we are in this anomalous position, that with a unprecedented demand for money to pay for a large crop of silk at high prices the value of the *yen* has fallen instead of risen.

What the motives of the Government bank may have been is very problematical. Among the traders here it is supposed that they sought, by underbidding, to capture all the business of the port and thus freeze out the Foreign banks. But if that was their idea, it was perfectly futile. With their huge reserves the Hongkong and Chartered Banks could afford to follow suit and even trump their trick, the consequence being, as detailed above—abnormal rates far too cheap and profitless, and at a time too when the Banks could fairly expect to have their share of the general mercantile prosperity. There was no reason whatever why rates should be cut. The trade could well afford a 2/0⅝ rate or even more, and the enormous Banking turn-over of the Specie and foreign banks could have given them 1 per cent. profit with a fine balance sheet on 31st Dec., instead of frittering it away in unwise competition.

Foreign banks, finding the ordinary exchange business so meagre of profit, naturally turn their attention to the export of gold coin, in which there is a sure margin of profit. Then comes alarm on the part of our native friends *re* gold exodus. Then come futile efforts to stop the exodus by raising rates of interest. *Cui bono*? It only hampers domestic trade without touching the foreigner in the least. Then petty restriction on the changing of notes into gold. This cannot be done at Yokohama any more; only in Tokyo. Design, to give the exporter the trouble of going to Tokyo for his gold and the extra expense of carriage from the capital to the seaport. Next an insane idea of an export duty on gold or a premium on the changing of notes into coin. Suicidal absolutely! If the London money market hears of that idea, the Japan Loan will quickly drop to 80, and with confidence shaken Japan would find it ten times more difficult to float another loan than it was in the recent £10,000,000 venture. No, the plain and simple course is to let the Specie Bank put up their rates again to 2/0⅝—they should never have been reduced; no one wanted it—and the gold reserve will increase instead of diminishing. This is the only remedy, late though it be; another instance of prevention being better than cure.

From the side of political economy their action this summer has been dead wrong. They have penalised the importer (or consumer) for the benefit of the exporter (or producer). American protection over again in another phase. Profiting a few wealthy silk growers and dealers and manufacturers at the expense of the whole nation, who must pay 1 per cent. more for their shirts and other clothing made of Manchester goods and their pots and pans made of English or Belgian iron, so that the already overbloated Crœsus of a silkman may gather in a little extra 1 per cent. Shades of Mill and Free-trade! what say ye to this? Oppressing the poor for the aggrandisement of the rich does not sound nice in this free enlightened age of the world.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Wednesday, Dec. 6.

The strategy of the Boers is not easy to understand. They are said to be bent upon opposing the passage of the Tugela River. In other words, they are going to fight an action which must be one of the most important of the whole campaign, within 14 or 15 miles of Ladysmith. From the moment that the fight fairly commences the fact will be known to General White in Ladysmith, and he will immediately assume the offensive. The Boers will therefore have a foe in rear as well as in front. It is possible that their forces are large enough to risk such a peril, and that they will be able to hold the Ladysmith troops in check on the north while dealing with Buller's men on the south. But if that is the case, if they can really muster such a great number, their failure to take Ladysmith does them little credit. It is six weeks since they invested the place. They have therefore had ample time to bring against it their heaviest artillery. We repeat that if an European army had been similarly resisted by a greatly inferior force of Boers, the public would be derisive of the Europeans. If, on the other hand, the Boers have not numerical strength sufficient to hold the garrison of Ladysmith in effectual check while the sounds of the Tugela battle are ringing in their ears, then they are taking a risk almost without precedent in the history of strategy. At such a distance from the scene, and with such a meagre supply of detailed information, conjectures must necessarily be vague. It seems evident, however, that Sir Redvers Buller is proceeding with considerable deliberation. On November 28th, ten thousand British troops had been massed at Frere, which is only ten miles from Colenso, orders having been issued on the preceding day for a general advance against Colenso. Had the advance taken place at any ordinary rate of speed, the collision must have occurred on the 30th of November or the 1st of December. We imagine that the delay is for the sake of bringing up a good park of artillery from Durban. If Buller can place one or two strong batteries of naval guns in positions commanding the Tugela, his task will be greatly lightened, and it would be extremely unwise on his part to neglect such aid.

It is curious that a parallel situation should exist simultaneously on the Western frontier. The Boers, according to telegrams received by the Direct Service from London, are preparing to deliver battle again at Spyfontein station, which is within some 13 miles of Kimberley. The garrison of the latter place, however, is too weak to be a serious menace in their rear, though the plucky and effective resistance it has hitherto offered forbids us to suppose that it will remain idle when the Spyfontein battle is in progress. In another respect the situations are parallel, namely, that the Boers are now seen to have a powerful force massed in the neighbourhood of Kimberley. They could evidently have hurled ten thousand men against the weakly garrisoned town at any time within the past six weeks. But they have made no more impression on it than on Ladysmith. They must be getting very tired, and their want of success makes us admire all the more the pluck shown by them in disputing every inch of the British advance. They fought at Graspan, they fought at the Modder River, and they are apparently going to fight again at Spyfontein. It is a fine spectacle. Of course they feel that the situation is most critical. At Kimberley, Methuen will be within 90 miles of Bloemfontein, and, at the same time, Gatacre will be on the southern border of the Free State. Unless Methuen's forces can be struck so hard as to temporarily disable them, the Free State is in imminent peril, and it will then be a pertinent question for the Free-Staters in Natal whether to continue fighting at Ladysmith, or hasten home for the defence of their "altars and hearths." It is pretty certain that Buller, Methuen and Gatacre are all moving in telegraphic accord. Strategy has changed since the introduction of the wires, and it is easy to see what an immense advantage England derives from her command of the sea and of the cables at a crisis like the present.

Since the above was in type, telegraphic news received at the French Legation shows that the Boers have, in truth, sufficient force to partially justify the risk they are running. They are able to leave ten thousand men besieging Ladysmith while fifteen thousand hold the intrenchments at Colenso. It appears, therefore, that, with an army of twenty-five thousand men, they have been unable to reduce a place garrisoned by not more than seven thousand.

Incidentally this news shows that Ladysmith is still safe. It is, indeed, not only safe, but also in communication with the outer world, for a private telegraphic message received in Yokohama from an officer in the garrison, dated November 30th, states that all was well at that time.

It is plain, on the other hand, that Buller has a most serious task before him. He has to accomplish without loss of time, under circumstances of greatly augmented difficulty, precisely what the Boers have totally failed to achieve in six weeks. The British at Ladysmith are some seven thousand strong, occupying an entrenched camp, and the Boers, with twenty-five thousand men, have been unable to carry the position. The Boers at Colenso are fifteen thousand strong, occupying an intrenched camp, and Buller has to dislodge them with a force of some twelve thousand. As a matter of mere arithmetic the work Buller has to do is thus nearly five times as difficult as the work the Boers have been unable to do. Possibly Buller is stronger than we imagine, but the figures hitherto published go to show that he can hardly put more than twelve thousand into his fighting line. According to the ordinary laws of tactics the force assaulting an intrenched position ought to be at least twice as strong as the force defending it. But the rule evidently does not hold where English soldiers are attacking and Boers defending. Glencoe, Elandslaagte, Graspan, and the Modder River were all won by a smaller force assaulting a larger in an intrenched position. We do not believe that the record will be broken at Colenso, but the fight is going to be the heaviest thing yet; probably the biggest in the war, for, if the Boers are badly defeated, they may be unable to muster in such strength for another battle. What is quite plain is that a large number of Dutchmen from the Cape Colony have joined the two Republics. Otherwise the latter could not have put a force of over forty thousand men into the field. There

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are twenty-five thousand in Natal; ten thousand about Kimberley; at least five thousand in the neighbourhood of Mafeking, and apparently some five or six thousand on the Southern border of the Free State.

Thursday, Dec. 7th.

In October, when the news reached Japan that no attempt was to be made by the British to hold Laings Nek, we hazarded a conjecture that the invasion of the Transvaal would probably be *viâ* the Orange Free State, not only because the initial difficulties would be less, but also because the Free State had to be dealt with as well as the Transvaal. Our idea was ridiculed by the "military correspondent" of a local contemporary, who alleged that no such notion could have emanated from a person having any knowledge of geography. We observe, however, by recent mail advices, that the same idea was generally held in London in the beginning of November. A dispatch to an American journal, under date London, Nov. 7th, said:—

This morning's news carries public knowledge with respect to hostilities in South Africa very little further than the evacuation of Colenso and Stormberg. These movements, taken together with the Admiralty announcement that the public must not be disappointed should the transports not reach their destination on the dates indicated in the published lists, may indicate some change of plan necessitated by the bad position of affairs in Natal. It was expected that the army corps would land near Cape Town for an invasion of the Transvaal through the Orange Free State, but the landing may now be diverted to Durban, Natal, whither it is fully expected Lieutenant-General Sir Redvers Buller will go within a week to investigate the situation for himself.

Friday, Dec. 8.

It is now clear that, as originally conjectured by us, the squadron of Hussars and the party of mounted infantry captured by the Boers in Northern Natal were engaged in pursuing the enemy after the Glencoe victory on Oct. 20th. Doubtless our readers have by this time gathered a perfectly clear idea of the Boer plan of campaign which was defeated by the energetic action of Generals Symons and White. The Boers intended to "wipe out" the British force holding Glencoe. For that purpose their programme was that two powerful columns, aggregating some seventeen thousand men, should converge upon the place from the north and north-east, while a third column should throw itself across the railway, between Ladysmith and Glencoe, thus completely isolating the latter place. But, before the two northern columns could converge, Symons attacked and smashed one of them, while White struck at the isolating column at Elandslaagte and dissipated it. When, however, Symons' cavalry went in pursuit of the retreating enemy, the advanced squadron came upon the belated column, which should have shared in the projected attack on Glencoe, and the result was the capture of a large part of the squadron and of the mounted infantry accompanying it.

THE "TAMBA MARU" CASE.

We refrain at present from any comment on the incredible verdict in the case of assault against an officer of the *Tamba Maru*. The case is still *sub judice*, having been appealed, and it is impossible to believe that such a judgment will stand.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

Monday, Dec. 4.

If rumour may be credited, the Progressists are in an unenviable position. They introduced five Bills in the Lower House shortly after its assembly. All these measures had barely appeared on the Order of the Day when they were withdrawn by their introducers. Three of them proposed the restoration of the Land Tax, the Post and Telegraph Rates, and the Soy Tax to their former rates; one was for reverting to the old standard of remuneration of members of the Diet, and one embodied a law for dealing with corrupt practices on the part of members of the House. This last measure was directed chiefly against Mr. Hoshi Toru, and had its origin in recent events. But the other four Bills embodied projects with which the Progressist leaders have for some time associated themselves in the press and on the platform. The withdrawal of the Bills is therefore regarded as a step likely to impair the Party's reputation, and many members are said to be indignant inasmuch as they consider that, however slight the chances of passing the Bills, the issue should have been boldly challenged. Meanwhile the Liberals are said to have prepared various bombshells which they intend to fire off in "lawful self-defence." These are simply counter-charges of corruption, levelled chiefly against Count Okuma and Mr. Oishi Masami. It is not at all an edifying spectacle, and we may be permitted to hope that the Liberals will re-consider their course.

The scene in the parliamentary arena has certainly undergone a marked change during the past few years. What we now witness is a struggle between two political parties. What we used to witness was a struggle between the Government and two political parties in union.

We may supplement these notes by saying that a most exaggerated view seems to be taken of the Progressists' position by their political opponents. Even the *Mainichi Shimbun*, whose editor-in-chief, Mr. Shimada Saburo, was formerly a Progressist leader, declares that the Party has committed suicide, and the sober *Jiji Shimpo* writes as though some radical reconstruction of political parties were imminent. The *Jiji* may be right, but, as to the Progressists having committed suicide, we do not believe a word of it. Their own explanation is that they have withdrawn the Bills merely as a temporary measure, pending the arrival in Tokyo of strong anti-land-tax deputations, whose agitation, they expect, will influence public opinion in favour of their programme. We see no reason to doubt that explanation. Of course it was essentially bad tactics to introduce the Bills at all in the face of an event likely to interrupt their discussion, but a tactical error does not kill a great party. It is as tenacious of life as a newspaper.

Wednesday, Dec. 6.

The General Committee of the Liberal Party, Mr. Hoshi, Baron Suyematsu and Mr. Kataoka, visited the Prime Minister at his official residence on the evening of the 4th instant, and had a long conference with Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo and Count Matsugata. It is understood that the subjects of discussion were the amendment of the Law of Election, the Budget and the Regulations for Official Appointments. The Liberals, as we explained in a previous issue, are disposed to adopt a very conservative line with regard to the amendment of the Law of Election, and are insistent that a special clause should be added to the Official Appointments Regulations in the sense of reducing qualifications for office so as bring official appointments within easier reach of party politicians.

The Progressists have again introduced their celebrated "Five Bills" in the House of Representatives; namely, the three Bills for reducing the Land Tax, the Soy Tax and the Postal and Telegraph Rates, the Bill for bringing members of the Diet within the purview of the laws relating to official morality in the discharge of public functions, and the Bill for cutting down the emoluments of members of the Diet to the old figure of 800 *yen*. This revival of the once withdrawn measures provokes a great deal of ridicule. The *Jimmin* observes that a sensible spectre never goes in for a second apparition.

MR. YANO.

Mr. Yano, who has just returned to Japan from Peking, where he represented his country, was approached by the ubiquitous interviewer at Kobe. He says that the Chinese Government, since it succeeded in "heading off" Italy by recourse to a strong policy, has had a return of its old anti-foreign fever, and is hugging itself in the notion that it can shake off foreign domination altogether by a display of firmness. Towards Japan, however, the attitude is different. The war of 1894-5 gave the Chinese a new conception of Japan. They appreciate her military and naval preparedness as well as her commercial and industrial progress, and they do not suspect her of sinister designs. Hence they are disposed to clasp hands with her, and avail themselves of her assistance.

Concerning the Amoy affair, Mr. Yano said that four of Japan's five demands had been conceded by China, but that the fifth, namely, the punishment of the Taotai had encountered much opposition, and though the Chinese Government's objections had been nearly over-come when Mr. Yano left, he was obliged to bequeathe to his successor the duty of arranging a final settlement. France also, he added, was experiencing much difficulty, and it appeared probable that she would have to show a very strong front.

Speaking of the Emperor's condition, Mr. Yano said that all the rumours circulated are false, and that the simple truth is that His Majesty is sickly. People talk of the probable retirement of the Empress-Dowager, but Mr. Yano does not anticipate anything of the kind. We gather from his language that he regards China's condition as not incomparable with that of Japan in feudal times, when men of great ability and power were locally omnipotent, and only an exceptionally strong hand in Kyoto could enforce the mandates of the central Government. The Empress-Dowager alone, he thinks, can exercise the necessary authority at present.

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FRANCE AND ENGLAND

It is evident that if the responsible statesmen of European countries begin to take serious notice of newspaper writings, the peace of the world can not long continue. From that point of view Mr. Chamberlain's recent speech at Leicester is certainly to be deprecated. The journals of Paris do not represent the sober sense of the French nation. There is probably very little friendly feeling towards England in France, but we do not believe that the prevailing temper is truly echoed by the bitter, rancorous, and unreasoning tone displayed in newspaper writings. As journalists we naturally take a lenient view of our own profession, but as units of society we are bound to confess that the poet's dream of the world's federation would be much more likely to be realized if all the newspapers were sunk in the ocean. Mr. Chamberlain might well have said that Englishmen regret to encounter such unjustifiable hostility as the French press displays, and that they endeavour to regard it as a mere temporary vertigo; but he should not have flung defiance in the face of France because a few hysterical French journalists have lashed themselves into a foolish fury. That is not the course recommended by English common sense. On the other hand, it is surely a little absurd that the French newspapers should accuse Mr. Chamberlain of provoking war. From which side did the provocation come in the first place? The Paris journalists seem to forget that they have themselves been applying to England the most disagreeable epithets furnished by their vocabulary, and have done everything in their power to stir up ill feeling between the two countries. They have no right to cry out because a prominent Englishman shows some resentment. The incident recalls the delightful excuse formerly advanced so often by the local vilipenders of Japan, who, while they made an invariable habit of abusing and traducing her, used to complain that bad blood was created between foreigners and Japanese if any one took up her defence publicly. The Paris journals are the real offenders. Mr. Chamberlain has shown want of statesmanlike calmness, but assuredly they have no right to censure him.

TROUBLES IN CHINA.

A telegram from the *Fiji Shimpo's* special correspondent in Peking, dated the 2nd instant, says that there have been riots in Shantung, and that upwards of ten places of Christian worship have been destroyed by mobs. France and the United States are reported to be the Powers chiefly concerned. It is the old weary business over again, we presume. The Chinese Government sits upon a mine of combustibles and is quite incompetent to enforce any regulations for the preservation of safety. Meanwhile we have now a curious wheel within a wheel. Germany has made it perfectly clear that she regards Shantung as her sphere of influence. Suppose that France should propose to send a force of marines to punish the rioters, what would be Germany's attitude? Would she undertake the task herself rather than permit the armed incursion of another Power?

TAXES IN YOKOHAMA.

We are not at the moment in a position to give information, as desired by our correspondent "Taxpayer," with regard to the amount raised last year in Yokohama from the taxes enumerated by him. We note, however, that his calculation seems to be somewhat defective. The *Ken* Tax is levied not upon the National Business Tax in the simple form stated by him, but, as we understand, upon the sum of the three forms of National Business Tax, namely, the National Business Tax on Value of Merchandise Sold, the National Business Tax on Rental Value of Buildings used for import operations, and the national Business Tax on Employés. Thus, if the Tax on the value of Merchandise be as stated by our correspondent, and if the rental value of the buildings be 1,500 *yen* and the number of *employés* ten, we must add 60 *yen* (4 per cent.) on account of the rental value, and 10 *yen* on account of the *employés*; the final result being that the three forms of Business Tax aggregate 2,620 *yen*. The *ken* Tax consequently becomes 52.40 *yen*; and the Town Tax 1,310 *ren*. Yokohama's levy on account of Town Tax is very large—the maximum figure. In Tokyo the rate at present is only 20 per cent. On the other hand the *Ken* Tax is 13 per cent. Thus the sum of the two is 33 per cent. against Yokohama's 52, and a man carrying on business in Tokyo under the conditions described by our correspondent, would pay 864.60 *yen* annually, instead of 1,362.40 *yen* as in Yokohama—a saving of 497.80 *yen*.

THE JAPANESE IN CHINA.

At a meeting of the *To a Dobun-kai* (East-Asian Fellow-thinkers) held in the Maple Club on the 2nd instant, Prince Konoye spoke of the impressions produced on him by his recent trip to China. He was struck above all things by the hugeness and the vast material resources of the empire, and he saw many opportunities for Japanese industrial and commercial enterprise—opportunities which ought to be utilized, since Japan can never hope to be prosperous by means of agriculture only. At the same time, he observed, with satisfaction, that there were signs of Japanese activity in the south of China. Formerly such of his countrymen as might be seen there were of the out-at-elbow, adventurer class, but respectable men were now making their appearance in Canton and elsewhere, and it was a fair presumption that they did not go there for nothing. With regard to the often-noted fact that the Japanese have not made any use of the facilities obtained for them by the negotiators of the Shimonoseki Treaty, and that the special settlements allotted by the terms of that document are inhabited by weeds only, Prince Konoye found that in each of the towns adjacent to these settlements some thirty or forty Japanese were living. They did not attempt to take up land in the settlements, however, not because they lacked enterprise, but because it was obviously impossible for such small communities to bear the expense of occupying new lands in a place where considerable sums would have to be spent on roads, drains, lighting and other municipal necessities. The Government ought to come to their aid in these matters.

MR. KATO IN SHANGHAI.

Mr. Kato, Japan's former Representative in London, has reached Shanghai, homeward bound, after a trip *viâ* Korea to Peking. He made a very interesting speech to his nationals in Shanghai. At his audience with the Emperor and Empress-Dowager of China, he was asked various questions of an important character. He did not, of course, disclose their gist, but he said that he was able to answer them satisfactorily. He also had interviews with Yung-lu, Li Hung-chang, Chang Chih-tung, and Liu Kun-yi, and he found that, without exception, they all regarded Japan with most friendly eyes, and were anxious to procure her cöoperation and assistance. Mr. Kato rightly remarked that probably in the history of the world there could not be found any other instance of two countries striking hands of friendship so soon after a war. At the same time, he insisted that their relations, in order to be really satisfactory, must stand upon a basis of individual interest. People talked of international morality and international right, and insisted that two States, in dealing with each other, should be guided by the same principles that influenced the intercourse between two friends. In the present condition of the world it was safer to build on foundations of interest, and such foundations were to be found in commerce. Education was very well in its way, but before education could begin to take practical effect in a country like China, an interval of at least 20 or 30 years must elapse. For immediate purposes, trade was the one essential. Trade not only drew peoples together, but also created interests in which could be found the best guarantees for a country's safety. Looking at the attitude of European Powers towards China, he saw that, while each was intent upon making the most of its opportunities, all, with one or two exceptions, were desirous of preserving her integrity as an empire, and averting her partition. That was certainly Great Britain's policy, and it was also Japan's. He did not believe in promises that no part of this district or of that should be alienated. Such pledges would not stand the strain of practice. What he had faith in was commerce, and if Japan wanted to occupy a strong position in the Far Eastern Question, her prime aim should be to develop her trade with China.

THE AMOY FOLKS AND MR. SHIGA.

Mr. Shiga appears to have received an extraordinarily demonstrative welcome at Amoy. The people of the place took him by the hand as a representative of the Progressists, whom the Chinese seem to have identified with the policy of the maintenance of their empire. The gentleman who headed the recent riotous proceedings in connexion with the delimitation of the new Japanese settlement gave an entertainment in Mr. Shiga's honour, and he was elsewhere regaled with salvoes of artillery and fusillades of crackers. One reason of his popularity in Amoy is said to have been a suggestion which emanated from him or his friends that a site for the settlement should be obtained by levelling a part of Fu-tou-shan instead of interfering with the Chinese cemetery. But Mr. Shiga is a man who would win his way anywhere.

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ENGLAND, THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which has always been a staunch advocate of an Anglo-Japanese *entente*, and would ultimately have Germany brought into the conclave, is much disappointed to learn, from Mr. Chamberlain's recent speech at Leicester, that whereas Germany, the United States, and Great Britain have entered the same camp, there is no mention of Japan. Our contemporary is disposed to attribute the fact to Japan's want of resolution. It thinks that England is tired of this country's dalliance and no longer cares to be associated with a Power so vacillating. We can not agree with the *Yomiuri*. England does not readily make alliances. Indeed it may be taken for granted that there is nothing like a definite alliance between her and the two Powers mentioned by Mr. Chamberlain. There is simply a cordial *entente*. The three now understand that each may rely on the friendly neutrality of the other two in the event of trouble. That is about the whole story, we imagine. Germany has worked for many years to obtain the alliance of the one Power which could secure her effectually against maritime enterprises on the part of a Franco-Russian fleet in the event of war, and much of the bitterness of the German press at present is doubtless due to the fact that England has hitherto stood aloof. It is conceivable that some talk, satisfactory from a German point of view, has now taken place with regard to that particular contingency, but, if so, it has been proximately caused by England's desire to guarantee herself against being embarrassed by Continental Europe while she has South Africa on her hands. If the Far-Eastern question enters a phase sufficiently acute to suggest the advisability of forming alliances between the Powers desirous of maintaining China's integrity, England will not be slow to stand forward. The Japanese must not interpret her present semblance of indifference as a proof either of the mood suggested by the *Yomiuri*, or of want of appreciation of Japan's capacities. Neither should they interpret the doings of men like Lord Charles Beresford or the writings of pro-alliance journalists as the official voice, or even the popular, voice of Great Britain. The English nation requires a vast deal of education before it can be reconciled to any novel departure in foreign politics. It is receiving that education to-day at the hands of many publicists, and if their efforts do not bear immediate fruit, it is not because the soil is barren but simply because the season is still early.

AN ADVISER FOR KOREA.

There is a rumour, circumstantially framed, that the Korean Government is desirous of re-engaging the services of Mr. Mollendorff in the capacity of adviser. Some of our readers have perhaps forgotten Mr. Mollendorff, and their memory will not be improved by learning that he is now Commissioner of Customs at Ningpo. Fourteen years ago, however, he was a very prominent figure in Far Eastern politics. Having been appointed adviser to the Korean Government after the conclusion of the Li-Ito Convention in 1885, he immediately advocated the policy of Korean independence, pushing his views with a thoroughness that left nothing to be desired, and at the same time adopting Korean costume and adapting himself completely to the methods of Korean life. He is undoubtedly a man of much ability and vigour, but it cannot be said that his manner of promoting his policy was calculated to maintain tranquillity in the East. He was generally credited with pro-Russian views, but we were always disposed to question the truth of that rumour. The names of Mr. McLeavy Brown and Mr. Oiesen are connected by report with the project of Mr. Mollendorff's re-engagement, but, whether they advocate it, or whether the Emperor of Korea desires it, or whether the whole story is based on an attempt made by Mr. Mollendorff himself to recover the post, we are unable to ascertain.

THE NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

Within the past ten years we have repeatedly expressed in these columns the conviction that Germany, the United States, and Great Britain would ultimately be found in the same camp. It is a natural combination. If we were asked to say exactly why Germany should go hand in hand with the Anglo-Saxon race, we could easily adduce a great number of considerations, all more or less forcible. But somehow the strongest—looking at the matter from an English point of view—seems to be the conviction which Englishmen entertain of the fitness of such an union. We do not suggest for a moment that any reflection of that kind need have weight with the Germans, though there is, after all, some truth in the old saying that like begets like. All that we assert is that it would be very difficult for Englishmen to reconcile themselves to the idea of a serious quarrel with Germany. We recognise in her a formidable rival, but we also recognise in her very many points of similarity with ourselves, and we think that her national ideals are also our own. Nevertheless it is difficult to believe that anything like a working alliance has been formed. Probably an understanding alone exists, and, after all, an understanding is quite enough.

THE OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

Tokyo newspapers state that the well-known Osaka shipping company contemplates making a very large addition to its capital and its fleet—an addition which would have the effect of placing the company at the head of all Japanese maritime enterprises. Its present capital is 5½ million *yen*, and it recently borrowed 2,400,000 *yen* to pay for new ships. Apparently it finds itself sufficiently prosperous to launch out extensively, for the Directors are now credited with having elaborated a programme which is to be carried out in three stages. The first stage involves the raising of additional capital to the extent of 5½ million *yen*: the second stage requires a further sum of 4 million *yen*; and the third stage calls for 2 millions. Thus, if we add the 2½ millions recently raised, the company's total capital on the completion of the projected programme would be about 20 million *yen*. The services to be specially developed in the first period are the Northern Chinese, the Korean, and the Yangtze; those of the second period are to India and the South Seas; and those of the third period, to America. During the first period, which commences in 1900 and ends in 1901, the sum spent on ships would be 4,800,000 *yen*, and the sum devoted to shore works, 1,400,000 *yen*; of which total 2½ millions would be used on the Yangtsze lines, 1,700,000 *ren* for the South Seas, and the remainder for North China. It will be observed that, whereas the addition to be made to the Company's capital in the first period is 5½ millions, the expenditures aggregate 6,200,000 *yen*. The difference, 700,000 *yen*, is to be borrowed. Details as to the second and third periods are not published. The number of vessels to be built or purchased is 33 in all; namely, sixteen small steamers, of from 200 to 400 tons, for plying in the Yangtsze and the Min Rivers; and seventeen of from 1,000 to 3,000 tons for service on the high seas. This is certainly a most ambitious programme, and may be regarded as a healthy sign of Japanese commercial development.

THE NAVY OF JAPAN.

Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the the Navy, was subjected to a most searching examination by Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune at the last meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on the Budget. Mr. Komuchi is a prominent Progressist politician. He occupied the position of Chief of the Legislative Bureau in Count Okuma's last Cabinet. In reply to his questions, the Admiral said that, although Japanese sailors are inferior to Occidentals in physique, the mechanism of modern naval war-ships and their armament is such as to discount the importance of physical strength. Speaking of the relative ranks of the Army and the Navy, he declined to admit that the senior ranks of the latter service included some men who owed their promotion to the necessity of preserving the "balance of power" between the two services. All promotions, he insisted, had been made independently of such considerations, and in consequence of the operation of the *post-bellum* programme or the regular routine of graduation. The fact that whereas the flag officers of the Standing Squadron used to be a Vice-Admiral and one Rear-Admiral, they were now a Vice-Admiral and two Rear-Admirals, was declared by him to be an improvement of organization which had obtained the applause of British Naval officers, and would probably be copied in the British service. Mr. Komuchi pressed him with regard to the maintenance of the Navy, the former's calculation being that a ship's life could not be considered longer than 25 years on the average, that a sum of 100 *yen* per ton annually should be allowed for maintenance, and that a total expenditure of ten million *yen* a year was required for that purpose. Admiral Yamamoto refrained from expressing any opinion about his questioner's figures, and gave a temporizing reply in the sense that the subject would come up for consideration in due time. Asked about Japanese naval cadets sent abroad, he admitted that they could not get into foreign naval colleges, but claimed that they could go in and out of dockyards and arsenals and associate with foreign naval experts, the advantages to the cadets being an ample compensation for the outlay.

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THE PEST.

Saturday, Dec. 2.

Sporadic cases of pest continue to occur. A girl of 15 was found dead in the cabin of the *Ogon Maru*, when that steamer entered Wakayama from Kobe on the 29th ultimo. The *post-mortem* indicated pest symptoms. Another instance took place on the 29th ultimo in a village near Kobe. The sufferer was a stoker engaged in the local branch of the Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Mill, and it is supposed that the disease was contracted by contact with the refuse of the Mill. This case, however, having been taken in hand with exceptional promptness, does not seem likely to have a fatal termination.

The Japanese physicians and sanitary engineers engaged for the purpose of dealing with the pest at Newchwang appear to be giving great satisfaction. There are now eleven physicians and four engineers at work there, and it has been decided to engage the services of four more doctors from this country. One of the great advantages attending the employment of Japanese in such a capacity is that whereas the Chinese, as a rule, show great reluctance in consulting an Occidental physician or submitting to sanitary regulations enactedby Occidentals, they have no prejudice whatever against Japanese. The British Consul at Newchwang is president of the Sanitary Board. It appears that the Chinese Government has contributed a sum of ten thousand taels towards the expenses, the railway company a similar amount, and that a thousand has been subscribed by private individuals. An additional five thousand will probably be borrowed, and it is expected that the total, twenty-six thousand, will suffice for any measures now contemplated.

Monday, Dec. 4.

Unfortunately the progress of the Pest does not seem to have been arrested, as was at first hoped. Dr. Kitasato, telegraphing from Kobe on the 30th November, said that no such prospect was yet in sight, and in immediate confirmation of his verdict news comes that, on the 1st, two new cases were reported in Fukiai-mura, where the malady originally made its appearance. These were both sons of a man who had already succumbed to the disease. One of them has died, and the other is undergoing treatment. From Osaka, also, a probable case is reported. It appears that after the death of a girl of 15 on board the steamer *Ogon Maru* had been proved to be due to pest, a medical visit was made to the house of her parents in Osaka, and the result was the discovery that one of the servants showed suspicious symptoms.

Since the above was written, news comes of another case in Kobe, a woman who died on the night of the 1st instant. There is some idea that she contracted the malady from a baby which she nursed. The child died within a few months of its birth, and, since it had not yet been registered, the parents reported the case as a miscarriage. It is thought that the baby may have had the Pest, but the suspicion seems somewhat incredible.

Tuesday, Dec. 5.

Another case of pest is reported from Kobe. This time the sufferer is a lad of sixteen, and the locality is Sannomiya-machi. The fell disease does not make rapid progress, but there is a persistence about its behaviour that suggests much cause for alarm.

Wednesday, Dec. 6.

No fresh cases of Pest are reported from Kobe, but there is said to be a man in Oji, Nara Prefecture, suffering from a suspicious malady. Tokyo has escaped thus far, and the sanitary authorities are taking most vigorous measures.

Thursday, Dec. 7.

Three new cases of Pest are reported this morning. One, in Wakayama, is said to be doubtful, but two in Kobe are beyond all question, and one of them has ended fatally. One of the Kobe patients was a *betto* in Fukiai-mura, where the disease originally made its appearance; the other was in Honcho Nichome.

A case has occurred in Tokyo also. A woman of 22 years of age, who arrived at Shimbashi at 6.50 p.m. on the 5th, having made the through journey from Osaka, was found to be suffering from the cruel disease. She was immediately sent to hospital, and two friends who accompanied her were placed under observation.

Friday, Dec. 8.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the case of Pest said to have occurred in the train between Osaka and Tokyo on the 5th instant turns out to be a false alarm. The malady was tuberculosis, not Pest. From Nagasaki, however, comes intelligence that a genuine case occurred there on the night of the 5th in Uragami.

FRANCO-AMERICAN SPECIAL TARIFF.

The opinion seems to be growing that Japan ought to offer to America some concession with regard to the duty on kerosene in order to secure the benefit of the special tariff rates which the United States Government is understood to have given to France for consideration received. This matter is ably discussed by the *Fiji Shimpo* which points out, incidentally, that whereas, in 1888, Japan sold 22,600,000 *yen* worth of goods to America and only bought 5,600,000 *yen* worth from her, the corresponding figures last year were 47,300,000 *yen* and 40,000,000 *yen* respectively. In fact, there is now very little balance in Japan's favour, and the United States should be willing to enter into any arrangement which will help to foster such a promising commerce.

THE TOKYO CITY RAILWAY.

The prospects of the Triple-union company look very black indeed, just at present. A short time ago, it seemed to have secured the charter of the Tokyo Street Railway, and its potential shares, on which nothing had been paid up, were selling for a fine price. Now they can be had for fifty *sen*! It is even said that the chief promoter, Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, has handed over his shares *gratis* to a friend, in order to escape calls for further "expenses of promotion." If that be true, the chances of the enterprise must be indeed hopeless. What is Tokyo going to do, we wonder. By-and-by, no reputable citizen will put his hand to any enterprise demanding municipal consent, for he will regard such undertakings as mere sources of loss and vexation. Truly Tokyo is making a record among cities.

COUNT INOUYE.

We observe with pleasure that Count Inouye is again becoming an active figure in the financial field. He has consented to be twice interviewed by a representative of the *Chuo Shimbun*, to whom he has expressed many practical and useful opinions. Briefly stated, Count Inouye aims before everything at making the country self-supporting. He would encourage, and willingly invest capital in, all enterprises which, although they may involve a large initial outflow of specie, will ultimately operate to keep hard money at home. Among such enterprises he instances cotton spinning and iron founding, but unless he is wrongly reported he seems to exclude railways, though we should have been disposed to regard them as among the most potent of wealth-earning factors. The Count is unsparing in his condemnation of the defective machinery that now exists for business purposes—the want of proper connexion between land and water facilities of transport; the bad relations between maritime and shore carriers; the insufficient and insecure conveniences for storing goods, a deficiency which caused a clear loss of some two million *yen* last year; and the tendency on the part of shareholders to think only of large dividends, or to fritter away strength in attacking their directors, instead of looking to the future, and endeavouring to effect improvements which, although they might demand expenditure at the moment, would bring in more than compensatory returns hereafter. All this is precisely in the direction whither Count Inouye's countrymen have urgent need to be led, and we are rejoiced to see the veteran statesman resuming a prominent place in the field. He is to address a meeting at the Mitsui Club in a few days.

AN INCIDENT IN TOKYO.

Vernacular newspapers contain various stories of an act of rudeness against the German Representative in Tokyo. As usual the affair has been exaggerated. Apparently nothing worse happened than that a man, whether drunk or merely mischievous we do not know, struck or kicked the Minister's horse as he rode along, causing the animal to gallop off affrighted. Count Leyden is a skilled equestrian, and the incident did not embarrass him at all, but a policeman, seeing the occurrence, gave chase to the rough, unfortunately failing to capture him. We do not mean to extenuate the matter when we deprecate the exaggerated dimensions that have been given to it by rumour. Since the Revised Treaties came into operation, and since the Emperor's Rescript and Ministerial Instructions were published in July, there has been a marked improvement in the demeanour of the student and coolie classes. But there is plenty of room for further improvement. Only yesterday the writer of this note was insulted by students of the Imperial University, and it is still an everyday occurrence to hear children greeting the passing foreigner with cries of "*Ijin papa, neko papa.*" The police never seem to trouble themselves in the smallest degree about these children, nor do the parents, and the little ones consequently grow up in the belief that they may insult foreigners with impunity.

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POLITICAL PARTIES AND PATRIOTISM.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has published two cleverly written articles urging the politicians of Japan to think less of party and more of country. It appears to us, on reading these articles, that their proximate purpose is to denounce the attempt in which the Liberal leaders are now engaged—the attempt to induce the Government to add to the Official Appointments Regulations a special clause in the sense of opening the door of office to party politicians who are not competent to undergo the examination test prescribed by the Regulations. The *Nichi Nichi* points to politicians in England, who are nearly always men of independent means, and who never make politics an instrument for gaining administrative appointments, nor ever look for Government support of a party. Until politics are conducted on those lines, there never can be any genuine success for representative institutions, or any really pure atmosphere in political life. Our readers can easily infer the gist of the *Nichi Nichi's* writing from this brief reference. Every rightly-thinking person must be with the Tokyo journal. Looking back at the incidents of the political battle which has been waged in Japan, with occasional intermissions, ever since 1891, when the Diet first assembled, we see that the two great legends which the Government's assailants blazoned on their banners were *jojitsu* and *hambatsu*—nepotism and clannism. What the Liberals and Progressists persistently and unalterably maintained was that official appointments were made, not with reference to the merits of the appointees, but because of favoritism, and that clan affinities constituted a much stronger title to preferment than competence to serve the country. There was no variance from that programme of assault. Session after session the party leaders pledged themselves to fight until they had annihilated clan influence, and day after day their newspaper organs inveighed against it. What do we now find? These same politicians openly endeavouring to substitute party for clan; deliberately seeking to break down the barriers erected for checking the very abuses against which they themselves used to wage such a relentless war. They want to have the Regulations altered so that party politicians may be eligible for certain offices without undergoing any of the tests intended to prevent nepotism and to secure really competent men for the public service. We wonder greatly that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* should stand alone in its crusade against this extraordinary sacrifice of principles on the altar of party interests. Where is the *Jiji Shimpo*, generally such an ardent and outspoken denouncer of abuses?

MINING IN KOREA.

The Japanese are joining the hunt for mining privileges in Korea. Mr. Asano, who is said to be working in conjunction with Mr. Shibusawa, has put in quite an extensive application. He asks for leave to work gold mines at Chik-san and Ansŏng in Chhung-chhŏng-do; iron mines at Eul-yul and Chai-yŏng in Hwang-hai-do, and to collect gold dust at Chang-yŏn, also in Hwang-hai-do. This application is said to have been duly presented by the Japanese Representative in Söul. We trust that Mr. Asano has not repeated the mistake recently made by a certain enterprising foreigner, who applied for several mining concessions, and included among them a mine which had already been granted to an American concessionaire!

Meanwhile Mr. Pritchard Morgan's application for the Eun-san mine seems to be hanging fire. He was in a fair way to succeed when Mr. Walter, the very active German projector, raised an objection that the concession of the same mine had been refused to him a year previously. It is stated, however, that Her Majesty's Representative in Söul is not disposed to regard that as a conclusive reason, and that the Korean Government is still being subjected to embarrassing pressure.

THE TARIFF ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN FRANCE AND AMERICA.

There has been a good deal of writing in the Tokyo press with reference to the new tariff arrangements said to have been made between France and the United States. Some people are inclined to advise that Japan should adopt a policy of retaliation by raising the duty on kerosene oil imported from America. But it is understood that there are many chances of the arrangement's falling through. It is pretty sure to be rejected by either the United States Congress or the French Chamber, and consequently the Foreign Office in Tokyo sees no occasion for hasty remonstrance or premature attempt to obtain a similar concession for Japan. In fact the Foreign Office, as the Tokyo *Asahi* explains, has adopted the masterly inactivity recommended by Tsukahara Bokuden in his *mute-kachi* style of fencing. Probably the view of the Foreign Office will be justified by facts, but in the meanwhile there is some uneasiness in commercial quarters, and it is suggested that while the inactive policy may have much to recommend it, the wiser course would be to prepare for all eventualities by approaching the United States Government in due season. America, as it is justly pointed out, has not been influenced by any hostile feeling towards Japan in this matter. Her negotiations with France have been conducted solely on a basis of mutual commercial benefit, without any reference to outside Powers. It would therefore be unwise and unfair on Japan's part to adopt a policy of retaliation by suddenly raising the duty on kerosene. The better plan is to proceed by friendly negotiation.

BIRDS FOR THE SULTAN.

Some time ago it was announced that the *Jiji Shimpo's* special correspondent in Constantinople, Mr. Yamada Torajiro, had received a commission from the Sultan of Turkey to procure an "assortment" of Japanese birds for His Majesty's aviary. It is now announced that Mr. Yamada has arrived safely in Turkey with his feathered freight, the only mishap *en route* being the death of some mandarin ducks and widgeon in the Indian Ocean. We presume that the Sublime Porte will have to pay pretty highly for its hobby, which is quite as it should be.

AMNESTY.

Should the approaching marriage of the Crown Prince—the "honourable rejoicing" it is popularly termed—be made the occasion for extending pardon to persons undergoing disciplinary punishment, the man chiefly affected will be Lieut. General Baron Ozawa, whose offence and its punishment are doubtless remembered by many of our readers. In the Diet's first or second session, we are not sure which, Baron Ozawa, who was a member of the House of Peers, ranged himself on the side of the Opposition, and, during a somewhat stormy debate with reference to naval and military affairs, made some statements of facts which could not have come to his knowledge independently of his position as a Lieut.-General in the Army. The Government at once took notice of the matter, and removed Baron Ozawa's name from the Army List. The incident created a great deal of excitement at the time, the Baron's friends, private and political, contending that the utterances of a member in the Diet are privileged. Again and again Viscount Tani and his associates endeavoured to bring forward the matter for discusion, and question after question was submitted to the Government. But the latter remained firm. Now at last, however, in connexion with the auspicious event of the Prince Imperial's marriage, the Baron is likely to recover his old rank. We congratulate him, for, though he certainly acted injudiciously, there never could be any doubt about his sincerity and patriotism.

TOKYO'S EXPENDITURE.

The Tokyo City Assembly met on the 1st instant, and passed a bill providing that the total income for next year should be 872,328 *yen*, of which 870,035 *yen* will be ordinary income, and 2,293 *yen* will be extraordinary. The expenditures were sanctioned in this form:—

	YEN.
Ordinary expenditures	620,698
Extraordinary	251,630
Total	872,328

Tokyo is the most parsimonious city in Japan. Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, and so on spend nearly twice as much in proportion on their municipal needs. However, Tokyo is apparently content to be a by-word.

JAPANESE PURCHASES OF HORSES IN FRANCE.

We translate the following from the *Ere Nouvelle* with regard to the purchase of horses in France for the Japanese Military Department:—"The Japanese mission has just concluded its acquisitions in our region. Among the horses purchased are *Furet*, from M. de Juge, for 20,000 francs; and *Moka*, from M. Lascourréges, for 15,000 francs. The Mission offered twenty thousand francs for the excellent horse *Samos*, but his owner, M. de Basignan, refused to part with him. The Japanese have also become the proprietors of five Anglo-Arabian sires, for which they paid from 6,000 to 20,000 francs, and six Anglo-Arabian broodmares, at an average price of six thousand francs."

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"UITLANDERS IN JAPAN."

We do not see what is to be gained by endeavouring to stir up spurious discontent among the foreign residents in this country by comparing them to the Uitlanders in the Transvaal, because they pay taxes and have no voice in the administration of either State or local affairs. Such a voice can not be obtained in any country without the previous process of naturalization. The grievance of the Transvaal Uitlanders is that they can not obtain naturalization except on conditions which are nearly prohibitive. If a foreign resident desires to have a voice in the appropriation of the taxes he pays in Japan, he must become naturalized, as would be necessary in any part of the civilized world. Is there never to be any respite from ill-tempered and unwarrantable grumbling? Fair grievances fairly stated deserve sympathy, but perpetual and unreasonable querulousness is at once mischievous and tiresome.

BUSINESS MEN AND OFFICIAL DISTINCTIONS.

When one remembers what a lowly position the tradesman occupied five-and thirty years ago in Japan, one reads with mingled surprise and interest an article like that just published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* urging that decorations and such honours should be freely bestowed upon business men. According to our contemporary, the advisability of such a course has been recognised by the "powers that be," but there is some hesitation about carrying it out. Our contemporary urges the Government to go ahead, and points to the be-ribboned and be-starred manufacturers and traders who come to Japan from European countries. Mr. Fukuzawa, before his lamentable illness, used to be a staunch advocate of the position now taken by the *Kokumin*. He was the commoner's champion, and, though his writings did not appear to produce much effect at the time, we presume that they were like the good seed dropped on fruitful soil, and that the fruit will now be soon seen.

YOUNG SMOKERS.

The threatened Bill for checking the "vice of tobacco smoking" among the young has actually been introduced in the House of Representatives. Its introducer is Mr. Nemoto Sho, an influential member, and its provisions are that if any person of less than fourteen years of age is found smoking tobacco, the "appurtenances" of the smoker shall be confiscated, and, in the event of a second offence, or of continued smoking after warning, a fine of from 10 *sen* to 1 *yen* may be imposed. Dealers wittingly selling tobacco in any form to young persons shall be liable to the same penalty. A difficult law to enforce, surely. European legislators have made the attempt, but we have never heard that they succeeded. It would be somewhat irksome that a constable should be entitled to stop a smoker in the street and ask his age. However, we are entirely in sympathy with the spirit of Mr. Nemoto.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Department of Communications issues a notification that postal orders payable in the Orange Free State or the Transvaal will not be obtainable for the present. Such an announcement seems scarcely necessary, but the authorities have to observe the regular routine, no doubt.

It is stated that Sir Robert Hart has decided to employ two more Japanese in the Imperial Chinese Customs, one at Shanghai and one at Newchwang, and that the duty of selecting suitable persons has been entrusted to Professor Baron Kanda of the Imperial University. There are already two Japanese employed in the Customs at Shanghai.

The Tokyo water works are considered to have been completed, though, so far as we know, many of the outlying parts of the city have still to be supplied. However, there is to be a grand opening ceremony at Yodo Bashi on the 17th instant. Two thousand persons are said to have been invited, and various forms of entertainment have been organized.

H.I.H. Prince Kuji, now a Lieutenant in the Army, though he does not appear to have yet emerged from the Military College, is to marry Miss Chika, elder sister of His Highness Prince Shimazu. The wedding ceremony will be in Kyoto, at the residence of the Mitsui Family, and Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household, has proceeded thither.

Dr. Yabe Tatsusaburo, of the Japanese Navy, who has been studying for two years at the Pasteur Institute, telegraphs that he has discovered a serum for curing tuberculosis. He does not use the word "serum," but describes his remedy as *menyeki-so*, which ideographically signifies an antidote, but is generally employed by medical men, we believe, in the sense of serum injections.

A considerable increase of local taxes is announced in Tokyo. There will be a slight reduction of the House Tax, but the imposts on drays, dray-horses, actors, prostitutes, engineering contractors, lodging houses, and so fourth will be augmented. The proceeds of the change are to be devoted to founding and equipping a normal female school, a high female school and a middle school.

A telegram published by the *Jiji Shimpo* from Peking says that the negotiations between France and China with regard to the outrage resulting in the death of two French citizens are developing a sharp aspect. The French Representative has informed the Tsung-li Yamen that unless his country's demands are speedily complied with the consequences will be serious, and China must bear the responsibility.

General—or Admiral, we are not sure which, for, explicit as Chinese ideographs usually are, they sometimes leave us in doubt where titles are concerned—General Chin, Commander-in-Chief of Szechuan, who has been on a visit to Japan for some weeks, left Tokyo on his return voyage last Sunday. It is understood that he has concluded his tour of inspection in Tokyo and neighbourhood, and that he will visit the Mint and Arsenal in Osaka *en route* for home. He was given a fine "send off" from Tokyo, and a Japanese officer and interpreter accompanied him southward. The General has engaged the services of one or more Japanese for teaching purposes in China.

The Minister of the Japanese Navy, Admiral Yamamoto, invited the Naval Attachés of the French, German and American Legations on board the torpedo-destroyer *Shiranui*, in Yokohama harbour, on the forenoon of the 3rd instant. The vessel put to sea, and after some trials of speed, proceeded to Yokosuka, arriving there at half-past ten. The party then visited the *Asama*, and returning to Yokohama, lunched at the Oriental Hotel.

Mr. Namikawa of Tokyo is said to have manufactured two particularly beautiful plaques of cloissonless enamel for the Paris Exhibition. Each measures 4 ft. 9 in. by 3 ft. 6 in., and the subjects represented are a sepia landscape on one and a peacock and rising sun on the other. The artist by whom the designs were drawn is the celebrated Mr. Watanabe Kwatei, and the technique is pronounced exceptionally fine.

There seems to be rather serious trouble at the Tobacco Monopoly Station of Hadano. The officials, while publicly fixing the quantity of leaf for sale to the dealers at 250,000 *kwamme* (about 2 million lbs.), are accused of privately selling another 300,000 *kwamme* (2½ million lbs.) to specially favoured individuals. The greatest indignation has been caused by the alleged discovery of this transaction, and riotous proceedings were with difficulty prevented by the police.

It is stated by Tokyo journals that the foreign residents of Yokohama are showing great reluctance to pay their taxes, and that, various representations having been neglected by them, the Governor has prepared an admonitory circular. Out of 274 persons only 75 have paid, and the defaulters are 98 British subjects; 29 Americans; 23 Germans; 20 Frenchmen; 13 Chinese; 10 Swiss; 3 Dutch; 2 Italians, and 2 Portuguese.

The Kawasaki Electric Railway has proved such a success that it was recently resolved to double the line. The work has been completed, and the opening ceremony took place on the 30th ultimo. The Company which owns this line calls itself the *Keihin Denki Tetsudo Kaisha*, or the Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railway Company. The name indicates a project of ultimately constructing an electric line between those two places. We sincerely trust that the project may be carried out some day or other.

We mentioned in a recent issue that the prospects of the newly established Hokkaido Colonization Bureau were regarded with great favour, and that, when the stock was placed on the market, large subscriptions might be anticipated. Such has proved to be the fact. Up to November 30th, the applications for bonds had reached 95,577, representing an aggregate value of 4,778,950 *yen*, whereas the number to be allotted is only 40,000, representing 2 million *yen*.

In response to the petition forwarded to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs by the Japanese colonists in Queensland, who are suffering so severely from the illiberal legislation of the local Parliament, the Japanese Gov-

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ernment has been obliged to state that Queensland is not exceeding the rights definitely belonging to her by treaty, and that Japan has, consequently, no legal ground of complaint. An appeal was made to the goodwill of the British Government in the hope that it would interpose to advise Queensland against her exclusive policy. But the British Government did not seem disposed to interfere, and consequently there is no redress in sight.

It is stated that the results of the emigration scheme to Peru have been disastrous. Of the 800 emigrants collected and forwarded by the Morioka Company, the greater part have become invalids and are unable to work. The climate of Peru is held to be chiefly responsible for this unhappy incident, but there are not wanting critics who lay some part of the blame on the shoulders of the Morioka Company. They say that in the Company's anxiety to obtain the requisite number of emigrants due care was not exercised in selecting healthy persons, nor were sufficient preparations made for the comfort of the emigrants after their arrival in Peru. That such accusations should be brought is a matter of course.

Saitama is one of the few Prefectures in Japan where the social evil is not licensed and subjected to official control. It is also a fact that Saitama Prefecture enjoys the reputation of being one of the most immoral parts of Japan, and that secret prostitution and all its attendant abuses are said to be conspicuously rife there. We do not wish to tread on the corns of any prejudices, but these are plain facts. The Prefectural Assembly of Saitama has now adopted, by an overwhelming majority, a representation urging that prostitution be licensed, on the grounds, first, that the licensing system tends to the promotion of sanitation and public morality; secondly, that it is a good means of raising money without imposing increased taxation, and that the Prefecture wants money. The former reason is valid enough; but the latter is disgraceful, and the *Jiji Shimpo* justly denounces it in unmeasured terms.

In the course of an article whose prime purpose is to argue against the necessity or probability of any disturbance of the relations between Japan and Russia, the *Jiji Shimpo* takes a high view of its country's military and naval capacities. It declares that Japan would have no difficulty in annihilating Russia's Far-Eastern Squadron, in taking Vladivostock and Port Arthur, in running the Russians out of Manchuria, and even in invading Siberia. But it arrests its readers at that point of the pageant of glory by asking, when and how could such a war end? Russia would not sit down under reverses suffered at the hands of a small Power like Japan. Japan would not be content to be beaten. So the thing would go on *ad infinitum*. Without stopping to discuss this extensive analysis, we may say that we entirely share our contemporary's view as to the absurdity of supposing that there is anything in the Masampo affair to bring about a rupture of relations. The Masampo affair was simply an incident of business competition. If Russian merchants had anticipated Japanese, as Japanese merchants anticipated Russian, Japan could not have raised a reasonable objection of any kind.

THE DIET.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at the usual time, and sat for an hour. The only business done was to pass a Supplementary Budget appropriating a sum of 89,293 *yen* for the purpose of adopting precautions against the spread of the Pest. A special Committee reported favourably on a Government Bill which provided that a juridical person should have a representative who would be liable to penalties for the juridical person's transgressions of the Tobacco Monopoly Regulations or the Tax Laws, but the House decided that the Committee had not given the matter sufficient consideration, and that a fresh report must be compiled. The Bill for amending the Mining Law should have been reported for its Second Reading, but the Special Committee obtained permission to investigate the subject more fully.

The House of Representatives did not sit.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2ND.

The House of Peers did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at the usual hour.

WITHDRAWAL OF PROGRESSIST BILLS.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio asked permission to withdraw five Bills which had been introduced by him and other Progressist members and which stood on the Order of the Day. They related to reductions in the Land Tax, the Postal and Telegraph Rates, and the Tax on Soy, the restoration of the pay of members to the old figure, and penalties for corrupt practices on the part of members of the Diet. Mr. Hoshi Toru attempted to question the propriety of such withdrawal, and to elicit from Mr. Ozaki an admission that the introducers of the Bills and their supporters were not agreed; but the President would not permit these points to be pressed, and permission was given for withdrawing the Bills. The House took the matter quietly, though this step on the part of the Progressists was equivalent to striking their colours.

OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE AND LOCAL ELECTIONS.

A Progressist member (Mr. Takenouchi) spoke at some length in support of a Question addressed by him to the Government on the subject of official interference in the recent elections for Local Assemblies. He wanted to know why the Government did not dismiss the Local Governors who had been guilty of interference. At first he disavowed any intention of offering proofs of his accusations, but, being pressed by the Liberal members, he made some allusions to the elections in Shimoka and Saga Prefectures, and resumed his seat amid ironical laughter.

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET.

The House proceeded to discuss a Supplementary Budget for the current year. The total amount involved was 2,321,243 *yen*, and the objects of the expenditure were local engineering works, the Paris Exhibition, the increased stipends of members of the Diet, additions to the military appropriations on account of the appreciation of commodities, &c.

MEMBERS' SALARIES.

Mr. Komuchi, a prominent Progressist, attempted to seize this occasion for cutting down the stipend of the members to its old figure. He proposed to rescind the item from the Supplementary Budget, not because the amount, as increased, was more than the members should receive, but because the time was unsuited for such liberality on the part of the Treasury. Mr. Hoshi Toru and Mr. Inouye Kakugoro asked some questions tending to ridicule the proposal, and Mr. Komuchi left the rostrum, angrily denouncing the Opposition for treating such a subject satirically. The Supplementary Budget was then passed without amendment.

BILLS.

Several Bills were then handed to Special Committees, namely:—

A Bill for granting *post facto* approval to Urgency Ordinance No. 135 of 1899, issued for the purpose of the better control of elections.

Two Bills for amending the laws relating to Banking so as to bring them into accord with the new Commercial Code.

A Bill for the better Control of Usurers.

Two Bills for amending the Registration Law with regard to immovable property, in the sense of reducing the registration fees.

The Second and Third Readings were voted of a Bill for increasing by 30,894 *yen* the working funds of the Government Printing Bureau, in consequence of its having taken over the business of printing the *Official Gazette*.

A Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury was passed with some slight opposition, as was also a Bill relating to election affairs in Hokkaido and Okinawa.

The Second Reading was voted of a Bill providing that, if funds held in official custody are not claimed within five years, they may be passed into the public accounts, instead of being held for thirty years, as is the rule at present.

MONDAY, DEC. 4TH.

The House of Peers met at ten minutes past ten a.m. and sat for precisely ten minutes, during which time it disposed of four measures; namely, granted leave of absence to one of its members; handed over the Supplementary Budget for 1899-1900 to a Special Committee, with instructions to report on it in five days; and voted the second and third readings of two Bills. They were both measures relating to special allowances granted to expert witnesses summoned in connexion with civil or criminal cases, the present scale of remuneration being considered insufficient.

The House of Representatives did not sit.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6TH.

NEW BILLS.

The House of Peers met at the usual time and sat for an hour.

The following Bills were handed to Special Committees without discussion:—

1. Bill for establishing a Movable Property Bank with a capital of 10 million *yen*, on a joint stock basis, the Government guaranteeing 5 per cent. interest, and the Bank being empowered to make loans to the extent of 5 times its capital.

2. Bill (sent up from Representatives) for increasing the working funds of the Printing Bureau.

3. Two Bills relating to the Banking Law.

PRISON CHARGES.

The First Reading of the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, brought Viscount Tani to his feet, who wanted to know where the money was to be obtained 5 years hence when the Land Tax was reduced to its old rate.

The Government Delegate declined to make any definite statement about finances five years hence, but declared that the Government did not anticipate any difficulty.

Viscount Tani severely criticised the Government's policy towards education and predicted that the country would not long remain content with the present parsimonious system.

The Government Delegate, in answer to a question, said that the expenditures in question amounted to 4,400,000 *yen* for maintenance and 400,000 *yen* for repairs.

A Bill relating to the preservation of order at communal elections in Hokkaido and Okinawa having been handed to a Special Committee, the House rose.

The House of Representatives did not sit.

Messrs. Butterfield and Swire report the robbery of fifteen bags of white sugar, valued at ¥.140, stored in the godown at No. 152.

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NEWSPAPERS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

THE *Nichi Nichi* complains of the language adopted by Russian newspapers in discussing Japanese affairs, and predicts that the relations between the two countries will be impaired if such writing continues. The most tolerant observer must admit that the press now-a-day acts a part highly injurious to the maintenance of friendly relations between the nations of the earth. There never was witnessed previously such a forcible illustration of the fact as is furnished by the utterances of the press of continental Europe towards England on the present occasion. If one man addressed to another even a small fraction of the vituperation poured upon the head of England by the newspapers of France, Russia and Germany, a fight must be the immediate result. The French newspapers have been the worst of all. We can make great allowances for France. Egypt has been rankling in her bosom for eighteen years. Fashoda has kept her simmering with wrath for months. And the scathing criticisms of the English press with regard to the DREYFUS affair, criticisms often framed in terms of contemptuous superiority and betraying palpable bias, must have contributed to make her intolerably angry. Still the statements made by Paris papers have been really too ludicrous and exaggerated. When we find journals, edited by responsible, educated men, alleging that British officers always skulk behind their men; that British soldiers have to be tied together and driven with sticks from the vessels which carry them to the scene of war; and that Great Britain is a tyrant and an oppressor by whose downfall the whole world would profit, we recognise that we are in the presence, not of sober utterances, but of delirious hysteria. Russian newspapers have of course taken a hand in the game of abuse, but it must be confessed that the tone of distrust and hostility which constantly pervades the writings of English journals towards Russia justifies in some measure the exceedingly inimical mood of the Russian people. The German journals have been the greatest surprise, for although it is natural that they should sympathise with the Boers, we certainly did not expect them to be so bitterly anti-English. The resultant impression conveyed by the newspaper writings of continental Europe at this juncture is that Western nations are on the worst possible terms with each other, and that mutual hatred burns more fiercely than it ever did at any previous period of the world's history. We do not, for our own part, believe that such is the case, but the journals have assuredly done everything in their power to foster the belief.

THE ONGAKU KWAI.

As our readers have been informed, this organization was formed two or three years ago by a number of enthusiastic young musicians, without expectation or desire for pecuniary gain, and solely with the hope of making their countrymen to some extent acquainted with the foreign methods of an art in the study of which they had found unusual pleasure and advantage. Several of them had been trained in the military band of the Court, —to which they still belong,—but they had discovered that the best class of music demanded a wider instrumental range, and determined to establish an orchestra of their own, constructed, as nearly as their resources would allow, upon the same basis as that of foreign orchestras. To qualify themselves for this undertaking, they began to study the various branches of the violin family, almost entirely without the help of teachers. They would have gladly availed themselves of foreign instruction, but this, except in a few instances, was not attainable. The story of their first struggles closely resembles that of the earnest men who, in a past century, endeavoured to master the principles of medical science,—though the musical aspirants were happily free from the risks and penalties to which the earlier devotees of learning were exposed. But they were obliged to labour without encouragement or sympathy and even in the face of opposition from those who should have been most ready to applaud their design. The official mind of Japan has not yet risen above the tradition that progress in any direction is desirable only when sanctioned and patronized by authority. From the beginning, the Ongaku-Kwai knew that their toil would long be unappreciated, and that their best reward must be the consciousness of doing a good work, uncheered by public recognition and chilled by the indifference, not to say the adverse prejudice, of the people they wished to serve. What they greatly needed was practical foreign advice and guidance. This they did not obtain until long after they had overcome the initial difficulties of the enterprise by their own brave exertions. Many months of arduous preparation enabled them to begin a series of concerts, in Tokyo and other large cities, offering music of a simple and unpretending character,—which they were quite competent to perform—and their steady perseverance gradually secured respectful attention and a certain amount of substantial support. Gaining confidence as they advanced, they have occasionally essayed more ambitious flights,—always with due caution, and the resolution not to exceed their limitations. In the concert to-day they go a little out of their ordinary course, appealing rather to the taste of a foreign audience than to the fancy of Japanese hearers; and they hope, on this occasion, to show that their recent studies have not been without profitable result.

In pursuance of the desire to diffuse intelligence on musical subjects, the Society has prepared a small pamphlet, explaining the nature and quality of the pieces to be presented, and also their history. The original intention was to issue this pamphlet in Japanese only, but for sufficient reasons it was afterward decided to publish an English version as well. To each number of the programme a descriptive paragraph is allotted. Some of the facts set forth are familiar to foreigners, while others throw an unexpected light upon unsettled questions of antiquity. The opening of the following passage, relating to "old English music" will have a novel interest for many readers:—

"The position of England in musical history is very imperfectly understood, even by the majority of Englishmen themselves. It is commonly asserted and believed that the development of modern harmony originated with the Dutch writers who laid the foundations of their scientific school in the fourteenth century. But it is proved by authentic manuscripts that an equally advanced school existed in England at least one hundred years earlier. That its influence did not extend to other countries is accounted for by the isolation of England, due to internal disorders and to long continued wars with continental powers. It may have been owing to this restriction of intercourse that English music acquired its strong distinctive national character, which was preserved unchanged down to a very recent period. . . . . This peculiar character is nowhere more apparent than in the old part-songs, glees and madrigals which were formerly produced in profusion. One of the most widely known of these, and perhaps the most firmly planted in popular favour, is the modest pastoral glee, 'Ye Shepherds Tell Me,' the tender and melodious strains of which represent the purest and most wholesome spirit of English song."

Information is concisely given with regard to the selections of French, German and ancient and modern Italian music, of a nature which Japanese inquirers will be quick to understand and appreciate, and which even foreign connoisseurs may not consider wholly superfluous.

The Meiji Ongaku-Kwai is deserving of practical encouragement from every cultivated class of the community. Its labours have already produced remarkably good results,—better, possibly, than most of the members are themselves aware. If they are courageous enough to continue as they have begun, and can manfully resist the temptation to be too easily satisfied, now or hereafter, with their own progress and achievement, it may be in their power to secure a high and enviable reputation as pioneers in an art which, though at present lightly valued in Japan, must eventually be honoured and reveted, as it is in all countries where the true spirit of civilization prevails.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Dec. 2nd:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,800,689
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	226,578,880
Government deposits	80,436,525
General deposits	3,436,746
Exchange liability	34,414
Total	357,596,949

CR.	
Dscount notes	73 976,836
Foreign discount notes	14,461,479
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	72,966,201
Exchange liability	1,838,306
Government bonds	57,177,203
Property...	1,969 668
Bullion and Specie	113,208,851
Total	357,596,947

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	225,324,867
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	102,305,220
Silver	7,000,000
Total	109 305,220
Securities:—	
Government bonds	15,173,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	6,085 809
Commercial notes	72,760,050
Total	116,019,647

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	2,767,754	—
Silver	7,000,000	—
General loans	7,779,706	—
Government deposits ...	...22,422,605	—
General deposits	—	419,519

It does not appear to be clearly understood that the general price of admission to the performance of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society on the 13th instant will be only one *yen*, the reserved seats being *2 yen*.

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PRESENTATION OF THE PETITION FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

On the 16th of August, the representatives of six Christian Schools—Aoyama Gakuin, Azabu Eiwa Gakko, Doshisha, Rikkyo Chu Gakko, Meiji Gakuin, and Nagoya Eiwa Gakko—met in Tokyo to consider what course to pursue, in view of the Instruction issued by the Department of Education, excluding the teaching of religion and the holding of religious services from all private schools recognized by the Department.

At that meeting a statement of opinion was adopted which has been already published. In addition to the adoption of this statement, a committee was appointed to seek, by such measures as seemed proper, relief from the restrictions of the Instruction; and in particular to request an interview with the Minister of Education. To this request Count Kabayama cordially acceded. In fact he has granted to the committee three interviews. The thanks of the committee are due likewise to the Vice-Minister, Mr. Okuda, and to the Counsellor of the Department, Mr. Okada, for the courtesy of a hearing. No public statement regarding these interviews has been made until now, because they were concluded only recently.

At the first interview of the committee with Count Kabayama following petition, in Japanese, was presented:—

"We respectfully present to your Excellency the following petition.

"On the third day of August this Instruction (No. 12) was issued:—

It being essential from the point of view of educational administration, that general education should be independent of religion, religious instruction must not be given, or religious ceremonies performed, at Government Schools, Public Schools, or schools whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law, even outside the regular course of instruction.

(Signed) COUNT KABAYAMA,
Minister of State for Education.

"We do not question the propriety of such an Instruction in the case of Government and other schools maintained by public funds; but we beg leave to petition that such schools as are maintained by private funds shall be exempted from its operation. In behalf of this plea we submit these considerations:—

"1. It is a conviction of conscience with the friends of the schools which we represent that instruction in religion is essential to education, both as a matter of knowledge and also as the most effective incentive to right living. The Instruction of the Department of Education compels us either to surrender this conviction, or to subject the students attending our schools to serious disadvantages. If we adhere to our principles, our students must forego the privilege of admission to the Koto Gakko and other Higher Schools, as well as the various other advantages attaching to graduation from a Chu Gakko. We feel that it is a great hardship to them that they should be subjected to this discrimination, for no other reason than that the schools which they attend are Christian.

"2. The Instruction was issued as "being essential from the point of view of educational administration.' These Christian schools, however, are maintained primarily for a growing Christian constituency and for those who wish their sons or wards to be educated in Christian principles. In the case of these schools, therefore, no injustice is done, and no disorder is introduced, by the teaching of Christianity; and hence, in our opinion, so far as these schools are concerned, the difficulties contemplated in the Instruction do not exist.

"3. In form the Instruction is general; it applies to "Government schools, public schools, or schools whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law." But in fact at present, at least excepting in rare cases, the only schools affected by the Instruction are the Christian Schools. In the Government and public schools, no instruction in religion is given and no religious services are held; and, excepting in very rare instances, no other religious bodies maintain schools. Thus, while the Instruction is general in form, in effect it places restraints upon Christian schools only.

"4. An examination of the Private School Regulations, issued as Imperial Ordinance No. 359, shows that the Article prohibiting religious instruction which was endorsed by the High Council of Education, was excluded from the Ordinance. This exclusion seems to make it clear that the principle involved is not to be regarded as of essential importance.

"5. These schools have been maintained, for the most part, by funds contributed by British and American Christians; and they have been carried on with much labour and at no small sacrifice on the part of both Japanese and foreigners. The desire is to retain their recognition by the Department of Education, without relinquishing convictions of conscience. If, however, they can be carried on only under restraints that constantly hinder their success, there will be great disappointment among their friends; and in the end it may be necessary to close them. On the other hand, if in your wisdom your Excellency shall grant this petition, you will not only make still more willing the obedience of the increasing body of Christians to just administration under constitutional government, but you will also deepen the desire for the welfare of Japan in the minds of its oldest and best friends in America and England.

"6. In conclusion we beg leave to remind your Excellency that our petition has its foundation in the religious liberty which is assured in the Constitution of the Empire.

"To his Excellency Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education."

(Signed)

Toichi Honda.	D. S. Spencer.
Soroku Ebara.	A. C. Borden.
Seito Saibara.	D. C. Greene.
K. Ibuka.	William Imbrie.
S. Motoda.	John McKim.
Gen. Masayoshi.	J. P. Richardson.
M. Oshikawa.	E. W. Clement.

The petition was presented to the Minister by Mr. Ebara, who accompanied the presentation with a statement emphasizing the importance which Christian schools attach to ethical and religious teaching. The following is a brief summary of the Minister's reply:—

Count Kabayama himself also felt the very great importance of moral instruction: especially in the case of young men. Particularly was it needful for those of Japan, who stand upon a lower plane ethically than the young men of the last generation. This was a mortifying confession to make; but it was true. The explanation was to be found in the fact that Japan is now in a state of transition. Gradually, however, the nation was adjusting itself to the new conditions in other things, and so it would be in the matter of morals.

The press had represented him as a foe to religious liberty. That was quite unjust; he was its friend. More than that, it was his own personal conviction that religion has a place and a value in the life of a nation. But in the school system it was necessary to keep education distinct from religion.

"The Regulations for Private Schools contained in the Imperial Ordinance, and the Instruction issued by himself, were constantly spoken of as something new. This was a mistake. Before he assumed office there was a long list of regulations which had been enacted at various times; but they had never been systematized and codified. The Ordinance and Instruction should be regarded as such a systematization and codification."

In reply, Mr. Ibuka and Mr. Honda pointed out certain features in the Instruction which they thought may properly be described as new; and they also directed the attention of his Excellency particularly to the fact that no question is raised regarding the propriety of excluding religious teaching and services from the school system in schools supported by public funds; that it is only in those supported by private funds that relief from the restrictions of the Instruction is asked for. The petition was then left in the hands of the Minister for further consideration.

Subsequent to this interview with Count Kabayama, members of the committee waited upon the Vice-Minister of Education. The conversation on this occasion dwelt with greater particularity upon the points urged in the petition.

After glancing over the petition, Mr. Okuda expressed himself decidedly as of the opinion that it could not be granted. To an inquiry as to the reason, the answer was that the Department of Education had adopted the principle that education and religion must be kept distinct. To the argument that the propriety of such a principle in regard to public schools was not questioned, but that its application to private schools seemed to savour of injustice, the response was, that that might seem to be the case, but that there was no help for it; the principle had been adopted. The opinion was expressed that the position of the Department was almost if not entirely without precedent in other enlightened countries. To this it was replied that, so far as the Vice-Minister was aware the position was without such a precedent; but that the matter had been looked at and decided from a Japanese point of view. The statement was made that the issuing of the Instruction was in certain respects a new departure. This Mr Okuda did not admit; but the point was still pressed:—

"Religious instruction has not been allowed in public schools, but it has been allowed in private schools."

"Not by the Department of Education."

"It may not have been allowed by the Department, but it has not been forbidden; and it has been allowed by the Tokyo-fu."

"Then the Tokyo-fu was in error."

"In any case there is one feature of the Instruction that is new. Not only is no religious instruction to be given; no religious services are to be allowed 'even outside of the regular course of instruction.' That certainly is a new feature." This Mr. Okuda did not deny.

During the interview the conversation turned to the reason for the Instruction given in the Instruction itself. It was stated to be necessary "from the point of view of educational administration." In the case of public schools such a necessity was admitted; but not in that of private schools maintained for a Christian constituency and for others who desire their sons to be educated in Christian principles. Nevertheless, it was replied, the principle that religion and education must be kept distinct had been adopted by the Department; and that decided the question. And not only by the Department, but by the Cabinet also, and likewise by the Privy Council. Besides this there was a "deeper reason;" but there were foreigners present. What that deeper reason was Mr. Okuda did not explain. Reference was then made to the Constitution. The Constitution guaranteed religious liberty; and the Instruction seemed at least to infringe upon that guarantee; because it forced a Christian parent to choose between a Christian and a wholly secular education at the price of valuable advantages enjoyed by others. To this it was answered that the religious liberty guaranteed in the Constitution is liberty to believe a religion; but not necessarily liberty to propagate it; and in particular not liberty to propagate it in connection with schools.

It is immediately obvious that any mere statement that the Department of Education has adopted certain principles embodied in the Instruction is no real reply to the arguments of the petition. It is a complete begging of the question; simply another way of saying that the Department has done what it has done. The question at issue remains unanswered:—Is the action of the Department as applied to private schools just? Is it reasonable? Is it in accordance with enlightened legislation? Does it conform to the Spirit of the Constitution?

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Quite as obvious also is the reply to the statement of Mr. Okuda that the Constitution guarantees liberty to believe a religion but not necessarily liberty to propagate it. In practice these two things can not be separated. The man who conscientiously accepts a religion is constrained by his conscience to impart a knowledge of it to others; and in a peculiar sense is this duty one binding upon the conscience of a parent. Any freedom of belief worth having therefore necessarily includes the right both to believe, and to propagate a religion. If the Constitution does not guarantee both of these rights it gives a stone instead of bread; and so it will be understood by the world. It is true that the Constitution reads thus:—"Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." But a Christian Chu Gakko is not "prejudicial to peace and order, or antagonistic to the duties of the subject." It inculcates the precept, Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, just are truly as the precept, And to God the things that are God's. The action of the Department that "religious instruction may not be given, even outside the regular course of instruction" may therefore be fairly described as an arbitrary measure going far beyond the limits prescribed in the Constitution.

On concluding the conversation regarding the points contained in the petition, Mr. Ibuka submitted to the Vice-Minister another proposition. In case it were not possible to grant the petition, which asks that Christian Chu Gakko may remain Chu Gakko without surrendering the principle of a Christian institution, would it not be possible to grant that such schools may give up the name of Chu Gakko and a recognized place in the national system, and still be accorded the privileges of a Chu Gakko; in particular the privilege of an arrangement by which their graduates may enter the Higher Schools on equal terms with those of Chu Gakko? This Mr. Okuda said could be considered.

Following this interview with the Vice-Minister was one of members of the committee with Mr. Okada, the Counsellor of the Department. Mr. Okada, it is understood, was the writer of the original draft of the Instruction, and also of the Articles submitted to the High Council of Education. The following were the points of chief interest occurring in this interview:—

In the opinion of Mr. Okada, the Instruction was not directed against religion as such; but it was necessary to exclude religion from the national system of education. It might be that Christianity and Buddhism would work no injury; but, if the way were left open, schools might be established by certain religious bodies which are said to inculcate immoral doctrines; and although it might seem hard to interfere with Christian schools, it was necessary to legislate for all and for the future as well as the present. Mr. Okada also denied that any distinction should be made between public schools and those supported by private funds. Education was a function of the state. If private individuals were permitted to established Chu Gakko, the permission should be regarded as a privilege and a trust. That being the case, such schools should conform strictly to the regulations for public schools. They should not consider themselves free to do what was not prohibited; but only what was explicitly allowed. Nothing should be subtracted and nothing should be added. In all schools there should be absolute uniformity. The proposition that the Christian schools might drop the name of Chu Gakko and surrender their place in the national system, and yet be granted the privileges of Chu Gakko, Mr. Okada thought might be considered. But it was open to objection. The Higher Schools were overflowing; and if students from such private schools were admitted to them the result would be the mere crowding out of a corresponding number of applicants from the public Chu Gakko. More than that, the private schools might furnish special opportunities for the acquisition of English; and as a good knowledge of English counted for much in the minds of those in charge of the Higher Schools, such an arrangement might place the graduates of the public schools at a disadvantage.

Some of the positions advanced by Mr. Okada are open to the criticism already made. They are simply assertions of principles adopted by the Department. This is true for example of the statement that no distinction can be drawn between schools supported by public and those supported by private funds. One point, however, seems to call for a word in addition. "Education is a function of government; and permission to maintain a Chu Gakko should be regarded as the conveyance of a trust." Without pausing to discuss certain abstract questions included in this proposition, it is not denied that private persons carrying on a school recognized by the Department as occupying a certain rank, have a trust committed to their charge; or that it is their duty to see to it that the school fully meets the requirements of schools of its class. But it by no means necessarily follows from the idea of such a trust that the school can exercise no liberty whatever, "even outside of the regular course." Such an inference is necessary only if the Department chooses to make it so—only if it adopts it as a principle. The idea that a superior knowledge of English on the part of graduates of private schools may properly be regarded as an objection to such an arrangement as that proposed by Mr. Ibuka ministers to one's sense of humour, but does not otherwise call for remark.

It remains to speak briefly of two subsequent interviews with Count Kabayama The object of the first was to receive his reply regarding the petition. This he said it would not be possible to grant. The object of the second was, among other things, o hear his conclusion regarding the same proposition that was laid before the Vice-Minister and Mr. Okada—the proposition that Christian Schools doing the work of Chu Gakko may receive the special privileges of Chu Gakko. To this request Count Kabayama cordially promised his further consideration. He also expressed some confidence that in time it will be acceded to.

In concluding an account of these interviews, one cannot refrain from pointing out the apparent insensibility of the Department to its true policy. The great problem before it is the problem of education in Japan. What help towards the solution of that problem may be rendered by private enterprise is plain to all. Such institutions as the Keio-gijuku and the Waseda Semmon Gakko are a great object lesson. The lesson they teach is that every proper effort should be made to interest and encourage private persons in the establishment and maintenance of well equipped and well conducted private schools. But instead of this the Department issues the Instruction.

Apart from the information acquired through these interviews, the committee has received information from other sources which leads it to make the following statement. In substance at least it is believed to be correct.

In addition to all that is said regarding the importance of uniformity throughout the national system of education, and of the necessity "from an educational point of view" of excluding religion from that system, etc., something else may be said—something deeper. There is an influential body of men in Japan who are strongly opposed to Christianity as such. Some of them consider it a useless if not an injurious superstition. Others regard it as incompatible with the spirit of loyalty. There are those among the older Conservatives who are really afraid of it; and in justification of their fears, they recall the experience of Japan two centuries or more ago. To some of them, in their ignorance of the history of Europe, it is inseparably connected with republican ideas of government. There is also a party of more modern Conservatives who stand for the theory that the state is everything and the individual nothing; that there is no such thing as the rights of man as man; that any idea of liberty, excepting as it is conferred upon the individual by statute, is an absurdity. All these, from these various points of view, are opponents of Christianity; and are determined, as far as in them lies, to prevents its doctrines and principles from gaining an entrance into the life of New Japan. That they will fail in the end is not to be doubted. The ideas which they represent are not new or peculiar to Japan. They are familiar to every student of history; they have been weighed in the balance; and they have been found wanting. Excepting for a thin coat of lacquer they are essentially the same as those which dominated the old Roman Empire in its endeavour to crush Christianity eighteen centuries ago; and Christianity still stands, conquering and to conquer. But for the present the men who represent these ideas in Japan are a force that is making itself felt. How active and how influential they are is clear from the action of the Privy Council regarding the matter now under consideration. A meeting of that body was held—held under peculiar and exceptional circumstances—to consider the question of inserting among the Regulations for Private Schools the Article forbidding religious teaching endo sed by the High Council of Education. There were men of high standing who were opposed to such insertion. It is understood that that was the position of Count Kabayama himself. But in favour of insertions the danger to be feared from Christianity was urged with much insistence. With so much insistence and influence that while the Article was excluded from the Imperial Ordinance, the Imperial Ordinance was accompanied with the Instruction from the Department of Education.

It need hardly be pointed out that the issuing of such an Instruction may be far reaching in its consequences. The question is not simply that of the teaching of religion in private schools. That such an Instruction infringes upon the principle of religious liberty is clear to every thoughtful mind. And if such an encroachment upon the rights of the individual can be made without protest, similar encroachments upon other rights of the individual guaranteed in the Constitution are possible. This is an aspect of the case which should engage the attention of every one who values the gift of the Constitution to the nation.

For the Committee,

WILLIAM IMBRIE.
D. S. SPENCER.

BUSINESS NOTES.

A scheme is now in contemplation, says the *Shogyo*, to establish a large bank in Tokyo with a capital of two million *yen*. Among the projectors are mentioned the names of Takashima Kayemon, Kitamura Eiichiro, Inouye, Hara, and many other influential merchants of Yokohama. With the head office in Tokyo, branches are to be established in Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture, and other important places. The general meeting of the projectors was held in the Imperial Hotel on the afternoon of the 4th instant, for the purpose of determining the name of the bank and making preliminary arrangements.

According to vernacular papers, loans issued by the Bank of Japan up to the 30th ultimo increased to 99 million *yen*, while the amount to be collected during the month of December in the form of national taxes, calls on the various companies shares, and debentures, is estimated as follows:—Mining taxes, 132,452 *yen*; 4th term payment for the Chuyetsu Railway, 35,000 *yen*; 9th payment for the Koya Railway, 90,000 *yen*; 4th payment for the Kanan Railway, 30,000 *yen*; payments for the Ichinomiya Spinning Factory, 40,000 *yen*; calls on the Yamato Spinning shares for the 7th period, 72,000 *yen*; 3rd payment on the Tokyo City loan, 800,000 *yen*; total 1,067,000 *yen*.

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The amount to be distributed in the form of interest on public loans and company dividends is as follows:—Interest on Consols, 3,907,340 *yen*; interest on war bonds, 1,572,619 *yen*; on old public bonds, 219.454 *yen*; on Tokyo City Loan, 190,800 *yen*; on Osaka City Loan, 53.160 *yen*; on Osaka Waterworks Bonds, 10,195 *yen*; on Osaka Harbour Loan, 172 000 *yen*; on Kyoto City Loan, 24,834 *yen*; Dividends of Tokyo Tramway Company, 182,875 *yen*; Redemption of Japan Railway Company's debentures, 17,500 *yen*; total 6.550,777 *yen*. The following is a comparison with the figures for the previous month:—

	Amount collected. Yen.	Amount distributed. Yen.
December	1,199,452	6,550,777
November	14,314.555	1,963,787

Loans issued by the Bank of Japan and by union banks in the various districts—Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe—during the last two months of last year were as follows:—

	Bank of Japan. Yen.	Union Banks. Yen.
December	64,178,270	205 853,836
November	84,375.650	189,689,439

The *Shogyo* states that the number of Japanese fishing vessels sailing to Saghalien this year totalled 116, of which 53 were steamers and 62 sailing vessels. Details of fishing places, owners, and nets, &c., are as follows:—Owners, 52; fishing places, 222; fishers, 4,346; nets, 244. The following table shows the result of their labour:—

Classification.	Amount caught. Koku.	Average value Hakodate. Yen.
Whales	453	9.060
Salmon	8.380	134 077
Trout	22.959	358,738
Fish manure	45 727	594 445
Buri	24	333
Fish oil	61	682
Total	77,604	1,097,335

The gold reserve of the Bank of Japan had decreased on the 25th ultimo to 99.537,466 *yen*, but, deposits amounting to 10 millions having been received on the 29th, it rose, says the *Mainichi*, to 110,766,782 *yen*. At the same time the silver reserve increased, and the bank was thus enabled to avoid the issue of notes above the legal limit. These facts, however, have created no small uneasiness on the part of the public. Despite the augmentation of the gold reserve by the 10 millions above referred to, it had again fallen to 8 millions by the end of last month. The following figures show the exact situation:—

	Nov. 29. Yen.	Nov. 30. Yen.
Issue of convertible note	225,261,621	228 330,417
Reserves { Gold	110,766,782	103 600,829
Reserves { Silver	8,000,000	8,000,000
Margin of issuing power	5 967,000	2,931,000

The most important changes contemplated in the Ship Inspection Law Amendment Bill now under consideration are as follows:—

Vessels of the classes enumerated below will be subjected to official inspection:—(1) Sailing ships with an aggregate tonnage of less than 20 tons or 200 *koku*; (2) boats and junks propelled, chiefly or exclusively, by means of oars; (3) boats attached to warehouses or kept in fixed places; (4) shallow water sailing vessels. The captain of a ship is to be made liable to a fine of from 30 *yen* to 300 *yen* if he undertakes a voyage without a certificate of inspection, or fails to observe the proper limits or period of the voyage, or the restrictions with regard to steam pressure, ship's appliances, and rigging. The offence of taking passengers beyond the prescribed number renders the captain liable to a fine of from 10 *yen* to 100 *yen*. There is to be a system of special inspection of various classes of foreign and Japanese vessels.

Investigations made by the Yokohama Lacquer Ware Corporation, as published in the *Nippon*, show that although the lacquer trees planted in Japan are increasing year by year, it still requires ten years more to render them available for practical purposes. The output for the four years from the 27th to the 30th year of *Meiji* was as follows:—In 1894, 32,977 *kwan*; 1895, 40,261 *kwan*; 1896, 37.079 *kwan*; 1897, 41,478 *kwan*. From this it will be seen that the amount of lacquer produced in the interior proved insufficient to meet the demand, and it was considered necessary to have recourse to the Chinese product. Chinese lacquer was first imported to Japan in 1889 to the amount of 2,212 *kwan*. The volume of trade in this commodity has since considerably increased, the figures for the past four years standing at 58,050 *kwan* in 1894, 91,010 *kwan* in 1895, 84,287 *kwan* in 1896, and 104 016 *kwan* in 1897.

Vernacular journals give the Finance Department's figures of the amount of the coin in circulation at the end of October. They are as follows:—

Coins.	Circulation. Yen.	Compared with end of previous month. Yen	Compared with corresponding period of 1898. Yen.
Gold	30,403.071	—2,502,321	+ 1 973,564
Subsidiary silver	54.008,329	+1,744.520	+13 325 221
Subsidiary copper	17 520.347	— 2,196	+ 572,000
Total	92,021 749	— 60,2007	+15 870,785

(—decrease; + increase.)

As to government paper and bank notes the figures stand at 5,477,066 *yen*, showing a decrease of 102,527 *yen* in the former and of 34.837 *yen* in the latter, as compared with previous month. Below are the details:—

Government paper.	Nov. 1. Yen.	Oct. 1. Yen.	Increase. Yen.
Above 1 *yen* denomination	3,273,855	3,359 817	85 962
Below ½ *yen* and 50 *sen* denomination	1,116,782	1,133,348	16,565
Total	4.390,638	4.493.166	102,527
Bank notes	1,078,099	1,112 549	34.449
Closed bank paper	8,328	8,716	388
Total	1,086,428	1,121,365	34,837
Grand total	5 477,066	5,614,431	137,365

Thus the amount of coins in circulation has increased by 15,870,000 *yen* as compared with last year and by 137,000 *yen* in comparison with October last.

A trade report from the Japanese Consul in New York for the past three years is published in the *Official Gazette*. It may be epitomised as follows:—The foreign trade of America for the year ending 30th June last showed a great increase, exports amount to $1,227,203,088 and imports to $677,116,854. Compared with the corresponding figures for the previous year, this is an increase of $81,067,000 in imports and a decrease of $4,279,000 in exports. $17,264,688 worth was exported to Japan against imports of $26.716,493. The figures for three years past with respect to Japan are as follow:—

	1897.	1898	1899.
Imports	$24,006,756	$25,133,610	$26 716 493
Exports	$13.255,478	$20,385,541	$17,264,688

From the above it may be perceived that the trade between Japan and America is steadily growing year by year, the excess of exports being always in favour of the former. America's general advantage in exports depends chiefly upon the abundance of her agricultural products and the recent development of manufacturing industry. The countries in which her exports are less than her imports are Japan, China, and the West Indies. Below are comparatives figures for the staple imports from Japan for the past three years.

Imports.	1897.	1898.	1899.
Raw Silk	$10,010,885	16,510,502	14.920,787
Silk manufactures	2,758,963	2,061,907	2,689,766
Tea	3.631,279	3.106,663	4,007,805
Paper & paper manufactures	205 929	198,836	221,300
Porcelain	445 793	313,288	288,572
Crude camphor	332,748	365,652	222,196
Materials for hats	—	—	314,200
Rugs	—	—	68.511
Tooth picks, &c	—	—	110,526
Cleansed rice	—	—	523,024
Waste cotton	38 994	80,318	105.455
Manganese			22,193
Antimony			110,200
Horticultural materials			26.250

THE BOOKSHELF.

The New Pacific, by HUBERT HOWE BANCROFT. New York, the Bancroft Company; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

IT is difficult in a single article to do justice to a work of this class. Its scope is so vast, the subjects it treats are so various and important, that in the limited space at our disposal it is not easy to do more than speak of it superficially. A volume of some 700 pages, dealing with questions of ancient history, geography, topography, ethnology, current political questions, matters of mining, manufactures, steamboat and railway communications, climate, legend and ancedote can hardly be adequately discussed in a review of ordinary length.

Mr. Bancroft is to be congratulated on the result of labours which must have demanded much patient research. His book is at once thoroughly readable and, as far as we have been able to check it, generally accurate. Its literary style is as a rule worthy of all praise; and we have encountered none of those little eccentricities of expression which few American authors avoid, and which, in a serious work, jar on the taste of an English reader. The author is admirably lucid, and his style lacks neither dignity nor argumentative force, though occasionally his evidently strong prejudice detracts from the force of much excellent matter. The historical portion dealing with the early days of the Pacific—the days when the galleons of Philip ploughed the seas from Cadiz to Mexico and from Manila to Peru—forms a capitally summarised account of the countries bordering on the Pacific in the time of Spain's commercial and military zenith. The reader is placed in possession of the main facts of Far Eastern and Latin-American history up to the year 1898, and then the narrative naturally enters into great detail with regard to the events of the Hispano-American war. The chapters relating to the naval battle of Cavite and the operations in the Phillipines are informed with pardonable pride, and we cannot quarrel with our author if the prevailing impression that a perusal of this section gives is that Admiral Dewey is the greatest captain of ancient or modern times. Certainly Dewey is a man to be proud of, and probably if he were an Englishman an English contemporary historian would be disposed to be equally enthusiastic in his praise. It is, however, we think, rather minimising the friendly attitude of the British Government to speak of it as "Great Britain's freak of friendship." A freak it certainly was not, but the expression of the genuine sympathy of the elder branch of the race with a young and vigorous relative in its first struggle beyond seas with an European Power. In another chapter, however, we are glad to see that Mr. Bancroft speaks with appreciation of the Anglo-American understanding. Mr. Bancroft is a convinced expansionist, and has little sympathy with the party that would confine Americans to the boundaries of their own continent. "Expansion," he says, "is not a policy, but destiny; it is not nor has it been a sudden or unexpected acquisition, but a development, seemingly slow, but really rapid and continuous." The chapter relating to Japan is perhaps less satisfactory than other parts of the book; it is evident the author speaks quite from hearsay, and his facts are more those of the literary globe-trotter than of the student. Moreover the hopes he expresses that China, "give her time enough, will drop into line with the progressive nations of the earth" would seem to imply that he has no very accurate idea of the conditions prevailing in that country. The Chinese coolie he thus sums up:—

"As an economic factor, the Chinaman is an

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ideal human machine, the best intelligent and industrial animal that can be produced at the price. There are men physically stronger, there are men intellectually superior, there are men morally purer, but there are no men with body, mind, and morals, united with aptness, patience, and application, who are worth, or can be made worth as much to civilization according to the cost. Call him animal, vegetable, or mineral, he comes all the same, and proves indeed a worthy implement.

Not that he is altogether perfect; some faults may be found even in a Chinaman, fewer though than in most people, as he is less human than some others. First, his skin; it is off color; for so says the constitution of the United States, the black and the white shall inherit but not the yellow. Then he is a great liar, wasteful even with his lies, not having with all his centuries of thought and storehouses of learning reached the true economies of mendacity. He has no soul, at least none as yet discovered; and hence no conscience, nor any moral attributes. He sometimes steals, but rarely, and if not cornered he seldom kills. He is a machine, good only for work, but very good for that; for American society and citizenship better material can be found. There are no such things as public life and politics in China, and he wants none when he goes abroad. Mandarins are paid to do the ruling, just as girls are paid to do the dancing; why then trouble? For certain industries he is the best implement, and manufacturers who have to compete with all the world should have good tools. If a merchant, he is fairly honourable.

One thing Mr. Bancroft has on the brain, and and that is the spectre of the Negro Peril in America. He loathes the negro with an utter loathing, and the subject seems to occupy much the same relation to him as King Charles' head did to Mr. Dick. It is cropping up everywhere, often in most unexpected places :—

The citizenship which was given the negroes by northern politicians for purposes of their own is proving a curse. With the ballot was bequeathed to them eternal discontent. With the change came first egoism, then envy, and therefore hatred, —an endless longing for impossible escape from a black skin, emblem of inferiority and servitude. And the more refined they become in manners and education, the more they will feel the stigma of race colour which they must for ever wear. Will this state of thing never improve? No. Can the Ethiopian change his skin? It was right to deliver them from bondage; it was not right, it was not conducive to their happiness, to exalt them above their natural sphere. To be kind to them, to give them the protection of our laws, to educate and elevate them if you will, was our duty, but to make them our lawmakers, our masters, was our disgrace.

Is there any one race, or stock, of humanity of proved and pronounced superiority to all others? If so is it well, or otherwise, to cultivate and breed from that stock for the world's coming humanity, so far as practicable, in preference to the propagation of poorer stock? The fittest survive, we are told; if this be true, to what extent, if any, is it right and proper for us to aid in the carrying out of this law of God and Nature?

In how far is it wise and legitimate to encourage the fittest and discourage the unfittest to survive? Cannot enough of the best humanity be bred to allow us to dispense altogether with the inferior article? Is it not cheaper to grow all good men than to try to improve the bad? Our pilgrim fathers acted upon this principle, they and their successors; the Indian is all bad, they said, except when he is dead; and so they killed him. We of to-day have undertaken a more difficult task, which is to white-wash Africans, Asiatics, and mongrel breeds with European civilization. Some of the white may adhere, but the duskiness is always sure to show through.

Of the Yellow Peril, too, he seems to have some dread :—

Some say, and some hope, that China will crumble, and the Chinese become obliterated; but it is not so easy, even if it were desirable, to subordinate to foreign ideas or wipe from the earth 400,000,000 of people tough enough to make their way and hold their own in any of the Oriental, American, or European communities, as has been amply shown. It is a different element from that of the tropical islander, or the American aboriginal, with which those who dismember China will have to deal. In taking the celestial empire the European had better look to it that he himself is not taken in the end.

Occasionally the abhorrence of inferior races leads the author into rather wild writing :—

Old men and old women and old nations are a nuisance and deserve obliteration; how old or weak or useless must a man or woman or nation become in order to justify extermination? Could some of these questions, round which the diplomats keep up their war dance, be settled for the benefit of the simple, how much clearer to the mind would be the studies of international ethics and economics!

Mr. Bancroft is confident as to the destiny of Russia in the Far East :—

"If there is an epoch of industrial development opening for the Anglo-Saxon there is none the less prosperity in store for the Slav. The Tsar and his advisers see this and specially desire that Russia may develop her material resources with the development of the moral and intellectual so that all parts may grow into strength together. Then Russia will dominate the world, unless at the same time the Anglo Saxon peoples unite under some kind of compact such as will give them strength as the strength of one nation, and enable them to grow in power and wisdom even as the Russians grow."

With Germany Mr. Bancroft has little sympathy, and with France none. But he has large hopes of the part America is to play in the Eastern drama :—

The century closes upon a larger America, with a territorial area of three and a half millions of square miles, spanning 810 degrees of longitude, and containing a population of nearly eighty millions. Hitherto largely absorbed in domestic affairs, while the sinews of the common wealth were knitting into strength, the people were roused by a great wrong committed at their door by one of the effete monarchies of Europe. They rose as one man, moved by a common impulse, and avenged that wrong, and in so doing left behind them for ever their former provincialism, and took their place upon the higher plane of the world's civic life. Can any one doubt the ability of the American republic to maintain that position?

The book is an interesting and suggestive, if not altogether a great one. Its descriptive rather than its speculative and critical portions are its principal claims to attention.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two coolies working on the steamer *Tantalus* were on Tuesday arrested by the Water Police for stealing cotton thread from the steamer while unloading bales into a lighter. They purposely ripped the bales open with a knife, and extracted small quantities of cotton from each.

The American Trading Company reported to the Kagacho Police some time ago that they occasionally missed tins of paint and varnish. Some of the missing articles were found the other day in a Yokohama auction room. Investigation by the detective proved that they were sent for sale by a secondhand dealer named Koidzumi, who purchased them from a well known thief, Anzai Ginzo. He was arrested last night at his lodging.

The *Nagasaki Press* of the 29th ult. states :—The U.S. transport *Sikh* whilst leaving this harbour on Monday morning, ran across the bows of the British sailing ship *Sebastian Bach*, carrying away the latter's bowsprit. After remaining locked for an hour and a half, the steamer managed to disengage herself and then proceeded on her journey. A claim for damages has been made by the captain of the sailing ship. It is stated that the *Sikh* will be boarded off Wada Point, Kobe, and a summons served on the captain.

The report to be presented to the shareholders of the Oriental Hotel, Kobe, at the eighth annual general meeting, on 15th inst., shows that the total earnings for the year amount to *yen* 123,257.21, and there remains a nett profit for the year of *yen* 12,205 84). An interim dividend of 5 per cent. on Ordinary Shares was distributed to shareholders on the 30th June, absorbing *yen* 3,700, thus leaving a balance of profit on the year's working of *yen* 8,505.84, now available for distribution. From this the Directors recommend the payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on ordinary shares, making 8 per cent. for the year.

A serious fire has occurred in that part of the native town adjacent to Division Street, Kobe. One block of the Chinese quarters on the Native Bund was totally gutted in three and a half hours. The block comprised rows of brick and wooden two-storied buildings, eight houses in all, with a godown behind. Fortunately only a light easterly breeze was blowing, and the fire did not spread to the west and north, where it might have done great damage among Japanese and Chinese houses crowding the narrow alleys. The total loss is not known. Goods valued at *yen* 5,000 destroyed in the godown were not covered by insurance.

Quite a romantic story attaches to the name of Ladysmith, for it is derived from the wife of General Sir Harry Smith, who met her husband during the Peninsular War. As a young officer Sir Harry was in occupation of a Spanish town, when a beautiful Spanish girl of good family claimed his protection. The soldier fell in love with her, and in due course she became his wife. Harrismith is named after Sir Harry, and Grahamstown after Colonel Graham. Durban is a name derived from Sir B. D'Urban, who was Governor of the Cape in the early thirties. Kimberley is named after the present Opposition leader in the House of Lords, who was Colonial Secretary when the mining centre first became famous.

Mr. Iba Ichijiro, a wine merchant of Tokyo, entered into a contract last month with three Japanese of Yokohama, named Komiya, Horiuchi, and Ichitsuka, to take delivery of 200 cases of alcohol, in consideration of which he paid them *yen* 1,600 bargain money. The three represented that they had entered into an agreement with a foreigner to take delivery of alcohol on arrival of the same, and had paid to the foreigner as bargain money *yen* 1,750, but he being unable to take up the alcohol, through lack of funds, they transferred the contracts, agreements-receipts, etc., to Mr. Iba. When the latter went to Yokohama it was found that no such person existed. Mr. Iba reported this to the Police, and all the papers were found to be bogus. The three sharpers were arrested by the Isezakicho Police.

KOREAN NOTES.

The following notes are taken from the *Korean Independent* :—

A Japanese language school has been started at Euijoo.

A branch of the Japanese Post office has been started at Masampo.

There is to be an issue of International postage stamps at the beginning of the new year.

The Korean representative to the United States is still short of funds, not having received any for several months.

The Japanese have demanded whaling concessions at ports in the provinces of Chulla Kwang Sang Kangwan and Kamkyung.

The people of Chul Won District have taken the law into their own hands, and drowned the Prefect because of his corrupt practices.

M. Clemencet, adviser to the Postal Department, has renewed his contract for another year from the beginning of January, 1900.

The place chosen by the British Gold Mining Company as a concession is said to be in the Eunsan district, Pyeng Yang Province.

The Minister of the Agricultural Department has asked to have lecturers attached to that office for the purpose of giving scientific instruction.

Mr. Sands, Secretary to the U.S. Legation, having been appointed Adviser to the Crown Prince, has been released from the Secretaryship in the Legation.

Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., has had an audience with His Majesty. He was accompanied by the Hon J.N. Jordan, H.B.M's *Chargé d'Affaires*.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Among the taxes to which foreigners are liable, are certain Ken and City rates, levied in proportion to the amount paid for National taxes.

In Yokohama, the Ken tax is at present 2 per cent., while the City tax is 50 per cent.

As an example of the workings of this system, take a firm selling merchandise to the extent of 5,000,000 *yen* per annum.

	Yen.
The National business tax @ 5/10,000=	2,500
The Ken Tax @ 2 per cent.....	50
The City Tax @ 50 per cent.....	1,250
	3,800

The same system is applied to other taxes, and it follows that the amount thus collected by the City from foreigners in Yokohama will reach a large sum.

Several questions present themselves. How is the money thus raised by the City to be spent; what are the estimates for the year; and what is to be done with the large extra amount which will be obtained from the foreign community? Will it be applied either to improvements or to a general reduction of the rates?

As a matter of public interest, can you give any information as to the amount raised from these taxes by the City of Yokohama for the last complete year, before the revised treaties came into force?

Enclosing my card, Yours truly,

TAXPAYER.

Yokohama, Dec. 2nd, 1899.

WHY "GOODY-GOODY?"

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Allow me, if you please, a word of protest against your application of the epithet "goody-goody" to the people who advocate arbitration in the dispute between Great Britain and the Transvaal.

That arbitration in general is "goody-goody," is, of course, not intimated by a journal like the *Japan Mail*. That which the British Government and the United States of America, not to speak of other Powers, have repeatedly made use of as a means of settling international disputes; that which has not long since occupied for several weeks the foremost diplomats in the world, in conference assembled at the invitation of the mightiest reigning Emperor; that which is universally looked upon as the crowning glory of the nineteenth century, and the longest step yet taken towards peace and justice on the earth; this is surely not properly designated by the epithet "goody goody."

It is not arbitration in general but in this particular case that is so branded. There must then be some difference between this dispute and other international quarrels so remarkable that what can be in other cases advocated and practised by diplomats and Emperors can be suggested here only by "goody-goody" folks. We know what this difference is. The British papers and their sympathizers have told us repeatedly that if only the Transvaal were an independent State, arbitration would be possible, but, of course, it is out of the question for a suzerain State to submit to such a thing in a dispute with a vassal.

But surely this is not to be so hastily taken for granted. On the contrary, arbitration between superior and inferior is one of the most common facts of human experience. When we read as the title of a criminal action, "The Queen vs. John Brown," what is this but arbitration between the sovereign and the subject? Under despotic rule, such a dispute is settled off hand according to the views of the executive, and "might makes right." But as civilization advances men recognize that even the Government in its relation to the subject may be in the wrong, and that the appeal to force must not be made until the merits of the question have been examined by impartial judges. This is nothing more nor less than arbitration between the executive power and the subject, a practice that is the palladium of our liberties.

But if arbitration is thus possible and appropriate between the sovereign and the subject, how much the more between the far less definite relation of suzerain and vassal State.

Moreover, in what sense is the Transvaal a subordinate State? I have no knowledge of the matter at first hand, but so far as the papers have informed us, the British claim rests upon a convention which gave to the Transvaal independence in domestic affairs, and recognized Great Britain as suzerain in all foreign relations. The suzerainty, then, is not unlimited. Since the Transvaal was to be independent in domestic affairs, and since the question in dispute, the rights of the British Uitlander, is a matter of domestic policy, is it in order to plead the suzerainty as an objection to arbitration? I think not. For if in her domestic affairs the Transvaal is a sovereign State then all offences committed by her in that capacity or disputes arising from such action ought by right to be discussed in the same manner and settled in the same way as disputes with any other supreme and independent power.

But where shall dispassionate arbitrators be found? *The Times*, in the "delicious" paragraph quoted by you, thinks they are not to be found on the Continent. Perhaps not, but has *The Times* forgotten the United States? Such a lapse of memory is all the more surprising as the papers are full just now of the satisfactory result of the arbitration with Venezuela, to which Great Britain was persuaded by the gentle remonstrances of President Cleveland. The service was perhaps not fully appreciated at the time, but what Englishman now is not grateful that that question was settled by the debates of a dozen lawyers, instead of by the blood of thousands of brave men? Oh that the Monroe doctrine extended its beneficent protection to South Africa as well as to South America!

That arbitration is now and then resorted to between two countries that are afraid of each other is something gained, but what we ought to look forward to is that a strong country having a quarrel with a weak one shall propose to arbitrate. Then at last we shall be more like men and less like the beasts of the forest, among whom the keenest tooth and the heaviest paw decides the day.

We are still far enough from that happy state, but how shall we ever make progress from savagery to civilization if one of the most broad-minded, enlightened, and admirable journals published—I refer in all soberness to the *Japan Mail*—holds up the advocates of arbitration to ridicule as "goody-goody" folks?

I remain, dear sir, Yours very truly,

Jan Van der Sluis.

[We had not the least intention of assailing the principle of arbitration, as to which we endorse every word written by our correspondent.—Ed *J. M.*]

A TRIUMPH OF OFFICIALISM.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With a slight change of name, such an experience as the following might have happened in Japan:—

THE "SIGNALLED LADY."

A story about the ways of French railways is told by Miss Hannah Lynch in *Blackwood*. Once, while still a very young girl, "in her teens and abominably shy," Miss Lynch dropped her ticket on the line at Nimes. The good-natured Provencal officials did not ask her to buy another, but they signalled her along the line to Paris. "At every station, however small, an officer in uniform, with an awful-looking big ledger, shouts imperiously from carriage to carriage:—*Où est la dame signalée?* It was bad enough by day, but it was nothing short of torture at night.

"After hunting through every carriage for 'the signalled lady,' somebody was safe to shake me out of dreams. 'You must be the *dame signalée*,' would roar an angry official. And then I, dolefully rubbing my eyes, and wishing myself dead, and he: "What is your age? What did you pay for it? Where did you lose it? Where are you going? Have you a father? Have you a mother? Have you a sister? Have you a brother?' They spared me the 'dearer one still than all other'; but, barring that, there was hardly an item of my private life and fortune that these avid railway people did not insist on learning."

At Paris Miss Lynch had to pay again. This, however, was not the end of an amusing little adventure. Two years later she received a post office order for the amount, with the information that recent alterations at the station at Nimes had discovered the lost ticket under a rail.

Yours, M. M.

THE XXTH CENTURY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The end of the year now approaching, there arises a question as to whether the 19th century should be reckoned as ending on the 31st Dec., 1899, or on 31st Dec., 1900.

I shall be glad if this will be the means of ascertaining the views of your readers on the subject, and also if you will express your valuable opinion.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of these lines and enclosing my card.

I remain, Dear sir, Yours faithfully,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Yokohama, 5th Dec., 1899.

[This question has often been discussed. The answer is immediately furnished by the simple operation of counting any number by its units. Suppose we have to count "5." We do not say "0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;" we say "1, 2, 3, 4, 5." Every century begins with the year "1" and ends with the year "0," just as in counting a hundred we commence at "1" and end at "100." The 19th century began with "1801" and ends with "1900." The 20th century begins with "1901" and ends with "2000." That is the view which commends itself to us.—Ed. *J. M.*]

FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS IN JAPAN.

Note 5.—The learned author who criticizes these notes ignores what attentive readers will have observed, namely, that the word *corporations* (in the German treaty Korporationen), is in all the revised treaties translated *kwaisha*. Whatever therefore *corporation* means in English, German, or French, even though it should have a different signification in each language, *kwaisha* means in Japanese. Under no circumstances can *partnership* be a correct rendering of either word; neither can *gomei-kwaisha* be the correct equivalent of *ordinary partnerships*. *Partnership* is expressed in Japanese by *kumiai*, which, like its English prototype, may be used either as a generic or as a specific term. Dr. Lönholm avers that in the treaties it is used in a generic sense. Be it so. It follows that as British subjects are permitted by the Anglo-Japanese treaty to trade in Japan in partnerships with one another, and as the English text of the treaty is the original, the word *partnerships* as used in the treaty must necessarily include that association of trading individuals which is in English designated by the term partnership. It is consequently unnecessary for British firms to undergo conversion into *gomei* or any other kind of *kwaisha*; and if Art. V. of Ordinance No. 272 is to be construed in an opposite sense, it is *ultra vires* the treaty, and of no validity; and this is at least a politic reason for construing it as having exclusive reference to such associations of foreigners as may happen to be possessed of corporate property, even though the framer of the ordinance may have had a different intention. Furthermore, as Dr. Lönholm, though invited to do so, gives no authority for the proposition that Japanese *kumiai* are compelled by law to register as *kwaisha*, and as, in fact, almost none of them do so, and nothing is done to compel them to, he must not be surprised if his opinion does not meet with universal acceptance either among Japanese or foreigners, or if it is maintained by the writer of these notes that Japanese, as well as foreigners, are alike at

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liberty to continue trading in Japan as they have heretofore traded, if it suits their inclination to do so.

With regard to foreigners, the question is not a new one, as it has attracted attention in France, where the law affecting partnerships is similar to that of Japan. "Business," writes M. Vavasseur, "belongs to the law of nations; and in all civilized countries it has always been open to foreigners as well as to natives. The same is true of companies, moral persons, as well as of individuals or physical persons. It would therefore seem to follow that *any foreign commercial association is qualified to carry on its business in France*, to enter into contracts, and to sue or defend at law there. This would be the rule according to the general principles of private international law, in the absence of any special law to the contrary." Commenting on this passage (which is not italicized in the original), Mr. Thomas Barclay, LL.B (Paris) of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, a member of the Institute of International Law, of whom it has been written that he is only not an eminent member of the French Bar because the privilege of membership is not accorded to foreigners in France, the learned author of "Companies and British Securities in France," 1899, in a chapter on British Companies in France, says that "partnerships in which the partners are liable without limit," as is the case with English partnerships, "are not subject to any special laws, and enjoy the benefit of the general principles referred to by M. Vavasseur. They are assimilated to individuals carrying on business privately." This, it is confidently submitted, is precisely the position of, at all events, American and English firms in Japan who prefer not to register as *kwaisha*; and many of them, it may be added, as well as others, have already been registered merely in their firm names. So far as the writer is concerned, therefore, the question is now ripe for judicial decision.

STUDENT.

Yokohama, December 4th, 1899.

TORI-WI—ITS DERIVATION.

(By Mr. W. G. Aston.)

The following paper was read at a recent meeting of the Asiatic Society:—

The obvious derivation of this word is that which is suggested by the Chinese characterr with which it is usually written, viz. 鳥居 or 雞柄, meaning bird-rest or bird-perch—in plain English, a hen-roost. Scholars, however, have been struck with the incongruity of applying this homely term to the stately portals which adorn the approaches to the temples of the old national religion of Japan. Various other derivations have therefore been suggested. We may summarily dismiss the conjecture which would associate this word with the verb *tōru*, to pass through. More consideration is due to the contention of Mr. B. H. Chamberlain* that the word *tori-wi*, like the thing which it represents, is of foreign origin. Sir Ernest Satow,† writing in February, 1874, retains the ordinary derivation, but adds, probably from some native authority, that it was originally a perch for the fowls offered up to the Gods, not as food, but to give warning of day-break.

The considerations urged in favour of the view that *tori-wi* is of foreign extraction would have much weight if this word stood alone. But it is only one of a group of four vocables all of which contain the same element *wi*, root of *wire* or *woru*, to dwell, to rest, to abide, and all of which relate to a door or gateway. Besides *tori wi* we have *kamo-wi* 鴨居 or "wild-duck-rest" a term applied to the lintel of a door and to the upper of the two beams in which the *shoji* slide. *Kamo-wi* is no doubt a corruption of *kamo-wi* i.e. "upper-rest." Then we have *tsuchi wi* 土居 or "earth rest," a name for the threshold better known at the present time as *shiki wi* 敷居 or "laid-down-rest." Nobody will contend that all these words are foreign. Yet how is it possible to dissociate *tori wi* from the others?

The word *tori-wi* does not occur in the *Kojiki*, *Nihongi*, *Kiukiji*, *Norito*, *Kogoshimi*, nor to the best of my knowledge, in the *Manyoshiu*. Hirata‡ says that in ancient times the *tori wi* was called simply 門 (*mon* or *kado*). It has nevertheless a very respectable antiquity. In a Government notification of A.D. 771 the inner and outer *tori-wi* (of the Shrines of Ise?) are mentioned. The *Wamiōshō* § a Chinese-Japanese vocabulary of the 10th century includes the *tori-wi* in the category of "gates and doors" though without any indication that it was restricted to Shinto or to sacred purposes at all. The same authority quotes an older work in which the character 桁 (i.e. *kwannoki* or bar) is defined as the *tori-wi* of a gate, showing that to the mind of this author the *tori wi* was only part of the structure which we know by that name. The *wamiōshō* itself, on the next page defines the same character 桁 as *to kami i.e.* "door upper" or "lintel." *Tori wi*, therefore, at one time meant lintel as well as gate. Hirata is of opinion that the former is the earlier meaning of the word. He cites another case in which *tori wi* and *kamo-wi* are used indiscriminately for the same thing viz, lintel, and refers to a work called Rui-jin zatsuyō which gives a drawing of a clothes-horse, the *kasegi* or rail of which is labelled *tori-wi gi, i.e. tori wi* stick. Hirata further quotes from the *wamiōshō* a passage (which I am unable to find in that work) to the effect that "*Mon-ke* (門雞) or "gate-cock" is *itori wi*. It has this name on account of its resemblance to a hen-roost (*togu-ra*)." He concludes that *tori-wi* and *kasagi* were at first identical in meaning, the former term being subsequently applied to "an unroofed gate.

Tori wi is possibly not the original form of this word. The *wi* (perch or rest) does not quite so well fit the other compounds above noted. The *wamiōshō* writes, not *kamo wi* but *kamo e* (鴨栖) *i e* meaning handle, shaft, or branch. *Tori wi* may therefore have been originally *tori e*.

Of course the above does not affect the contention that these honorary gateways themselves had a foreign origin. The reader will find this thesis maintained in a convincing manner in an admirable paper by Mr. Samuel Tuke contributed to the Japan Society's Transactions, 1896 1897.—Part II

* See "Things Japanese" 3rd edition. Art *Tori i*; also an article contributed to the proceedings of the Anthropological Institute.

† See "The Shrines of Ise" in Vol. II. of these Transactions.

‡ Zoku-Shinto tai i II. 28

§ Vol. III. Chap. X. p. 12.

CONCERT.

The first of the Junker Chamber Concerts of the present season was given on Monday evening in the Van Schaick Hall before a fairly large audience.

There are several changes in the personnel of the Quartet party. Of course, Herr Junker occupies his old place as chief, and is as always *facile princeps* where bow and string are concerned. The viola is in much more capable hands than last season, and we compliment Mr. Poole on his rapid success with a new instrument. As to the second violin and cello, we must hear them further before giving a pronounced opinion. The opening number was Beethoven's early work in G major, which went generally well in spite of a few slight defects. The strings again shone in the final number, a charming piece of Schubert's "linked sweetness long drawn out."

We were delighted to welcome a new performer in the person of Mr. Richter, who proved himself a powerful and capable pianist in Gade's sonata, as well as a kind and sympathetic accompanist in all other numbers where the pianoforte was required. We shall be charmed to have the opportunity of hearing him again.

Professor Junker of course delighted his admirers with his solo work and received a well-deserved encore for his rendering of Bach's well-known Gavotte.

A *débutante* in Yokohama.—Mrs. Seel—gave an artistic rendering of Schubert's two songs for alto. A well-trained contralto voice of fine quality, joined with pure intonation and good phrasing, was all that could be desired.

We are sorry that we cannot speak so highly of the other vocalist. Such an exhibition was out of place in its surroundings. With this one exception it was a charming and satisfactory *soirée*; and we look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the next Junker concert.

PROGRAMME.

1.—String Quartet,—in "G. Major" Beethoven.
Allegro—
Adagio cantabile.
Scherzo—
Allegro molto quasi presto.

2.—Alto Solo—
(a) Der Tod und das Mädchen.....
(b) Das Wirthshaus.....
:.Schubert.
Mrs. Seel.

3.—Sonata—for Piano & Violin.....Gade.
Adagio—All° di molto
Larghetto.
Adagio—
All° molto vivace.
Mr. Richter and Prof. Junker.

4.—Baritone Solo...Adelaide.....Beethoven.
Mr. Friedlander.

5.—Violin Solo—
(a) Romanze .....Svendsen.
(b) Gavotte.....Bach.
Prof. Junker.

6.—Quintet. For 2 Violins, Viola and 2 Violoncellos. ....Schubert.
The Junker String Quartette
and Mr. Rod. Schmid (Cello,)

YOKOHAMA STREET LIGHTING.

FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Referring to the correspondence already published between the Mayor of the City and the Chairman of the Committee on the 13th and 14th current the final report of the Hon. Treasurer is now submitted.

STREET LIGHTING.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

From 15th February to 15th November, 1899.

	Yen.
Subscription from March, 1899, to 15th November, 1899.....	2,402.19
Interest on Bank deposits	33.35
	2 435.54
Balance from last year.....	1,221.46
	3,657.00

EXPENDITURE.

	Yen.
Payment to Gas-works, 141 lamps for 8½ months, from 15th February to 31st October, 1899.....	2,156 80
Secretary's Salary at yen 30 per month..	270.00
Fee for inspecting street lamps	15 00
Stationery	20 00
Gratuity to Secretary	100 00
Balance in hand.....	1,095,20
	3,657.00

J. KERN,
Hon. Treasurer, Yokohama Gas Committee.

Yokohama, 27th November, 1899.

The Committee propose to dispose of the balance of funds on hand in the following manner:—

	Yen.
To the Ladies' Benevolent Society	200.00
To the Yokohama General Hospital.....	895.09
	1,095 20

A. O. Gay,
Chairman.

Dec. 2nd, 1899.

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THE "TAMBA MARU" CASE.

SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

Judgment was delivered on Thursday in the Chiho Saibansho in the case of Mr. R. B. Kent, late third officer of the *Tamba Maru*, who was charged with committing an assault on the Japanese quartermaster, Umeseko Toyomatsu.

Judge Fujise with Assistant Judges Mori and Odamura occupied the Bench. The Judgment was a written one, and the effect of it was that the Court, after giving careful consideration to the evidence, had decided that Toyomatsu's story was substantially true, and that the testimony of the foreign witnesses was not sufficiently convincing to cause the Court to attach importance to it. It could scarcely be credited that Toyomatsu had bitten Kent before the latter struck him. The offence — which involved an injury necessitating more than 20 days' cessation from work— came under the purview of Article 301 of the Criminal Code. A reduction of two degrees was allowed on account of mitigating circumstances in the shape of the quartermaster's insolence. The sentence would be six months' major imprisonment. The costs of the Court and 5 *yen* doctor's fee must be paid by accused.

Mr. Kent, and his foreign friends who were in Court at the time, looked very much astonished when this sentence was translated by the interpreter. It is understood that an appeal will be entered. Mr. Kent is at present at liberty, having been admitted to bail pending an appeal.

In view of the interesting nature of the case, a review of the trial may be interesting. The incidents which form the subject of the trial occurred on September 30th, after the *Tamba Maru* had left Moji for Yokohama. A scuffle took place between Mr. Kent and the quartermaster, who was supposed to have been insolent to Kent. The other officers interfered and the Japanese was secured. On the arrival of the ship at Yokohama the occurrence was reported to the Company, and Toyomatsu was dismissed. He then submitted his complaint to the Chiho Saibansho, a warrant was made out for the arrest of Kent and four other officers, and they were lodged in Negishi gaol. All this was done in the uncorroborated testimony of Toyomatsu. Bail offered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was at first refused. After investigation no evidence was found against four of the officers, and they were released, but Kent was detained, and considerable delay ensued before bail was granted him.

The arrests took place on October 10th. A very long interval elapsed before the commencement of the trial, which opened on November 16th, the witnesses meanwhile being compelled to remain in Yokohama. At the first hearing the accused gave his evidence. He said he had reprimanded the quartermaster for smoking, thinking he had a cigarette in his hand. Another foreigner on board, however, pointed out to him that what he thought was a cigarette was a finger-ring on Toyomatsu's finger, and he therefore retracted what he had said. The matter, however, appeared to have rankled in the quartermaster's mind, for he came to Kent's cabin, thrust his hand rudely in his face, showed him the ring, and asked, "Do you call that smoking in England?" Kent told him to leave the room, and on his refusing to do so endeavoured to put him out. Then Toyomatsu seized him and pulled him over. In the scuffle that ensued Toyomatsu bit Kent in the leg and thigh in six places, and in defence Kent struck him. Other officers came up, and the chief officer ordered Toyomatsu to be put in irons.

This evidence was corroborated by Charles Arthur Hill, who was second officer of the *Tamba Maru* at the time. He said Toyomatsu was drunk, that he refused to leave the cabin, that he seized Kent and struck him on the attempt being made to eject him; and that he bit Kent several times while they were rolling on deck. The witness did not see Kent strike a blow.

An application was made at this hearing to admit the evidence of a Mr. de la Hyde who was a witness of the affair, but it was declined.

On the 16th, the trial was resumed. Toyomatsu, the complainant, was examined at length. He admitted to some animus against Kent, as he expected to be dismissed the ship at Yokohama, and he attributed this to a report of Kent to the captain. He alleged that when he went to the cabin accused called him a Chinaman and kicked him, He denied using obscene language, but admitted putting his hand—the one with the ring—up to Kent, and asking him to withdraw the report he believed Kent had made to the captain with regard to smoking. Kent ordered him out of the room and struck him in the face. He fell outside and Kent then hit him again in the back. Hill, de la Hyde, and others also ran up and seized witness's hands and feet. As to the alleged biting of Kent witness first said:—"I did not bite Kent." Then, on a warning from the Procurator, corrected himself thus:—"I do not remember biting Kent. I did not strike anyone or offer any kind of resistance. I was put in irons." Then followed an important admission. The witness said he was at first inclined to take no steps in the matter, as the N.Y.K. had promised to pay for medical treatment for him. This promise, however, was not carried out, and therefore he brought the prosecution. These were the main points of the case as related by the prosecutor.

No witnesses were called at the trial on his behalf, but the depositions of several Japanese at the preliminary examination were put in.

Then followed another long interval. At length, on Nov. 5th, the case came on again, and medical evidence was given as to the state of the prosecutor's eye on October 5th, when, according to the expert called, Toyomatsu was suffering from some swelling and discoloration of the eyelid.

Then there was another day's adjournment before the rendering of the judgment on Thursday.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Dec. 1.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain (Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies) has made a speech in which he declared that he rejoiced at the present friendly relations between Great Britain, the United States and Germany. He said that a new triple alliance had been formed between these three Powers which would be a potent influence in the future of the world. It was immaterial whether the alliance was written or whether it existed in the minds of the statesmen of the Powers concerned. He referred to the attacks made by the French press on the almost sacred person of the Queen and said that these would have serious consequences if Great Britain's neighbours did not mend their manners.

Among the casualties at the Modder River, the killed include Staff Colonel A. B. H. Northcott, of the Coldstream Guards (but formerly of the Royal Scots Fusiliers); and Captain Stopford and Captain Carr of the Yorkshire Light Infantry.

There is a long list of wounded and on it appear the names of Major W. F. L. Lindsay (lately stationed at Colchester); and Captain Sarrill of the Royal Artillery; Major Count Gleichen (severely) and Capt. the Hon. E. H. Lygon,—of the Grenadier Guards; Capt. Acheson of the Coldstreams; Captain Guismere of the Medical Corps; Von Huggel (?) of the Royal Engineers; Captain Travers of the Grenadiers; Captains Ellwell and Hill of the Scots Guards; Major Flint of the Lancashire Regiment; Majors Erle and Ottley and Lieut. Fox of the Yorkshire Light Infantry, and Captain Baker, Carr and Nielson of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Lord Methuen was wounded slightly in the thigh.

All was well at Mafeking on the 20th of November.

Shanghai, December 2.

Field Marshal Lord Wolseley has announced that it has been decided to call out the Sixth Division, and that it will start for South Africa within 4 or 5 days.

News from Kimberley dated 24th November says that the proximity of relief cheers the garrison, and that the number of Boers in the vicinity of the town has dwindled.

Prince Christian Victor has gone to the front from Durban.

Mr. Barnes, the Managing Director of the Peninsular and Oriental S. S. Company, is dead.

Shanghai, Dec. 4.

Lieut. General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, K.C.B., is to have command of the 6th Division.

The total casualties in the battle of Modder River, in addition to the officers, were 70 killed and 375 wounded. The Guards' Brigade alone had 29 killed and 151 wounded.

Lord Methuen is remaining at Modder River for the purpose of reconstructing the bridge and to obtain reinforcements.

It appears certain that the Boers have destroyed the remaining bridge at Colenso.

Three transports with 3,795 men sailed for the Cape on Saturday.

Mr. Chamberlain's speech is generally deprecated by the British press. The papers rejoice at the good understanding between America, Germany and England, but disapprove of any idea of a compromising alliance. The American press is equally unfavourable. German opinion is divided. The French press bitterly resents Mr. Chamberlain's tone towards France and accuses him of proposing war.

Shanghai, Dec. 4.

There is no fresh news from Natal or the Modder River.

The Boers are awaiting the British attack and are concentrating on their old positions near Colenso. Everything points to a determined attempt to prevent the crossing of the Tugela River.

America has signed the Samoa agreement.

The latest news from Basutoland is that the chief Joel is still endeavouring to stir up disaffection, all the others are loyal.

Shanghai, Dec. 5.

The British transport *Ismore* has gone ashore on the rocks of St. Helena Bay, Cape Colony. She had on board the 63rd battery, the 9th Medical Company, and a portion of the 10th Hussars. The troops have been landed, but the horses are still on board, and there is difficulty in landing them. Assistance has been sent.

[The *Ismore* is a steel 4 masted twin-screw steamer built by Curle and Co. of Glasgow in 1899 for a company whose general Managers are Messrs E. Bates and Co. She has a a tonnage of 5,989 tons, and a length of 459 ft., with a beam of 53 ft. 3 in.; registered in

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Lloyds' highest class. At this time of the year the much-dreaded "norther" is blowing in full force over the seas of the Cape.]

An official despatch from Kimberley dated the 30th of November, says that on the 28th November, the Bechuanaland police captured the enemy's laager on the West of Kimberley.

Search light communication between Kimberley and the Modder River has been established.

Major-General Kelly-Kenny, C.B., commands the 6th Division.

Later.

No accounts have been received from Methuen or Buller since the operations on the 28th November. It is supposed that Buller's first measure will be to force the passage of the Tugela River.

A despatch from Ladysmith dated the 25th November says that the Boers' bombardment has recently become much more damaging. The Liverpools and the remnants of the Gloucesters lost 11 killed and wounded on the 24th, and several civilians and police were also killed or injured. The Boers are probably 10,000 strong in the immediate neighbourhood of Ladysmith. The health of the troops is good, but they are impatient at the delay.

A released prisoner who came into Estcourt on the 30th November states that 15,000 Boers with 15 guns are holding Colenso under the command of General Joubert.

Details have been received of the Modder River fight. It appears that 11,000 Boers held a splendidly entrenched position on the north of the River. After our troops had shelled the invisible enemy for five hours the infantry advanced.

They were met with a decimating fusillade from the opposite banks, and from the dry bed of the river.

The troops never flinched. They were lying down for hours exposed to unceasing firing.

Eventually at dusk the Guards on the right and the Argyles on the left forded the river.

The Boers evacuated the position during the night.

The Boers shelled the ambulance waggons which contained the wounded under treatment.

Shanghai, Dec. 6.

The Times publishes a despatch from Frere dated the 29th November, which says that the Boers' position is visible from the British advanced post at Chieveley. It seems very strong, and a front attack will be difficult.

The Boers at Modder River had seven guns, besides quick-firers, which were splendidly served, principally by French and German gunners. The Boers removed their guns during the night, and the British were too exhausted to pursue their advantage.

Later.

Various reports are current that the siege of Mafeking has been abandoned.

Runners from Ladysmith report that all was well there on the 29th November.

Lord Methuen reports that the Boers' losses at Modder River exceeded those of the British and that their *morale* was much shaken.

President McKinley's message to Congress says that America has remained faithful to the principle of avoiding entangling alliances in affairs not directly concerning herself. She has observed impartiality towards Great Britain in the Transvaal affair. He referred in the most cordial terms to the relations of the United States with France, Germany, and Great Britain, and said that it was impossible for America to renounce her authority in the Phillipines. He recommended the appointment of a commission to study the commercial and industrial possibilities of China.

Shanghai, Dec. 7.

It is reported that a Seventh Division is being mobilized.

The *Daily Telegraph* publishes a telegram from the Modder River, saying that on November 30th the Lancers came into contact with the Boers and found them occupying a strong ridge six miles to the north.

The *Daily Mail* publishes a telegram from Mafeking saying that all was well on the 28th of November.

The Borneo dinner was a success. Mr. Cowie said he hoped that Mat Salleh would give no cause for trouble and that the railway contract was practically completed. Governor Clifford advocated railways and hoped to settle the Mat Salleh affair peacefully. Otherwise it would be necessary to go to war.

Later.

General Joubert is indisposed and has gone to Volksrust. During his absence Schalkburger assumes supreme command.

The Boers have entered Bardrecht.

[This should evidently be Dordrecht, an important town which lies immediately to the south-eastward of Stormberg—Ed *J. M.*]

In the fight at Kimberley on Nov. 20th, Major Turner of the Black Watch, was killed and Lieut. Clifford wounded. Twenty men were killed and 28 wounded.

General Clery reached Frere on Saturday 2nd December. It is believed that in spite of re-assuring messages Ladysmith urgently needs relief.

The Boers are very active along the Stormberg-Rosmead line, dividing Generals French and Gatacre.

The *Sumatra* has arrived in the Thames with the sick from Ladysmith. They are mostly dysentery cases. They describe the water at Ladysmith as shocking.

It is reported that the Boers have strongly fortified the hills between Ladysmith and Colenso.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France in Tokyo.)

Saigon, Dec. 1.

No despatch explaining the details of the battle on the Modder River has been received in London, and people in England are beginning to feel uneasy about the silence.

Saigon, December 2.

Mr. Chamberlain made a speech at Leicester in which he protested violently against the attacks of the French press, especially with regard to the Queen. He boasted of the Anglo-American accord, and said that Germany is the natural ally of England. This speech is sharply commented on and blamed by most of the English journals.

Saigon, December 3.

The British War Office announces that the casualties in the battle of the Modder River totalled 438 killed and wounded. General Methuen remains at the Modder pending the reconstruction of the bridge. Reinforcements are being sent to him from the Cape.

Saigon, Dec. 4.

The High Court continues to examine witnesses. Its last sittings have been somewhat tumultuous. A barrister was excluded from the sitting for eight days for making an outcry and noise.

Saigon, November 5.

A telegram received in London says that 15,000 Boers, under the command of General Jocebert, are strongly entrenched at Colenso, and that 10,000 others are vigorously pushing the siege of Ladysmith.

Saigon, Dec. 6.

The French Chamber of Deputies, in discussing the Budget of the Interior, maintained the Secret Service Appropriation by 312 votes against 207, on the demand of the President of the Council, M. Waldeck-Rousseau.

Berlin newspapers announce that 8,000 Dutch have revolted in the North of the Cape Colony.

Saigon, Dec. 7.

The speech pronounced by President McKinley at the opening of Congress was courteous towards France, cordial towards Germany, and cold with regard to the Anglo-American relations.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, November 25.

The British losses at Belmont were 58 killed, 146 wounded, and 21 missing. The losses include 4 officers killed and 21 wounded.

Fifty prisoners were taken, including the German commandant and six field cornets.

The infantry behaved splendidly, and, supported by the naval brigade and artillery, carried three ridges successively.

The enemy fought with courage and skill.

The casualties amongst the officers were chiefly Guardsmen.

London, November 27.

Seventy well-known farmers have entered Barkly East and seized the magazine, 300 Martinis, and 4,000 rounds of ammunition. They were afterwards joined by 130 Free Staters who arrived to meet them.

Later.

Communication between Estcourt and Durban has been re-established. General Joubert is retiring from the Mooi River in the direction of Ladysmith.

The position in Natal is full of perplexities which the Censorship is increasing.

The killed at Grasspan include Commander Alfred Peel Ethelston, R.N., of H.M.S. *Powerful*, Major John H. Plumbe of the Royal Marines, and Captain Guy Senior (H.M.S. *Monarch*) of the Royal Marine Artillery.

The killed at Belmont include Lieuts. W. A. Blundell-Hollinshead-Blundell and Francis L. Fryer of the Grenadier Guards, and Captain Edward B. Eagar and Lieut. Robt. W. M. Brine of the 1st Northumberland Fusiliers.

London, November 28.

It appears that the Boers are finding the British too strong and they are retiring upon Ladysmith.

Orders have been issued at Estcourt for a general advance upon Colenso from the Mooi River.

The railway has been reopened to Frere.

The Naval Brigade and the Marines lost 14 killed and 91 wounded at Grasspan.

Some Boers are reported to be to the south of Stormberg.

The Boers have been repulsed at Kuruman. After fighting six days and nights 30 Boers were killed and 28 wounded, the British loss being trifling.

London, November 29.

General Buller gives the total casualties at Grasspan as 198, including Captain Reginald C. Prothero, Lieutenant Walter T. C. Jones (Royal Marines), and Midshipman Cymbeline A. E. Huddart, all of H.M.S. *Doris*, killed.

Ten thousand British troops are now at Frere.

London November 30.

General Gatacre has occupied Bushmanshoek.

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Lord Methuen gives the highest praise to all engaged in what he states was one of the hardest fights in the annals of the British Army.

An additional list of the casualties at Belmont brings the total up to four officers killed and twenty-two wounded, including Captain Farrell of the Northumberland Fusiliers, and Captain Allen of the Northamptonshire Regiment wounded, and 46 men killed and 225 wounded.

Chefoo, November 28.

According to telegrams received from Chinanfu there has been serious anti-Christian rioting. A number of Protestant families have been pillaged and ordered to recant on penalty of death. The officials are inert or powerless and no ringleaders have been arrested.

[From "China Gazette."]

Colombo, November 25.

At the Belmont battle on the 23rd, the following casualities occurred :—

Killed :—Lieut. Fryer, Grenadier Guards, Capt. Eager, Northumberland Fusiliers, Lieut. Brine, Northumberlands. Wounded :—Colonel Crabbe, and nine Lieutenants of the Grenadier Guards. Lieutenant Willoughby, Lieutenant Barton, both of the Coldstream Guards, Major Dalrymple, Lieuts. Hamilton, Lieut. Buckley, Lieut. Alexander, of the Royal Scots Guards ; Major Dashwood, Captain Sabte, Lieuts, Festing and Fishbourne of the Northumberland Fusiliers ; Captain Freeland and Lieut. Barton of the Northumberlands.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 448.

By E. T. Bell.

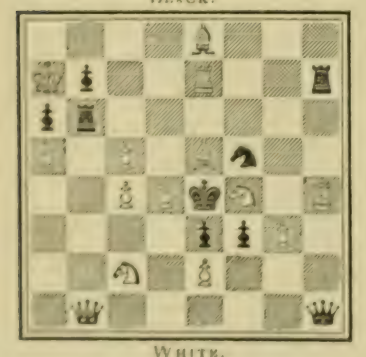
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to QB 4	1—K to Kt 5
2—Q to QR 3 ch	2—K takes Q
3—B to K 7 mate	
	1—K to Q 5
2—B to QB 7 !	2—Any
3—Q mates acc.	
	1—P takes Kt (Q)
2—Q to Q 5 ch	2—K takes P
3—Q to B 7 mate	
	if 2—K to Kt 5
3—B to K 7 mate	
	1—B takes P
2—Q to K 3 ch	2—Q to Q 3
3—Q to K 7	
	if 2—K to Kt 5
3—P to R 3 mate	

Correct answers from East Anglia, ("Elegant and rather difficult"): Marco; and L M A.

PROBLEM No. 451.

By H. and E. Bettmann, U.S.A.

Black.



White.

EASY LESSONS IN CHESS

Our series of these is finished. Learners wishing to pursue the subject are recommended to study Cunnington's Manual, a new and up to-date work published in London recently for two shillings per copy. It can be had at our local publishers, Kelly and Walsh, Limited.

SINGAPORE.

We are glad to learn that an attempt is being made to revive the Chess Club at Singapore. An able Chess column appears in the *Straits Times* and another in the *Singapore Free Press*: we borrow from them Games 572 and 573 printed below. At the same time we do not subscribe to all their views. We have a notion that War, Music (pace Steinitz), Chess, Astronomy, etc., are separate entities ; but everyone is entitled to his own opinion, and "Chacun à son gout" is also a good working motto in this everyday world.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Blackburne's Brilliancy.

Dear Sir,—As problems in nine moves are more of the nature of a nightmare than a pleasure to your readers, I beg to submit the following solution of Mr. Blackburne's brilliant ending to game No. 570, published in your last issue.

BLACK.	WHITE.
1—B to Q 5 ch	1—R to B 2
2—R takes P ch	2—K to B sq
3—R to Kt 8 ch	3—K takes R
4—Q to Kt 4 ch	4—K to B sq
5—B takes R	5—Q to Kt 4 ch
6—P to Q 3	6—Q takes P ch
7—P takes Q	7—Q takes B
8—Q to Kt 7 ch	8—K moves
9—Q to Kt 8 mate	

Yours truly,

W. B. M.

Tokyo, December 4th.

Game No. 572.

French Defence.

Notes by Jas. Mason.

White—Mr. D. Y. Mills. Black—Mr. E. Delmar.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K 2

.....As a rule it is dangerous for the second player to venture upon "novelties" at variance with the plain principles of development.

4—Kt to B 3	4—P takes P
5—Kt takes P	5—Kt to B 4
6—B to Q 3	6—Kt to B 3 !
7—P to B 3	7—B to K 2
8—Castles	8—P to K R 3
9—Q to B 2	9—Kt to Q 3

.....There must be real loss of time in the overworking of this Knight, which is to say that Black fails in adequate preparation for the hazards of the middle game.

10—B to K B 4	10—Castles
11—Q R to Q sq	11—P to Q Kt 3
12—Kt to K 5	12—B to Kt 2
13—B to Kt 3	13—Q to K sq
14—P to K B 4	14—Kt to B 4

.....The Knight is not happy. He seems to have no good business hereabouts if he will not exchange, and to his exchange there are good objections,

15—Q to B 2	15—R to Q sq
16—Kt to Q 2	

White is evidently secure in a fine position. Assuming a watchful attitude, he has but to wait on events, in all readiness to profit by the first overt sign of weakness displayed by the adversary.

16—P to B 3

.....And here is just such a sign ; but, in due course, the restraint suffered so far by Black should somehow become intolerable. Of this, the weakening of the King Pawn is the most notable consequence.

17—Kt takes Kt	17—B takes Kt !
18—K to K R sq	18—Q to R 4
19—Kt to B 3	19—B to Q 4
20—B takes Kt	20—Q takes B
21—Kt to R 4	21—Q to R 4
22—P to B 5	

All about the King Pawn, or something equally valuable. 22....., P takes P; 23 B takes P, or simply 23 Kt takes P, would be good for White, who from this point, must be conceded a tangible advantage.

	22—P to K 4
23—Kt to K 6	23—B to Q 3

.....For sake of counter-attack, perchance ; and otherwise the loss of force should prove fatal. But Mr. Mills now has the game in his own hands, and keeps it there in perfect safety.

24—Kt takes R	24—R takes Kt
25—Q to B 2 !	25—Q to B 2
26—P to Kt 3	26—P to Q Kt 4
27—P takes P	27—B to B 4 ch
28—B to B 2	28—B takes B ch
29—Q takes B	29 - P takes P
30—R takes P	30—P to B 3
31—Q R to K sq	31—P to Q R 4
32—Q to Kt 3	32—P to R 5
33—P takes P	33—P takes P
34—P to Q R 3	34—Q to B 3
35—Q to Kt 4	35—K to R 2
36—Q takes P	36—Q to Kt 4
37—Q to B 2	37—Q to R 5
38—P to B 6 dis ch	38—K to Kt sq
39—P takes P	39—R to B 2
40—K R to K 3	40—Q to K B 5
41—R to Kt 3	41—B to K 5

.....There is just the chance White might make some such blunder as taking the Bishop here—but that is all.

42—Q to K 2	42—Q to B 4
43—P to R 3	43—Q to B 4 ch
44—Q to K 3	44—Q to Q 3
45—R to Kt 4	45—B to Kt 3
46—Q to K 6	46—Q to B 4 ch
47—K to R sq	47—Resigns.

That war is not chess is quite true. Neither is it football, cricket, nor skittles. There is, however, so close a resemblance in the strategy of both that lovers of the game have always styled it mimic warfare. In chess, as in war, concentration for attack or defence is the first point to be considered, and rapid mobilization of the forces is the means to that end. Of course, soldiers are not pieces and pawns. They must be fed, and their water supply must not be cut off by the enemy. Sir George White has no doubt seen to this or otherwise he will suffer a smothered mate or be forced to fight his way out with the risk of a big loss. It is to be hoped, however, that the Army Corps will arrive in time to prevent such a disaster. This war is a curious kind of chess. It begins with big odds on the side of the Boers, the Mahdists of South Africa ; but, as time goes on, the British side gets augmented, as new men begin to jump on to the board, which is quite against the principles of chess, unless the queening of pawns is considered as a parallel to it. Meanwhile, the philo-Boers are having a good laugh at the critical state of the British pieces and pawns in South Africa, not, however, without serious misgivings as to the ultimate result when the large reinforcements arrive on the scene. The motto to be remembered is : "He laughs best who laughs last."—*Straits Times*.

Game No. 573.

Scotch Game.

Mr. Blackburne's annual blindfold display at the City of London Chess Club may be looked upon as marking the beginning of the London chess season, and recently at this club the British champion played eight games, winning four and drawing four. We publish a well-contested game played on that occasion, the score and notes being taken from the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

White—Blackburne. Black—A. E. Wake.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 P B5	R K-q
2 KKt B3	QKt B3	16 B B4	KtxP(h)
3 P Q4	PxP	17 KtxKt	BxKt
4 KtxP	Kt B3	18 QxB	B R5
5 Kt QB3	P Q3(a)	19 Q Q5	BxR
6 B QKt5	B Q2	20 RxB	RxR
7 Castles	B K2	21 KtxR	Q R5
8 BxKt	PxB	22 B Q2	Q Q5ch(c)
9 P B4	Castles	23 QxQ	PxQ
10 P KR3	P B4	24 P Kt3	R K-q
11 Kt B3	B B3	25 K B2	P B4
12 Q K2	Q K-q	26 Kt Q3	P B3
13 R K-q	R Q sq	27 B B4	Resigns(d)
14 P KKt4	Q Q2		

(a). Inferior to B to Kt 5. The move gives White an opportunity, of which he promptly avails himself, to turn the game into the P Q 3 defensive variation to the Ruy Lopez, which gives Black a cramped game.

(b). Rather a clever idea. Black gives up two pieces for a Rook and a Pawn, and in view of his strong centre Pawns, and the exposed position of White's King, the sacrifice of two pieces for a Rook and a Pawn seemed justified.

(c). There was no hurry to exchange Queens. R to K-q would have been a useful move, followed perhaps by P to KR 3, especially as he could force the exchange whenever he thought it necessary by Q K 5.

(d). Black either could not spare the time necessary for a prolonged struggle, or was under the impression that he could not prevent the White King from playing to Q 5 if he defended the attacked Pawn by R Q q. This is quite true, but instead of playing R to Q q now, Black had a counter attack at his disposal in P to B 5, which would have enabled him to make a long and hard fight.—*Singapore Free Press*.

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OMNIUM GATHERUM.

THE PARIS TOURNAMENT.

"The biggest thing in Chess-tourneys that the would has ever seen," so says *The American Chess Magazine*, is to be held in Paris in 1900. The Birmingham *Mercury*, quoted by *The A.C.M.*, gives some interesting information concerning the First Paris Tourney in 1867: "Kolisch, once a waiter, then a Chess-player, then a baron and a banker, took first place with the fine score of 20; Winawer, second, with 19; both belonged to the ancient race of Palestine, and so did Steinitz, who not having yet invented the Modern School, was third, with 18. . . . The second Paris Tourney took place in 1878. Zukertort was first, after having tied with Winawer with 16½. Blackburne was third with 14½. Mackenzie and Bird tied for fourth and fifth with 13 (Mackenzie won in the play-off).

PILLSBURY'S VERSATILITY.

We all know that champion Pillsbury plays chess, checkers, and whist so well that he is credited with saying: "There may be those who can beat me at chess, checkers, and whist; but I do not believe that there is a man in the world who can beat me at all three games." Now, we are informed, he has added dominoes to his other accomplishments, and the "Boss," Kemeny, Happy Bampton, and others of the Franklin Club have found him to be a very apt pupil. Maybe we will hear of "Blindfold domino exhibitions by Harry Pillsbury!"

LASKER-JANOWSKI MATCH.

The Philadelphia Press is authority for the statement that the Lasker-Janowski match will be played under somewhat novel conditions. Play is to take place in a private hall, only invited guests being present, and the games will not be published until the match is finished, when they will appear in book form, copyrighted, the property of the two contestants. It is questionable whether the new departure will prove a success. Admirers of the game take considerable interest in such a match, while it is in progress. If they have to wait long after the contest is finished the demand for such games may decrease. Another fact to be taken in consideration is that the printing of games in various newspapers has helped enormously to make chess popular, and, indirectly, those engaged in the game gained by it. However, such a chess match is a pretty difficult struggle, and those contesting it are surely entitled to more liberal returns than have been theirs up to the present time. If the new arrangement will prove a success it is sure to benefit the professional player, and, indirectly, the game in general.

SCHIFFERS.

E. Schiffers, who has just been consigned to an asylum for the insane in St. Petersburg, is a native of Russia. He was born of German parents on May 4, 1850, and is, consequently, beyond the prime of life. He learned chess at a very early age, and was for years the champion of Russia. The championship honours were wrested from him by Tschigorin, a former pupil, but he is considered to be the second strongest player in the empire. Schiffers is said to be an enthusiast who prefers to win a good game, and is perfectly satisfied to lose as long as he knows that he has played his best. He won the sixth prize at the International Tournament played in Vienna last year, and was tied with Tschigorin for a low prize at Nuremburg in 1896.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 30th November,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 29th November, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Y. Oda, 30th November,—Otaru and Hakodate, 26th November, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 1st December,—Otaru via ports, 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 1st December,—Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kongo Kan (19), Japanese Coast Service Vessel, 2,284, Captain Ishii, 1st December,—Yokosuka, 1st Dec.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 1st December,—Shanghai via ports, 25th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 1st December,—Otaru via ports, 26th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 2nd December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 30th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 2nd Dec.,—Hakodate, 29th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, S. Tsuji, 3rd Dec.,—Nagasaki, 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Bartlett, 3rd Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 4th Dec.,—Kobe, 2nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, James Thom, 4th Dec.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 4th December,—Yokkaichi, 3rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 5th Dec.,—Hakodate, 2nd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Algoa, British steamer, 4,897, Hansford, 5th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 5th December,—Portland, Oregon, 27th November, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 6th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 17th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 6th Dec.,—Kobe, 4th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Nobeta, 6th December,—Kobe, 4th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson 6th Dec.,—Otarū via ports, 1st Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, E. G. Dickens, 6th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 5th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, J. N. Petterson, 6th Dec.,—Cardiff via Singapore, 1st Oct., Coal.—To Order.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 7th Dec.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 5th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 1st December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 1st December,—Vancouver, B.C., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Japan, British steamer, 2 795, G. K. Wright, 2nd December,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O. Cueppers, 2nd Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 2nd December,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 2nd December,—Otaru via ports, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, F. L. Somner, 2nd Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 2nd Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 3rd Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 3rd December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 3rd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 4th December,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 4th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, K. Tsuda, 5th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 5th December,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kongo Kan (19), Japanese Coast Service Vessel, 2,284, Captain Ishii, 5th Dec.,—Yokosuka.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 6th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, J. Miyagi, 6th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 6th December,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 7th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Bartlett, 7th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Engelhorn, British ship, 2,374, Edward H. Lovitt, 7th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 7th Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Higo, 7th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Noheta, 7th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Miss De Benneche, Mrs. Dubois and child, Mr. C. Dubois, Mr. Schleret, Mr. Bosroden, Mrs. B. Lehevre, Mr. Dero, Mr. R. Schwab, Mr. G. Yanny, and Mr. G. B. Wright in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Admiral Viscount Ito, Capt. M. Yoshimatsu, Captain C. Kato, Second Captain Sahaku, Chief Engineer Y. Yamamoto, Rev. and Mrs. Simpson and child, Rev. and Mrs. Saguqui and 4 children, Rev. J. McKim, Mr. J. M. Webb, and Mr. and Mrs. Inouye, in cabin; Mr. Budon, Mr. See Ching Yen, Mr. Yick Yen Yun, and 5 Chinese, in second class; 3 Chinese, 1 European, and 21 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Hong Quan, Rev. P. J. Santow, Mr. W. Fortescue, Mrs. Fortescue, Mr. F. Von Siebeig, Capt. A. Pockles, Mr. E. B. Kemble, Mr. Z. S. I. Baronian, Mr. Henry Berlinger, Mr. H. Bethell, Mr. Hyde R. Bowie, Rev. W. F. Bull, Mrs. Eldridge, Miss Charlotte E. Finlay, Miss Ida Finlay, Rev. J. P. Hauch, Mr. L. T. Dyer, Mrs. J. P. Hauch, Mr. V. W. Helm, Mrs. V. W. Helm, Mr. T. McK. Laughlin, Mr. I. B. McK. Laughlin and servant, Mr. Chas. D. McGrath, Mrs. J. R. Morse, Miss Elsie Morse, Miss M. E. Penny, Miss F. R. Straeffer, Mr. L. Van Rensselaer, Mrs. L. Van Rensselaer, infant and amah, Rev. and Mrs. F. W. Voegelein, Rev. Geo. Wallace, Mrs. Martha Wright, and Mr. J. W. Glenny, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. Angie M. Myers, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Rev. E. B. Caldwell, Mrs. E. B. Caldwell and two children, Miss Emma E. Bissett, Miss E. C. Davidson, and Miss V. J. Lee, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Lt. Com. A. B. Canaga, Mrs. Capt. F. E. Green, Mrs. John W. Hannay, Miss Bessie Hannay, Mr. Milo Hoadley, Mrs. Chester M. Knepper, Mrs. J. C. MacHale and child, Mr. Cyrus Smith, Mr. W. J. Southam, and Mrs. H. Wheatley, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Portland, Oregon:—Mrs. Scott, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mrs. Price, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Martin and child, Mr. Hindmarse, and Mr. Taylor, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Trotter, Mr. B. B. Taylor, Mrs. S. T. Taylor, Mrs. W. W. Foote, Miss E. Foote, Mrs. W. L. Steinberger, Mrs. Downing, two children and nurse, Miss Daves, Mrs. Austen Sperry, Miss Sperry, Mr. E. H. Litchfield, Mr. A. F. Mills, Mr. E. S. Willard, Mrs. Bruce M. Mindy, Mrs. V. Tarnpaugh, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilder, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Bird, Mr. C. W. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. M. Gleeson, Mr. C. C. Cohn, Lieut. H. S. Howland, U.S.N., Miss Davidson, Mr. Rapier, Mr. C. R. Holcomb, Mr. T. D. McKay and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Eubank and child, Mr. James Hervis, Mrs. M. Stanleigh, Mr. J. W. Mustard, Mrs. M. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Crocker, Miss E. Wood, Mr. F. G. Morse, Mr. F. M. Bostwick, Mr. W. E. McGill, Mr. W. A. Daland, Mrs. A. E. Rawlins, T. O. Johnson, Mrs. A. W. Bryan, Miss Clement, Mrs. and Mrs. F. Palmer, Miss

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Greenleaf, Miss M. B. Kip, Capt. H. C. Benson, Mrs. R. A. Brown, Mrs. A. L. Parmenter, Mrs. C. A. Adams, Mr. G. H. Ellis, Mrs. F. Hardman and child, Miss Ray, Miss G. Tracy, Mrs. H. C. Clement, Mr. E. E. West, Mrs. Col. Greenleaf, Mrs. R. E. Walker, Mrs. E. Cromwell, Mrs. G. H. Waters, Mrs. H. B. McCoy, Mrs. T. B. Anderson, Master Anderson, Miss E. Wilkinson, Mrs. B. Browning, Mr. H. Estinghausen, Miss M. Bonnall, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Parrott, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. A. Arnou, Mr. H. E. Austen, Mr. C. S. Bradford, Lieut. A. H. Bridges, Dr. S. W. Bushell, Mr. J. P. Farrar, Mrs. J. P. Farrar, Mr. E. H. Gilpin, Mr. A. K. Gregson, Mrs. A. K. Gregson, Major Hare, Miss Hare, Miss M. C. Hare, Mr. I. Ishiguro, Mr. Lew Yuk Lin, Mr. H. R. Mair, Mr. J. Macray, Mrs. J. Macray, Mr. J. McCaulay, Mrs. J. McCaulay, Lieut. Polushkin, I.R.N., Com. Chen Ngen. Tao, Miss Wilson, Miss D. Wilson, Mr. Geo. Molfe, and Mr. M. Stanford, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Bremen via ports:—Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. F. Danckwerts, Mr. R. Werdermann, Mr. G. Ellerton, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. W. Vehling, Mr. G. Petersen, Mr. A. Lefroy, Mrs. Hellyer, Mr. and Mrs. Hasche, Mr. Kirby, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. S. E. Miller, British Pro-consul Rentiers, Mr. H. Goldman, Mr. H. Hohengreen, Mr. and Mrs. Boyle, Mr. W. Muller, Baron V. Alton, Mr. and Mrs. Ehlers, 2 children and amah, Dr. Gelpcke, Mr. A. A. Loureiro, Mr. H. M. Arnold, Hauptmann Freiherr V. Buttler, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Foulds, Mr. Herbert J. Dent, Mrs. and Miss Stetson, Mr. Ch. Napier, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. E. Pohl, Mr. H. W. Denison, Mr. J. Gebhardt, Mr., Mrs. and 2 Misses Rogers and amah, Mrs. T. Rose, Mr. Mark Finch, Mr. and Mrs. J. Walter, 2 children and governess, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Mrs. Cox, 2 children and amah, Mr. Y. Osawa, Capt. A. C. Ruhe, Mr. J. F. Eberlein, Miss and Master Ribeiro, Mr. J. Lechner, Miss Dorsey, Miss Schrine, and nine marines, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. E. B. Caldwell and two children, Miss Emma E. Bissett, Miss E. C. Davidson, Miss V. J. Lee, Lieut.-Com. A. C. Canaga, Mr. C. M. Garnier, Mrs. Capt. F. E. Green, Mrs. John W. Hannay, Miss Bessie Hannay, Mr. Milo Hoadley, Mrs. Chester M. Knepper, Mrs. J. C. MacHale and child, Dr. Angie M. Myers, Mr. Cyrus Smith, Mr. W. J. Southam, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Ireland, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Perkins, Mr. S. Dero, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Fiedler, Mr. Frank G. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Payot, Mr. C. Pereira, Mr. Muhlhausen, Mr. W. W. Funge, Jr., Mr. J. R. Hykes, Mr. Roth, Mr. A. J. Finlay, Misses Finlay (2), Mrs. L. Junkin, Mrs. Gearin, Miss Gearin, Mr. Gearin, Dr. Ottofy, Mrs. E. R. Straeffer, Rev. W. F. Bull, Lieut. Wm. G. Hannum, and Mr. M. Blummer, in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 1	Sa. Dec. 9
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 2	Sa. Dec. 9
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons 3	Tu. Dec. 12
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 4	Th. Dec. 14
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 5	M. Dec. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Dec. 18
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Dec. 18
America	P. M. Co.	On Sang 6	Su. Dec. 24
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Dec. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Jan. 1

1 Left Nagasaki on the 6th inst.
2 Arrived at Nagasaki on the 6th inst., at midnight.
3 Left Shanghai on the 8th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.
5 Left Vancouver on the 4th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Th. Dec. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Dec. 12
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Dec. 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	P. Dec. 15
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Dec. 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 18
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	W. Dec. 20
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Dec. 20
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Onsang	M. Dec. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Dec. 27
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	P. Dec. 29
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	[illegible]	[illegible]

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No business has been doing in cotton, owing to the great firmness of prices. A remarkable rise has taken place in gassed yarns at home.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8⅓lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches.....	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches.	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2.50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0 75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	PER PIECE. 9 50 to 10 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0 70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 3 0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	$40.00 to 42 00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44 00 to 46 00
Nos. 42, Doubles	52.00 to 55 00
Nos. 2/60, Plain.....	76.00 to 8[illegible].00
Nos. 2/80, Plain...	92.00 to 98.00
Nos 2/100, Plain	120 00 to 125.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	92.00 to 95 50
Nos. 2/80, Gassed.....	106.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	135 00 to 145 00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23 50
Chinese	45 00

METALS.

There is scarcely anything doing. One firm is reported to have bought 600 tons in Tokyo in view of the firmness of home prices.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward ...	6.20 to 6 40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12 50 to 13 80
Wire Nails, assorted	7 60 to 7 90
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅛ to ⅛ inch).....	7.15 to 7 40

KEROSENE.

The market is firm at last quoted prices.

American	$3.00
Russian	2.95
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao.....	$5.40 to 6 00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6 90
Brown Daito ng.....	4 40 to 4 60
Brown Canto n.....	4.70 to 6 90
White Java and Penang.....	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.80 to 9 50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Nothing of any importance has been done this week and prices remain quite nominal. Sellers go round asking for offers and prices on the Silk Exchange are lower for forward delivery. It looks as if dealers required money for the end of the year. The foreign market is quiet and there is no encouragement to operate at such reductions in prices as sellers offer.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse.....	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine.....	
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	
Filatures—No 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Comm n—Coarse	
Re reels—Extra	
Re reels—No 1	
Re reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No 2.....	
Kakedas—No 2½	

WASTE SILK.

A few small parcels of Kikai Kibiso are reported to have been settled on the basis of 150 *yen*, but in other sorts nothing has been done. There is no doubt that dealers have some supplies in hand, but the majority of them say they will not sell until the New Year. Whether they will change their minds during the next few days is a question.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 210
Noshi—Filatures, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu, Best	190 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	185 to 190
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	180 to 185
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$135 to 145
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best.....	160 to 110
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	150 to 160
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	70 to 80
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 65

TEA.

The season is now practically ended, and prices may be regarded as quite nominal.

QUOTATIONS	
Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium.....	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common.....	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 7.

Rates continue without change; silver from London is unaltered and discounts there slightly higher.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/16 to 2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛ to 1/16
On Paris—Bank sight	257
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight...	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49⅛
— Private 4 months' sight...	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight...	213½
On Hongkong—Bank sight *...3 to	3 5/16% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight *	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight*.....	73⅛
— Private 10 days' sight *.	75¾
On India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight ...	153½
Bar Silver (London).....	27⅜

* Nominal.

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 7.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 170. Offers for shares are wanted. Engine and Iron Works—A few shares can be had at *yen* 218. Grand Hotels—Offers of shares are wanted. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 127.50. Langfeldts have sellers at *yen* 95. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms—A few shares are obtainable at *yen* 55. North and Raes are wanted at *yen* 215. Offers are wanted for Bretts.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Hodogaya Breweries can be had at *yen* 48. Marusan Breweries are offering at *yen* 40 for *yen* 46 paid up.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	218 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	170 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100.....	237.50 St.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	180 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100.....	127.50 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Pdrs.), $125	250 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $50.....	9 95 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100.....	95 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50 ...	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb...$100.....	110 B.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100.....	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld 7% Deb., $100.....	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 17,770.89; 2, *yen* 77,881.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

B.=Buyers, S.=Sellers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady. N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 7.

Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Grand

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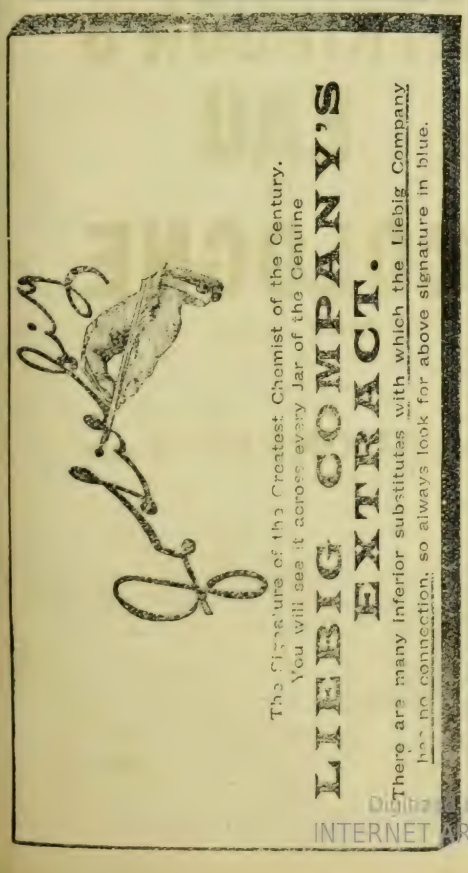
Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 130. Japan Breweries are obtainable at *ven* 175.

V. U. Club Debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

	YEN.	
Yokohama E & I. Works	217	Sales.
Grand Hotel	240	Buyers.
Club Hotel	80	Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	130	Steady.
Langfeldt & Co.	100	Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	175	Sellers.

Tokyo, December 7.

Redemption Loan Bonds		94 50
War Loan Bonds		94 50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds		97.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200		425.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50		67.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100		271.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50		70.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50		70 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100		125.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25		28.80
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		73 80
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41		60.05
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50		23.70
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	1...	122.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	1...	8..00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	1...	55.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		46.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	1...	50.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	1...	48.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		98.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'w y, 2nd issue-paid up yen 28		75.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50		95 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	1...	17 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		31.80
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		42.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50		18.50
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		42 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen38		31 40
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25		22.80
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	1 ..	22.50
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50		2.40
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		250.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 22.50		207.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50		66.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25		27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10		14 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21		28.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23		21 02
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25		42 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20		32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60		36.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40		16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		262.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50		217.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50		142 00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25		100 00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5		2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50		57 50





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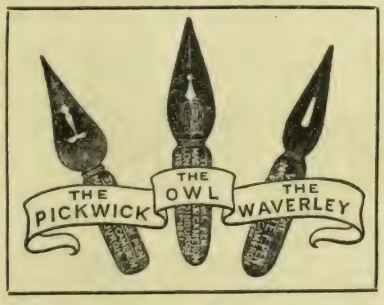
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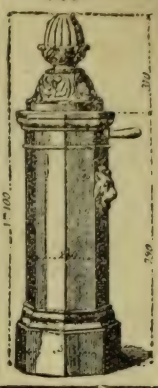
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 16TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A BILL for doubling the German Navy has been presented to the Reichstag.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia is expected to return to Europe in January next.

GENERAL GATACRE, misled by his guides, has suffered a reverse at Stormberg, losing a good many men

THE Diet has been in session all the week, but the meetings of both Houses have been uneventful

THERE has been much severe fighting at the Modder River between General Methuen's forces and the Boers. The British loss is heavy. Among the killed was General Wauchope, commanding the Third Brigade.

Two burglars have been arrested by the Isezakicho Police for breaking into several houses on Tuesday night

RUMOURS of political changes in the Diet are current in Tokyo, gossip alleging that the Liberals wish to bring about the resignation of the present Cabinet.

A TELEGRAM from San Remo says that a grave collision has taken place in a tunnel near Albenga between two fast trains. Many persons were killed and wounded.

ABOUT $90,000 worth of insurgent treasure was recently captured by the American troops at Angeles and sent to Manila. It is said that Aguinaldo was twice wounded.

AGUINALDO'S mother and his three-year-old son arrived in Manila on the 26th November. It is reported that the Filipino President's infant son died during the flight from Tarlac.

THE first concert of the Yokohama Choral Society for the present season took place in the Public Hall on Tuesday. Cowen's cantata "The Rose Maiden" was the principal work.

PRIVATE LEE, of the 9th U.S. Infantry, fell into the hands of the Filipinos near Angeles last month. The insurgents brutally massacred their prisoner, cutting his throat and firing two shots through his body.

ACCORDING to the *Jiji*, the foreign trade of Moji during November last embraced 339 790 *yen* exports and 93.372 *yen* imports, making a total of 430,162 *yen*. Owing to the scarcity of steamers available for transport, the export of coal seems to have seriously decreased.

ACCORDING to the *Jiji*, the export of matches from Kobe during the month of November aggregated 1,254,355 catties, valued at 382,904 *yen*. Of this amount 898,505 catties, valued at 280.706 *yen*, belonged to Hiogo; 329.255 catties, worth 94,206 *yen*, were shipped from Osaka and the remaining 26.605 catties, worth 6.992 *yen*, were made by non-union manufactures.

ON Wednesday, about noon, as a number of coolies were carrying cases of alcohol from a lighter to the godown for inflammable goods at Ishikawa, Nakamura, one of the cases caught fire and exploded, fatally injuring three coolies who were near, named Yamashita, Aoki and Akiyama. One was burnt all over the body. The three were moved to the Yokohama Hospital. The origin of the accident is unknown.

THE tea market in Yokohama customarily presents an aspect of extreme inactivity towards the close of the year. But the dullness at present existing, remarks the *Yomiuri*, is far more serious than has ever been experienced. Arrivals during last month amounted to only 11.00 catties, and sales to 221 500 catties, while the stock at present does not fall short of 348 700 catties. The situation is attributed to large transactions made in the interior, which brought about a scarcity of leaf of fit quality for export. It is said that foreign orders could not be accepted by the producers to any considerable extent on account of the quality of the leaf.

A PROJECT is on foot to reclaim the seashore in front of the Iron Foundry at Tawata-mura, Kiushiu, with a view to constructing a wharf, a dockyard, and a tin factory. The land to be reclaimed covers an area of about 80,000 *tsubo*, and the authorities of the Foundry have already, according to the *Jiji*, approved the scheme, and work is to be commenced in February next, when Government sanction will be obtained.

MRS. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN and Miss Amy Chamberlain, sister-in-law and niece of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, who have gone out to assist in nursing the sick and wounded, have neither of them had any special training, but both have proved themselves good nurses. Their original idea had been to proceed to Vryburg, and, though not Roman Catholics themselves, to help the nuns in that town.

FIVE soldiers and two sailors belonging to the U.S.S. *Oregon*, who had been captured by the Filipinos during the fighting near Manila, escaped to the American lines on the 20th November, says the *China Mail*. They report that there are four American deserters with the insurgents:—Howard, Martin, and Ford, of the Californias, and Watts, regiment unknown. Only one of these is in the insurgent service.

STATISTICS published in the *Nichi Nichi* with regard to the population of Kyoto *Fu* show that the number of families at present is 66,552, divided as follows:—First class families, 148; 2nd, 198; 3rd, 1,470; 4th, 3,830; 5th, 7,879; 6th, 5,538; 7th, 6,263; 8th, 13,944; 9th, 8,396; 10th, 4,104; 11th, 8,839; 12th 5,642. In addition to the above there are over 10,000 families which are not separately registered on account of their living together with other families.

THE amount of promissory notes exchanged during the month of November was, according to the *Shogyo*, 119,863,102 *yen*, which figure, compared with the previous month, indicates an increase of 8 439,226 *yen*, and of 59,686,524 *yen* in comparison with the corresponding period of last year. The aggregate total from January this year does not fall short of 958,355,190 *yen*. From these figures our contemporary asserts that the system of exchange of notes is developing satisfactorily in Japan.

THE traffic receipts of the various railways throughout the empire at the end of November last were, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, as follows:—Hankwaku Railway—Passengers, 7 247 *yen*; Goods, 3.656 *yen*; average per mile, 16 *yen*. Hoshiu—Passengers, 3,855 *yen*; Goods, 1.496 *yen*; average per mile, 19 *yen*. Nakatsu line, 2,171 and 10 243 respectively, with an average of 30 *yen*. Kinshiu 67.590 and 53 062 respectively, with an average of *yen* 38.

AT the Saikiro, Kanagawa, a young man named Hashimoto attempted suicide by stabbing himself in the abdomen with a dagger. Assistance arrived, however, before he had inflicted a fatal blow, and he was taken to the Jiuzen Hospital. This man, who is a native of Shidzuoka, was in love with a woman of that town, who was recently transferred to Kanagawa. Her lover followed her thither but she treated him with coldness. This so exasperated him that he attempted his life.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Saturday, Dec. 9.

We observe that the "Military Correspondent" of a local contemporary replies to our remarks on the subject of an invasion of the Transvaal *viâ* the Orange Free State. He does so on the ground that his "knowledge of strategy and tactics has been questioned." There appears to be some misunderstanding in this matter. The Military correspondent has taken a defensive attitude whereas he set out by being the assailant. We are not aware that his "knowledge of strategy and tactics" has been questioned. Most certainly there has not been anything of the kind in these columns. What has happened is simply this. In the early days of the war, when the news reached us that Laings Nek had been abandoned, or rather that no attempt had been made to secure it by the British forces, and that the Orange Free State had thrown in its lot with the Transvaal, we expressed the opinion that the British operations would probably takes the ultimate form of an invasion of the Transvaal *viâ* the Free State. That was simply our view of the probabilities as indicated by strategical considerations, for with the Free State hostile, it seemed difficult to suppose that British troops would undertake against the Transvaal operations exposing their line of communications to facile attack from the Free State. Our opinion on that matter was expressed without any reference whatever to our local contemporary's Military Correspondent, but in the ordinary course of editorial comment. It immediately elicited, however, the following criticism from that correspondent:—

> As I have already stated over and over again, the main attacks on the Transvaal were to be delivered through its south-eastern or Natal side, and the south-western point, abutting on the Cape Colony and Bechuanaland; and, even though the the Free State has since thrown in its lot with its sister Republic, I think it will be found that this original plan will be adhered to. Any one—even with no military knowledge—by looking at the map, can see that to move a column of troops right across the Orange Free State, at least 300 miles, in order to attack the Transvaal, would prove a great waste of time and show a lack of strategy; and this course would be even more fatal now as such a column would have to fight every mile of its route, and cross two of the largest rivers in South Africa, which are always more or less flooded at the beginning of the rainy season.

It was we, therefore, who were originally assailed. We made no comment on the matter at the moment, but on receipt of our London exchanges by last mail, we found that the idea expressed by us on October the 18th was generally held in London up to Nov. the 7th, and that the extensive operations then about to be undertaken by Buller in Natal were regarded in England as a change of programme necessitated by the complexion that affairs had assumed at Ladysmith. In fact, the original plan seems to have been to land the bulk of the troops at the Cape and proceed at once to the comparatively easy task of invading the Free State. Whether a subsequent invasion of the Transvaal would have been obligatory is another question. The two republics having joined hands, it is plain that one could not have left the other to fight its battles alone. If the British invaded the Free State, the Transvaal must have come to the latter's assistance, and possibly the final issue might have been decided at Bloemfontein. Our local contemporary's "Military Correspondent" must not imagine that we have questioned his "knowledge of strategy and tactics." The questioning came from his side in the first place, and we were the objects of it, for, referring to our opinion, which is now shown to have been commonly entertained in England, he denounced it as so erroneous that "any one, even with no military knowledge," could detect its incorrectness and its "lack of strategy" by merely looking at the map. It is scarcely fair that we should be placed in the position of having challenged a writer's knowledge of strategy and tactics when in reality it was he that challenged our knowledge! We may add that it has been to us a matter of pleasure and profit to peruse, from day to-day, the remarks penned by a brother-officer with reference to a campaign carried on in a country with which he is exceptionally familiar, and that we count Yokohama very fortunate in having access to such a source of knowledge at this highly interesting juncture.

It is not out of place to allude here to another matter, connected with the invasion of the Transvaal *viâ* Natal. On October 16th, we pointed out that "with the Orange Free State in the field as well as the Transvaal there would be an obvious strategical difficulty in operating against the Transvaal from Natal," because "from the moment that Ladysmith is passed, the transport of troops by rail towards the Transvaal becomes a dangerous business, since a force of Free-Staters crossing the frontier could easily operate against the left flank of the invaders." That idea also was promptly traversed by our local contemporary's Military Correspondent, who in this case also assumed the rôle of assailant. Yet events confirmed the correctness of our judgment in a signal manner, for it was precisely owing to an enterprise of the above nature on the part of the Free-Staters that the battle of Elandslaagte took place.

We are still of the opinion that Generals Methuen, French and Gatacre are not working merely for the relief of Kimberley or the driving back of the Boers out of British territory, and that their operations against the Orange Free State will yet have an important bearing upon the course of the war.

Monday, Dec 11.

In the telegrams which we publish this morning there is a passage of uncertain meaning. The telegram runs thus:—

> Buller staff left Maritzburg for Frere camp reinforcements rapidly joining Gatacre's column Putterskraal near Sterkstroom danger Boers penetrating further southward averted.

It is difficult to determine from this message whether the reinforcements alluded to were joining Buller or Gatacre. We incline to the former belief. It appears to us that General Buller's plan has been to push forward a Division on the west and east, towards Kimberley and Ladysmith respectively, so as to get within signalling reach of those places and thus convey to them assurance of speedy relief. That done, his programme was to deliberately complete his arrangements for delivering battle. Methuen at the Modder River and Clery at Frere have been able to signal Kimberley and Ladysmith, so that concerted action between the beleagured garrisons and the relieving forces is now secured, and the interval that has elapsed since the telegraph told us of the arrival of ten thousand British troops at Frere and the battle on the Modder River, has been devoted to concentrating the forces with which Buller and Methuen are to deliver their great blows. Gatacre's force, on the other hand, finds for the present its chief function in protecting the right flank of Methuen's Division against hostile enterprises from the direction of Stormberg, Rosmead and Naauwpoort, and there is no immediately apparent reason why reinforcements should be sent to it. Still we have to remark that Gatacre has not yet been able to occupy Stormberg. Sterkstroom, where he is now said to be encamped, is some 20 miles from Stormberg, and though his presence there means that he has surmounted topographical obstructions which, in the presence of even a small hostile force, would have been very serious, the fact remains that he has not covered the remaining 20 miles in spite of the fact that Stormberg possesses very great importance with regard to the question of railway communications. It is therefore possible that Gatacre's movements have been directed by the same policy which prompted the speedy pushing forward of half-formed Divisions to Frere and the Modder River. In other words, General Buller, well acquainted with the nature of the country between Queenstown, Gatacre's first point of concentration, and Stormberg, his immediate objective, may have instructed him to reach Sterkstroom with all speed, and there complete his organization for advancing against Stormberg. On the whole therefore, we are perplexed to determine whether the reinforcements spoken of were for Clery or for Gatacre. It will be remembered that a recent telegram spokt of the Boers having reached Dordreche, which is a place a few miles eastward of Gatacre's camp at Putterskraal. We may therefore expect to hear very soon of an engagement in that quarter.

Reuter says that Methuen's communications have been severed. That is a short but very misleading manner of summarizing the facts that a railway culvert has been blown up and a telegraph line cut. The accurate statement would be that one of Methuen's lines of communication has been damaged. The cutting of communications is not serious in war unless the cutting force is strong enough to interpose between a General and his base. Of course there can be nothing of that kind in this case. The Boers are not enveloping Methuen. What has happened is that a party of Cronje's men, or their local sympathisers, have eluded Methuen's patrols, and exploded a dynamite cartridge in a culvert on the railway. Incidents of that kind are always to be expected where troops use railways, especially when the line runs, as does that from De Aar to Kimberley, within easy striking distance of the enemy's frontier.

Tuesday, Dec. 12.

We observe that the "military correspondent" who writes daily about the war, denounces one of Reuter's telegrams as "a yarn simply almost too ridiculous for comment." The telegram eliciting this very radical denunciation is to the effect that "three thousand Boers from Natal are re-inforcing Cronje," and the grounds upon which it is condemned as "a yarn simply almost too ridiculous for comment" are that "if the Boers can spare 3,000 men from Natal to help Cronje who is in charge of the force lately

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attacking Mafeking, it will take such a force at least ten days hard riding to get across the Transvaal, and they will not be in time or able to affect the position when they get there." Truly we do not follow that reasoning. Why should the Boers ride across the Transvaal? Even assuming that they proposed to themselves the useless feat of performing the journey on horseback, they would not set foot in the Transvaal. Their way would be across the Orange Free State from Ladysmith *viâ* Van Reenen's Pass to Spyfontein where Cronje commands the army opposed to Methuen. But of course they would not attempt to perform the journey on horseback. They would go by train to Johannesburg and thence to Bloemfontein where they would be within 85 miles of Spyfontein. The whole railway journey would be 568 miles, easily performable in a day and a half, and two days' riding would bring them from Bloemfontein to Cronje's camp at Spyfontein. In short, Cronje can be re-inforced from Natal in four or five days, assuming that the Boers have their railway organization pretty complete. For our own part, instead of finding Reuter's telegram "a yarn simply almost too ridiculous for comment," we find it an interesting illustration of the possibilities of the situation. The Boers have a distinct advantage in the fact that they are fighting on interior lines and can concentrate their forces for defensive purposes with incomparably greater rapidity than the British can concentrate theirs for purposes of attack. Methuen and Buller are virtually isolated. If either wanted to come to the other's assistance, he would have to send troops round by sea. On the other hand, the Boers in Natal and the Boers in Griqualand are practically in touch. Suppose that their Generals decided to abandon the siege of Kimberley altogether, and to transport the whole force now under Cronje to Natal, combining it with Joubert's army to oppose Buller; or suppose that Joubert evacuated Natal, left a few thousand men to guard the passes, and carried the whole of his remaining troops to re-inforce Cronje's men for an attack on Methuen —these things are quite within the range of possibilities, and they are just the kind of operations that a modern Napoleon would attempt. We do not imagine that the Boer organization is sufficiently perfect to permit such enterprises, but on a small scale the feat of detaching a number of men from Natal to assist Cronje at Spyfontein is quite feasible, and does not by any means seem to warrant the sweeping verdict that it is "a yarn simply almost too ridiculous for comment."

The Boers are certainly colossal liars. We have often heard that absolute indifference to truth is among their most prominent attributes, but the accusation was generally coupled with a rider to the effect that they are also cunning. It would seem, however, that they belong to the class pithily described in America as "wasteful liars." They do not take the trouble to give their falsehoods even a shadowy semblance of truth. The official returns published by them in Pretoria on Nov. 21st said that their casualties since the beginning of the war had been 90 killed and 200 wounded. Apparently they failed to see that in publishing this extremely silly lie they were denouncing themselves as veritable poltroons. They fought and were defeated at Glencoe. They fought and were defeated at Elandslaagte. They fought and were defeated several times in the neighbourhood of Ladysmith. They fought and were defeated several times at Mafeking. They fought and were defeated several times at Kimberley. They spent six weeks trying to capture three weakly garrisoned towns. And now they proclaim that they owed all these failures and defeats and humiliations to a loss of 90 men killed and 200 wounded—an average of 18 killed and 40 wounded at Glencoe, Elandslaagte, Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking. They are either the most weak-kneed fighters that ever went into action or the most stupendous liars that ever compiled an official despatch.

Wednesday, Dec. 13.

General Gatacre's reverse is a very unfortunate incident. It would be unreasonable to expect, of course, that the British soldiers should capture every fortified position attacked by them. They had not hitherto made any failure, but the record was tolerably sure to be broken sooner or later, and we have only to be grateful that the first variation has been of a comparatively unimportant nature. Gatacre's affair, however, presents a feature that can not be viewed without disquiet. Things seem to have fared with him just as they fared with that ill-starred left wing of White's force at Nicholson's Nek. It is pretty evident now that the men captured on the latter occasion fell into an ambush. They lost their ammunition and artillery train, and found themselves in a position surrounded and commanded by Boers on three sides and precipitous on the fourth. Gatacre has fared somewhat similarly. The lost battalion may rejoin, of course, but our fear is that it was betrayed into a ravine where the enemy had been posted in readiness, and that it had to surrender. Gatacre seems to have lost sight of it altogether. He can not tell what has become of it. White was able at least to report that his left wing had fallen into the enemy's hands, though his first figures greatly exaggerated the dimensions of the disaster. But Gatacre merely reports 605 missing—9 officers and 596 men—practically one third of his total force and evidently one of his wings. What seems probable is that he despatched this battalion on a flanking operation; that it was led entirely astray by treacherous guides, and that he himself, with the centre and the other wing, was similarly betrayed into a position from which the most he could do was to extricate himself without serious loss. We should not attach importance to the incident did it not appear to show that, in the north of the Cape Colony at any rate, the British forces are without trustworthy means of accurate local knowledge, and have to depend on guides whose good faith must always be doubtful. There will, of course, be plenty of pleasant criticism, especially on the part of people who have never seen a shot fired in anger, and people who are familiar with campaigning only in a country where every inch of the ground is thoroughly well known. Their comments will not signify. What we trust, however, is that the topographical ignorance which has resulted in such a disaster at Stormberg may not hamper the troops on the western and eastern borders also.

That is the general idea suggested by the news, but there are some points very difficult to comprehend. In the first place, why did General Gatacre attempt to capture the enemy's position at Stormberg with only two thousand men? He must have had at least five or six thousand available at Queenstown, and we fail to understand why he should have engaged in such an enterprise with less than a moiety of his force. It is conceivable that a column of Boers were threatening his right flank at Dordrecht, and that he deemed it necessary to leave three or four battalions at Molteno. But under such circumstances his aims would have been directed against Dordrecht first, we should imagine. It is also conceivable that his plan was to strike the Stormberg and Dordrecht columns separately before they could join forces. Of these things we must await an explanation. In the second place, why does he report a "severe reverse?" His casualties were 2 killed and 28 wounded. It is quite evident that he did not deliver any attack. An unsuccessful attack would have produced a much heavier list of casualties. In the third place, how did it happen that he preserved no sort of communication with the battalion—or rather half battalion—that is missing? He seems in that respect to have done exactly what White did at Nicholson's Nek—allowed a body of his men to wander out into space, abandoning all communications with their base. Such tactics are only permissible in the face of a rabble. It is absurd, of course, to attempt at this distance to pass judgment. We can only note the inexplicable points.

Generals Buller and Methuen are taking their time. In Methuen's case it is certainly regrettable that he was not able to push on at once, for his delay has afforded the Boers leisure to entrench themselves in a formidable manner. We presume that his object has been to bring up heavy guns. Field and horse artillery will go almost anywhere that infantry can go—scaling heights excepted, of course—, but it is otherwise with heavy guns, and if the Boers have any ordnance of large calibre mounted near Kimberley—as the accounts go to show that they have—, Methuen would naturally pause until he could confront them with similar artillery. We are persuaded that both Methuen and Clery were pushed forward rapidly so as to get within signalling distance of the beleaguered places, the programme being that they should then halt to complete their mobilization. It has been several times explained in these columns that the nearer the relieving columns can get to Ladysmith and Kimberley before delivering final battle, the worse will be the situation for the Boers. Besides, it is evident, and has been evident to General Buller all through, that Methuen's presence on the Modder River and Clery's at Frere must at once cause a relaxation of the pressure on Kimberley and Ladysmith respectively. That has happened. The Kimberley garrison has been making successful sorties and White has been able to destroy a battery of 6-in. guns. When we speak of 6-inch. guns we do not seem to be dealing with anything very formidable. But a 6-inch. gun weighs 5 tons, fires a shell weighing 100 lbs., and makes accurate practice at a distance of 3 miles. The destruction of six pieces of that size must make an immense difference to the assailants and

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the defenders of Ladysmith. Indeed, it is remarkable that with such ordnance bombarding them White's men have been able to hold out. The four naval guns in Ladysmith are only 4.7-inch weapons. The difference in power between a 6-inch gun and a 4.7-inch gun is very much greater than a difference of one inch in calibre would suggest. The 6-inch weighs 5 tons, throws a 100lb. shell, has a muzzle energy of 2,665 foot tons, and pierces 8.9 inches of armour at a range of 2,000 yards. The 4.7-inch weighs 41 cwt., throws a 45-lb. shell, has a muzzle energy of 1,786 foot tons, and pierces 4.9 inches of armour at 2,000 yards. It will be at once apparent that the naval brigade in Ladysmith, having four 4.7-inch guns against the six 6-inch pieces of the Boers, were immensely handicapped.

The great loss sustained by the Boers in this recent sortie is also apparent. It must have cost them infinite trouble to transport six 6-inch guns from Pretoria, and doubtless nothing but their hope of getting the guns away safely in the event of retirement prevented them from bringing them within effective range of Ladysmith. It will probably be found that they have been bombarding the place from a distance of 8,000 yards; a range certainly within the compass of such pieces, but too great for efficiency, since the effects of the practice can not be observed.

Concerning the news that a large column of Boers have crossed the Tugela to attack Estcourt, we think it is to be received with pleasure. It indicates the absence of General Joubert. He would not have assumed the offensive under the circumstances. The British can desire nothing better, for in attack the Boers will inevitably fail, and one serious mishap on the south of the Tugela may greatly weaken their resistance on the north.

The news received last night modifies the remarks made above. It is now evident that Gatacre repeated on a large but fortunately less disastrous scale precisely the incidents that made 1881 so memorable. He seems to have been completely surprised, and the very courage that his men showed in assailing the enemy's position was apparently anticipated and provided for by the Boers. The explanation that he was led wrong by guides ceases to have any value in the face of these facts, for wherever Gatacre supposed himself to be going he should not have been surprised by the enemy in force. He was evidently surprised and out-generalled, and that seems to be all there is to said about it.

Friday, Dec. 15.

The details sent across the wires by Reuter, although necessarily meagre, furnish materials from which we can construct a fairly accurate, if hypothetical, picture of the incidents near Stormberg on the 11th instant. Gatacre's men were moving in fours—not in four columns, as a non-military man might be led to infer from the expression "column of fours;"—that is to say, they were in the usual order of march, from which fact we can clearly conclude that they did not believe themselves to be yet in the vicinity of the enemy. It is not to be supposed, of course, that Gatacre was ignorant of the position originally held by the Boers. He had doubtless obtained information on that point by reconnaissance. But the Boers managed to make themselves acquainted with the time when Gatacre proposed to move to the assault—although he evidently intended to take them by surprise,—and they knew also, by the treachery of his guides, exactly what route he would choose. They therefore selected an advantageous position some miles distant from their original ground, and there awaited his arrival. The first notice that the British had of the enemy's being in their vicinity was a volley. Immediately the column broke into skirmishing order, the artillery chose the best available position, and a determined movement was made to drive back the Boers. An assault of that kind is not an orderly affair, such as is seen in autumnal manœuvres or on a parade ground. The advance is made by rushes of small bodies. Evidently, at a certain stage of the onset, Gatacre perceived that his men were being betrayed into a trap. He sounded the recall, and the main body were able to obey it; thus escaping with comparatively trifling loss. But the heads of the flanking columns had already become too much involved to retire successfully. It has to be remembered that Gatacre would of course divide his men for the assault; that the division probably took the form of three columns, two for flank attacks and one for a front attack; and that the front attack would be delivered more slowly than the flank. Hence, when the recall was sounded, the leading companies on the flanks had probably reached a position from which retirement was impossible, and, finding themselves cut off from their comrades, they surrendered. Had Gatacre failed, until a later stage, to detect the trap into which he was falling, his losses would have been much heavier. That is the only thing to be urged in extenuation of his error. His force was reduced by about one-sixth of its total, but his dead and wounded were comparatively few. Indeed, had not six hundred of his men fallen into the enemy's hands, the affair would have been quite trivial, a mere skirmish.

The news of the reverse experienced by Methuen's division in attempting to carry the Boers' position at Speifontein emphasizes the lesson that has gradually been taught by the events in South Africa, namely, that an entrenched position held by men armed with magazine rifles and possessing a sufficiency of quick-firing artillery, is virtually impregnable to direct assault, and can not be captured except by a General whose forces are sufficient to hold it in front and turn it by powerful flank movements. It is true that on five occasions during this war the British have rushed positions held by the Boers. That happened at Glencoe, at Elandslaagte, at Belmont, at Graspan, and at the Modder River. But in not one of these cases were the Boers fully intrenched. At Glencoe and at Elandslaagte Symons and White struck their blows before the enemy had had leisure to make any elaborate preparations for defence. The same is true of Methuen's success at Belmont, at Graspan, and on the Modder River. But, on the other side of the account, we have the signal failures of the Boers to make any impression upon Ladysmith, Kimberley, or even Mafeking. The Boers are certainly not remarkable for prowess in attack. Their forte is defence, where their fine marksmanship has its full value, and their want of military training does not constitute a serious disadvantage. We should not be justified, therefore, in drawing any hard-and-fast conclusions from their abortive operations against Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking. But it is possible to say with confidence that the British attack last Monday ought to have succeeded if success were within reach of stubborn valour, and the conclusion we come to is that modern weapons have conferred enormous strength on the defence, and that the strategical arithmetic of the past will have to be greatly modified. It must be remembered that this is practically the first war in which the new implements of destruction have received a fair trial, and, unfortunately for England, she is the *corpus vile* of the experiment. Methuen's first battle at the Modder River was fought with eight thousand men against eleven thousand Boers. He won a victory that could hardly be called a success. Then he halted for reinforcements. Probably he received them to the extent of some five thousand men. But in the meanwhile the Boers also were getting reinforcements. The whole of the Mafeking contingent joined them, under Cronje, who then assumed supreme command; and they had some 12,000 in position when Methuen attacked. The conditions were almost impossible. Even had Methuen's numbers been greater the issue must have been very doubtful.

The question of importance is, what will Methuen now do? The telegraph says that he is entrenching, from which two things are evident, namely, that he is in danger of attack, and that he holds his original position on the Modder River. If the Boers attack, they will be defeated. But they will scarcely be so rash. Their plan will be to confine themselves to enterprises against the British communications. From Hopetown to the Modder, a distance of 45 miles, if not from De Aar to the Modder, a distance of 130 miles, the railway is open to attack from the Free State. Methuen can not afford to be isolated from his base. He has no source of supplies, as the garrisons of Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking have, and if the Boers succeed in severing his communications, his position will be very embarrassing. They are fully alive, doubtless, to the advantages of such an undertaking. But Methuen also understands its perils, and we assume that he counts on being able to prevent anything of the sort. He is probably too much weakened for immediately renewed offensive operations, but he has plenty of strength for defensive purposes. Of course there is more than a probability that these two reverses at Stormberg and Speifontein, following in rapid succession, will bring a great accession of strength to the Boers. The task for England grows more difficult. She will stiffen her back proportionately.

In our opinion Ladysmith is the origin of all the trouble. Had it not been necessary to pay to public opinion the deference of rescuing the garrison of that place, Buller would now be on the western border of the Free State with an army of thirty thousand men. It would have been too much to expect, perhaps, that Sir George White should fall back at once on Colenso, but that would have been the wisest course in the end. He would still have held a large force of Boers in Natal, and the main body of the British would have been free

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to strike at the Orange Free State. But the strength of the Boers was underestimated. No one imagined that they would be able to muster an army of 50,000 men. We sincerely hope to learn soon that Her Majesty's Government has given orders for 30,000 Indian troops to sail at once for South Africa. With these men to guard the lines of communication and garrison the towns, an adequate force of British troops could be freed to carry the war to a successful termination. It would be little short of criminal, in our opinion, to pay continued respect to the silly sentiment against employing Indian troops. This is the biggest task England was ever required to undertake. It is the biggest task, we think, that any country has ever been required to undertake. There should be no hesitation about using all available resources.

THE GOLD QUESTION.

We learn from inquiries in Japanese financial circles that the views expressed by a Yokohama business man, and quoted in these columns on the 7th instant with reference to the gold question, are not by any means endorsed. It is pointed out, in the first place, that the Specie Bank is by no means the omnipotent institution described by our contributor. Indeed, the latter shows that he is himself cognisant of the limited power possessed by the Bank, for, in referring to the popular suspicion that the Specie Bank's alleged action in cutting down rates was inspired by an ambition "to capture all the business of the port and thus freeze out the foreign banks," he says that "with their huge reserves the Hongkong and Chartered Banks could afford to follow suit, and even trump the Specie Bank's trick, the consequence being abnormal rates," which, on the one hand, brought gold to a price rendering export profitable, and on the other, induced the foreign banks to turn from the now unremunerative business of ordinary banking, to the sure though small profits obtainable by exporting gold. Thus he himself admits that although the rate-lowering competition was inaugurated by the Specie Bank, its accentuation must be attributed to the more powerful competition of the foreign institutions. But the truth is that the Specie Bank is altogether acquitted by Japanese financiers of the procedure alleged against it. That it has stood aloof from the competition in which all business institutions engage, no one pretends, but that its insignificant competitive operations have exercised the large influence attributed to them, is counted as great a mistake as the suspicion that, in conjunction with the Treasury, it has been animated by the project of "freezing out the foreign banks." Our Japanese informants go still further. They wholly deny that the Specie Bank initiated the lowering of rates, and declare that the Bank simply followed the quotations given by other foreign-exchange institutions. In short, so far from setting a rate, the Specie Bank had merely to adopt the indications given by London. As for the reasons of the low rate, they are set forth in a very intelligible form by our informants. It is true, as stated by the writer whom we quoted last Thursday, that in connexion with the large export of silk this season and the high value of the article, the price of gold in terms of *yen* ought to have shown an upward tendency. It is also true that the general course of Japan's foreign trade has been more favourable this year than it was last year. Both exports and imports have increased, and if we consider the merchandise actually handled at the Custom Houses, the two sides of the commerce are nearly in equilibrium. These facts are actually reflected in the exchange quotations, for though the rate is low—even under specie point—it is much higher than it was at the same time last season, when 4 m/c bills were quoted at 2 $\frac{5}{8}$. But the point to be noted is that the foreign trade, in so far as it affects exchange, includes a part of the business of the following year and also the balance from the preceding year. The chief causes of the low rate now ruling are that considerable sums have to be remitted to Europe in payment of goods imported last year but sold during this season, and that large forward settlements have been made on account of merchandise about to be imported. Moreover, the rate of interest in the London market has been moving continually upward during the second half of the current year, and this has naturally influenced the selling rate of exchange, which has dropped $\frac{5}{16}$, namely, from 2/$\frac{11}{16}$ to 2/$\frac{3}{8}$, whereas the buying rate shows a depreciation of only $\frac{1}{8}$. Europe, in fact, is responsible for originating the downward rate, and Japan has merely followed the downward movement. The Specie Bank is probably disposed to repudiate the extraordinary power attributed to it, for however flattering the hypothesis may be to its vanity, it can scarcely be willing to accept full responsibility for events to which it has contributed no larger share than that of any other bank engaged in the business of foreign exchange.

THE LIBERALS AND THE BUDGET.

Saturday, Dec. 9.

The Liberals have decided to vote for a reduction of 310,000 *yen* in the appropriation for military salaries. Viscount Katsura adopted the unusual course of attending a meeting of the Party's parliamentary representatives, and delivering a speech in opposition to the proposed reduction. He explained that in connexion with the *post-bellum* programme, an addition of 720 officers had been necessary, and that, although the School for Non-commissioned Officers (Kyodo-dan) had been abolished, and the duty of training these men entrusted to each of the Divisional Head-quarters, it was essential that the service of experts should be secured to do the training. The meeting, however, declined to be influenced by the demonstration of the Minister of War, and the reduction was voted. It is understood that the Imperialists supported Viscount Katsura. Presumably when the proposed amendment of the Budget comes up for discussion in the House, the Progressists will vote with the Liberals against the Government. Such an incident if it occurred in England, would mean the resignation of the Cabinet, but things are managed differently in Japan.

Monday, Dec. 11.

The Liberals have met with their first rebuff. We explained in a recent issue that they had decided, at a general meeting of the Parliamentary members of the Party, to insist on reducing the military establishment by 720 officers, thus effecting an economy of 310,000 *yen* in the item of salaries. The Minister of War himself attended the meeting, and spoke in opposition to the proposal, but in spite of his objections the Liberals voted the measure. When, however, they attempted to carry their proposal in the Budget Committee, they found themselves opposed by the Imperialists and the Independents, and were outvoted. This does not mean, of course, that the appropriation sought by the Government will necessarily be passed by the House. The Committee will report in its favour, but there will also be a minority report, and everything will then depend on the attitude of the Progressists. If the Liberals and the Progressists combine, they can carry the reduction by a sweeping majority. But it is just possible that the Progressists may go with the Independents and the Imperialists for the sake of inflicting a defeat on the Liberals.

THE KOBE WATER-WORKS BONDS.

It was stated some time ago that a million *yen* worth of the Kobe Water-works loan had been taken up by Mr. J. R. Morse. Tokyo newspapers now allege that a dispute has arisen with regard to this transaction. Mr. Morse made the purchase on the hypothesis that the bonds were to be redeemed in English currency. He was led to form that conclusion by the fact that the then price of each 1,000 *yen* bond was stated on its face in sterling, namely, £103 7s. 8$\frac{3}{8}$d. But the Kobe Municipal Authorities claim that there never was any idea of redeeming the bonds with foreign money, and that, as no stipulation in that sense appears on the face or reverse of the securities, it can not be pretended that anything of the kind was contemplated. Of course the matter is of vital importance to a foreign financier, for although the gold-price of the Japanese *yen* has become comparatively stable, it is still subject to fluctuations which have a palpable bearing on a transaction such as we are considering. The bonds were sold at 92, so that a margin of 8 per cent. remained to meet the accumulated difference, pending their redemption, between the rate of interest carried by them and the rate at which they could be financed—a narrow margin, easily swallowed up by any variation in their sterling value. Mr Morse is understood to have paid over one-half of the money, but to be desirous of making some delay before paying the remainder, in view of the marked depreciation that the *yen* has recently undergone.

DEATH OF MARQUIS IKEDA.

Marquis Ikeda Akimasa died on the 11th instant at the age of 60. On the day of his death he was promoted by the Emperor to the Second Grade of the First Rank. There are only two living recipients of this high honour, Prince Tokugawa, the last of the Shōguns, and Marquis Tokudaiji, whose promotion took place a few days ago. Marquis Ikeda was third son of the celebrated Prince Rekko of Mito. In feudal times he ruled the fief of Okayama.

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THE GOVERNMENT & RELIGION.

Monday, Dec. 11.

It has been our disagreeable duty lately to comment in severe terms on the policy pursued by the Department of Education towards religion. We take especial pleasure, therefore, in recording that the Government has submitted to the Diet a Bill which, for the first time in the history of Japanese legislation, places all religions, indigenous and foreign, on precisely the same footing, and gives practical effect to the freedom of conscience guaranteed by the Constitution.

The first notable point in the Bill is that it recognises Christianity as a religion having a status in Japan. Hitherto Japanese Christianity has been only tolerated. It had no rights or privileges of any kind as a religion. Now it is placed on the same footing as Buddhism or *Shinto vis-a-vis* the law. Thus the lands or buildings used for the purpose of propagating Christianity or performing Christian worship become henceforth exempt from all taxes and secure against attachment. The law has hitherto been peculiar in this respect. Lands which, though used for Buddhist purposes, were State property, received exemption from taxation; but land which, though similarly used, belonged to private individuals, had to pay taxes. Many of the Buddhist lands escaped under that arrangement. But none of the Christian lands escaped, since none was State property. Henceforth lands on which stand Christian churches, chapels or schools, as well as the buildings themselves, will be exempt from all taxation. That will surely be a boon. On the other hand, there is to be a certain measure of official control, and meetings held by religious bodies will have to be notified, 24 hours in advance to the police. But no one will object to those things. To enjoy privileges means to incur obligations. Buddhist institutions are to be subject to a fuller measure of control than Christian institutions. There are provisions as to a resident priest—a rule that will exclude many shrines where no minister now resides—; there are to be a certain number of councillors, and the disposal of temple property must have official approval. These enactments, as we explained in a recent issue, are based on the fact that many Buddhist temples are the repositories of treasures which can not be regarded as other than national. Teachers of religion are forbidden to give public expression to their opinions on political affairs, or to engage in any movement of a political character. They are also to be exempt from service in the combative branches of the Army and Navy. In order to obtain this latter privilege, a man must be a graduate of a Middle School, whether a State School or a Recognised School, and he must continue to be a religious teacher up to the age of 32. If he abandons the religious calling before that age, he becomes at once liable for conscription without drawing lots, a provision obviously intended to guard against abuse of the privilege. After the age of 32, if he is still serving as a teacher of religion, he will be enrolled in the Landwher.

It is to be hoped that this Bill will not undergo any mutilation in its passage through the Diet. Doubtless the extreme section of the conservatives will have something to say about it.

Wednesday, Dec. 13.

It is satisfactory to be able to record that not a single Japanese newspaper condemns the Bill introduced by the Government in the Diet for placing all religions on exactly the same basis *vis-à-vis* the law. We were prepared to find some objection raised in the columns of that staunch conservative, the *Nippon*. But, contrary to our expectations, the *Nippon* frankly approves the Government's action, and, moreover, treats the matter in a notably broad, comprehensive manner. This Bill, it says, is not merely designed to give practical effect to the principle of liberty of conscience guaranteed by the Constitution, but also, and principally, aims at completely abolishing the disabilities, real or moral, under which Christianity has hitherto laboured. Its adoption by the Diet will mark Japan's final transition from the evil prejudices of former times. From that point of view the *Nippon* has only praise to bestow on it.

The Buddhists, however, or a section of them, do not seem disposed to take the matter so quietly. Of the two great Japanese Monasteries, the Eastern Hongwan-ji and the Western Hongwan-ji, the latter maintained a most impartial and liberal attitude during the agitation fomented some months ago by those advocating the public adoption of Buddhism as the State religion of this empire. But the monks of the Eastern Hongwan-ji took the opposite line throughout. They vehemently contended that their creed ought to be recognised as that of the State, and it may well be supposed that their chagrin is very great when they find the Government, not merely rejecting their recommendation, but actually introducing a law which will place Christianity on the same plane with their faith. It is stated that they have commenced a strenuous crusade and issued a circular which, if it be rightly reproduced by our Tokyo contemporaries, certainly does not err on the side of want of directness. The priests advance two propositions; first, that Buddhism must be officially recognised as the religion of the State, and that every sincere Buddhist should labour for that end; secondly, that this new Bill actually places Buddhism at a disadvantage compared with Christianity, for, whereas Christian Churches will hold their property at their own disposal, the property of Buddhist temples can not be alienated without the combined consent of the priests and parishioners, endorsed by official sanction. They denounce the distinction as tyrannical; declare that a crisis in the history of Japanese Buddhism has arrived; affirm that the proposed Bill is beyond amendment, and call for its complete and ignominious rejection.

It is right to note, with reference to this question, that the Government's Bill does not propose to make any change whatever in the terms on which the property of Buddhist temples is now held. Such property can not be alienated under the existing law without the cöoperation of the parishioners and the approval of the Government. Hence the complaint made on that score by the friars of Higashi Hongwan ji is obviously unsubstantial. Their position will not be impaired in any respect by the proposed enactment. It is true, indeed, that the property of Christian churches will not be subject to the same restrictions. But neither is it so subject at present. The reason for exercising a certain measure of official control over temple property is that, in cases so numerous as to constitute the rule, the temples are in custody of the nation's most precious heirlooms, and that it is a plain duty to provide against the destruction or alienation of such property. The Buddhist priests showed themselves most careless custodians in former years. They sold or broke up quantities of beautiful objects which could never be replaced, and, had not the Government stepped in, it is more than probable that the process of converting these heirlooms into coin of the realm would have been ruthlessly continued, to the almost total denudation of the temples. We have often expressed an opinion that the State should be more generous with regard to these treasures, and should contribute more liberally to their preservation, since it compels the temples to keep them. But beyond that no grievance is conceivable. If the priests contemplate reverting to their former process of wholesale iconoclasm they may well object to the proposed law, and the Government, on its side, may well insist on enforcing it. But, if they have no such intention, the grounds of their complaint are not visible. The truth seems to be that they want State recognition, and since this law would deprive them finally of that hope, they denounce the Bill. We do not think their agitation will be successful. Fortunately the Buddhists themselves are far from being unanimous in the matter.

Thursday, Dec. 14.

Not a single Japanese newspaper has a word to say in support of the agitation started by the priests of the Eastern Hongwan Temple in favour of State recognition of Buddhism and in opposition to the Bill introduced by the Government placing all religions on an absolutely equal footing. Public opinion is plainly opposed to the views of these Buddhists. The *Nippon*, whose conservative proclivities might have induced it to support them, recommends them to reflect seriously, for the course they are pursuing is distinctly opposed to their own best interests.

In this matter, no less than in the matter of the Government's attitude towards religion in education, the press of Japan has shown remarkable breadth of view. We greatly doubt whether the press of an European country, confronted by traditions and prejudices so strong as those that must still exist in many quarters in Japan, would have shown similar magnanimity, and we can not but offer our sincere compliments to our Tokyo contemporaries.

Friday, Dec. 15.

The High Prelate of the Western *Hongwan-ji*, Count Otani Koson, who is now on a visit to Tokyo, addressed, on the 13th instant, a meeting of members of the Houses of the Diet with reference to the Bill for the regulation of Religions, now awaiting discussion by the Diet. He expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with the Bill on the whole. Some of its details might be open to criticism, but the broad line of its enactments had his entire approval, and deserved, in his opinion, unanimous support. Such an expression coming from such a quarter will probably take the wind completely out of the agitators' sails. It was this same High Prelate who, by a bold utterance, recently

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checked the attempt of the Eastern *Hongwan ji* friars and their supporters to sway public opinion in favour of obtaining official recognition for Buddhism. The Eastern *Hongwan-ji* folks are now again in the field. It is evident that if this Bill becomes law, the prospects of obtaining State recognition for their creed will disappear, if not permanently, at any rate for many years. The question is, will they again desist in view of the Western *Hongwan-ji's* opposition?

Mr. Kozaki, an eminent Christian, formerly President of the *Doshisha*, has been interviewed with regard to the measure, and has declared himself entirely satisfied with all its provisions except the veto upon religious teachers or preachers taking any part in politics. He does not see why the duty of such persons towards society should be neglected because they have assumed the duty of moral teaching and preaching.

COUNT INOUYE.

Count Inouye, in an address delivered by request at the Mitsui Club, spoke strongly of the tendency Japan shows to become more and more dependent on foreign countries for her food supplies. Naturally the Count's attention, in common with that of other financiers, has been keenly attracted by the fact that imports last year exceed exports by 111 million *yen*. This season, it is true, the balance has been somewhat redressed, but Count Inouye does not think that the improvement has any elements of permanency. He attributes it chiefly to the high price commanded by silk, and to the consequent export of large quantities of that staple. That, however, cuts both ways, for, if it swells the volume of this year's exports, it reduces the stocks available for sale abroad in the first half of next year. Looking at the list of foodstuffs, the Count finds these figures last year :—

	Yen.
Eggs	460,000
Salt Fish	610 000
Flour	2,000,000
Cheese, butter, milk	1 800 000
Salt	133 000
Total	5,003 000

This total is about three times as large in the corresponding aggregate for 1895. With regard to railway building Count Inouye estimates that, on the average, 35 per cent. of the materials required have to be imported.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

Count Okuma, in an interview with a member of the *Jiji Shimpo's* staff, said, among a great many other things, that a Minister of Foreign Affairs is greatly handicapped in Japan unless he has personal influence as a member of the Cabinet. That is a statement we have often heard made, and if it is true, it certainly does not redound to Japan's credit. A Minister of Foreign Affairs ought to be accorded the consideration attaching to his important office, quite apart from his place in politics. Naturally the views of new men do not anywhere command the respect attaching to those of old, but there are very few States where the weight of the portfolio of foreign affairs is determined according to the standard that will be followed in Japan.

PROGRESSIST FIASCO IN THE DIET.

On Friday week the long-expected fight between the Progressists and the Liberals took place in the Lower House. Our readers know that at the beginning of the Session the Progressists introduced five Bills, three of which were for reducing taxation, while a fourth was aimed at the corrupt practices which had been laid at the door of the Liberals, and the fifth proposed to cut down the stipend of the members of the Diet to its original figure of 800 *yen* a year. These Bills were temporarily withdrawn amid much derision on the part of the Liberals, but within a few days they were again presented to the House, and they appeared upon the order of the day yesterday. The first that came up for discussion was a Bill having for its object the inclusion of members within the purview of the regulations for punishing officials who may be guilty of corrupt practices in connection with the discharge of their duties. This Bill was evidently aimed at Mr. Hoshi Toru and other Liberals who are supposed to have shared with him in the plunder resulting from the Yokohama reclamation scheme. It was expected that the Progressists would distinctly formulate their reasons for introducing the Bill—in other words, that they would advance definite charges against the Liberal leaders. But they refrained from any such course. Nothing could have been more moderate than the speech of Mr. Ozaki Yukio in introducing the Bill. He refrained from all accusations or recriminations, and confined himself to saying that all parties, as well as the Cabinet itself, must be anxious to have some legislation for controlling the corruption and bribery which now threatened to spread with as much virulence as the Pest. Nobody made any reply to this speech, and the Bill was handed to a Special Committee without debate.

Thereafter the three Bills for reducing the taxes were taken *en bloc*. The introducer of the Bill for reducing the Land Tax made one interesting statement. He estimated that the wealth of Japan is 12,000 million *yen*, from which the people derive an annual income of 1,600 millions. Out of this they pay 160 millions in taxes, that is to say, 10 per cent. of their total income. The reply of the Liberals was confined to the simple statement that these taxes were required for purposes of national armaments, and the House, by a vote of 159 to 125, rejected the Bill. Then followed the Bill for reducing the postal and telegraph rates, and this also, after a very perfunctory debate, was rejected by 157 votes to 126. The Bill for reducing the tax on Soy fared similarly, 154 voting against and 124 for it.

The last of these abortive measures was for cutting down the salaries of members to 800 *yen* per annum. It elicited a witty speech from Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, who pointed out that the law as it now stands contains a special provision for the benefit of people of tender conscience, enabling them to dispense with the extra salary if they are so minded. (At this point Mr. Tanaka Shozo rolled up his papers and left the House). In view of the fact that amongst the whole of the Progressist party, continued the speaker, only one man, Mr. Tanaka Shozo, had given up the extra emolument, he (Mr. Inouye) found it impossible to believe that this proposal was actuated by sincere motives. The Bill was rejected by 153 votes to 128.

One incident of an unpleasant nature occurred during the proceedings. One of the members, when ascending the stairs for the purpose of depositing his vote in connection with the Soy Bill, slipped and sustained a fall which rendered him insensible. He was a Progressist supporter, and his catastrophe was typical of the whole fiasco. The House rose at a few minutes past six o'clock.

THE PROGRESSISTS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

The Progressists have at length fired their big bomb. It takes the form of an Address to the Throne, the gravest kind of step within reach of an political party, and it amounts to nothing less than a direct impeachment of the Yamagata Cabinet in general, and of Marquis Saigo in particular. After the usual prefatory expressions of respect for the Sovereign whom they are addressing, the signatories of the document recall the fact that Marquis Yamagata and his colleagues, when they had the honour of being entrusted with the duties of administration, swore solemnly to discharge their functions in accordance with the principles of right and the best interests of the nation. Nevertheless their conduct in office has been such as to pervert public morality, bring Japan's name and fame into disrepute, and set at nought the tenets of good government which the Sovereign's ancestors inculcated in the times of the petitioners' forefathers.

They then proceed to specific charges. That against the Prime Minister and his colleagues *en bloc* is that they resorted to bribery and corruption for the purpose of procuring the passage of the new Land Tax Bill last session, and that they sanctioned and even prompted undue official interference in connexion with the recent elections for local assemblies. That against Marquis Saigo is that he granted the charter of the Yokohama reclamation work to Mr. Oyamada, in consequence of a secret agreement providing that a large sum out of the profits should be handed over to Mr. Hoshi Toru and others, in recognition of their parliamentary services when the Land Tax Bill was on the *tapis*.

This Address is introduced by the leading members of the Progressist Party—Mr. Ozaki Yukio, Mr. Kono Hironaka, Mr. Inukai Ki, and so on, and it has the signatures of 110 supporters. It therefore represents the unanimous voice of the Progressist Party. We do not suppose that there is any likelihood of its passing, but it is a weighty impeachment, and we may be permitted to hope that the Progressists will be able to have the issues fairly debated. There is no possibility of denying that the vices of bribery and corruption are very rife now-a-days in Japan, and a wholesome effect can not fail to be exercised by dragging these hole-and-corner doings into the light of day. It does not fall within the range of our knowledge as foreigners to pronounce any definite opinion on the charges advanced by the Progressists. We do not credit them, because we have entire faith in the integrity of men like Marquis Yamagata and Marquis Saigo But not the least disheartening sign of the times

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has hitherto been the Diet's apparent indifference, or, at any rate, quiescence in the face of accusations which greatly disturbed the country's confidence in the integrity of the Legislature. It is well, therefore, that the subject should be ventilated.

There is, however, one thing to be said. Why have the Progressists taken no action with regard to one of their own members, Mr. Koyama Kiunosuke, who not only acknowledged openly that he had accepted a bribe, though he failed to carry out his own part of the bargain, but even went so far as to sue Mr. Oyamada for the recovery of a promissory note forming a portion of the bribe? How can such a man be suffered to remain an associate of a great political party, or how can a political party which tolerates such association profess to come into court with clean hands? That is the weak point in the Progressists' armour in the eyes of foreign onlookers.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

There appear to be signs of renewed disquiet in the ranks of the Liberals. All sorts of rumours are circulated. Their gist is that a section of the Party desires a reconstruction of the Cabinet, Marquis Ito taking the presidentship. Going a little deeper into the matter, we find it suggested that Baron Ito, whose relations with the Party are very close, and to whom it is under a large debt of gratitude, advocates the elevation of the *Tosa* section under the leadership of Count Itagaki, above the heads of the *Kwanto* section under Mr. Hoshi Toru, and that the outcome of such a shifting of the balance would be the resignation of Marquis Yamagata. It is impossible to say whether any, or how much, truth attaches to these rumours, but it may be taken for granted, we presume, that the Liberals will not long remain satisfied with the present arrangement, under which their cöoperation keeps the Cabinet in office without bringing to themselves any of the sweets of power. It is evidently for the sake of removing that source of discontent that Mr. Hoshi Toru and his friends would fain have an alteration made in the Official Appointments Regulations, so as to remove some of the obstacles now standing in the way of their followers' eligibility for certain official posts. We can not wish them success in such an enterprise, for it is obviously a retrogressive step, opening the door to favouritism and other abuses. But no one can pretend to think that the present situation is stable. It was never supposed to be anything beyond a makeshift, and it has shown much greater working capabilities than even its devisers can have anticipated.

THE "TAMBA MARU" CASE.

We must warn correspondents that letters discussing the verdict of the Yokohama Court in the *Tamba Maru* affair can not be published while the case is *sub judice*. Our correspondence columns must be closed to any such discussion, as our leading columns are also. We entertain very strong opinions about the incident, quite as strong as those of any of our correspondents, but we propose to observe in Japan the fundamental rule of journalistic propriety which no newspaper in England would think of violating under similar circumstances. It is in the last degree improbable that journalistic comments in the columns of the local foreign press, however strongly worded, would involve the writers in any trouble with the law courts. But we do not consider that such immunity, due, as it is, to special circumstances, warrants us in abusing it. When the case has been carried through its final stage, there will be ample time to speak of it. We do think, however, and have no hesitation in saying, that if the defendant be willing to accept aid, means of assisting him to carry this case to the Supreme Court, if necessary, ought to be provided by the British residents.

THE COTTON CLOTH INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

An interesting contrast between the development of the Cotton-spinning and Cotton-cloth manufacturing industries of Japan is presented in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*:—

EXPORTS (VALUE IN YEN)

	Cotton Yarns.	Cotton Cloth.
1895	1,030,000	2,310,000
1896	4,020,000	2,220,000
1897	13,490,000	2,510,000
1898	20,120,000	2,590,000
1899 (to end of November ...	25,230,000	3,620,000

This table seems to indicate a slight tendency on the part of cotton cloth to find a larger market abroad, but when it is observed that Japan's neighbour, China, imports over a hundred million *yen* worth of the fabric from Great Britain, the United States, India and Holland, and that Japan sells to her a smaller quantity than any of these countries, it is evident that Japanese manufacturers are still a long way below the level of their opportunities. The *Jiji* thinks that one reason is to be sought in the fact that the Japanese mills find ready sale for their products in domestic markets and have as yet no occasion to go abroad for buyers.

THE PEST.

Monday, Dec. 11.

A fresh case of Pest is reported from Kobe and another from Osaka. The former was a jinrikisha-drawer living in Kita-Nagasa-dori. He was taken ill on the 5th instant, but did not seek medical advice until the 8th, and he died on his way to hospital after his malady had been diagnosed to be plague. The Osaka sufferer is a child of between two and three years, in the house of Mr. Yamada Nihei, Minami-Horiye, where another seizure occurred some days ago.

From Kobe also comes news that two policemen were attacked by the Pest on the evening of the 8th. They were among those who had been engaged in carrying out sanitary measures at Fukiai-mura, and it is supposed that they contracted the disease there.

Dr. Nakahama, speaking at the last meeting of the Central Sanitary Committee, made an interesting statement. He said that although the presence of the Pest in Japan was not recognised until the 8th of November, there can be no doubt whatever that it had invaded the country some time previously, but had not been recognised, the sufferers being supposed to be attacked by some other malady. The same thing happened when Asiatic cholera first came to Japan. Dr. Nakahama further alleged that the Pest germs had been brought to Japan, not in cotton or wadding, as was generally affirmed, but by means of skins. There had been nothing to connect any of the cases with the importation of cotton, or wadding or rags.

Thursday, Dec. 14.

A case of probable pest is reported to have been found on board the Kyoritsu Kisen Kaisha's steamer *Kyo Maru* when she entered Owashi port in Miye Prefecture on the 11th instant.

Dr. Kitazato has recommended that a reward be offered for the destruction of rats. He is also understood to have elaborated a very drastic method of disinfecting ships.

MARQUIS ITO AND FOREIGNERS.

Marquis Ito delivered a remarkable speech at a meeting of the National Society on the 9th instant. He discussed several topics, but that of most interest to our readers had reference to the attitude of ignorant or bigoted Japanese people towards foreign visitors or residents. The Marquis found it worthy of surprised comment that whereas the Imperial Rescript on education, promulgated many years ago, had sunk deep into the hearts of the people and was reflected strongly in their conduct to-day, His Majesty's recent Rescript in connexion with the operation of the Revised Treaties does not seem to have produced any corresponding effect. The Emperor's latest utterance, his solemn behest to his loyal subjects, was that they should treat foreigners with hospitality and friendliness, whereas reports were only too frequent of ignorant folks insulting foreigners in the streets, and children calling them names or throwing stones at them. Such incidents were not merely violations of his Majesty's clearly expressed wishes, but were also disgraceful to Japan. The policy of Japan was the policy adopted at the time of the Restoration, an open door to all foreign nations and amicable intercourse with them. It was the duty of every patriotic Japanese subject to see to it that this policy was promoted. The Marquis said that he was growing old. His part upon the stage of life was nearly played. But those to whom he addressed himself were young. The world was before them, and the welfare of their country was in their keeping. He conjured them to appreciate the charge and seek to fulfil it in accordance with the Sovereign's wishes and Japan's honour.

MEIJI ONGAKU-KWAI CONCERT.

As announced, this concert was given in the Uyeno Music Hall on Saturday afternoon, the 9th instant, and the performance gave much pleasure to a large audience of Japanese and foreigners.

The aim, object, and constitution of the Society were so fully explained in our issue of the 5th instant that it is unnecessary to further enlarge upon them now. Suffice it to say that the gentlemen forming the Orchestra and their talented conductor, Mr. House, again charmed us with their artistic work and increased the

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good reputation which they had already acquired.

As before, the band exhibited neatness, delicacy and purity of intonation in a very marked degree: and, in consequence, succeeded best in the quiet, gentle numbers of the programme. Numbers 2b. 3, 4a. were vignettes most artistically presented. On the other hand the stronger numbers 4b. and 6b. were finely and boldly delineated: the jubilant strains of Handel, and the learned counterpoint of Pergolese, receiving full justice in their turn. Finally, the performers displayed their versatility in the concluding dance numbers, which were given with a rollicking swing and jollity eminently suited to the occasion.

A novel feature was introduced into the Conductor's adaptation for instruments of Mazzinghi's famous Pastoral Glee "The Wreath." After a charming résume by the instruments of the various themes, the performers joined with their voices in the first verse of the glee to the accompaniment of their own strings. An excellent effect! the singing being as perfect in time and tune as was the instrumental portion.

An apology was made for the omission of No. 5, the Nocturne. Sickness has prevented efficient and proper rehearsal and the Society wisely determined to postpone its performance rather than make an unworthy presentation. A good resolution and an example worthy to be followed by more ambitious institutions.

We should like to hear a Concert by the Ongaku Kwai some day in Yokohama, and hope that such an event may be arranged before the present season closes. We are sure that the great number of musical friends in this community would highly appreciate the excellent work of these earnest Japanese students in the domain of Western music. With such persevering efforts as they display (and their motto seems to be Excelsior) they cannot fail to attain a still higher pinnacle in the art-world, and we heartily wish them continued and increasing success.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Overture, "Lestocq".....D. F. E. Auber.
2. Ballet Music of "Rosamunde"..Franz Schubert.
   a. Andante.
   b. Andantino.
3. Elf March .....C. Bergman.
4. Old English Music.
   a. Pastoral Glee; "Ye Shepherds Tell Me" J. Mazzinghi.
   b. Oratorio Chorus, "Hallelujah" G. F. Handel.

PART II.

5. Nocturne; from "A Midsummer Night's Dream".....F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy.
6. Ancient and Modern Italian Music.
   a. "Siciliano".....Alessandro Scarlatti.
   b. Chorus (Amen) from "Stabat Mâter" G. Battista Pergolese.
   c. Trio from the Opera "Attila"...G. Verdi.
7. Dance Music.
   a. Champagne Galop .....H. C. Lumbye.
   b. Sturm Galop .....Bilse.

TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society repeated its performance of "The Schoolmistress" on Wednesday evening. The house was well filled, and among the audience were Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Kanin. The piece, as was natural, went with greater swing and smoothness than on the first occasion. Amateurs always labour under a great disadvantage as compared with professionals *vis-à-vis* their audience. Even in the best theatres of Europe or America—and the same rule applies more forcibly to Japan—no one expects that a first representation will be free from hitches and imperfections, nor is it until the third or fourth performance that things are supposed to be in thorough working order. But amateurs, though their appliances are inferior, their properties comparatively meagre, and their organization and stage necessarily defective, have only one opportunity of presenting a piece, and every shortcoming or defect inseparable from a first representation is indelibly associated with their effort. Very great resolution and very courageous perseverance are required to prepare a play for the stage under such circumstances, and when one considers the weeks of labour required for rehearsing and arranging a three-act farce like "The Schoolmistress," one can not but regret that the audiences available in Tokyo are insufficient to justify five or six repetitions at least. However, those that attended at the *Shōrei-kai* on Wednesday night had a genuine treat. We do not purpose, of course, to make any detailed reference to the various roles, having already spoken of them in a previous issue, but we must offer a word of congratulation to "Peggy" (Miss Aoki) for her really charming personification of the poor Governess' character. In our opinion she very nearly, if not altogether, attained, on this second occasion, Pinero's ideal of "Peggy," and her acting abounded with lights and shades which rendered it a thoroughly clever performance. We can not permit ourselves to particularize, however, or we should exceed our limits of space, but we have no hesitation in saying that "The Schoolmistress," as put upon the *Shōrei-kai* stage last Wednesday, was incomparably the most successful effort hitherto made by the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society. After the performance, Mr. and Mrs. Conder entertained the actors, actresses and several of their friends at a sumptuous supper on the stage, when several toasts were proposed, more or less eloquently, and drunk enthusiastically; that of Mr. and Mrs. Conder by Dr. Clay MacCauley; that of Mr. Beart, who had rendered much aid behind the scenes, by Mr. Gardiner; that of the stage-manager, Mr. Pattison, by Mr. Conder, and that of Baroness Sannomiya by Mr. Beart. We should add that the Band of the Imperial Household played an excellent selection of music during the inter-acts.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Russians are said to be establishing a barracks and a torpedo-station on Ulneung Island. This news is given by a correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary, but from its detailed character it seems to warrant more credence than can generally be attached to such rumours.

According to the *Official Gazette*, the number of cotton spinning factories working in Japan at the end of last October was 76, and the number of spindles, 1,052,921. During the first ten months of the year, they spun 3,383,898 *kwan* (28,199,150 lbs.) of yarns, and used 4,044,952 *kwan* (33,707,933 lbs.) of raw cotton.

Mr. Otani Kahei has had the honour of an interview with the President of the United States, and has expounded to him the facts that Japan now purchases nearly as much from America as she sells to her, and that the high duties collected in the United States are very detrimental to trade expansion. Mr. McKinley is said to have endorsed Mr. Otani's views.

A telegram from London, published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that discount rates have again risen, namely, from 5 to 6 per cent on 3 m/c bills, and from 4 to 5½ per cent. on 6 m/c. This is ascribed to the prevalence of a belief that the war in South Africa will last longer than was at first anticipated.

There is in Tokyo an institution designed to take charge of depraved youths and lead them into the path of right. It was founded 15 years ago by Mr. Takase Shinkyo, and during that time it has taken in 385 youths, of whom 270 have gone out, reformed. The President is Count Hijikata; the Vice-President, Viscount Kuroda; and the Auditor of Accounts, Mr. Shibusawa Eichi. The Society invites subscriptions which may be addressed to "The Charity Association of the Tokyo Reformatory, Uzawa, Shibayama-mura, Tokyo."

There was some talk lately about a project for mining smokeless coal in China. Chinese projectors came to Japan to push the enterprise, and report said that Baron Iwasaki was likely to be connected with it. It is now stated that a company is to be formed of Japanese and Chinese in combination, with a capital of two hundred thousand *yen*, by way of preliminary. We are disposed to doubt strongly whether the Iwasaki family is associated with anything so small as that.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, at its meeting on the 8th instant, appointed a special committee to consider the question of allowing foreigners to engage in mining enterprise in Japan and to own real estate. We hoped that this question had reached a stage more advanced than the deliberations of committees, but it is at any rate a matter for congratulation that such an influential body as the Tokyo Chamber is moving in the matter.

There has been no speech from the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives this session. We do not see why there should be any speech, but the *Asahi* thinks differently. Its opinion is that, in view of the rumours which have been so industriously circulated of late with reference to troubles between Japan and Russia, some re-assuring words publicly uttered by the Minister might have a wholesome effect.

This has been a disastrous year for Japanese mines so far as casualties among miners are concerned. Official figures show the following results:—

Year.	Number of mines in operation.	Deaths.
1894	26	57
1895	27	77
1896	18	44
1897	23	15
1898	16	23
1899 (to October).	18	254

There is some excitement about a rumour that an export duty is to be imposed on raw cotton in Bombay, the measure being directed undisguisedly against Japanese cotton mills, whose competition

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is driving Indian yarns out of Chinese markets. The affair has not yet passed the stage of rumour, but it is keenly discussed in Japanese circles.

Russia is credited with having urged the Korean Government to withold their leases from the Japanese purchasers of land at Masampo, and the Korean Government is said to have replied that, the transactions being perfectly legal, it could not interfere to prevent their consummation. If Korea has done that, her back must have received a vast deal of stiffening from some quarter or other. And if Russia has done that, her usual good judgment is not conspicuous. We prefer to believe what M. Pablov is said to have recently stated, namely, that the land transactions at Masampo were purely private affairs with which his Government had no intention of meddling.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpo* telegraphs that Mr. Mollendorff has declined the proposal to re-enter the service of Korea. The reason assigned is that whereas the salary offered was a thousand dollars per month, and the length of engagement one year, Mr. Mollendorff is already receiving $800 a month as commissioner of customs at Ningpo, which he regards as a much more secure billet. The *Fiji's* correspondent alleges that Korea and Russia combined to make this offer to Mr. Mollendorff and that it was conveyed to him by Colonel Wogack, formerly Military Attaché of the Russian Legation in Tokyo. The same authority adds something which does not concern the public about Mr. Mollendorff's relations with the Russo-Chinese Bank. We are of opinion that this story requires a great deal of discounting.

It is stated that the British Government made application at the London office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to secure the services of some of the Company's steamers for transport purposes, but that the Company, being under agreement to hold its vessels always at the disposal of the Japanese Government, was unable to comply with the application. It is to be noted that even in the face of the extraordinary strain to which the maritime transport facilities of Great Britain are now subjected, Her Majesty's Ministers have carefully avoided chartering steamers which are engaged upon regular lines. Their policy has been to protect trade and commerce as far as possible against interruption. The fleet of steamers now engaged in transport operations for the purposes of the South African war is understand to number 130 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 600,000 tons, in round figures.

There is much dissatisfaction in Tokyo on account of the action of the sanitary authorities. They required all householders to make athorough cleansing of their premises, taking up *tatami* and floor-coverings, removing all the dust from beneath them and raking out everything from under the verandahs. It was ordered that the débris should not be removed, but should be collected and left in the streets at points opposite the houses, the Municipal Authorities undertaking to deal with it. The citizens did their part promptly, but the Municipal Authorities were not ready to do theirs, and the result was that the heaps of refuse, after lying for some days, were attacked by the heavy rain of the 7th instant and swept into the gutters and drains. The dirt has simply been spread over a wider area, though it has received a washing at the same time.

Mr. Watanabe Koki has taken up the project of an observatory on Fujiyama, and is understood to be pushing it vigorously. Two years ago, the matter was brought prominently before the public in connexion with the enterprise of an University Professor, who suffered somewhat severely for his temerity, but since then we have heard nothing of it. Dr. Baelz is said to have expressed the opinion that, given a properly constructed house and a sufficient supply of nourishment, there is nothing to prevent a man's spending the whole winter on the top of Fuji-yama. But whether such a course would be essential for purposes of scientific observation is another question.

It is stated by a Tokyo journal that the Government has abandoned its intention of guaranteeing interest on the capital of the Söul-Chemulpo Railway, and that the directors and shareholders are much concerned. They imagined that the Diet's consent would be sought by means of a supplementary budget, but they now learn that there is no intention of presenting such a budget. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, the principal director, is understood to be remonstrating strongly against this change of programme, which is regarded by the share-holders as a breach of faith. The newspaper (*Hochi Shimbun*) responsible for this story invites its readers to believe that the Government's new departure is due to a pusillanimous desire to placate Russia. There does not seem to be any sense in such a charge. Russia would not feel any gratitude to the Japanese Government for refusing the guarantee nor any resentment on account of its being granted.

Mr. Kondo, Director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is of opinion that there ought to be at least a weekly service of steamers between Vladivostock, Korea, North China, Shanghai, Hongkong, Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama. He also thinks that the Siberian Railway will be finished in about three years, judging from observations made during his recent journey, and that Japan had better be prepared for a considerable change of tradal conditions consequent upon that event. He found that in China labour and building materials are much cheaper than in Japan, and it appears to him that an opportunity offers for the profitable erection of cotton mills there. Even if Japanese manufacturers are not disposed to engage single-handed in such enterprises, they should endeavour to carry them out in conjunction with Chinese. Mr. Kondo strongly advocates the idea of a Chino-Japan Bank.

There is a telegraphic rumour that France, in addition to the demand already formulated to the Tsung-li Yamen, has now required that the dockyard at Foochow shall be leased to her. The *Chuo Shimbun*, in publishing this item of intelligence, remarks that, by adopting such a course, France steps right into the district which has been ear-marked as Japan's sphere of influence. The rumour seems to demand much confirmation. France may have asked to have the control and direction of the dockyard placed in the hands of her own people, as was formerly the case, but we find it difficult to suppose that she wants a naval station at Foochow, or that she could expect other Powers to tamely view such a proceeding. She has not shown the least disposition hitherto to hector or bluster in the face of genuine grievances, and we do not imagine that she is going to adopt a different policy at this eleventh hour.

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

The inaugural concert for 1899-1900 of the Yokohama Choral Society took place on Tuesday at the Public Hall and was in many ways a success. The audience was not so large as might have been expected, but what it lacked in numbers it undoubtedly made up for in appreciation. The first part of the programme was entirely filled by Cowen's "Rose Maiden," first given by the Society some four years ago. The tuneful music received very adequate treatment last night; though in some of the choruses a slight hesitancy in attack has to be noted, the general effect was good. The weakness of former years—the scanty proportion of male voices—was of course apparent at times, but we think that the new Conductor will be able to overcome this in great measure. Certainly he has not yet got out of his chorus all that in them lies, and as the season advances we anticipate with a great degree of assurance better and fuller work from all concerned. The soloists on Tuesday evening were Mrs. Irwine (soprano), Miss Burdett Leach (contralto), Mr. H. E Hayward (tenor), and Mr. S. H. Somerton (baritone). Of the ladies little need be said; their reputation has long been made. It suffices to say that both were in good voice and they charmed all hearers with their rendering of the lovely music which the composer has set for the parts. Mr. Hayward was suffering from a serious throat affection, but he did very well indeed; while Mr. Somerton's sympathetic baritone has seldom been heard to greater advantage. The accompanists were Mr. Mason at the piano and Mrs. Bathgate at the organ. To the older residents of Yokohama a great deal of the pleasure of the concert was derived from the presence of Mr. W. Karl Vincent as conductor. Born in Yokohama but receiving his musical education in the best schools at home, his future looms bright with promise as a musician, choirmaster and conductor.

It was a happy inspiration to place two such well-known choruses in the second half as "Estudiana" and the even more famous Soldier's Chorus from *Faust* (Gounod). Both went with a *verve* seldom witnessed at similar concerts in Yokohama, no hesitancy or slurred upper-notes marring the swinging effect of either. Mr. E. W. Maitland, who has won a sheaf of laurels in Hongkong and Shanghai, made a capital *début* in Yokohama and was deservedly encored. It goes without saying that Miss Andrews was recalled for her violin selection; and the audience also refused to let Miss Lloyd Thomas depart after the Magic Song until she had sung "I Love Thee"—an even more exquisitely rendered number.

With such a send-off, the present season of the Choral Society is pregnant with high promise. If only a small orchestra could be trained to assist the voices! Programme:—

CHORUS..... "Estudiantina" .....LACOME.

SONG....." Love's Nocturne "..... [LAURENCE KELLIE.

MR. E. W. MAITLAND.

VIOLIN SOLO..." Nocturne de Chopin," Op. 9 No. 2 .....SARASATE.

MISS ANDREWS.

SOLO....." Magic Song," Op. 21 No. 2 .....MEYER-HELMUND.

MISS LLOYD THOMAS.

CHORUS..." Soldiers' Chorus," (Faust)...GOUNOD.

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THE HOUSE TAX QUESTION.

IN reply to various questions, we propose to set down, as briefly and clearly as possible, the facts relating to the much-disputed question of foreign residents' liability to pay house tax on buildings within the area of the former settlements.

The first point is, do the Revised Treaties provide any explicit exemption from such a tax?

Turning to the Treaties we find these words :—

Existing leases in perpetuity, under which property is now held in the Settlements, shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such leases shall be imposed in respect of such property.

Apparently, then, we have only to look at the leases and find what kind of "property" is mentioned in them; whether property in land, or property in houses, or both. Now the language of the lease in the case of Yokohama, as fixed by Treaty, is this :—

I do hereby declare that so and so, his heirs, executor, and assigns, are entitled to hold and occupy such and such lot of ground so long as he or they pay the annual rent.

It thus appears that the lease refers to land and to land only. No provision is made with regard to houses erected on the land. They are not exempted.

But that is only a partial argument. The foreigner asks, not unnaturally, in what spirit was the Revised Treaty compiled? Was it not intended to secure the maintenance of the old settlement system without any change whatever so far as concerns payments on account of property held by foreigners in the Settlements?

Even supposing that we answer in the affirmative; even supposing that we interpret the Revised Treaty in that broad sense, it becomes necessary to determine what was the old system. Or, to put the matter more explicitly, we must determine whether the payments made under the old system were supposed to include a due contribution on account of the municipal charges which the Government now proposes to levy in the form of house tax.

The data for replying are contained in the Kanagawa Land Regulations of August, 1860, which were duplicated verbatim in the Nagasaki Land Regulations of September in the same year. Here is the pertinent clause :—

It being expedient and necessary that some provision should be made for the lighting and cleansing of the streets and for a watch or police force, the Foreign Consuls shall, at the beginning of each year, convene a meeting of the renters of land within the Foreign quarter to devise means of raising the requisite funds for these purposes; and at each meeting it shall be competent to the said renters to declare an assessment in the form of a rate to be made on the said land or buildings, and in the form of wharfage dues on all goods landed at any place within the quarter, and to appoint a committee of three or more persons to levy the said rates and dues and apply the funds realized to the purposes aforesaid, etc.

This would seem to dispose of the question completely so far as Yokohama and Nagasaki are concerned, for it proves that the land rent was not originally intended to include municipal taxes, and that an independent impost on account of the latter was from the first contemplated.

Nevertheless, there still remains something to be said. The foreigner can urge that, whatever the prime intention of the Treaty may have been, the practice under it during 38 years was to abstain from levying anything but the land rent.

How did that come about? How did it happen that, whereas the explicit purpose of the Treaty and the Regulations was to hold the foreigner liable for municipal taxes as wellas land rent, the latter only was levied? Probably not many of our readers can recall the facts which furnish the answer to these queries. Not many remember the strange complications that form the history of Yokohama's Municipal Government. We need not enter into the details. It is enough to say that, owing to executive difficulties, the task of managing the municipal affairs of the Settlement was not undertaken by the foreign residents. They left it to the Japanese. And whereas, had the foreign residents undertaken it, they would have had to provide funds for the purpose, they made no such provision when abandoning the task to the Japanese, and the Japanese, according to the manner of that era, made no protest.

We must follow the story a step further. After a brief trial, the foreign residents became dissatisfied with Japanese municipal methods, and moved to have the business placed in their own hands. Then (1864) a new convention was framed, containing the following clause:—

In order to avoid all further discussions about the keeping of roads, drainage, cleaning of streets, and other municipal objects for which hitherto the Japanese local authorities have been held responsible in view of the high rental paid by all Foreign leaseholders, it has been agreed that these objects shall henceforth be secured by the Foreign Land-renters themselves, and towards the expenses that must be incurred there shall be a deduction of 20 per cent. annually from the yearly rent paid by all lands leased to foreigners, to be paid into a municipal fund.

This strangely drafted provision implies, in the first place, that the land rents should suffice for municipal expenditures and then declares that they do not suffice, and that the portion—20 per cent—properly applicable to that purpose is only a contribution. It is quite plain that, had the foreign residents assumed the function of municipal government under this convention of 1864, they would have had to provide a considerable sum over and above the 20 per cent. contributed from the land rents, and there can be little doubt that they would have provided it by the methods indicated in the Land Regulations, namely, by "a rate upon land or buildings" or by "wharfage dues." However, they did not assume the function. The Japanese continued to discharge it without making any further levy on account of it. That is apparently the whole story so far as concerns Yokohama.

We have now to consider Kobe and Osaka. The Regulations in their case were compiled in 1867, and the drafters had the experience of 7 years to guide them. We may, therefore, reasonably expect to find in the Kobe and Osaka Regulations some definite indications of the views then current with regard to this question. There are such indications. They are contained in two Articles :—

V. The annual rent shall be one *bu* per *tsubo*, which shall be paid in advance into the Municipal Fund, and shall be appropriated to the repairs of roads and drains, lighting the streets, or other Municipal purposes—subject, however, to a first charge of 1524 *bus* at Osaka and 1641 *bus* at Hyogo, which sums shall be paid annually to the Japanese Government as the ordinary land tax due on the said ground.

VIII. In order to provide for the cost of a foreign police force at the Settlement of Hyogo or Osaka, in the event of such a force being required, each land-renter shall be liable to pay annually to the Municipal Fund a sum not exceeding one-third of a *bu per annum*.

We learn from this that in 1867 the land rent at Osaka and Kobe was regarded as including the municipal rates, and that no further charge was to be levied unless in the event of employing foreign police. But even now we are not on solid ground, for two reasons; first, that the Osaka and Hyogo ground rent being some 14 per cent. higher than that in Yokohama, the rule applying to the former two settlements is not wholly applicable to the latter; secondly, that the extra rate leviable for maintaining a foreign police force was continuously levied partly in Hyogo and wholly in Osaka by the foreign municipal councils, although no such force was maintained. It would appear, then, that the Japanese, in taking over the functions of municipal Government, should be allowed to levy the extra rate which was actually levied by the foreigners when they discharged those functions. But that rate amounts to 4,285 *yen* in Hyogo, whereas the House Tax which the Japanese propose to levy would produce only 2,250 *yen*, and the corresponding figures in Osaka's case are 1,000 *yen* and 225 *yen*, respectively, all in round numbers. Is it quite fair to ask the Japanese to a dminister Hyogo and Osaka municipally on a smaller income than our own people raised for the same purpose?

It is apparent that this problem presents much food for reflection. There have been attempts made to elucidate it by considering the scope of the word "property" used in the Treaties. Such a method would be helpful, perhaps, were not the word explicitly limited to the sense in which it appears in the leases, where land and land only is mentioned. There can be no doubt, we think, of the technical right of the Japanese, as determined by the Revised Treaties and the land leases to which they refer, but when we go for guidance to the practice of the past we find ourselves confronted by many perplexities.

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THE DIET.

THURSDAY, DEC. 7TH.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at the usual time and sat for an hour. It passed the Supplementary Budget for 1899-00, as well as a Bill for amending the Law for the Prevention of Diseases among Domestic Animals; a Bill for amending the Mining Regulations, in the sense of extending their scope; and a Bill relating to the Purchase of Railway stores for Hokkaido.

The Bill relating to Wills and Testaments of military men was carried to its Second Reading, but the Reading was not immediately taken.

The House of Representatives did not sit.

TUESDAY, DEC. 12TH.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at the usual hour and read seve al Bills for the first time, subsequently handing them to special committees. The most important of these was a Bill sent up from the Lower House providing that articles imported for manufacturing purposes shall be exempt from import duty if they are exported in a manufactured form within a year, and if security for the amount of the duty be lodged.

Other Bills thus treated were, a Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for shortening from 30 years to 5 the period for which unclaimed funds lying in the Government's hands must be held before being transferred to the public credit; and a Bill relating to the Special Account of the Shipbuilding Materials Fund.

A Bill relating to the provisions of law bearing on wills and testaments of military and naval officers was passed, as was also a Bill empowering the Government to erect storehouses at the open ports for the purpose of temporarily storing goods landed in transit, or destined for the repair of ships, the period of storage to be 3 months, and the commissioner of customs being competent to extend it. No import duty to be cleare l on such goods.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at a few minutes past 1 p.m.

QUESTIONS.

Questions were presented and explained at considerable length by Mr. Tsunematsu, with reference to precautions against Pest, and by Mr. Kwanno with reference to the prevention of railway accidents.

HORSE AND CATTLE BREEDING.

The Second Reading of the Bill relating to corporations for promoting the breeding of cattle and horses was then voted after a brief discussion. This Bill is intended chiefly to secure the better cöoperation of the corporations already existing for the purpose.

BILLS.

The House then handed to Special Committees the following Bills:—

A Bill providing that no compensation shall in future be paid to the owners of cattle which, on importation, are found to be diseased and have consequently to be destroyed. It has been found that the present system of compensation is greatly abused.

A Bill (sent down from the Peers) for amending the Mining Regulations in the sense of adding five new minerals to the list.

Two Bills relating to official pensions and aids to the families of deceased officials.

A Bill for preventing the use of tobacco by youths under 14

A Bill for amending the Business Tax Law.

The most important points of this measure are as follows:—First, persons possessing a capital of less than 800 *yen* and those whose annual income does not exceed 300 *yen*, shall be exempt from the Business Tax. Secondly, the Business Tax shall be collected in accordance with the following bases and rates:—

Name of occupation.	Basis of taxation.	Rate.
Sellers of Merchandise	Amount of sales	For wholesale, 10/10,000; For retail, 20/10,000
Bankers, insurers, money lenders, and lenders of goods	Amount of capital	25/10,000
Manufacturers, printers, and photographers	do	35/10,000
Persons engaged in the business of transport or warehousing, or business connected with canals, breakwaters, piers, mooring or landing places	do	30/10,000
Contracts for buildings or for supply of labour.	do	25/10,000
Waiting-house, or restaurant, keepers	Amount of income	250/10,000
Inn keepers	do	150/10,000
Public commission agents, middlemen, brokers, & *daibengyo*	Amount of remuneration	300/10,000

Thirdly, a committee of not more than seven is to be appointed for making investigations with regard to the Business Tax in districts within the jurisdiction of each Taxation Office; the meeting of the committee to be held once in each year.

Fourthly, when a reduction or diminution has taken place in the amount of capital or income, or remuneration, or in any of the items which are to be taken as bases of taxation, a report thereof must be forwarded to the Government by the persons concerned.

Fifthly, if the respective items for the bases of taxation fall at any time below the average of the preceding three years, or if, in the case of capital, the figure does not reach one half of the average amount of the three previous years, a reduction is to be made in taxation.

Other minor alterations are suggested in some 25 articles of the main Regulations now in force.

A Representation urging that the Treasury's annual grant on account of riparian works shall be raised to three or four million *yen*. The introducer of this Representation alleged that the loss by inundations in 1896 was 130 million *yen*.

A Representation urging that the State shall show greater liberality in the case of engineering expenses necessitated by natural calamities.

A Representation urging that the limits of Moji port be extended, and that steps be at once taken to remove two wrecks now sunk in the harbour.

A Representation for appointing a Committee to investigate educational questions.

BILLS PASSED.

The following Bills were passed:—

A Bill relating to the taxation of land devastated by inundations.

A Bill for reducing the registration fee in the case of immovable property from 10 *sen* per entry to 5 *sen*.

THURSDAY, DEC. 14.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at the usual hour. Marquis Yamagata delivered a short speech, introducing the Bill for the control of Religions. His Excellency explained that there had been no adequate legislation on the subject previously in Japan. No idea was entertained of official interference in the sphere of religion: the object of the proposed measure was to place all religions, whether indigenous or foreign, on the same footing *vis-à-vis* the law, as indicated by the Constitution, and define the limits of administrative supervision.

The Bill, together with another, providing that teachers and preachers of religion shall be exempt from conscription, was handed to a special committee of 15.

A Bill relating to local elections in Hokkaido and Okinawa was then passed, and the House rose.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at the usual hour, and, having voted for the Second Reading of a Drainage Law, and passed a law for the removal of dirt and rubbish from the streets of towns, proceeded to debate the Budget for 1900-01.

An attempt was made by the Progressists to have a special committee of 9 appointed for the purpose of negotiating with the Government in order to obtain reductions of the expenditures, but the House rejected the proposal by 152 votes to 117, whereupon the Progressists left the Chamber in a body. The debate preceding this vote was somewhat warm, and in the course of it Mr. Ozaki Yukio declared himself opposed to the Budget *in toto*; a declaration for which he was subsequently called to account, on the ground that the Budget included the appropriation for the Civil List, which the House had no power to deal with, and which no member was entitled to question. Mr. Ozaki replied that, inasmuch as the Civil List was explicitly excluded by the Constitution from the general Budget, his remark could not properly be construed as applying to that item. But the Liberals refused to accept that declaration, and some excitement ensued, which was quieted by Mr. Ooka's suggesting that the discussion of such a subject was not seemly. The matter was then dropped.

The House then took the Budget in the usual manner, and passed the whole of it as introduced by the Government, with slight amendments suggested by the Committee.

Three Bills having been read for the first time and handed to Special Committees, the House rose at a little after 5 o'clock.

A NEW BANK.

A bill for establishing a bank under the name of the Japan Convertible Property Bank (Nippon Dosan Ginko) was submitted by the Government to the House of Peers on the 2nd instant. The regulations embodied in it contain many articles, the most important of which are as follows:—

Art. I.—The Japan Convertible Property Bank shall take the form of a company or corporation, with its head office in Tokyo.

Art. II.—The Bank's capital shall be 10 millioa *yen*, which amount, however, may be increased at any time with special sanction of the Government.

Art. III.—The shares of the Bank shall be 100 *yen* each.

Art. IV.—The Bank shall continue its operations for 50 years, but the period may be prolonged with the sanction of Government.

Art. V.—The principal officials of the Bank shall consist of 1 President, 4 Directors, and 3 inspectors.

Art. IX.—The following business shall be undertaken by the Bank:—

1. Issue of loans on the security of national or local loan bonds, or company's debentures or shares.
2. Subscription to, or acceptance of, the above bonds or debetures.
3. Receiving ordinary deposits or other funds.
4. All business of trust relating to bonds, debentures, or shares.

Art. XII.—The Bank shall be empowered to issue debentures not exceeding five times the amount of the capital paid up. In no case, however, the amount of issue shall exceed the aggregate total of loans issued or actual amount of local bonds or company's debentures held by the Bank.

Art. XIII.—The Bank's debentures shall be over 50 *yen* each, with coupons, and shall be issued unsigned unless special application be made by the subscriber or owner for the insertion of his name.

Art. XVII.—The Bank shall set apart as a reserve for each fiscal year not less than 8 per cent. of its profits and over 2 per cent. for the equalization of dividends.

Art. XVIII.—In case the Bank fails to declare a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum, the Government shall grant aid sufficient to secure that rate, for five years commencing from the end of the first year of its organisation. In no case, however, shall the amount of such aid exceed five per cent. of the capital paid up.

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YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The annual meeting of subscribers to the Yokohama General Hospital was to have been held on Thursday afternoon at the Hospital, but no quorum was present, only Mr. A. O. Gay, Hon. Secretary, the Medical Officer (Dr. Munro), and two other gentlemen attending. After waiting half an hour it was announced that there would be no meeting, but that the accounts, which were as follows, would be taken as passed :—

SPECIAL BUILDING ACCOUNT FOR AN INSANE WARD AND OTHER ADDITIONS.
CASH ACCOUNT.

1898.	Yen
To received from a friend.....	1,000.00
" " " Church offertory.....	28 00
" " " do	60 05
" " " boys' collection	389 95
" " " Theatrical corps	501.00
1899.	
To Received from Subscriptions	2,295 00
" Transfer from Maintenance account..	45 92
" Received from Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Interest ..... { 9 50 / 40.96 }	50.46
	4,370:38
To Balance.....	74 72
1899.	Yen
By Paid Miyamoto ..... { 1,000 / 500 / for building ..... { 206 }	1,706.00
" " Collecting Subscriptions	18 40
" " Ah Fah, painting	75.00
" " Electric Lights	74 42
" " Boiler house	459 00
" " Cement	95 00
" " Interest to Hongkong & Shanghai Bank.....	5 13
" " Covering Steam pipes	56.29
" " Set of Human restraint apparatus.	141.20
" " Plumming Eastern Ward	211.04
" " Plumming Insane Ward.....	66 40
" " Setting Boiler for heating	133 70
" " Dr. Munro for Machinery and repairs	600 00
" " Tanaka, Iron Windows, etc. ...	16 74
" " Pope & Co., Mattresses	86 40
" " Taaaka for Wire Gauze	21 65
" " Drain Pipes	12 00
" " Transfer to No. 2 account	517 29
Balance	74 72
	4 370 38

E. & O. E.
A. O. GAY, Hon. Secretary.
Yokohama, Nov. 14th, 1899
Audited by Mr. M. ENGERT.
Yokohama, Dec. 4th, 1899.

INFECTIOUS WARDS CASH ACCOUNT 1898-99.

1898-99.	Yen.
To Received from Subscriptions	1,820.00
To Received Hon. Treasurer ..... Emperor's Reception Committee.. }	56 13
To Gratuity from F. Vivanti	25 00
To Balance	250 63
	2,151.76
1898 99	
By Balance from last account	250 42
Nov. 1898-99.	
By Paid Hospital fees for charity patients	845 60
By Wages of Caretaker, Momban, and Boy.....	636 00
By Expenses repairs and sundry charges	317.74
By Dr. Wheeler's fees attending small-pox patient	50 00
By Prem. Fire Policy.....	52 00
	2,151.76
Balance	250.63

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, November 4th, 1899.
A. O GAY, Hon. Treasurer.
Examined and found correct.
M. ENGERT.

A Singapore telegram to the *Daily Press*, under date of December 4th, says that the Jelubu lode (which was reported lost the other day) has been rediscovered and is found to be much larger than formerly expected. Under the circumstances it is not surprising to hear that "the shares are booming."

"THE" BROOK.

My thirst for journalistic gore
Nor time nor climate mellows,
I'm still as ready as of yore
To bicker with my fellows.

At ten o'clock I hurry down
To fill Heraldic quires
And pray for letters from the town
And half a hundred wires.

The last I gather in a row
And jumble up together;
For news may come and news may go
But they go on for ever.

I chatter of the stony ways
In which the Treaties lead us,
I babble of the happy days
From which our leaders free'd us;

With many a pad my page I fill,
With many a noble heading,
And glad I am when I can tell
Of funeral or wedding.

I chatter, chatter all I know,
(I think I must be clever,
For papers come and papers go
But mine goes on for ever).

I leap against the harmless Brink,
With spiteful spray I splash him,
In British nostrils make him stink
And mercilessly lash him.

(But sorely should I rue the day
That saw him cease his writing,
How could I make my paper pay
Without a little fighting?)

I try to draw him, but I know
His skin is made of leather
Expressions come, impressions go
And don't remain for ever!

I steal whatever can't be got
In any other manner;
I've lately engineered a plot
To turn an honest tanner:

My wealthy clients pay for news
Which afterwards I sell them,
And though my methods all abuse
Some swallow what I tell them!

But, best of all, I've found a man
To write a column daily
(I put his column in the van,
It fills the paper gaily),

He makes my enemy his foe.
May nought our friendship sever;
New men may come; New man may go
On writing here for ever!

JAPANESE POETRY.

The following is a *résumé* of a paper, by Prof. Clay MacCauley, read at a recent meeting of the Asiatic Society :—

Japanese poetry regarded as part of the world's literature is individual and unique. It had its origin in a prehistoric age; its form and content were of its own kind and were practically fixed at the time it first appeared in written speech; and it reached its culminating excellence nearly a thousand years ago. At the present day, when the Japanese people have been released from their long-held seclusion from the other peoples of the world, there is the probability that their poetry will come under the same stimulus that has vivified and started forward their sciences and their other modes of mental energy, but so far there has appeared little sign of promise for any noteworthy poetic development. A study of Japanese poetry therefore carries one far back in the centuries and into a literary realm that lies as isolated in the world of letters as the empire of Japan has lain in the world of nations.

With a wish to make a contribution to the study of the poetry of Japan, I invite you to turn to the collection of poems known as the *Hyakunin isshū*. This collection may fairly be accepted as representative of that which is characteristic as a whole of the unique poetry of this people. It is not the largest single collection of Japanese poems; it did not originate, as was true of most other collections, under Imperial direction, nor does it contain any of the few longer poems that once promised much for the future of Japanese poetry; but in these single songs of one measure, taken from the works of a hundred writers, there have been gathered many that are of the very highest excellence. All of them are distinctive in form and in subject matter, and nearly all of them were produced in that period in Japan's history whose literature has been commended as "classic." Besides, this collection of poems as a whole is comprised within an easily managed round number. And, moreover, whatever may be its worth throughout, it is at present, and has for a long time been, in largest part the household poetry of the Japanese, in the form of a game of cards, in which man, woman, and child repeat over and over again in their play the measures and thoughts of the verses. In brief there is no other gathering of Japanese poems so manageable for a single course of study. For all ordinary investigation, it is sufficiently instructive concerning the peculiar characteristics of the poetry of Japan, and for readers in Europe and America it will serve to show well the kind of poetic production and pleasure that has the largest popular favour with this people.

These "Single Songs of a Hundred Poets" were not gathered together in this form until towards the middle of the thirteenth century. At that time there were existing many comprehensive and accepted compilations of verse. The poems that, according to tradition, had been sung by the gods and ancient heroes had been preserved in such authorized histories as the *Kojiki* (Record of Old Things) and the *Nihonshoki* (History of Japan), which brought the traditions and records of the country down from the farthest past to about the end of the seventh century of the Christian era. But, near the middle of the eighth century, during the reign of the Empress Koken, Tachibana no Moroe began to collect into one work all the poems then extant, which work, in the ninth century, as supplemented by Otomo no Yakamochi, came into literature as the celebrated *Manyōshū* ("Collection of Myriad Leaves.") In the twenty volumes constituting this collection there are more than 4 300 poems, among which are gathered about 250 of what are called *naga uta*, "long songs," because they are composed of more than the five lines to which the standard Japanese poem is limited. The "long songs," or *naga uta*, of the *Manyōshū* are spoken of as especially admirable. They have been used for centuries as models of their kind by Japan's poets. Among the many writers distinguished in the *Manyōshū* are Kakinomoto no Hitomaro, (3), Yamabe no Akahito (4) and Otomo no Yakamochi (6), specimens of whose verse appear in the *Hyakunin-isshū*. In the tenth century, after the Imperial capital had been fully established in Kyōto and a hundred years and more of the dominion of Chinese influences in Japanese literature had passed, a revival of literature distinctively Japanese took place. By order of the Emperor Daigo, between the years 905 and 922 A.D. Ki no Tsurayuki (35), a poet of the rank of the earlier Hitomaro, made a new compilation of verse called the *Kokinshū* (Ancient and Modern Songs). This work is now esteemed the finest, and it is the most studied, collection of poems in Japanese literature. It contains more than 1100 "songs," *uta*, only five of which are *naga uta*. This work, divided into twenty parts, has among its treasures quite a number of *uta*, or "songs," of the standard measure, commonly known as *tanka*, that are repeated in the *Hyakunin isshū*. It was at this period in the Empire's history

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that poetry began to have a language peculiarly its own, distinctly marked off from that of ordinary speech. Fifty years later than the compilation of the *Kokinshū*, about 970 A.D., a school of poetry was established in the Imperial Palace, and poetic composition became, and for a long time remained, one of the chief accomplishments of the members of the Court and of the nobility. Various compilations of verse, supplementary to the *Manyōshū* and the *Kokinshū*, were then made under Imperial command. Between the time of the completion of the *Kokinshū*, (922 A.D.) and the gathering of the *Hyakunin-isshū* (1235 A.D.), no less than seven authorized and distinguished collections of poems were made. These were the 1. *Go sen shū* (After Collection), 2. *Shuishū* (Gathered Remnants), 3. *Go shuishū* (Past Gathered Remnants), 4. *Kinyoshū* (Golden Leaves), 5. *Shikwashū* (Word Flowers), 6. *Senzaishū* (Immortal Songs), and 7. *Shin-Kokinshū* (New *Kokinshū*). These works, together with the *Kokinshū*, are known in literature as the *Hachi dai shū* (Collections of Eight Dynasties). They are all possessed of much merit. It is said that the *Shin-Kokinshū* "contains stanzas constructed with remarkable skill, the phraseology subtle and elegant, the rhythm easy and graceful, the style refined, and the ideas profound." It "stands at the head of all collections of poems published under Imperial auspices." In these seven compilations may be found some of the best *tanka* reproduced in the *Hyakunin-isshū*. The *Shin-Kokinshū* was a large measure only a re-editing of the poetical collections made subsequent to the *Kokinshū* itself.

With this store of poetic treasures at command, some one, about the year 1235 A.D., brought together these "Songs of a Hundred Poets" as one anthology. Just by whom, and how, the *Hyakunin-isshū* came to be gathered is no longer known. Certainly, in its present form its editorship is doubtful. The author of the *Dai-Nihonshi* (History of Great Japan) was satisfied, upon the authority of the *Meigetsuki* (Records of Brilliant Months) that the collection was made by Teikakyo, whose family name was Fujiwara no Sadaie (97). Sadaie held high office. He was an Imperial Vice-Counsellor prior to, and under, the reign of the Emperor Shijō, (1233-1242 A.D.). He was also one of the leading poets of his day. Under his direction the *Shin-Kokinshū* was compiled. The *Meigetsuki* was originally a daily record kept by Teikakyō. The original manuscript has almost wholly perished. Indeed, some of the authorized authentic sheets of the work are doubtful. And there is much question whether the present form of the *Hyakunin-isshū* is that which it had at the first. Among the traditions connected with the compilation of the anthology is this;—Teikakyō was a skilful writer of the *kana* syllabary. He also held a position that might be called the poet-laureateship of the time. Among his friends or relatives was a noble named Utsunomiya Yasaburo, or Renshō, who became a lay priest, *nyūdo*, and lived in a cottage in the village of Ogura in Saga. In the "Record of Brilliant Months," it is said, "I wrote for the *shōji* of the Middle house of Saga, coloured papers and sent them. At night I sent to them to Kingo." Kingo, whose name is generally known as Tame ie, was Teikakyo's son, and was married to Utsunomiya Yasaburo's daughter. By some, the supposition is that the latter, Rensho, who was a poet also, had requested Sadaie, through the son, to write down with his skilled pen a hundred poems which he, Renshō, had selected for the decoration of *shōji* in his new country house in Ogura. Sadaie obligingly complied with the request. Were this story true, Renshō, not Sadaie, would have whatever reputation belongs to the compilation of the hundred songs. Afterwards, when Tame ie, as it is said, copied the poems from the *shikishi*, or thick fancy-coloured paper used for the writing of poems, he arranged them in an approximate chronological order. Another tradition locates the poetic ornamentation of the *shōji* in the poet's own country home at *Ogura yama*, whither the poet had retired after resignation of his office in the Imperial Court. Sadaie's choice of the poems, according to this story, was made without special forethought and without system. He wrote down the verses at random, just as they happened to come into memory, while he had brush in hand. Strict literary judgment did not guide him. For this reason the songs show an unequal merit; some displaying the very finest quality appearing side by side with much that is of inferior worth. The mode of production of the collection, however, is a matter of comparative indifference. This "Century of Songs" exists, and by the fortune of circumstances, in time it became known everywhere as the *Ogura Hyakunin-isshū*.

How the hundred poems happened to come into use for a household game at cards is not known. The first decided notice of the game is found after the time of the fourth Shōgunate, or in the age of Genroku (1688-1703, A.D.). It was in this period that Kaibara Yekken wrote the "Great Learning for Women" (*Onna Daigaku*), and other books for the education of women. Much attention was paid to the education of girls then. Girls' books were much in demand. At that time the *Hyakunin-isshū* became useful as a text book for private female education. During the Shōgunate, when the poems had been transferred to separate cards, a package of the *Hyakunin-isshū* was looked upon as a part of a bride's household outfit. At that time, many *samurai* in Kyōto, skilled in calligraphy, aided in the financial support of their households by writing the hundred cards for the market. Some of these cards written by well-known noblemen have now great financial value. A story is handed down that about six hundred years ago, the Imperial Court guards had a habit in night watches of writing with bits of charcoal inside their porcelain plates, each, one of the "parts" of extempore poems, *renga*, and of seeing how one part would fit with another. This verse play, it is supposed by some, suggested a similar use of the hundred songs. But, as said before, the origin of the *utagaruta*, or "song cards," is unknown. One must be satisfied with the fact that two centuries or more ago the poems somehow had gained place in the homes of the Japanese people in the form of a game at cards, whereby they have become the common property of old and young, and are to-day as household words.

Mr. MacCauley continued his essay by a characterization at length, in general and specifically, of Japanese poetry, and then said:—In carrying on our study it is desirable that we should have in mind, further, somewhat the circle of men and women in which devotion to poetic composition was dominant, and also the social environment of the writers. The *Hyakunin isshū* is a collection of verse whose parts date from the latter part of the seventh to the beginning of the thirteenth centuries. Most of the songs were written in the ninth and tenth centuries. Throughout most of the period covered by this anthology the production of poetry was one of the chief pastimes of the Imperial Court and of the members of the higher aristocracy. This fact, one readily sees, explains much that is characteristic of the compositions. Poetry was a polite accomplishment, and it varied with the varying fortunes of its exalted source. Before the eighth century, that is, the age of Nara, the Imperial capital was changed almost as often as the Emperors were changed. Court life then was consequently comparatively barren and common place. Pomp and grandeur were almost unknown, and luxury did not tempt to indolence and vice. At Nara, however, through the larger part of the eighth century, seven Emperors reigned in succession, and, on account of a growing intercourse with China, Court life then became increasingly ceremonious and ornate. Towards the end of the eighth century, under the Emperor Kwammu, the site of Kyōto was chosen for the Imperial capital. Then the Imperial residence became fixed, to remain so nearly eleven hundred years. At that time, too, and for the next four hundred years the career of the Japanese aristocracy was one of increasing wealth and luxury. The comparatively unpolished, frugal, and industrious habits of the Nara age by degrees disappeared. The ruling classes entered upon a career of high culture, refinement, and elegance of life, that passed, however, in the end into an excess of luxury, debilitating effeminacy, and dissipation. It was during the best part of these memorable centuries that Japanese literature as *belles-lettres* culminated, leaving to after times, even to the present day, models of pure Japanese diction. The court nobles of the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries had abundant leisure for the culture of letters, and they devoted their time to that, and to the pursuit of whatever other refined or luxurious pleasures imagination could devise. For instance, among the many notable intellectual dissipations of the age were reunions at daybreak among the spring flowers, and boat rides during autumnal moonlighted nights, by aristocratic devotees of music and verse who vied with one another in exhibits of their skill with these arts. Narihira (17), it is said, "the celebrated beau and dilettante of the times of the Emperors Montoku and Seiwa, was a typical specimen of these devotees of refinement" and of sensuous gratification. In much of the verse of this "Century of Song," the sentimentality, the refinement, and the laxity of morals of the pleasure-loving courtiers and aristocrats of the Heian Age are exhibited. The poems are in good part an instructive comment on the life of the high classes of the times.

The treatment of the *Hyakunin-isshū* offered in these pages is to be accepted as a literary rather than as a scholastic work. Here results rather than processes have been given. Only such technical exegetical notes as are needed to make exceptionally obscure words and passages more intelligible have been attached to the translations. The translations themselves are, as strictly as is possible for an English rendering, made literal, both in prose and in metrical form. The metrical renderings have been attempted as exact reproductions of the original measure of the *tanka* and, where possible with fidelity to literalness, have been clothed in poetic terms. Some biographical information and some illustrative comments upon the writers' meanings have been attached to each poem. These last-named notes it is hoped will be found helpful and of special interest to readers generally. An attempt has also been made to give appropriate titles to the metrical translations.

Now, taking these "Single Songs of a Hundred Poets," as a whole, the reader will find that, broadly judged, they can be gathered, in accordance with their subject-matter, into three groups. Let us name these groups, 1, *Nature*, or contemplation and description of scenes in the outer world; 2, *Sentiment*, or moods associated with the milder human emotions, such as Melancholy, Pensiveness, Regret, Sympathy, Contentment, Gratitude, Friendship, Filial Love, Loyalty, and the like. 3. A third group belonging to the deeper ranges of emotion, but distinctive enough to be regarded separately, is composed of those poems which are outbursts of the passion *Love*. Love poems are in a high degree characteristic of Japanese as of all other poetry. In this collection, forty six of the *tanka*, nearly half of the songs, have for their motive some phase of this great human passion. Twenty-nine of the *tanka* are given to the more ordinary sentiments, and twenty-six to the scenes of nature. It will be well, however, in reading all these songs to remember that they need not be taken as transcripts of personal experiences. Most of them were creations for use in poetical contests and as exhibits of artistic skill. Often they may have had no other basis than the writer's fine fancies drawn from his imagination's realm.

We shall not now try to pass all these songs in review. Readers can examine them at their leisure in the following pages. But, to illustrate the judgment just made, attention is called to a few songs which show some special skill in form and word, considered as utterances of the Japanese muse. The fourth *tanka*, for instance, is a delicate bit of suggestion and impressionism concerning a scene in nature. We will name it, "Beauty made Per-

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fect." On the coast of Tago is one of Japan's very best sea and landscapes. Rising, as its centre and crown, is the "peerless mountain," Fuji. The scene is at any time one of supreme beauty. But the Japanese poet would add one touch to make it perfect.

When to Tago's coast
I my way have ta'en, and see
Perfect whiteness laid
On Mount Fuji's lofty peak
By the drift of falling snow.

So, also, in song seventeen, where the poet celebrates the delight he felt at seeing the scarlet leaves of autumn floating upon the blue waters of the river Tatta. He recalls the wonderful age of the past when the gods, so it was said, bore sway in the world and all marvels were seen and done.

I have never heard
That, e'en when the gods held sway
In the ancient days,
E'er was water bound with red
Such as here in Tatta's stream.

In *tanka* twenty-two there is a punning word-play that does not ill befit even serious verse. The word *arashi* may mean "a storm" or it may mean, "wild," or "violent." The poet wrote,—

Since, 'tis by its breath
Autumn's leaves of grass and trees
Broken are and waste,
Men may to the mountain wind,
Fitly give the name, "The Wild."

A refined and delicate picturing of the magic wrought by the early frost of autuum is secured in song twenty-nine :—

If it were my wish
White chrysanthemum to cull :—
Puzzled by the frost
Of the early autumn time,
I, perchance, might pluck the flower.

Then, an effect of a falling snow is beautifully and graphically shown in the thirty-first *tanka* :—

At the break of day,
Just as though the morning moon
Lightened the dim scene,
Yoshino's fair hamlet lay
In a haze of falling snow.

Again, the fancy of likening dew drops to gems, such as is given in the thirty-seventh song, is quite pleasing :—

In the autumn fields,
When the heedless wind blows by
O'er the pure white dew,
How the myriad unstrung gems
Everywhere are scattered round.

Passing over the many other verses devoted to scenes in nature, let us turn from this group with a glimpse of "the beautiful world" given in the ninety-third *tanka*. The writer was, we will suppose, on a lovely day seated near the sea-shore :—

Would that this our world
Might be ever as it is !
What a lovely scene !
See that fisherwoman's boat,
Rope-drawn, rowed along the shore.

The group containing *uta* expressive of the serene or milder sentiments, is quite varied in mood and merit. Song number five is one of the most attractive of them all. It was inspired by "the stag's cry in autumn" :—

In the mountain depths,
Treading through the crimson leaves,
Cries the wandering stag.
When I hear the lonely cry,
Sad,—how sad,— he autumn is !

The eleventh song, however, is one of deep, touching feeling.—"An Exile's Farewell." It is an appeal to the insensate boats of the fisher men, the only objects connected with human life, that witnessed the poet's unhappy start to the place of his banishment from his country

O'er the wide, wide sea,
Towards the many distant isles,
Rowing I set forth.
This, to all the world proclaim,
O ye boats of fisher folk !

In Japan as elsewhere sadness is especially associated with moonlight and with the autumn among the seasons. And in Japan, under the Buddhist faith, a pessimistic tone is exceptionally prominent in literature. These facts will help to explain the twenty-third *tanka* :—

Gazing at the moon
Myriad things arise in thought,
And my thoughts are sad :—
Yet, 'tis not for me alone,
That the autumn time has come.

In the twenty-eighth *tanka* a mood accompanying a winter scene appears :—

Winter loneliness
In a mountain-hamlet grows
Only deeper, when
Guests are gone and leaves and grass
Withered are :—so runs my thought.

A longing for friendship that inclines man in solitude to take even the lifeless things about him into his companionship is beautifully shown in the sixty-sixth *tanka*, in a personifying address to a solitary cherry-tree :—

Let us each for each
Pitying hold tender thought,
Mountain cherry-flower !
Other than thee, lonely flower,
There is none I know as friend.

A peculiar charm pervades the seventy-eighth song, "A Night at Suma's Gate," to one who has seen the pensive and exquisite beauty of the scenery near there. In ancient times there was an Imperial barrier at the place :—

Guard of Suma's Gate,
From your sleep how many nights
Have you waked, at cries
Of the plaintive sanderlings
Migrant from Awaji's isle ?

There is a note of hope in the eighty-fourth song that is an agreeable departure from the general sadness of these poems of Sentiment, —"The Transfigured Past."

If I long should live,
Then, perchance, the present days
May be dear to me :—
Just as past time fraught with grief,
Now comes fondly back in thought.

Many others of these poems of Sentiment are worth repeating as illustrating our theme, but it will be well now to turn to the third group,— that which is gathered about the mighty power moving in all human life, Love.

Tanka thirteen tells of love perfected. The poet uses the figure of a mountain rill becoming a full, serene river.

From Tsukuba's peak
Falling waters have become
Mina's still, full flow.
So, my love has grown to be :—
Like the river's quiet deeps.

In *tanka* sixteen, by means of two word plays,— one, upon the word Inaba, meaning a mountain or district to which the poet was going, and also the phrase "if I go;" the other upon the word *matsu*, meaning "a pine tree," and "to wait," as one *pining* for another may wait,—an assurance of faithful love is well given.

Though we parted be,
If on Mount Inaba's peak
I should hear the sound
Of the *pine* trees growing there,
Back at once I'll make my way.

In the eighteenth song, one of the distinctive devices of Japanese poetry, the "preface" and euphonic "introductory word" appear. In the English rendering the word "gathered" reproduces approximately this device. The first two lines of the stanza are to be regarded as introductory. The theme is "Secret Love."

Lo ! the gathered waves
On the shores of Sumi's bay !
E'en in gathered night,
When in dreams I go to thee,
I must shun the eyes of men.

The solicitude of a woman for the safety of a man who has deserted her, showing thereby the self-effacement that love at times effects, is well expressed in the thirty-eighth *tanka*. The lover had sworn to the gods that he would never desert his mistress. The wronged woman therefore feared that the gods might execute vengeance.

Though forgotten now
For myself I do not care,—
He, by oath, was pledged.
And his life that is forsworn,
Such a thing of pity is.

Unconfessed love, that betrays itself, is the theme of the fortieth song :—

Though I would conceal,
In my face it yet appears,—
My fond, secret love :—
So much that he asks of me
"Does not something trouble you ?"

Love perplexed is pictured in the forty-sixth song under the simile of a mariner at sea, with rudder lost.

Like a mariner
Sailing over Yura's strait,
With his rudder gone ;—
Whither o'er the deep of love
Lies the goal, I do not know.

The recklessness that accompanies pursuit in love, and the longing for continued life that comes with successful possession, are thus shown :—

For thy precious sake
Once my eager life itself
Was not dear to me.
But, 'tis now my heart's desire,
It may long, long years endure.

Fearfulness concerning the future faithfulness of a lover just pledged is shown in these anxious verses of the song number fifty-four, "A Woman's Judgment" :—

If "not to forget"
Will for you in future years
Be too difficult,
It were well this very day
That my life, ah me ! should close.

Distrust of one who has a reputation for insincerity and unfaithfulness finds place in *tanka* seventy-two, under the guise of dread of the waves of the beach of Takashi :—

Well I know the fame
Of the fickle waves that beat
On Takashi's strand.
Should I e'er go near that shore
I should only wet my sleeve.

Struggle to conceal a love that may not be shown to the one beloved is admirably exhibited in the eighty-ninth *tanka*, in an apostrophe to self. The poet wrote :—

Life ! Thou string of gems !
If thou art to end, break now.
For, if yet I live,
All I do to hide my love,
May at last grow weak and fail.

These are but a few of the many songs of which love, in some of its phases, is the theme.

I will quote but one more of them. It is the one written by the compiler of the *Hyakuninisshu*, the poet Sadaie. It is a vivid picture of a common scene on Awaji island, used in simile here for the poet-lover's impatience in waiting.

Like the salt sea-weed
Burning in the evening calm,
On Matsuo's shore,
All my being is aglow,
Waiting one who does not come.

Here the introduction to this "Century of Song" may end and the way among the songs themselves be entered. No one knows better than the present writer the difficulties one meets with in making the venture here made or how unsatisfactory the results gained. The real charm of these dainty bits of verse will for ever elude the quest of one who, foreign to the Japanese people and their language, seeks to discover it and to show it to the world. But I have done faithful service in my search, and I hope that some measure of attainment has been secured.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

A WAR FUND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—We shall be pleased to open a subscription list in connection with the fund started by the Lord Mayor of London for the Widows and Orphans of the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces who may lose their lives from the war in South Africa, and we shall be obliged if you will be so good as to make this known through your paper.

A list of all sums received will be handed you as well as particulars of remittances made to London.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

J. C. BUDD, Agent,
Chartered Bank of India,
Australia and China.

Yokohama, 9th Dec., 1899.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I beg to hand you a list of subscriptions received to date for the Lord Mayor's widows and orphans fund.

Amounts received by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China for account of the Lord Mayor's fund for the widows and orphans of the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces, who may lose their lives from the war in South Africa.

	Yen.
Flint Kilby & Co.	250
Arthur and Bond	100
F. R. Daniel	100
E. J. Moss	100
John C. Budd	100
F. W. Hammond	50
Mrs. Kirby	50
T. A. Singleton	50
S. Komor	20
P. C. Potts	20
E. M. Janion	20
F. W. Thomas	20
K. W.	20
H. Ivison	10
F. J. Bishop	10
L. K. Davis	10
W. G. Macvicar	10
M. H. Gomes	5
M. M. Xavier	4
John Hartley	2
Old Sailor's mite	1
	952

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully

JOHN C. BUDD.

Yokohama, 13th Dec. 1899.

THE BOARDS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND THE INSTRUCTION OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The following account of a conference of the officers of the Boards of Foreign Missions in America, regarding the Instruction of the Minister of Education, was received by the last mail from Robert E. Speer, Esq., the Secretary of the Conference. It will be a favour if you will kindly give it a place in your columns.

I am, etc.,

WILLIAM IMBRIE.

There was held at the rooms of the Presbyterian Board, No. 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on the morning of November 9th, 1899, a conference of officers of various Mission Boards and Societies carrying on work in Japan. The object of the Conference was to consider the question of the attitude that these Boards and Societies should take towards the Instruction of the Japanese Minister of Education appended to the Regulations relating to the Private School Ordinance, issued by the Educational Department on August 3rd, and reading as follows:—

It being essential from the point of view of educational administration, that general education should be independent of religion, religious instruction must not be given, or religious ceremonies performed, at Government Schools, Public Schools, or schools whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law, even outside the regular course of instruction.

There were present at the Conference, the Rev. Dr. Barton, of the American Board; the Rev. Dr. Barbour, of the Baptist Missionary Union; Bishop Scarborough, Dr. Kimber and Mr. Patton, of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church; the Rev. Dr. Leonard, the Rev. Dr. Baldwin and the Rev. Dr. Smith, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Rev. Dr. Ellinwood, the Rev. Dr. Brown, the Rev. Dr. Halsey and Mr. Speer, of the Presbyterian Board; and the Rev. Dr. Cobb, of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church.

The Rev. Dr. Cobb was elected Chairman, and Mr. Speer was chosen Secretary. The Secretary made a statement of the general situation in Japan, and the attitude of the Department of Education towards private schools for the last few months; and of the desirability of the Foreign Missionary Boards and Societies in this country taking, if possible, united action in the face of difficulties equally affecting all. After a full discussion, in which all present participated, the following statement was adopted, as the sentiment of the Conference; and it was moved that copies should be sent by the Secretary to the various Boards in the United States and Canada carrying on educational work of any extent in Japan, requesting their action in approval; and requesting them also to inform the Secretary of such action as they might take.

"This Conference, composed of officers and members of the Missionary Agencies of the Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Reformed Churches, would express its complete approval of the resolution adopted by the 'representatives of six christian schools,' in the Conference that met in Tokyo, on August 16th, to consider the question of the relation of schools aided by these Boards to the Instruction of the Minister of Education, forbidding religious worship or instruction in all schools 'whose curricula are regulated by provisions of law,' to wit:—(Then follows the resolution which has already appeared in the *Mail*).

"In the conviction that the great need of Japan is Christianity and Christian education, and that the members of the Churches represented in this Conference would not approve of the use of Mission funds in the support of schools in which all religious exercises and teaching are prohibited, this Conference expresses its conviction that the Missions in Japan should steadfastly refuse to make any compromise of whatsoever character, or however temporary or plausible, as to the religious character of their educational work. In the judgment of this Conference, it will be most unfortunate if at this time the Missions fail to stand together, in maintaining unimpaired the avowed and unmistakable Christian character of their schools in all their departments, at whatever sacrifice of secular advantage or government privilege."

PRESENT STATUS OF THE SOCIAL EVIL TEST CASE.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The social evil test case came to an end in the Court of Appeals here on Saturday, last by the parties concerned presenting a statement to the effect that the case would be settled between themselves, and hence begged that it be dropped. This settles the matter so far as this one case is concerned, but of course the principle of the judgment remains, and we are preparing another case on similar grounds and will keep it up as long as the Central Government sees fit to allow the Prefectural Governments to retain as laws those sections of the brothel regulations which are in conflict with the Civil Code.

What has happened is what I anticipated, that is, the keeper appealed, and immediately put in a statement from the girl declaring that she wished the case dropped. The last statement secured from the girl was, however, gotten more by promises than by force, it seems, as she was told that she would never get out by process of law, as the police would not enforce any order of the court, and having been advised and urged by *soshi* and relatives in the employ of the keeper to consent to drop the case on the promise that after a month she would be allowed to go free, she finally gave the matter over to those same "friends" who prepared the necessary statement and she signed it. Nothing can induce her to give the exact status of the affair, as she knows that she is in the hands of the keeper and hopes by living up to her part of the agreement to get free soon.

Now we have these unpleasant facts to deal with; first a precedent has been set which gives the brothel-keepers reason to believe that they not only have the local law on their side, but that they can also disregard the decisions of the court with impunity; second, the reason why the girl gave in in this case was because the police refused to enforce the order of the court, and arrested the girl when she was following the said order; that is the police, supported by Mr. Oki, the Governor, held the girl down, compelling her to stay where the court ordered her not to stay until she lost all hope and threw away the verdict on promise of getting out in another way. Now I say these are unpleasant facts, and while brothel-keepers and male prostitutes may find consolation and comfort in the same, no man who has the good of Japan at heart can afford to be quiet at this time. To be sure, aimless criticism has no place in the matter, but to my mind we have lighted upon serious days.

The facts in the case were laid before the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs a week ago, and the request was made that something be done before the other side could get in that statement which we knew to exist, but now we understand that the Minister of Justice has been informed that while the police have made a mistake, yet there has been no conflict between the court and the police! This is an endeavour to save somebody. We have been informed that another order of the kind would be enforced, and it is hoped that the present case will be allowed to drop. If there has been no conflict, what on earth has the court been doing these 40 days that it has not had its own order enforced?

There has been nothing to show the girl that there was the least hope of her ever getting free by process of law, although the court repeatedly ordered the keeper to send her away until the case could be settled. Of course there are those who will blame the poor ignorant girl for giving way, but let those who would have held out longer cast the first stone.

The police have changed very much in the last few days, and they now say that a decision or an order of the court might be enforced, as the order of the court *might* be sufficient to warrant the violation of a local law. Bright conclusion that! But the idea that it has taken such a well-known man as our Governor 40 days to come to the same conclusion, if indeed he has come to that conclusion yet, is hardly conceivable. Of course it is better to get straight late than never, but the sad part of this affair is that by reason of the combined efforts of the keeper, police, and Governor, the poor slave of a girl has gone back to a life of shame with nothing but the promise of a brothel-keeper to afford her any hope of ever being anything more than a prostitute. Of course the keeper may keep his word, as he is a devout Buddhist and told the old father a few weeks ago that he felt that it was the will of Amida that the girl should go free but he could not let her go then.

And then the girl may accidentally die before the month is up, as has been suggested. Anyhow, for the present state of affairs and for whatever may befall the unfortunate girl in the future, we have to thank the police of Aichi Ken, who are supported by the Governor, and who, in turn, it seems is supported by the Home Department

I hope that no one will do us the injustice of thinking that we have made rash statements, for everything that has been said, and a great deal that has not, can be supported by affidavits. I have not given hearsay, but from the police sergeant who made the first blunder to the

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Ministers mentioned in this article, the statements have been received direct, that is, I have met the said persons in person, some of them several times.

As to the Osaka case, Japan has reason to hang her head in shame because of there being a court within her borders which has declared that a person may be bought and used at will for the period of three years at a time. Of course I suppose it never occurred to the legal mind employed that there are 45 different Prefectures and Fu in Japan where the same logic would hold good, if it is any good in Osaka, so that a girl could become perfectly free after having served three years in each place, or 135 years. An appeal will be sufficient to show that a debt made by one's parents while the person is yet a minor, and being compelled to repay that debt by acting as a prostitute, are two different things.

Laying aside the question as to whether public prostitution should or should not exist, the question as to whether the law shall continue to support public outrage on innocent, ignorant helpless daughters of Japan is now before us, and it behooves every lover of purity, justice, and liberty to assist in clearing the atmosphere.

Yours, &c., U. G. MURPHY.

[We sincerely admire the philanthropy of our correspondent and his supporters, and wish them every success.—ED. *J.M.*]

BAZAAR AND CAFÉ CHANTANT.

The funds of St. Hilda's Mission should benefit considerably as a result of the Sale of Work and Café Chantant held at the Public Hall on Wednesday. As in previous years, Mrs. W. B. Walter was the active organizer of the Sale and was ably assisted by a strong committee of ladies interested in the charitable work so excellently discharged by the St. Hilda's Mission. The prettily arranged and well-stocked stalls were in charge of the following ladies:—Fancy Work:—Mrs. Bonar, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Bathgate, Mrs. Bowden, Mrs. C. D. Moss, Mrs. Sale and Mrs. Hubbard, assisted by Mrs. Lowder. Refreshments:—Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Mitchell, the Misses Thomas and Miss Morse. Flowers, etc:—Mrs. Dodds, Mrs. St. John, assisted by Miss Eldridge, Miss N. Smith, and Miss Bishop. Toys:—Mrs. Till and Mrs. Parsons.

At 5 o'clock the small hall was inconveniently crowded in expectation of Mr. G. G. Brady's appearance, standing room being even at a premium. Mr. Brady kept his audience thoroughly amused for over an hour, his recitations ranging over a very wide field and giving full scope to his powers of comedy and mimicry. It was pleasant to see how quickly the youngsters, who formed a considerable portion of "the house" caught on to the many humorous points and "tumbled to" the jokes freely scattered in all the pieces given. Mr. Brady is an accomplished elocutionist and needs no eulogy at our hands. The applause which "Montpelier's Recitation" evoked was most hearty, while as for "That Guide" and the "Yarn of the Nancy Bell" the confession of one wee dot speaks volumes:—"Mother, I had to laugh: it must be bootiful to make so many funny faces and have such a lot of voices." The coster songs which concluded the bright entertainment were rapturously received. Programme:—

Mr. Montpelier's Recitation ..... Turner.
Briary Villas ..... Anon.
That Guide! ..... Mark Twain.
The Yarn of the "Nancy Bell" .. W. S. Gilbert.
Coster Songs { "Yus." / "The four 'ors sharry bang."

Commenting upon the condition of penitentiaries in Kobe, the *Jiji* says that the number of prisoners at present totals 1,200, inclusive of 110 unconvicted persons. Compared with the corresponding period of last year a diminution of over 200 is noticeable, while the number of persons under remand has decreased by one third, owing to greater expedition on the part of the Courts.

THE "TAMBA MARU" CASE.

JUDGMENT.

The following is a translation of the judgment in the case of Mr. H.R.M. Kent, late third officer of the *Tamba Maru*, who was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment at the Chiho Saibansho on Thursday. Mr. Kent on Friday morning gave notice of appeal. The judgment reads as follows:—

Horace Robert Benjamin Kent, English, 3rd class officer employed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, staying at the house of Captain Efford, No. 32 Settlement, Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture.

Concerning the case of assault and battery against the aforementioned the following judgment is given by the Court in the presence of Public Procurator Shugyo Norimasa, on conclusion of the examination.

The accused to be sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment. The costs of the Court, which amount to 5 *yen*, will be borne by the accused. The iron hand cuff, seized by the Court will be returned to the person who forwarded the same.

REASONS.

The accused, while in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as 3rd class officer on board the *Tamba Maru*, and while the steamer was at anchor at Moji, in Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan, on the 30th September, was visited in his own room by Umezeko Toyomatsu, quarter-master of the ship, about 9 p.m., when the latter asked the accused if he had informed the Captain of the fact that he—Toyomatsu—had smoked a cigarette notwithstanding that he—the quartermaster—was not in the habit of smoking, the fact being that the accused had mistaken the jewel set in a ring on his finger for the lighted end of a cigarette? Umezeko also asked accused if that should be called smoking, showing his left hand, with the ring on it, to the accused. The accused then got angry and struck the quartermaster with his fist in his right eye and injured him so badly that he was made ill for over twenty days. The accused stated at his public trial that the quartermaster entered his room and, holding up his hand with the ring, asked him if they called that smoking in England, when the accused shoved his hand aside, but as the quartermaster struck the accused below the right ear, he tried to push the quartermaster out of the door, but that the quartermaster seized him by both of his legs with both his hands and threw him down outside the door. The accused tried, so he stated, to stand up, but the quartermaster threw him down again by lifting both his legs and bit him also in the thigh on that occasion. The accused thereupon struck him in the face in self-defence. The above is the statement of the accused at his public trial, and moreover the accused stated at the preliminary examinations, as will be seen in the finding, that he struck the quartermaster near his eye with his fist, though he could not recollect how many times he struck him. In the course of the public trial, Umeseko Toyomatsu, the quartermaster, stated that when he talked to the accused about the ring, the accused suddenly struck him in his right eye with his fist, saying "You are like a Chinese." Umezeko also mentioned in his complaint forwarded to the Court that about half-past nine o'clock on the evening of the following day (30th) he went to Kent's room and asked him why he had reported to the Captain that he was smoking after mistaking the ring for the light of a cigarette, when Kent suddenly struck him with his fist in his right eye and inflicted upon him a wound which it took three or four weeks to cure completely. It is also stated in the finding of the first preliminary examination of Umezeko Toyomatsu that Umezeko, while on duty, went to Kent's room and asked him to inform the Captain of the mistake he (Kent) had made, when Kent struck him in the right eye with his fist, saying:—"You are like a Chinese." This statement was repeated by Umezeko at the second preliminary examination, as is mentioned in the finding. It is also stated in the medical certificate given to Umezeko by a physician, Sagara Teiichi, that "the upper and lower lids of the right eye have been somewhat swollen and exhibited a light purple colour. A congestion of blood has been found in the conjunctiva of the ball of the right eye, which is of the form of a spindle tapering outward from the conea to the external canthus. This part has shown a light red colour and is slightly swollen. A hyperamia has also been found in the conjunctiva of the right eye-ball which is of a dark red colour, while in the conjunctiva of the upper lid of the right eye a slight congestion of blood has been discovered. The wound therefore must have been inflicted by external force, and the material used would have been a hard dull-edged one."

That the quartermaster was made ill for over twenty days is clearly proved by the evidence given by the physician Fujii Yukiwo, who, being consulted by the Court as to Umezeko's wound, stated that it would be necessary for him to rest three weeks before he could resume his duties, besides which Dr. Sagara in his certificate stated that it would require three or four weeks from Oct. 5th before a complete recovery could be effected, and two or three weeks before Umezeko would be able to go to work.

Also, according to the statement of Umezeko at the second preliminary examination held on the 23rd October, it is clearly proved that it was after November that Umezeko thought himself able to resume his work. The above statements are sufficient to prove that the accused struck Umezeko in the right eye and inflicted injury upon Umezeko. The Court concluded, taking into considera ion the fact that the accused was superior in position to the quartermaster, the insolent manner in which the latter behaved, and the exact coincidence of the statement of Umezeko at the preliminary examination with that mentioned in the letter of prosecution and also the severe condition of the wound inflicted by the accused, that the accused got excited, struck the quartermaster first when the latter held up his hand before the accused, who must have struck the quartermaster, while unassisted, thus inflicting a wound more severe than could have been made in the course of the struggle.

Although the accused stated that he struck the right eye of Toyomatsu that can hardly be recognised as a fact. What the accused pleaded was that he struck the right eye of Toyomatsu because he had been twice struck by Toyomatsu below the right ear and bitten by him on the thigh. Not only, however, was the fact of Toyomatsu's having struck accused's right ear not admitted by the complainant, but if really he struck the accused the latter must have remembered which hand Toyomatsu used in striking him. As, however, the accused stated that he did not remember with which hand he was struck by Toyomatsu the accused's statement on this point was very vague and could not be trusted. The deposition of Charles Arthur Hill on this point was practically similar to that of the accused. Hill stated that Toyomatsu hit the accused with his right hand with a ring on. It was, however, impossible to strike the right ear of a person facing another with the right hand. Moreover, as it is usual to wear a ring on the left hand Toyomatsu's statement that he had a ring on the left hand must be admitted as true. The statement of the witness in this respect could not be regarded as true. Secondly, although the accused stated that he was twice thrown down by Toyomatsu, the latter's statement was to the effect that he was falling down, having been struck on the right eye, when a second blow was hit on his back and he fell on the floor on his face. When he was about to rise the accused violently seized the complainant's left hand and both fell on the floor. Also on this point Toyomatsu's statement must be regarded as true, and therefore the accused's statement that he was twice thrown down by Toyomatsu could not be regarded as a fact. On this point Hill's deposition was far from clear, as he stated that, it being dark, he could not see

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well. Thirdly, the fact that the accused was bitten by Toyomatsu on the thigh could be admitted, as it was recorded that the Preliminary Judge saw his injuries. If the statement of the accused that he was hit by Toyomatsu on the right ear and thrown down twice was not regarded as true, it will be inferred that a struggle was proceeding between the accused and the complainant, and even supposing that the accused struck the latter owing to his having been bitten by him it was merely the result of the struggle and could not regarded as an inevitable action. Moreover, when Toyomatsu was alleged to have bitten the accused's thigh the former's face must have been about the hip of the accused, and therefore the statement that he hit Toyomatsu's eye at this time could hardly be credited.

Counsel for the defence cited the evidence of Hill at the public trial, of de la Hyde at the preliminary examination, a report of Constable Yoda, of the Water Police, and the depositions of Capt. J. W. Wale, and Chief Officer J. W. Renny. The statement of Hill at the preliminary trial, which was almost similar to that at the public trial, was not worth credit. De la Hyde, in his evidence at the preliminary examination, stated that he saw the quartermaster strike Kent first. If he really saw Toyomatsu strike Kent first he must know which portions of their bodies were struck by each other, but he could not testify to this important matter. The inevitable conclusion was that De la Hyde was not an onlooker of the struggle, and therefore his evidence could not be taken as true. The report of constable Yoda was not based on his actual obeervation. The evidence of Capt. Wale also had no particular importance.

In short, none of the evidence brought forward by Counsel for the defence was of benefit to the accused. Nor could the latter's statement be admitted as true.

The action of the accused came under the purview of clause 1 Art. 103 of the Penal Code, which provides for imprisonment for from one to three years. The accused was, however, entitled to mitigation of his sentence in view of Umeseko having been insolent towards his superior on the ship. On this ground the penalty was reduced by two degrees. A doctor's fee for medical evidence, *yen* 5, as it belonged to the costs of the Court, should be borne by the accused. The handcuffs produced in the Court should be returned to the party to whom they belonged.

For these reasons judgment is rendered as mentioned above.

Sentenced in the presence of Public Procurator Shugyo on Dec. 7th, 1899.

FUJISE YAIICHIRO,
Presiding Judge.
ODAMURA RICHU, Judge.
MORI RYOSAKU, Judge.
ISHIGAMI YEINOSUKE, Clerk.

BUSINESS NOTES.

The *Shogyo* publishes an item relating to the extension of a mining district secured by the Iwaki Coal Mining Company. The new field of operations—Naiso—lies at a distance of about five miles from Tsuzuri in Sekijo, and covers an area of 2,867,000 *tsubo*. The coal strata are excellent, measuring five or eight feet in depth, and the quality is represented as superior to that of the best coal in Iwaki. The field is supposed to contain no less than 18 million tons of coal.

Talk of the failure of the rice crop this year is everywhere heard, and the price of cereals is steadily rising. But, strange to say, the amount of foreign cereals imported is far from being considerable. The *Mainichi Shimbun* ascribes the fact to the following three causes:—First, progress in the people's standard of living and the consequent reluctance to admit foreign cereals into their diet; secondly, appreciation of foreign grain in consequence of the failure of crops in Siam and other countries; thirdly, the exaction of bargain money on the part of importers, in connection with contracts for rice, which was formerly imported without any such security.

Investigations completed by the Finance Department and published in the *Shogyo* show that the average value of various public loan bonds during November last, as compared with the previous month, was as follows:—

	Nov. Yen.	Oct. Yen.
Consols	98 25	97·50
War bonds	98 25	97·55
Imperial bonds ...	94 30	94 90

The last-mentioned bonds alone have slightly fallen in value, the first two classes showing a marked appreciation.

The *Nippon* publishes official statistics showing the number of Japanese residents in China and Korea up to the 31st October last. The figures are as follow:—

	Number of families.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Fusan	1,087	3,018	2,695	5,713
Masampho	26	62	12	74
Mokpho	228	523	329	852
Gensan	52	117	49	166
Inchhon	1,004	2,558	1,830	4,388
Sōul	545	1,118	874	1,992
Chinnampho	97	210	103	313
Pyong hu	43	89	47	136
Wensan	349	982	677	1,659
Shanghai	—	675	409	1,084
Amoy { Japanese ...	19	69	17	86
Amoy { Formosans.	76	673	15	688

According to the *Shogyo* the trade between Japan and India during the past four years has been as follows:—

IMPORTS FROM JAPAN TO INDIA.

	Matches Rupees.	Copper Rupees.	Silk textiles. Rupees.	Clothing Rupees.	Coal. Rupees.
1895 ...	106,231	76,734	65,794	50,329	16,157
1896 ...	77 527	80.254	159,449	58,650	82 651
1897 ...	131,484	49 346	241,811	15,605	20,335
1898 ...	99.697	65,252	245.413	36.757	49,691

EXPORTS FROM INDIA TO JAPAN.

	Cotton Rupees.	Indigo Rupees.	Leather & hides Rupees.	Rice Rupees.
1895	2.442,435	71,704	43,316	43.000
1896	3,760,332	207,565	22,745	—
1897	3,256,206	344.443	69.925	438.684
1898	4.114.776	332.159	48.308	664,487

Silk textiles and cotton are the items which show most tendency to increase.

The result of the Tokyo Tramway Company's operations for the latter half of this year has proved extremely satisfactory, there being an increase in revenue of over 170,000 *yen* as compared with the corresponding period of last year. Even substracting the receipts on the Shinagawa line, the revenue still amounts to 527,542 *yen* in passenger fares and to 13,796 *yen* in miscellaneous receipts, making a total of 543,339 *yen*. The aggregate expenditure for the term under review did not exceed 280,288 *yen*, leaving a balance of 261,050 *yen* as profit. Of this amount 130,055 *yen*, (5 per cent.) was set apart as reserve and 16 100 *yen* as rewards to officials. There is thus a surplus of 220.895 *yen*, which, added to the amount brought over from the previous account, makes a total of 250,870 *yen*. Of this 175,000 *yen* was distributed to holders of founders' shares at the rate of 8.75 *yen* per share, 29,200 *yen* to holders of 2nd issue new shares at the rate of 2 92 *yen*, and 17,500 *yen* to holders of 3rd issue shares at the rate of 4.37 *yen*; leaving 2,910 *yen* to be carried over. The receipts on the Shinagawa line are said to have amounted to 40 610 *yen* and the expenditure to 23.443 *yen*, leaving a balance of 18,167 *yen* as net profit.

The foreign trade of Japan continues to increase from year to year, remarks the *Nichi Nichi*. Since the promulgation of the new Customs Tariff a general excess is noticeable in exports, the average monthly return for this year being 16,781,000 *yen*. Compared with the corresponding figure for last year, this shows an increase of 4,263 000 *yen*, whereas the imports have considerably decreased, the average monthly return for the current year being only 17,069 000 *yen*, which indicates a diminution of 7.343,000 *yen* as compared with the figure for last year. This reduction in imports is due to the large stock accumulated in anticipation of the operation of the new tariff in the beginning of this year, the market being still glutted. As for the Customs receipts, however, the aggregate total from January to September this year does not fall short of 11,126,000 *yen*, showing an increase of 28 per cent. in comparison with the figure—8,674 000 *yen*—for last year, and over 84 per cent. as compared with the sum of 6,024 000 *yen*, the yearly average for the past ten years. This extraordinary increment is of course due to the new tariff enforced since January and the tonnage law which went into operation from the 4th August last.

Ono Naosuke, a forwarding agent at Kobe Station, and three other men have been arrested on a charge of having forged a bill of lading issued by Mr. Kajinishi Genzo, Uchi Kaigun, Shichome, and obtained 924 bags of China rice and 900 bags of China beans, in November last. The total value of the goods is put at *yen* 12,000.

The term of operation of the various banks maintained under the name of National Banks has already expired, and not one of them exists at present, remarks the *Fiji*, in its original form. Nevertheless the paper issued by them—about a million *yen* in all—is still in circulation, but as it lost the nature of currency from the 9th instant in accordance with Law No 8 of the 29th year of *Meiji*, measures must be taken for exchange within five years commencing on the 10th instant. As to the notes issued by the Government in the past, it is estimated that the aggregate total of 50 *sen* to 1 *yen* denominations does not exceed 4 million *yen*. This amount is to be withdrawn from circulation on the 31st instant according to Law No. 6 promulgated in June of last year, which also fixes the period of exchange at five years. The banks which have been closed by order of the Government or have dissolved on their own account, but whose paper is still in circulation, are four in all; viz., the 26th, 33rd, 108th, and 136th. The period of exchange for this class of paper expires on the 31st instant, and holders of the same may be cautioned against sustaining losses by delay.

According to the *Osaka Asahi*, the Custom House returns of the foreign trade of Kobe for the latter half of last month are as follows:—

	Latter half of November last. yen.	Aggregate total from January 1899 yen.
Exports.....	2,734.958	67.980,621
Imports	3.455,469	103.916,655
Total.....	6,190,427	171,897.276
Excess of imports	720,511	35,936,034

Statistics of staple imports and exports are given as follows:—

EXPORTS.	Yen.
Manufactured tea	19.693
Cotton yarns	704,867
Habutaye	39,061
Rice	231,701
IMPORTS.	**Yen.**
Rice	54,859
Raw Cotton	536 374
Sugar	36,462
Cotton yarns	102,183

Thus, the export of yarns exceeds the import of raw cotton by 168,493 *yen*. The extraordinary increment in the export of yarns is due only to a sudden increase in the demand for fine "passed" yarns. As to the imports and exports of gold and silver bullion, the figures for November are 128,056 *yen* and 8,311,725 *yen* respectively, while the aggregate totals of these two items from January this year are 18,143.092 *yen* and 7,773,472 *yen*. Compared with October last year an increase of 1,303,025 *yen* is noticeable in exports.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two young Japanese girls were arrested on the *Gaelic* by the water police. They were in possession of passports issued to other persons, their intention being to leave the country for immoral purposes.

Two coolies working on board the S. S *Gaelic* were arrested by the water police on Tuesday afternoon for having concealed on their persons 85 pieces of raw silk, valued at 148, *yen* which they had extracted from bales they were handling on board.

Nichida Umetaro, a delivery man of the Kobe Post and Telegraph Office, has been arrested on a charge of appropriating several photographs out of a parcel which was damaged during transportation.

We have received from the Rev. E. Snodgrass, 14 Tsukiji, Tokyo, on behalf of the Broadway Christian Church, Lexington, Kentucky, U.S.A., the sum of 23 *yen* 65 *sen* subscribed for the relief of sufferers by the great fire in Yokohama last August. The amount will be forwarded to the City Authorities.

The suspicions of a detective were aroused on Wednesday night by a well-known pick pocket trying to dispose of a watch. He was invited to the Police Station and asked to explain the affair. After a while he confessed to having purlo ned the watch from the vest pocket a foreigner who was taking a stroll. The watch of is at Isezakicho Police Station, awaiting its owner.

A meeting of those interested in the forma tion of a Hockey Club for Kobe was held in the Gymnasium on Wednesday evening, and it was unanimously resolved to form a Club to be called the Kobe Hocky Club. Play will be commenced as soon as gear can be obtained. It is intended, says the *Herald*, to call for a small subscription to defray necessary expenses.

A gang of thieves has been arrested by the Kobe Police. Seven of the men have been evad ing the authorities since 1897, when they were wanted for house-breaking and other offences. They have been working in conjunction with accomplices in Ise. Several hundred pieces of silk and cotton goods—stolen by the Ise gang —were seized. The total value of the recovered property is estimated at *yen* 2,000.

The *Straits Times* says :—People in Singapore who want to buy horses and are surprised at the increase in prices may as well know that the increase is due solely to the Transvaal War. The Imperial Government have buyers in Sydney, Melbourne, and elsewhere ; and, when the mail left Australia, they had bought upwards of 2,000 horses. Since then, they have probably bought many more.

The hearing of this case, in which the Japan Brewery Company were prosecuting a Japanese dealer for infringing their trade rights by counterfeiting labels, was concluded on Tuesday in the Chiho Saibansho.

The Public Procurator urged that as bottles bearing the same counterfeit label as those traced to defendant had been found elsewhere there was no proof that defendant was responsible for the counterfeit.

The court eventually dismissed both the criminal charge and the claim of 2,500 *yen*, throwing costs on the Brewery Company.

The rumours of misunderstanding between Russia and Japan evidently originated in a letter from Söul, which appeared in the *Times* a few weeks ago : "The Japanese are convinced that to permit Russia to acquire Korea or establish Russian ascendency in Northern China would be strategically, politically, and commercially a deadly menace to Japan's rapidly developing strength. Japan believes her navy is strong enough to attack Russia, and the general opinion is that the interests of the two nations are so conflicting that it is impossible to avoid a rupture in the near future." The *Spectator*, discussing the matter, thinks such a conflict extremely probable, but does not see any cause for Great Britain to interfere, adding: "Let the bear and shark fight their quarrel for themselves, while we, with America, insist upon the open-door policy."

The Michigan Supreme Court has handed down another remarkable decision. The facts of the case are these : Some years ago a prominent Michigan politican died, and soon after his portrait was adopted by a tobacco company as the trade-mark for a certain brand of cigars. The widow objec ed to the use that was being made of the face of her dead husband, and after a vain protest applied for an injunction against it. The case reached the supreme court and inspired a decision that the law does not prevent offences against good taste, nor does it discriminate between persons who are sensitive and those who are not.

On the invitation of M. Ratard, the French residents of Yokohama and Tokyo have held two meetings at the Consulate of France to discuss the disputed question of the House Tax. At the first meeting on Saturday, it was decided to consult the French Minister, and at the second meeting on Monday M. Ratard, the Consul, who had in the interim seen M. Harmand, stated that the advice tendered was that French citizens should refrain from paying the tax until explicit instructions were received from the French Foreign Office. It was decided to follow this counsel.

The N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich* arrived at Honmoku lightship on Monday morning, but the sea was deeemed too rough and the wind too strong for the quarantine officers to visit her, and she remained outside all day. The German Consul made some representations to the Kencho, and the C. P. R. launch was chartered for the journey, but after going out side the breakwater she had to turn round. The vessel arrived at 8 a.m. and at that time there was little sea on. The gale in the afternoon blew a lighter against the breakwater, but she was not greatly damaged.

The following letter has been handed to us for publication :—

Mr. Kahei Otani,
Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—At the final session of the International Commercial Congress held in Philadelphia Nov. 1st, 1899, you were chosen for the ensuing term as Vice-President for Japan of the Advisory Board of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. It gives pleasure to confirm this choice, and to express our confidence that the work of commercial expansion to which the Institution is devoted will derive material advantage from your participation in it.

Very respectfully yours,

W. P. WILSON,
Director.

Mr. A. B. Lloyd in his recent book, "In Dwarf Land and Cannibal Country," describes the Pigmy forest of the Aruwimi in the Congo region. Mr. Lloyd, who has been a missionary in the Uganda Protectorate, had his first sight of a Pigmy while hunting wild pig. Seeing what seemed to be a monkey in a tree top he prepared to fire, but his boy stopped him with, "Don't fire, it's a man ":—

I almost dropped my gun, so great was my astonishment. Could it possibly be so? Yes, there he was; I could now clearly distinguish him. He had discovered us, had heard my boy speak to me, and while with breathless horror we stood there gazing, the little man ran along the branch on which he stood, and, jumping from tree to tree, soon disappeared. It was a Pigmy, and how nearly had he paid the penalty of climbing trees! The height of these little men is given at 4 ft. The women are shorter. They are very strong and quite harmless.

General de Galliffet advances rapidly to his end, the restoration of discipline in the French Army. The recent decree by which he resumes control of promotion to all higher appointments, a prerogative surrendered by M. de Freycinet, restores effective power to the Minister of War, and two new decrees will purify the upper ranks. By one he sends into retirement a number of Inspecting Generals who diffused over France the feelings of the Supreme Military Council in Paris, where they generally resided, and by another he introduces a new element into that body. Generals commanding army corps in the interior are made *ex officio* members, and, while still residing with their commands, will come up to Paris to take part in its deliberations. The general object, it will be seen, is to break up the "gang," which has become infected with political feeling, and to restore the influence of the Generals actually on service, together with that of the Minister of War.

A Danish doctor has devised a new method of treatment for sufferers from nervous irritation. The prescription is an adaptation of the venerable game of "Aunt Sally," the patient being instructed to keep a lay figure on hand, and to hurl missiles at it whenever the irritable fit comes on. A *World* poet thus deals with the subject :—

For all the nerves that jump and start
There's nothing like Aunt Sally ;
And for this "cure" I set apart
A sort of skittle-alley.

There is no tonic in the land
That can compete with Sally ;
The height of therapeutic art
Are "cockshies" in her alley.

A portrait model of your foe
Will serve instead of Sally ;
With "Brother Boer" in effigy
You need not shilly-shally.

But when his head you knock about
Your drooping spirits rally,
And cool of head you go to bed,
Quite cured by old Aunt Sally.

MEDICAL AND OTHER LICENSES.

The following practitioners have been granted licenses by the Home Department under the new Regulations :—

Doctors :—W. S. Warden, American ; W. N. Whitney, American ; D. McDonald, British ; S. Eldridge, American ; T. H. Tripler, American ; E. Wheeler, British ; C. H. H. Hall, American ; T Kate, Dutch ; N. G. Monro, British ; W. Taylor American ; H. Lanning, American ; W. W. Corban, British ; G. Flandin, French ; R. S. Miller, British ; Miss A. D. H. Kelsey, American ; E. Baelz, German ; and J. Scriba, German.

Dentists :—L. Ottofy, American ; A. G. Smith, American ; H. Slade, American ; M. A. Howe, American ; G. Pole, American ; S. R. Cushing, American.

Pharmacists :—R. W. Borthwick, British ; W. Muller, German ; F. W. Thomas, British ; W. H. Cole, British ; J. W. Franklin, British ; A. R. G. Clark, British ; A. Marsh, British ; F. R. Elliot, British ; F. T. Leak, British ; F. Starke, German ; F. H. Farley, British ; J. Schedel, German.

A DISPUTE REGARDING ALCOHOL.

The suit brought by Otake Mohei, of Tokyo against Messrs. Worch & Co., for the return of 10,000 cases of alcohol deposited with defendants in March, on which a sum of *yen* 132,700 was borrowed, came on for hearing before Judge Fujise, in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, on Thursday morning at 10 a.m.

The plaintiff prayed that the Court order the defendants to hand over the alcohol deposited as security, plaintiff being willing to pay the money borrowed thereon.

The defendants, through their lawyer, denied all and every of the plaintiff's claims. The alcohol deposited with them was long ago delivered to the plaintiff, and the money received. At the request of the plaintiff's lawyer, the case was adjourned to January 23rd at 10 a.m.

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THE JAPANESE NAVY.

The *Fiji* publishes a table showing the strength of the Imperial Japanese Navy, together with the gross tonnage of eacn man-of-war and the places of anchorage. It is as follows:—

Name.	Tonnage.	Place of anchorage.
Fuji	12,446	Yokosuka.
Yashima	12,140	Takeshiki.
Asama	9.855	Yokosuka.
Tokiwa	9.855	Kure.
Chinyen	7,433	Yokosuka.
Kasagi	4.978	Kure.
Chishima	4,836	Sasebo.
Matsushima	4.278	Takeshiki.
Itsukushima	4,278	Kure.
Hashidate	4,278	Yokosuka.
Takasago	4,227	Yokosuka.
Yoshino	4,216	Kure.
Toyohashi	4,113	Yokosuka.
Fuso	3.778	Kure.
Naniwa	3,709	Kure.
Takachiho	3,709	Nagasaki.
Akitsusu	3,150	Sasebo.
Izumi	2,967	Yokosuka.
Akashi	2,800	Takeshiki.
Suma	2,700	Amoy.
Chiyoda	2,440	Kure.
Saiyen	2,300	Yokosuka.
Kongo	2,284	Kure.
Hiyei	2,284	Kure.
Heiyen	2,185	Yokosuka.
Tsukuba	1,978	Edashima.
Miyako	1,800	Miyajima.
Takao	1,778	Shanghai.
Yayeyama	1,609	Shanghai.
Tenryu	1,547	Hageyama.
Katsuragi	1,502	Sasebo.
Musashi	1,502	Yokosuka.
Yamato	1,502	Hageyama.
Tsukushi	1,502	Kure.
Kaimon	1,367	Sasebo.
Amagi	926	Yokosuka.
Tatsuta	864	Yokosuka.
Akagi	667	Kure.
Oshima	640	Nagasaki.
Maya	622	Kure.
Atago	622	Yokosuka.
Chokai	622	Chefoo.
Iwaki	622	Shinagawa.
Soko	610	Toba.
Chimpen	440	Kure.
Ikazuchi	311	Yokosuka.
Akebono	311	Yokosuka.
Murakumo	279	Kure.
Shimonome	279	Takeshiki.
Shirakumo	279	Yokosuka.

CHINA NOTES.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* has received news that H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia has been promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral. He is just about paying his visit to the King of Siam at Bangkok. Thence he proceeds on his flagship the *Deutschland* to Singapore, where he will meet the German mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich* and return home by her.

A Yangchow telegram to the Shanghai mandarins reports that an Imperial edict has been issued doubling the deposit required by the Government from the Salt monopolists of that territory commencing with next year, when new licenses will have to be issued. The origin of this decree, says a contemporary, was caused by a Censor who memorialised the Throne that the Salt monopolists of Kiangsu are rolling in wealth and pay too lightly for their monopoly. The monopolists, however, see things in a totally different light and a hard fight is expected.

News comes from Tientsin that H.E. Li Hung-chang intends to commence his trade investigations beginning at that port, in which event he may not leave for the Southern ports before the end of the Chinese New Year holidays—20th February, 1900. From Tientsin H.E. will pay Chefoo a visit, then Tsingtao, and Shanghai. A high Chinese official temporarily staying in Shanghai has stated it as his opinion that, should H.E. Li Hung-chang's mission prove a success, the Trade Investigation Commissionership will probably be made a permanent post, with headquarters either at Shanghai or Tientsin, the probability being in favour of the latter place.

Says the *N.-C. Daily News*:—The recent brush at Kuangchouwan has encouraged the Chinese in their belief in the efficiency of the two-man breech-loading *jingals* that the arsenals at Peking, Tientsin, Nanking, Canton, and Wuchang have been turning out in large numbers. These *jingals* use centre-fire cartridges carrying two half-ounce slugs; they fire as rapidly as an ordinary breech-loading rifle and carry considerably farther than the French magazine rifle. Chinese soldiers, too, fight much better in pairs than singly,

Vice-Admiral Sir E. Seymour left Hongkong on 27th Nov. in H.M.S. *Centurion* for Siam and Singapore. The flagship will return to Hongkong before being relieved on this station. It is expected that her relief will be out about April, but it is as yet uncertain whether the new flagship is to be the *Glory* or the *Goliath*. Both are new ships of the same class preparing for their first commission. The *Glory* was mentioned first, but as the *Goliath* is the more advanced it is thought possible the final selection may fall on her.

THE BOERS' LOSSES.

With reference to the Boers' official statement of their total losses up to the 21st of November—namely, 20 killed and 200 wounded,—in the face of the numerous engagements they had fought and in spite of the fact that nearly a thousand Boer prisoners were marched into Magtzburg before the investment of Ladysmith was completed, a correspondent draws our attention to the concluding paragraphs of the *Standard's* account of the fight at Glencoe:—

October 21, morning.

The Cavalry did splendid work yesterday, after the final retreat of the Boers. Enraged at the loss of so many gallant comrades and officers, the Hussars charged again and again with desperate ferocity, and took a signal revenge. Many Boers threw away their arms and did not attempt to fight or escape, and were taken prisoners. The Artillery returned to camp as darkness was setting in.

5.45 p.m.

One circumstance of yesterday's fight should not be overlooked in view of certain Boer boasts that have been current since Majuba. On retreating the Boers sent in a flag of truce asking permission to remove their killed and wounded. Permission was, of course, given.

I am still gathering the details of the pursuit by the Cavalry. The enemy retired in the utmost confusion, some on horses, some on foot, who had had their horses killed. Many mounted Boers took a comrade up behind them, and the spectacle of one horse carrying two Boers was not uncommon. When the Artillery returned it was still raining in torrents. The Boer casualties have been exceedingly heavy, but owing to the extended area of the fight, I am not able to be more precise than to say that my *first estimate of about a thousand must be very much under the mark.* They have left a great number of dead on the top of the hill which was so gallantly stormed by the British Infantry.

BILL RELATING TO THE LAW OF RELIGIONS.

We take the following from the columns of the *Japan Times*:—

LAW OF RELIGIONS.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Art. I.—No association or foundation having for its object the public propagation of religion or the performance of religious services, can become a juridical person unless in accordance with this Law.

Art. II.—The term *kyōkwai* (church) used in this Law shall be held to mean a juridical person, either association or foundation, which, not being a *tera* (Buddhist temple), has for its object the public propagation of religious services.

Art. III.—The term *tera* (Buddhist temple) used in this Law shall be held to mean a foundation—being a juridical person—which possesses a *jiin* (temple) and has for its object the propagation of religious doctrines and the performance of religious rites.

The *jiin* is an edifice where a principal idol of Buddhism is installed, religious doctrines are preached and religious rites are performed and priests reside.

Art. IV.—No association or foundation exercising a general control over the associations or foundations provided for in the two preceding Articles can become a *kyōkwai* or *tera*.

Art. V.—The term *kyōha* or *shūha* (sect) used in this Law shall be held to mean a religious body which, having for its object the public propagation of religion or the performance of religious services, exercises general control over the *kyōkwai* or *tera* in accordance with the provisions of the *kyōki* or *shūsei* (sectary regulations.)

No religious body subordinated to any *kyōha* or *shūha* can itself become a *kyōha* or *shūha*.

Art. VI.—No association or foundation which maintains a religious body or bodies, other than *kyōha, shūha, kyōkwai* or *tera*, can become a juridical person.

Art. VII.—A *kyōha, shūha, kyokwai* or *tera* may add to its objects prescribed in this Law the undertaking of any enterprise for the public benefit in accordance with the sectary regulations or the *kyōkwai* or *tera* regulations.

Art. VIII.—When a public meeting is to be held in connection with religious matters, excepting such cases as are permitted by usage, the promoters thereof shall report to the Administrative Authorities the object, place, date and hour of the meeting, not later than twenty-four hours previous to the opening of such meeting. This shall not apply to public meetings held by the religious bodies which have obtained the approval or permission of the authorities concerned.

In case a religious body shall hold public meetings in connection with religious matters at a fixed place and at regular periods, the report thereof shall be made not later than twenty-four hours previous to the opening of the first meeting; but no further report shall be required for the succeeding meetings, unless any change is made in the particulars previously reported.

Art. IX.—When any action taken in connection with the propagation of religion, the performance of religious services or any other religious matters, shall be deemed detrimental to the public peace or order, or injurious to public morals, or contrary to the duties of subjects, the authorities concerned may order such action to be modified or retracted, or may prohibit it.

Art. X.—No person who has been deprived of public rights or whose public rights have been suspended can become a manager of any religious body; nor can he hold any public meeting in connection with religious matters.

Art. XII.—No land or building used for purposes of worship by a *kyōha, shūha, kyōkwai* or *tera* can be attached.

Art. XII.—No tax shall be levied upon the following property:

1. Buildings and premises used for the purpose of propagating religion or performing religious services by a *kyōha, shūha*, or *kyōkwai*, and buildings established within such premises for the residence of teachers of religion.

2. *Jiin* and *Butsudō* belonging to a *tera*, and the premises thereof.

Regarding the exemption from the land tax in virtue of the preceding clause, the provisions appertaining to the land for public schools in Art. III. of the Land Tax regulations apply correspondingly.

No registration tax shall be levied for registering control of the premises. The restrictions as to the use of the land and buildings thereon, as well as the description and limits of the property to be exempted from taxation as provided for in the preceding Article shall be determined by Order.

Art. XIV.—*Kyōha, shūha, kyōkwai, tera* and other religious bodies shall be subject to the supervision of the authorities concerned.

The authorities concerned collect reports on their affairs, examine their condition, and otherwise issue such Orders or take such measures as are deemed necessary for exercising proper supervision.

Art. XV.—When a *kyōha, shūha, kyōkwai* or *tera* shall be deemed to have acted in contravention of Law or Order or to have undertaken an enterprise with an object, or to have violated any of the conditions under which the approval or permission has been given, or when it is deemed necessary for public interests, the authorities con-

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cerned may revoke the approval or permission already given.

CHAPTER II.

"KYŌKWAI" AND "TERA."

Art. XVI.—Persons desiring to establish a *kyōkwai* or *tera* shall prepare the *kyōkwai* regulations or *tera* regulations, and obtain the permission of the Authorities concerned.

Art. XVII.—Alteration of the *kyōkwai* regulations or *tera* regulations, shall be subject to the approval of the Authorities concerned.

Art. XVIII.—There shall be a resident priest in a *tera*.

A vice-resident priest may be appointed in a *tera* according to the provisions of the *tera* regulations.

The vice-resident priest shall act for the resident priest in case a vacancy occurs in the latter post, or the resident priest is unable to discharge his functions, or the interests of the *tera* conflict with those of the resident priest.

Art. XIX.—There shall be a certain number of councillors in a *tera*, unless the permission of the Authorities concerned has been obtained to the contrary in cases where there are exceptional circumstances.

All matters regarding the number, term, qualifications, method of selection, powers and duties, and dismissal of the councillors, shall be determined by the *shūsei* or *tera* regulations.

Art. XX.—If a resident priest act without the consent of the councillors in cases where such consent is required according to the provisions of Orders, such action shall not be regarded as that of the *tera*.

Art. XXI.—Regarding the control and disposal of the property belonging to a *tera*, the approval of the Authorities concerned shall be obtained in accordance with the requirement of Orders.

In such case, any action taken without the required approval shall not be regarded as that of the *tera*.

Art. XXII.—The *Kyōkwai* regulations or *tera* regulations shall have the same effect as the articles of association provided for in Art. XXXVII. of the Civil Code or the act of endowment of Art. XXXIX of the same Code.

Art. XXIII.—The provisions relating to directors of a juridical person in the Civil Code and the Law for the Enforcement of the Civil Code, shall be applied correspondingly to the resident priests and the vice-resident priests acting on behalf of the resident priests, unless otherwise specially provided for in this Law.

Art XXIV.—The functions to be performed by a Court of Law in accordance with Articles 40, 59, and 57 of the Civil Code, shall be exercised by the Authorities concerned either on the application of the persons interested or in virtue of the official function of the said Authorities.

Art. XXV.—In case a *jiin* is not built within the prescribed period after obtaining the permission for the establishment of a *tera*, or in case a *jiin* is not rebuilt within five years after its destruction, such *tera* shall be deemed as dissolved.

Art. XXVI.—When the charter of a *kyōha* or *shūha* shall have been terminated, the *kyōkwai* or *tera* which belonged to such *kyōha* or *shuha* shall apply within three months, for approval of the consequent alterations in the *kyōkwai* regulations or *tera* regulations.

The *kyōkwai* or *tera* which shall not apply for approval as provided for in the preceding clause, or which has not obtained such approval shall be deemed as dissolved.

Art. XXVII.—The method of dealing with the treasures belonging to *tera* which have been dissolved, shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

CHAPTER III.

"KYOHA" AND "SHUHA."

Art. XXVIII.—A religious body desiring to become a *kyōha* or *shūha* shall frame a *kyōki* or *shūsei* and obtain therefor the approval of the Authorities concerned.

Art. XXIX.—The *kyōha* or *shūha* shall appoint a representative who is to be approved by the Authorities concerned.

Art. XXX.—When disputes arise in connection with the matters regulated by a *kyōki* or *shūsei* but which have reference to matters determined by Imperial Ordinance, they shall be adjudged by the Religious Council.

Such disputes as are to be adjudged by the Religious Council in accordance with the preceding clause, shall not be amenable to the jurisdiction of Civil Courts.

In cases where the matters to be tried and adjudged by the Religious Council form wholly or in part the cause of judgment in a law suit, the Court of Law concerned shall defer the hearing of such suit until the judgment of the Religious Council shall have been rendered.

The organization, powers and procedure of the Religious Council shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XXXI.—The judgments of the Religious Council shall be executed in accordance with the process of execution of administrative measures.

Art. XXXII.—The provisions of Art. XVII. hereof shall apply correspondingly to *kyoki* and *seishu*.

CHAPTER IV.

"KYOSHI" (Teachers of Religion).

Art. XXXIII.—The term *kyoshi* used in this Law shall be held to mean those who are engaged in the public propagation of religion or the performance of religious services.

Art. XXXIV.—No person who has been deprived of public rights or whose public rights have been suspended can become a *kyoshi*.

Art. XXXV.—The provisions of Art. 360 of the Criminal Code, the provisions concerning testimony of persons referred to in No. 2 of the first clause of Art. 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and in No. 2 of the first clause of Art. 298 of the Code of Civil Procedure, shall apply correspondingly to *kyoshi*.

Art. XXXVI.—The Authorities concerned may suspend or stop a *kyoshi* whose conduct is deemed detrimental to public peace or order.

Art. XXXVII.—No *kyoshi* can give public expression to his opinions on political affairs or engage in any movement of a political character.

Art. XXXVIII.—Matters relating to the qualifications and selection of *kyoshi* belonging to a *kyoha*, *shuha*, *kyokwai* or *tera*, shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XXXIX.—The provisions of Nos. 5 and 6 of Art. 570 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply correspondingly to *kyoshi* belonging to a *kyosha*, *shuha*, *kyokwai* or *tera*.

CHAPTER V.

PENAL PROVISIONS.

Art XL.—When Art VIII. hereof is infringed, the promoter shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 20 *yen*.

Any person who, even though he render the report provided for in Art. VIII. hereof, does not state true facts therein, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 30 *yen*.

Art. XLI.—Any person who shall infringe the Order or prohibition referred to in Art. IX. hereof shall be liable to minor confinement for a period not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding 300 *yen*.

Art. XLII.—Any person who shall become a manager of any religious body or hold a public meeting in contravention of Art. X. hereof, or who shall exercise the functions of a *kyoshi* in contravention of Art. XXXIV. hereof, shall be liable to major confinement for a period not exceeding one year with an additional fine not exceeding 10 *yen*.

Any person who knowing the fact shall appoint to be a *kyoshi* any person who has been deprived of public rights or whose public rights have been suspended, shall be liable to the same penalties as those provided in the preceding clause.

Art. XLIII.—When no report is rendered, in contravention of an order of the Authorities concerned given under Art. XIV. hereof, the manager of the religious body concerned shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 20 *yen*.

Any person who even though he render the report referred to in the preceding clause, does not state true facts therein, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 30 *yen*.

Any person who shall obstruct, in any way, the examination of the Authorities concerned, to be made under Art. XIV. hereof, shall be liable to the same penalty as that provided in the preceding clause. In cases, however, where due provisions are made in the Criminal Code, those provisions shall be applied.

Art. XLIV.—Any person who shall adopt fraudulent or seductive means in the propagation of religion or the performance of religious services, or who shall exercise the functions of a *kyoshi* in disregard of the order by which he has been suspended or stopped under Art. XXXVI. hereof, shall be punished by minor confinement for a period not exceeding one year or by a fine not exceeding 200 *yen*.

Any person who shall, knowing the fact, appoint to be a *kyoshi* a person who has been deprived of public rights or whose public rights have been suspended, as provided for in Art. XXXVI. hereof, shall be liable to the same penalties as those provided in the preceding clause.

Art. XLV.—Any person who shall infringe Art. XXXVII. shall be punished by minor confinement for a period not exceeding one month or by a fine not exceeding 30 *yen*.

Art. XLVI.—Any person who shall slander or defame a *kyoha*, *shuha*, *kyokwai* or *tera* by public speeches or by circulation of documents or pictures, or by performance of plays or by construction of figures, shall be punished by major confinement for a period not exceeding one year with an additional fine not exceeding 50 *yen*.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS.

Art. XLVII.—The Instructions of the Home Department, No. 33 B. and No. 3 E. of the 14th year of *Meiji*, and No. 1 E. of the 15th year of *Meiji*, and the Notification of the *Dajokwan*, No. 19 of the 17th year of *Meiji*, as well as the other rules and regulations heretofore in force, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Law, shall cease to be binding in so far as they relate to the religious bodies belonging to *Shinto* and Buddhism, to associations or foundations maintaining such bodies or *jiin*, and to the other buildings used for religious purposes. The said Instructions, Ordinances, rules and regulations shall, however, continue in force for a period not exceeding one year after this Law comes into operation, in respect of such religious bodies as have not obtained approval or permission in accordance with the present Law.

Art. XLVIII.—Rules regarding the disposal of property belonging to a *jiin*, *shi-u* (*Shinto* temples) or *butsudo* (Buddhist temples or edifices) which have existed prior to the coming into operation of this Law, but have not become a *kyokwai* or *tera* according to this Law, shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XLIX—Regarding the *tera* in Okinawa-Ken, the existing rules shall remain in force until the Regulation therefor shall be promulgated by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. L.—The provisions of Art. XXVIII. of the Law for the Enforcement of the Civil Code shall cease to be binding by virtue of this Law, in so far as they concern *jiin*, *shi-u* and *butsudo*.

Art. LI.—The provisions relating to *tera* in the existing laws or ordinances shall, after the lapse of one year from the coming into operation of this Law, apply exclusively to those which shall have obtained permission according to this Law.

The provisions relating to priests or religious teachers in the existing Laws and Ordinances shall, after the lapse of one year from the coming into operation of this Law, apply exclusively to teachers of religion mentioned in this Law.

Art. LII.—Associations or foundations having for their object the propagation of religion or the performance of religious services, which have become juridical persons under the Civil Code or the Law for the Enforcement of the Civil Code shall, within one year from the coming into operation of this Law, frame *kyoki*, *shusei*, or *kyokwai* regulations according to this Law, and apply for the approval or permission of the Authorities concerned.

Those which shall not apply for the approval or permission provided for in the preceding clause, shall be deemed to have been dissolved.

Art. LIII.—This Law shall take effect from the 1st day of the 7th month of the 33rd year of *Meiji*.

BILL FOR AMENDING THE CONSCRIPTION LAW.

The Law of Conscription is amended as follows:—

The following clause is added to Art. XIII:—

"In case a teacher of religion belonging to a *kioha*, *shuha*, or *tera*, who, being a graduate of a Middle School established by the Government, Fu or Ken, or any other school whose standard is recognized by the Minister of Education as equal or superior to that of any of the above mentioned schools, shall become liable to military service in one of those branches of arms where he may be called upon to engage in active fighting, his enlistment may, upon his application, be deferred. Any person who shall cease to be a teacher of religion before attaining the age of 32 years shall be enlisted without the process of drawing lots. Any person who shall still be serving as a teacher of religion after attaining the age of 32 years, shall be enrolled in the *kokuminhei* (National Militia)."

After the words: "persons who have returned from abroad" in Art. XXV., the following words are added: "and those who, falling under the third clause of the same Article, shall cease to be teachers of religions before attaining the age of 32 years."

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION.

This Law shall take effect from the 1st day of the 7th month of the 33rd year of *Meiji*.

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ARMY SCANDALS.

(From the "New York World.")

London, Nov. 12.

Some army and navy scandals of a serious character are brewing. The Admiralty will have something to answer for in regard to transportation. The commissariat department will be called upon some day to answer for stores for man and beast which have been found unfit for use just before loading.

While all parties have united to support the Government in the crisis, severe criticism is coming as to how the earlier stages of the war are being conducted. One great outcry is why the troops were not mobilized earlier than is being done. Thousands of troops are now being hurried to the front, but the question is asked in many quarters why were they not transported much quicker. Though many splendid ships have been hired as transports, there are some which are reckoned below the standard for such purposes. Much indignation is expressed over the putting of soldiers on old, slow boats. The Government has been ready and anxious to pay any amount for the best transports and the best food that could be got.

A great factor in strengthening the British forces in South Africa was the speed of vessels, and the question is asked why the Admiralty, which is responsible for the hiring of transports, did not secure in every case the best and fleetest vessels. I understand on high authority that the most serious critic of the work of the Admiralty in this respect is the commander-in-chief himself, Lord Wolseley. There is no complaint about the seaworthiness of the vessels employed, but many of them cannot make more than ten knots an hour. None are reckoned dangerous, but, seaworthiness being granted, time being the main object, many of the transports are not, in the opinion of military authorities, Lord Wolseley in particular, up to the standard required.

It is beginning to be hinted that in some instances there have been dealings between certain subordinate Admiralty officials and the owners of ships which offer something more than mere ground of suspicion that ships are being certified as up to the standard which ought never to have been hired at all, for considerations which may mildly be termed commissions. Without particularizing as to the rank held by some of these officials appointed by the Admiralty as transport surveyors, it is well known that some of these men are not highly paid and therefore the temptation to quietly accept consideration for passing certain ships as up to requirements has been great. There will, no doubt, be a strict inquiry into these irregularities. The time that is being lost on the mobilization of forces in South Africa through slow transports is too serious to pass without it, for this means a delay in relieving General White, Colonel Baden Powell and those gallantly holding out at Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking.

If reinforcements arrive one day too late it will be known where the blame lies—not with the military authorities, but with the Admiralty.

There will also be an inquiry into the working of the commissariat department. Certain dealings there have passed the bounds of suspicion. In some cases compressed fodder for horses and food for men have, on examination before the sailing of vessels, proved below the standard and have been thrown aside. In those cases certain contractors have secured orders through making compacts of a shady character with subordinates who have had the handling of stores and it was only through the thoroughness and alertness of those officers whose duty it was to finally examine the stores that the scandals have been brought to light.

A PUZZLED JUDGE.

At the Shoreditch County Court the other day, before his Honour Judge French, Q.C., the wording of a section of the Employers' Liability Act caused a curious difficulty. The question was as to what were machines driven by "steam, water, or mechanical power."

His Honour: What is the meaning of the word "mechanical"?

Mr. Hall (counsel): I should say that it means appertaining to mechanism.

His Honour: Yes, I suppose a person would say that, but that does not alter the question; for what it only necessitates me to ask is—what is "mechanism?"

Mr. Hall: Well, I must confess I don't know (laughter).

His Honour (smiling): Neither do I. What does the dictionary give as the meaning of "mechanical?"

A dictionary was procured, but as regards "mechanical," that was described as anything connected with mechanism, and "mechanism" anything mechanical (loud laughter).

His Honour: That doesn't assist us at all. Is there no authority as to what these words mean?

Mr. Hall: I don't know of any, but I should say that mechanical power would be any power other than human force.

His Honour: What other power is there beside steam and water; let us get at that.

Mr. Hall: Well, electricity is one.

His Honour: We cannot deal with that, for, when this Act was framed, electricity was not known, so the words could not have applied to that.

Mr. Hall: Well, hydraulic power?

His Honour: But isn't that water?

Mr. Hall: Oh, yes.

His Honour: You see, this Act distinctly says steam, water, or mechanical power; now, what power does that word "mechanical" mean if it doesn't mean human force?

Mr. Hall: I must say I do not believe that human force is mechanical.

His Honour: But how can I decide that until I know the definition of the word mechanical?

Mr. Hall: The interpretation, as accepted by the Factory inspector, is that human force is not mechanical force.

His Honour: But can I accept any interpretation of the Home Office as evidence? Their interpretation may be wrong.

Mr. Hall: I presume there must be a legal meaning of the word.

His Honour: Oh, undoubtedly but if you and I cannot find it, what are we to do? If mechanical power does not include human power, then what is mechanical power? I think we must adjourn this case, and I will look up the authorities on the point. I would like to find the origin of the word mechanical.

Mr. Robinson: (counsel on the other side) Mechanical power, I should submit, would be any power.

His Honour: But I should think that when this Act was framed it intended to mean by mechanical power any force whereby an employé could meet with an injury through that force being produced by means over which he had no control. Now, would human force come within that definition?

Mr. Robinson: But in this factory the machines, though worked by treadles, have a large fly wheel which causes the machine to continue work after the foot is removed, and does not stop instantly.

His Honour: Well I must adjourn the case, and look up some authorities; for, until I know what was the meaning of the word mechanical being inserted in this section of the Act, I must admit that it seems extraordinary that none of us can explain the meaning of the word that is actually used as a style of trade; for I have often heard of mechanical engineers.

Mr. Hall: So have I.

His Honour: And what are they? (laughter).

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, December 8.

The *Morning Post* has a telegram from Estcourt which says that, on the 3rd instant, Ladysmith signalled that all was well.

Two batteries of Horse Artillery have been ordered to sail for the Cape on the 9th instant.

There are indications of a great engagement pending at Spyfontein.

Later.

Lord Salisbury has recovered, and will attend the Cabinet Council to-morrow.

A telegram from Ladysmith says that all was well on the 5th, and that the enemy's fire was ineffective.

The Boers have occupied and annexed Griqua Town, where they were joyfully received by the Dutch, who had previously been in a state of open rebellion.

Three thousand Boers from Natal are reinforcing Cronje, and the whole Mafeking commando has joined the Kimberley force. Everything points to a concentration on both sides for a fight at Spyfontein.

Shanghai, Dec. 9.

Sir Redvers Buller and his staff have left Maritzburg for Frere, and the re-inforcements are joining rapidly.

General Gatacre's column has occupied Putterskraal, near Sterkstroom, and the danger of the Boers penetrating further southward has been averted.

Later.

An official despatch from the Orange River says that a railway culvert near Graspan has been exploded, and the telegraph cut. Yesterday a heavy cannonade was heard to the northward. It was supposed to be Methuen—whose communications had been thus severed—engaging the enemy.

A Reuter's telegram from Frere, dated the 7th of December, says that heavy firing in the direction of Ladysmith was heard that morning.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Molteno that on the 10th inst. Gatacre with a force of 2,000 men made a forced march and attacked the Boers' position at Stormberg in the early morning.

After a three hours' artillery duel the position was found unassailable, and Gatacre retired.

In a later telegram Gatacre reports that he sustained a severe reverse in the attack on Stormberg. He was misled by guides and found the ground impracticable.

His casualties were 9 officers wounded, 9 missing; 2 men killed, 19 wounded, and 596 missing.

The bridge over the Tugela River is completed and trains are passing.

A strong force of Boers at Jacobsdal are threatening Methuen's right flank.

The Boer commando which cut the railway near Graspan has been driven off, and communications are again restored.

A strong Boer column has crossed the Tugela at Colenso to attack Estcourt.

A column of the British made an entirely successful sortie from Ladysmith on Friday night. It assailed and carried Lombardskop, dynamited six 6 inch guns, captured a Maxim, and then retired. The column lost one man killed and Major Henderson, of the Argyles, wounded.

At the same time a squadron of cavalry cut the Boers' telegraph and burned the kraals to the west of Ladysmith.

The Boers are busily entrenching at Spyfontein. They have erected several tiers of earthworks, beginning at a foot high.

Methuen is still unable to ride and drives about.

Shanghai, Dec. 12.

Gen. Gatacre apparently had a force of 4,000 men. He lost one gun.

The column was marching four abreast when it was surprised at daylight by a hot Boer fire.

There was no confusion. Gatacre and his officers coolly brought the men into action and a hot battle was soon raging. The British artillery occupied a position in a small kopje.

The Infantry gallantly clambered into the enemy's position in skirmising order under a galling fire. On reaching the top they found themselves in the centre of the enemy's fire from three quarters.

The casualties were as follows:—

IRISH RIFLES.

Colonel Eager, Major Seton, Captains

Original from INTERNET ARCHIVE Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Bell and Kelly, Lieutenants Stephens, Stone, and Maynard wounded; Captain Weir, Lieutenants Christie and Rodney missing; 12 men wounded and 290 missing.

NORTHUMBERLANDS.

Major Stevens, Captains Fletcher and Morley, Lieutenants-Wake, Coulson, and Redcliffe, and 306 men missing.

74TH BATTERY ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant Lewis wounded.

77TH BATTERY ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Major Percival wounded.

The troops had 30 hours of continuous work before they reached Molteno.

Shanghai, Dec. 13.

A Pretoria despatch says that 672 prisoners and three guns were taken at Stormberg.

There was fighting at the Modder River on Sunday night. Cronje maintained his position and took 50 prisoners.

The Colenso railway bridge has been blown up.

A bill for doubling the German Navy has been presented to the Reichstag.

Later.

General White reports that on Sunday night, Lieut.-Col. D. T. E. Metcalfe with 500 of the Rifle Brigade made a sortie from Ladysmith and reached they crest of Surprise Hill undiscovered. The scattered the enemy there and destroyed a big Howitzer. When they were returning the Boers barred the way and the British forced a passage at the point of the bayonet. The Boer losses were considerable. The casualties on the British side were Lieut. G. C. D. Ferguson and 10 men killed; Capt. G. Paley and Lieuts. G. H. Davenport and A. A. Bond and 40 men wounded. The Engineers had one killed and one wounded.

[If the statement regarding Cronje's position emanates from Pretoria it is open to suspicion. There is also the possibility that a mistake has been made in telegraphing and that the sortie reported by General White is really referred to, though the Modder River is explicitly mentioned, for any operation undertaken by General Methuen against Cronje would involve heavier losses than those reported.—ED. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, Dec. 14.

General Lord Methuen unsuccessfully attacked the Boers near the Modder River on Monday. There was desperate fighting and great British loss.

General Methuen was yesterday entrenching.

Methuen wires that the Highland Brigade attacked the enemy's position at dawn on Monday. The attack failed owing to the stubborn resistance and heavy fire of the Boers, but the troops held their own in front of the enemy's entrenchments until dusk.

Methuen is now entrenching. He estimates the Boers' strength at 12,000.

The British loss was great. General Wauchope was killed: 293 of Methuen's wounded have arrived at the Orange River.

A despatch from Mafeking dated the 4th instant, says that the shelling continues with increased effect. The rations have been reduced.

Later.

A despatch from Methuen on Tuesday, says that the Boers on that morning reoccupied the entrenchments. Thereupon he retired in perfect order to the Modder River.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Saigon, December 8.

Another engagement is expected immediately between the Boers and the British troops sent to relieve Kimberley.

Saigon, Dec. 9.

On the demand of M. Waldeck-Rousseau, Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, the Chamber of Deputies has rejected the proposal for separating the Church and the State, and passed the Public Worship Budget by a vote of 322 to 194.

The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted a life pension of six million francs to the widow of Lieut.-Colonel Klobb (who, after heroic conduct, was assassinated by the mutinous column of Captains Voulet and Chanoine, they in turn being fusilladed by their own soldiers a few days later).

Saigon, Dec. 10.

News from London says that Methuen's mobilization is still incomplete. Detachments of Boers are attacking the line of railway to the south of the Modder River. Two English corps in the north of Cape Colony remain at Naauwpoort and Queenstown under the commaud of Generals French and Gatacre, respectively. General Buller has arrived at Frere, to the south of Colenso.

Saigon, Dec. 11.

A telegram from San Remo says that a grave collision has taken place in a tunnel near Albenga between two fast trains. Many persons were killed and wounded. (Albenga is a town on the Gulf of Genoa, on the Railway from Genoa to Nice.)

A British reconnaissance near Ladysmith has destroyed several pieces of Boer artillery.

Saigon, Dec. 12.

News from London is to the effect that General Gatacre attacking the Boers near Stormberg, was repulsed. He announces 2 killed, 26 wounded and 600 missing.

The English journals express a fear that his check may generalize the rebellion of the Dutch in Cape Colony.

Saigon, Dec. 14.

Intelligence from London says that, on the 11th December, Lord Methuen moved from his camp on the Modder River and attempted to carry the entrenchments of the Boers at Magersfontein, but was repulsed with heavy losses.

(FROM THE 'N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

Hongkong, December 5.

The transport *Ismore* has broken up. All the men on board and most of the guns were saved, but only twenty horses were saved.

Reuter's agent at Lorenzo Marques learns from Boer reports that the Transvaal authorities at Johannesburg are manufacturing shells and other projectiles and revolving platforms for Long Tom guns sent to the front.

The Horse Artillery, the Canadian regiment, the Australian contingent, and three battalions of infantry have been moved up to the line between De Aar and Belmont.

The *Times* gives details of the Modder River fight. The Boer position was a circular one, the British advance being enfiladed on both sides. At dusk a part of the Ninth Brigade and the Highlanders crossed the river on the extreme left by the mill-dam below the bridge and occupied their ground. When night fell victory was undecided, but by the morning of the 29th ult. the Guards followed the Ninth Brigade, and as they found the town evacuated, all the troops crossed on the morning of the 29th.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG VOLUNTEER GAZETTE.")

Hongkong, 6th December.

The gallant episodes at the batile at Modder River include the attempt of an officer and several men of the Coldstream Guards to swim the river in the face of a heavy fire.

News from Mafeking dated the 23rd of November says that the Boers attacked it from the west side on the previous day, and retired after receiving a few shells from the garrison.

The Boers admit having suffered heavy losses at Kimberley and on the Orange River.

The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and the Thirteenth Hussars have landed at Durban.

The transport *Denton Grange* has left Southampton with thirteen traction engines, two mammoth steam ploughs for trenching, and 7,200 tons of stores for the Cape.

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 449.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K B 5	1—K to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 6 ch	2—K moves
3—Q mates	
	1—R at K Kt 2 takes Kt
2—K to Kt 3	2—Any
3—Q to B 4 mate	
	1—R at R 2 takes Kt
2—P to Kt 3	2—Any
3—Q mates	
	1—R to R 7
4—Q to B 3 ch	2—K moves
3—Kt to B 6 mate	
	1—Kt to Q 5
2—Kt to Q 6 ch	2—K moves
4—Q to Kt 3 mate	

Correct answers from East Anglia, Marco, and L M.A.

REPLY TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E.A.—No extra points! but all the honour and glory you choose to accept.

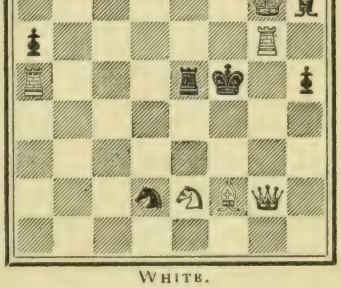
PROBLEM No. 451.

We regret an omission last week with reference to this. We should have appended the condition:—White to play and mate in TWO moves. Solvers kindly note.

PROBLEM No. 452.

By OTTO WÜRZBURG, U.S.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

CHESS CLUBS.

According to Professor Berger's latest Chess Annual there are in the world 69 Chess Associations and 1,374 Chess Clubs:—

Digitized by INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Country.	Associations.	Clubs.
Great Britain	41	735
United States	18	194
Germany	9	186
Austro-Hungary	1	69
Russia		47
Netherlands		47
France		19
Italy		17
Switzerland		17
Spain		9
Sweden and Norway		7
Denmark and the West Indies (each)		4
Belgium, Cape Colony, Mexico (each)		3
Argentine Republic, Brazil Japan (each)		2
Chile, China, Uruguay, Venezuela (each)		1

Game No. 574.

The first of the following games is a pretty and instructive variation against Tschigorin's 2—Q to K 2 in the French Defence; and the second an interesting game from the recent London International Tournament. The former occurred in the recent Russian National Tournament at Moscow :—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—M. Tschigorin. Black—M. Bojarkoff

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	21 PxB	Q R6ch
2 Q K2	Kt QB3	22 K Q2	KtxPch
3 Kt QB3	P K4	23 PxKt	PxP dis ch
4 P Q3	Kt B3	24 K K-q	RxRch
5 P B4	B B4	25 BxR	R Q q
6 PxP	QKtxP	26 Q K2	Q R4
7 Kt B3	P Q3	27 Q B4	Q R8
8 B Kt5	P KR3	28 K K2	Q B8
9 B R4	P KKt4	29 B K3	Q R8
10 B Kt3	B KKt5	30 QxKP	QxP
11 Castles	Kt B3	31 RxP	Q R8
12 Q Ksq	Q K2	32 Q K6ch	K Kt-q
13 B K2	Cstls. QR	33 R Q7	Q R3 ch
14 Kt Q2	B K3	34 K B2	R B-q ch
15 Kt Kt3	B Kt3	35 R B7	R Q q
16 R Bsq	KR Ksq	36 B B3	Q R8
17 B B2	BxKt	37 BxKt	PxB
18 RPxB	B R4	38 QxBP	Q K4
19 B Bsq	P Q4	39 BxP ch	Resigns.
20 Q B2	BxKt		

NOTES.

2...P to Q B 4 converts the Opening into a Sicilian Defence (favoured by Dr. Tarrasch); 2...B to K 2 enables Black to play 3...P to Q 4, and the text-move, which is somewhat original, may also be played. After 4—P to B 4 we come, by a transposition of moves, to the Vienna Opening, White having his Q at K 2 in an unfavourable position; consequently, Black has a slight advantage, which he justly utilises by an early advance of the King's side Pawns, compelling White to Castle Q R, on which side he also shelters his own King. Black, however, was somewhat too bold in bearding the lion. Instead of withdrawing 19...Kt to Q2, he played the attacking 19...P to Q4 with the still more hazardous intention of sacrificing the Knight later on. His combination was somewhat complicated after 22. K to Q2, for had White played what appears to be the obvious 22. K to Kt sq, Black would win with 22...P to Q5; 23 Q takes Kt, R to K4, &c. The position with White's King at K2 is so tempting that Black may be pardoned for the impetuous sacrifice of the Knight. He should have played 22...R to K3; 23. P takes P, R takes P with a fair enough game. After the sacrifice he has to lose his unprotected (equivalent of) Pawns, and Tschigorin wins the game prettily.

Game No. 575.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—R. Teichmann. Black—S. Tinsley.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	15 B B5	Q Kt4
2 P Q4	P Q4	16 B Q4	P B3
3 Kt QB3	PxP	17 B K3	QxP
4 KtxP	Kt KB3	18 P KB4	Q Q3
5 KtxKt ch	QxKt	19 P QK4	P KKt4
6 Kt B3	P KR3	20 B R6	Q K2
7 B Q3	B Q3	21 Q Kt5	PxB
8 Q K2	K B3	22 QxPch	K Kt-q
9 P B3	B Q2	23 P K5	B B-q
10 Castles	K K2	24 Q R4	RxRch
11 Kt K5	BxKt	25 RxR	PxP
12 PxB	Q R5	26 PxKt	PxB
13 R Q-q	Castles QR	27 R Kt-q ch	K R-q
14 B K3	Kt B3	28 Q K5 and mates in four moves	

NOTES.

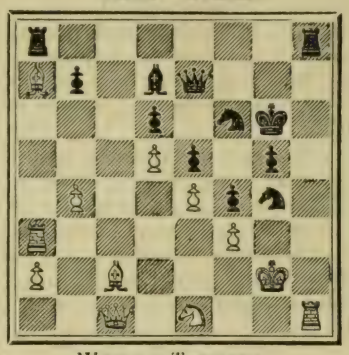
Black's weak move was 10...Kt to K 2 (he should have castled Q R) which left his Queen in an exposed position, cutting off the retreat to K 2. Further, castling later on was precarious—he might have occupied the diagonal with 13...B to B3, and then might even have castled on the King's side. Further, instead of 16...P to B3, he should have simplified the position with 16...Kt takes B; 17—P takes Kt, B to B3; 18—B to K4, B takes B, &c. 16...P to B3 gave White an excellent opportunity for a pretty attack at the cost of a single Pawn, which won the game by force.

END-GAME No. 67.

Playing against Herr Tresling, at Amsterdam, Mr. H. E Atkins won in the following elegant style :—

Position after Black's 20th move Kt (R 3) takes K Kt P!

BLACK.—ATKINS.



WHITE.—TRESLING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
30—B to K Kt sq	30—K R takes R
31—K takes R	31—Q to K R 2 ch
32—K to Kt 2	32—Q to R 6 ch
33—K takes Q	33—Kt to K 6 dis ch
34—K to R 2	34—Q R to K R sq mate

"AMERICAN CHESS MAGAZINE."

Another change has taken place in the editorship of the *American Chess Magazine*, Dr. L. D. Broughton Jr. having retired. He has been succeeded by A. H. Baerwirth, a young member of the Manhattan Chess Club, said to be a player of much promise. The latter has applied himself with all the ardor of youth to the task and, so for as the present outlook is concerned, promises to make a success of his undertaking.

OMNIUM GATHERUM.

OBITUARY.

The father of Mr. J. H. Blackburne died recently, aged eighty-one years. He was a phrenologist, and was known in Southport, Lancashire, where he had resided for many years, as Professor Blackburne. May his son live to be a hundred at least!

A CLUB "SANS VOIR."

A novelty in Chess Clubs has just been organized in Boston, and that is one in which the members are required to play without sight of the board and men.

CHESS AND CHARACTER.

A game of chess is a test of character. The game is too good to quarrel about, and hence loss of temper is rare. Yet there are times in the experience of every chess player when he finds himself pitted against an opponent who regards defeat as a deadly affront, an opponent who means to win—honestly if he can; but if not anyhow—an opponent who insists on the rigour of the rules for his adversary, but is not above the acceptance in silence of a concession for himself. A man of this kind may have many acquaintances, but he will not have many friends; and whenever one chances to meet with such an opponent at the chess board the sternest enforcement of the rules of play is the only guarantee for a peaceable parting. — *Manchester Weekly Times*

THE CHESS COMMUNITY.

It is estimated that in Europe and the States there are nearly 24,000,000 of people who play the game of chess, in other words, nearly three times as many as could have claimed to do so in 1872. In that year there was a very carefully compiled magazine issued by the City of London Chess Club, and edited by Mr. W. N. Potter, one of the very best players of that day (he fought even with Zukertort and Blackburne) and his close calculation was that 7,000,000 covered the players of the two hemispheres. It is, of course, most difficult to arrive at any correct data on such facts but Mr. Potter had exceptional means of forming a conclusion. Anyhow, it is certain that during the last ten years chess and the interest taken in it have advanced with tremendous strides on both sides of the Atlantic.—*Liverpool Weekly Mercury.*

TIME LIMIT.

When Hartwitz and Lowenthal played their match a frequently-discussed time limit had not yet been agreed on. Staunton directed Lowenthal several times to take a quarter-hour for every move. But Nemesis pursued even Staunton. He reported that in a match a certain professional antagonist coolly said to him, in answer to his remonstrance to his slow play. "I can't afford to lose this; I must sit you out."

CHESS IDIOSYNCRACIES.

The mannerisms of chess players when in the throes of a "stiff game" are something amusing—certainly interesting. The late Captain Mackenzie was in the habit of chewing the end of a lead pencil until it became like bristles, Steinitz who is very near-sighted, bends his head so close to the board that he sometimes hides the board from his opponent, and on one occasion touched a piece with his nose, and, had the rules allowed, would have been made to move it in play. Herr English was the most nervous of mortals, twisting and wringing his hands, walking up and down the room, and fidgeting generally during the progress of a contest. Walbrodt sits like a sphinx. Staunton held up his head like a captain of a mighty host; and the great Labourdonnais, used to laugh and bang his piece down with boisterous noise. Paul Morphy was the pink of courtesy, and bore patiently all the vagaries of his antagonists. Tarrasch will smoke volumes, much to Tchigorin's annoyance; and in Lasker we see a careful, self-restrained, silent, and profoundly keen chess analyst.—*Queenslander.*

ADVICE TO PLAYERS.

"Young man," writes a contributor to the Baltimore *Sunday News*, 'beware of the discovered check. Don't advance your Queen too early in the game. It is too liable to attack by an inferior piece. Don't try to win the game in the first dozen moves; you can't overwhelm your adversary in one jump. Develop your pieces instead. Don't move all along the line at once, but concentrate your energies in one direction. Beware of the perpetual check, the stale mate, the brilliant combination, the ambush, the pin, the mate. Clear vision through a long series of moves is acquired only with time and by experience. Don't block the retreat of your pieces with your own pawns. Don't depend upon your opponent's making an error—that is to put a premium on blunders. When he leaves a piece 'en prise,' beware lest you fall into a trap. Some of Mr. Blackburne's prettiest mates have been when his adversaries thought he was overlooking the loss of his Queen. Finally, don't play out a lost game, nor insist on not resigning until you have forced the sacrifice of your last Pawn."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K	Nippon Maru 1	F. Dec. 15
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China 2	M. Dec. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 3	M. Dec. 18
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta 4	M. Dec. 18
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa Dec 23
America	P. M. Co.	On Sang 5	Su Dec. 24
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Dec. 25
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	———	Th. Dec. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Jan. 1
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Jan. 1

1 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.
2 Left Vancouver on the 4th inst.
3 Leaves Shanghai on the 14th inst.
4 Left Nagasaki on the 14th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Dec. 16
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Dec. 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 18
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	W. Dec. 20
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Dec. 20
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Dec. 20
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Onsang	M. Dec. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	W. Dec. 27
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. Dec. 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	P. Dec. 29
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Jan. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Jan. 3

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Dec. 9th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16.923.986
Amount of convertible notes issued...	222,348.977
Government deposits	78,646,823
General deposits	5.930,207
Exchange liability	42,222
Total	353,892,216

Cr.	
Dscount notes	73.146.388
Foreign discount notes	14.807.616
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	69 950,115
Exchange liability	3.882,232
Government bonds	57.177,203
Property...	1.970.882
Bullion and Specie	110,957,826
Total	353.892,216

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	223.286,230

Bullion and Specie :—

Gold	102.991,201
Silver	7 666,667
Total	110,657,868

Securities :—

Government bonds	16.597,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	3,786 922
Commercial notes	70,243.582
Total	112,628.362

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	685 981	—
Silver	666,667	—
General loans	—	3,016 085
Government deposits	—	1,789,702
General deposits	2,183,770	—

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 8th December,—Kobe, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 8th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 2nd December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hin Sang, British steamer, 1,547, M. Crockett, 8th December,—Hongkong, Sugar and Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

City of London, British steamer, 2,056, R. W. Scarff, 8th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 9th December,—Fushiki, 5th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3.709, Wm. Bainbridge, 9th December,—Moji, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1.754, C. K. McIntosh, 9th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 7th Dec, General.—Cornes & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 9th December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 8th Dec., Mails & General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. W. Greene, 10th December,—Kobe, 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer. 3.797, Trenut, 10th December,—London via ports, and Kobe, 9th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 10th Dec.,—Hakodate, 7th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Nakajima, 10th Dec.,—Nemuro, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3.902, H. Suppmer, 11th December,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, and Kobe 10th December, Mails and General.—Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 11th December,—Kobe 9th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, ——, 11th December,—Hakodate 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 13th December,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 12th December, Mails and General.—M.M. S S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 13th December,—Yokkaichi 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Paul, American ship, 1,824, Treat, 13th December,—New York 20th June, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Independent, German steamer, 1,040, A. Holtz, 14th December,—Iloilo and Cebu, Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 14th December,—Kobe 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 14th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, 9th Dec., General.——Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 8th Dec.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S S. Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 8th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, K. Higo, 8th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 8th December,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 8th December,—Yokkaichi, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Algoa, British steamer, 4,897, F. G. Hansford, 9th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

City of London, British steamer, 2,056, R. W. Scarff, 9th Dec.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 10th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 10th December,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 10th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 12th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3.323, E. G. Dickens, 12th December,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

T. D. McKay, American Brigantine, 250, John Kernan, 12th Dec.,—Manila, P.I., General.—Captain.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 12th December,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 13th December,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hin Sang, British steamer, 1,547, M. Crockett, 13th December,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1.754, C. K. McIntosh, 13th Dec.,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 13th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 14th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, ——, 14th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—His Excellency T. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Lynberg and 3 children, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. Y. Yesaki, Mr. T. Nahara, Mr. Danckwerts, Mr. E. Carlson, Mr. Kunze, and Mr. and Mrs. Ogata and 1 child, in cabin; Mr. K. Nakabayashi, Mr. Chang Chu Tin, and Mr. Takanashi, in second class; 21 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. J. D. Davis, Mr. C. H. Bain, Mr. Roland Finch, Mr. F. A. Gardner, Mr. C. Wilkins, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Tao Yuh Sung, and Mr. Tao Tao Sung, in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mr. Eugene D. Ryan, Mr. John F. Heideger, Mr. Percy Moore, Mr. R. W. Steiner, Lieut. Rykatcheff, Miss Sara Walter, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Loring and infant, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Shaw, Rev. B. C. Haworth, Mrs. J. B. Porter, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. Lui Man, Mrs. Pong She and infant, Master Lui Quai, Mrs. San Tsoy, Mr. Chan Hin, Miss Chan Yuck Shim, Mrs. Yeong She, Mrs. Yeong How, Mr. Chan Foong Ting, and Mr. Clarence Cary, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, from Bremen via ports :—Mrs. Grun, Mr. Mueller, Mr. van Mirop, Mr. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Koch, Mr. M. Raspe, Mr. W. H. Gill, Mr. F. Guggenheim, and Mr. Tuska, in cabin; Mr. O Ramsperger, Mr. Taniguchi. and Mr. Yamada, in second class; Mr. George Fischer, and 6 Chinese, in third class.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports :—Mr. Barmont, Mr. Puig, Mr. Gerin, Mr. and Mrs. Thilieres, Mr. Bagnall, Mr. J. J. Lillie, Mr. E Rogers, Mr. K. Matsukata, Mr. Sig. Isaacs, Mr. J. A. Allion, Mr. and Mrs. F. Staniland, Mr. S. B. McQuade, Mr. Geo. Y. Taylor, Mr. W. Tallers, and Mr. Jose Cardona in cabin; two Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Marseilles via ports :—Dr. G. Benneche, Mr. K. Koume, Mr. Ed. Meregalli, Mr. P. Beretta and servant, Mr. A. Seux, Mr. and Mrs. Alban S. Rock, Miss A. Novack, Mr. Selievre, Mrs. G. Robertson, Mr. G. Modigliano and servant, Mr. James C. Sloan, Mr. Moffatt, Mr. X. G. Dementieff, Mr. Vladimir Dementieff, Mr. Larolides, Mr. Hayashi, Mr. Man Fook, Mr. Pew Jon Chan, Mr. Ah Chon, and Mr. Chan Hi Kok, in cabin; 1 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. R. Burke, Mr. Clarence Cary, Mr. A. H. Dusal, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gough, Miss Gough, Rev. B. C. Haworth, Mr. J. F. Hedeger, Vicomte Henri de Kergarion, Mr. H. B. Kendrick, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Loring and child, Mr. E D. Matts, Mr. Percy Moore, Mr. R. Pacheco, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Porter, Mr. Eugene D. Ryan, Lieut. Rykatcheff, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Shaw, Mrs. A. M. Sheldon, Mr. R. W. Steiner, Mr. Quin Sunke, Mr. Robert Sulzer, Mr. N. W. Thornton, Lord Henry Thynne and valet, Mrs. M. G. Torrence, Miss Torrence, Miss Walter, Mrs. Pong She and child, Mrs. San Tsoy; Mr. Chun Hin, Miss Chan Yuck Shim, Mrs: Yeong She, Mrs. Yeong How, Master Lui Quai, Mr. Chan Foon Ting, and Mr. Lui Man, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Major H. Uchida, I.J.A., Mrs. Uchina, Mr. N. Adachi, Miss Wilson, Mr. J. Madison, Miss von Fallot, Mr. S. Murayma, Mr. E. P. Hudson, and Mr. Cho Lee Jing, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from London via ports :—Mr. W. E. Cotter, and Dr. Waichiro Okada, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Capt. Wm. Finch, R.N.R., reports :—From Hongkong to Shanghai, experienced fresh to strong N.E. Monsoons and cloudy weather. From Shanghai to Kobe, moderate to fresh North winds and fine. Kobe to Yokohama, fresh to strong westerly gale with rough sea.

CARGO.

The following are the shipments of tea and silk per N. P. steamer *City of London*, which sailed for Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 9 :—

TEA.

	Chicago and Canada.	New York and West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Honolulu.	Total Packages.
Colombo	—	—	—	291	—	291
Foochow	233	913	—	—	—	1.146
Kobe	673	368	1,889	—	—	2.930
Yokohama ...	1,124	594	—	—	—	1,718
Total ...	2 030	1,875	1,889	291	—	6,085

SILK.

	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong	—	—	—
Shanghai	—	—	—
Yokohama	67	—	67
Total.....	67	—	67

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, for Hongkong via ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 43 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 398 bales.

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The following are the silk shippers per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, which sails for San Francisco to day :—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	10
Bavier & Co.	10
Kiito Shokai	108
Doshinsha	65
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	55
Total	248

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For AUSTRALIA and New Zealand (from Kobe), Quick Despatch, the "AIRLIE."—Browne & Co.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 3rd and 18th at Noon (every month), the "YOKOHAMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For KEELUNG via Moji (from Kobe), 8th and 23rd at Noon (every month), the "OMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about December 15th, the "NIPPON MARU."—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, Dec. 18th, the "EMPRESS OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO via Honolulu and San Diego, December 18th, the "LADY JOICEY."—Butterfield and Swire.

For MARSEILLES, via ports and Shanghai, Dec. 20th, at 9 a.m., the "ERNEST SIMONS."—M. M. S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI, viâ Kobe, Shimonoseki and Nagasaki, Dec. 20th, at Noon, the "YAMASHIRO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, Dec. 20th, the "HONGKONG MARU."—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

For TIENTSIN via ports (from Kobe) Dec. 21st, at 10 a.m., the "NAGATO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about December 24th, the "ON SANG."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For CHINNAMPO via ports (from Kobe), Dec. 24th, the "OWARI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For VLADIVOSTCK via ports (from Kobe), Dec 24th, the "SAGAMI MARR."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG via ports (from Nagasaki), Dec. 27th, the "KOSAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, and Nagasaki, Dec. 27th, at Daylight, the "ROSETTA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO via Honolulu, 27th Dec., the "CHINA."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For NEWCHWANG via ports (from Kobe), Dec. 28th, at Noon, the "SENDAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 29th, the "EMPRESS OF JAPAN."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Victoria, B.C., Dec. 30th, the "RIOJUN MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about January 2nd, the "COPTIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, January 3rd, the "DORIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For PORTLAND Oregon, January 3rd, the "MONMOUTHSHIRE."—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

For BONIN Islands via ports, Jan. 5th, at 4 p.m., the "SUMINOYE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For BOMBAY, viâ Kobe, Moji, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, 9th Jan., the "KAGOSHIMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns are dull, owing to high prices prevailing in the Manchester market. A fair number of transactions in piece goods for forward delivery.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb., 38½ yds 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 32½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.20 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.11 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½ per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.80
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	$40.00 to 42.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	52.00 to 55.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	76.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	92.00 to 98.00
Nos 2/100, Plain	120.00 to 125.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	90.00 to 95.50
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	106.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	135.00 to 145.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23.50
Chinese	45.00

METALS.

The market is still inactive.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	6.20 to 6.40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12.50 to 13.80
Wire Nails, assorted	7.60 to 7.90
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¾ inch)	7.15 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is firm; no change in quotations.

American	$3.00
Russian	2.95
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.80 to 6.90
Brown Daito ng	4.40 to 4.60
Brown Canto n	4.70 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.80 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is some business doing for the United States market at quotations, but fine sizes for Europe remain neglected. Business comprises filatures, re-reels, and Kakedas in full sizes.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,360 to 1,370
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,300 to 1,310
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,260 to 1,270
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1,200 to 1,210
Common—Coarse	None
Re reels—Extra	Nom nal
Re reels—No 1	1,270 to 1,280
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,240 to 1,250
Re-reels—No. 2	1,200 to 1,210
Re reels—No. 3	None
Kakedas—Extra	1,270 to 1,280
Kakedas—No. 1	1,250 to 1,260
Kakedas—No. 1½	1,210 to 1,220
Kakedas—No 2	1,180 to 1,190
Kakedas—No 2½	1,140 to 1,150

WASTE SILK.

No change in the market. Our remarks last week apply equally well now.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 210
Noshi—Filatures, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu, Best	190 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	185 to 190
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	180 to 185
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$135 to 145
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	160 to 110
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	150 to 160
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	70 to 80
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 65

TEA.

The market, as far as European firms are concerned, is quite without life, and quotations must be regarded as nominal.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, December 13.

The market was steady.

Sold, Japanese rice 9,540 hyo; arrived, Japanese 4,690 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 451,364.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 6 sho 5 shaku; second, 6 sho 2 go; third, 6 sho 4 go; fourth, 6 sho 6 go; fifth, 6 sho 8 go.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 14.

No alteration in silver or other factors from abroad to affect local rates, and consequently there has been no change in them.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 to 1 1/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 5/16 to ¼
On Paris—Bank sight	257½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262½ to 3
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49½
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight *	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight *	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight *	73½
— Private 10 days' sight *	75½
On India—Bank sight	151½
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	27¼

* Nominal.

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 14.

Breweries have sellers at *yen* 170. Offers for shares are wanted. Engine and Iron Works are steady at *yen* 215. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 240. Club Hotels are wanted at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotel Founders' shares have buyers at *yen* 300. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms—A few shares can be had at *yen* 55. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	215 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	170 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	80 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	227.50 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Fdrs.), $125	300 B.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9.95 Sa
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	95 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

Reserve Fund.—1, *yen* 17,770·89; 2, *yen* 77,882.16 and *yen* 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady, N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 14.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240—a few shares are obtainable at *yen* 250. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 130. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Offers of Langfeldts are wanted for May delivery.

Y. U. Club Debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

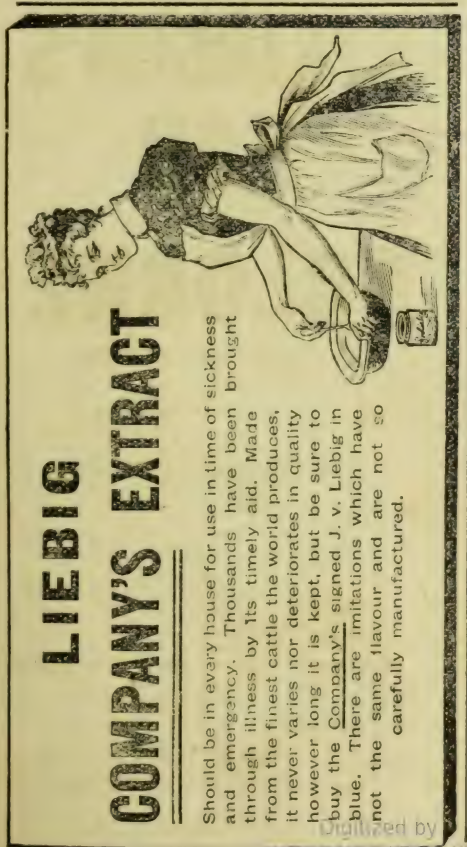
YRN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	217 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Buyers.
Club Hotel	80 Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	130 Steady.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	175 Sellers.

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Tokyo, December 14.

Redemption Loan Bonds	94 95
War Loan Bonds	94 95
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	97.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	415.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	66 70
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	200.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	69.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	69 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	103.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	20.40
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	73.40
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	60 00
Japan Railway 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	23.70
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	122.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	8..00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	55.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	46.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	48 00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	75 00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	95 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	17 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	31.80
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	48 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.50
Hokuetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	42 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	31 40
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	12 8.
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	22.50
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2.40
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	250.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	207.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	65.90
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new paid up yen 10	14 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	28.30
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	21 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	42 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	36.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	26..00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	212 00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	127.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	93 00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	57 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	87.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	86 50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	55 50
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	88.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	33.50
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	54 50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	78.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	62 00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	21 00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	45.00

† Ex dividend.



LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT

Should be in every house for use in time of sickness and emergency. Thousands have been brought through illness by its timely aid. Made from the finest cattle the world produces, it never varies nor deteriorates in quality however long it is kept, but be sure to buy the Company's signed J. v. Liebig in blue. There are imitations which have not the same flavour and are not so carefully manufactured.

TORTURING DISFIGURING HUMOURS

ITCHING, BURNING, AND SCALY ERUPTIONS OF THE SKIN AND SCALP, WITH LOSS OF HAIR.

The agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in Eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis, the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalled head; the facial disfigurement, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants and the anxiety of worn-out parents, as in milk crust, tetter, and salt rheum — all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. That Cuticura remedies are such stands proven beyond all doubt. No statement is made regarding them that is not justified by the strongest evidence. The purity and sweetness, the power to afford immediate relief, the certainty of speedy and permanent cure, the absolute safety and great economy, have made them the standard skin cures and humour remedies of the civilized world.

Those who have suffered long and hopelessly and who have lost faith in doctors and medicines may make trial of these great curatives with the most gratifying success. The treatment is simple, direct, agreeable, and economical, and is adapted to the youngest infant as well as adults of every age. *Bathe the affected parts with Hot Water and Cuticura Soap to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take the Cuticura Resolvent to cool and cleanse the blood.* This sweet and wholesome treatment affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep in the severest forms of eczema and other itching, burning, and scaly humours of the skin, scalp, and blood, and points to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure when all other remedies and even the best physicians fail. The SET, consisting of Soap, Ointment, and Resolvent, or each separately, may be had of all chemists and stores where medicines are sold throughout the world.

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"SHARP, CLEAN, AND FULL OF CHARACTER."

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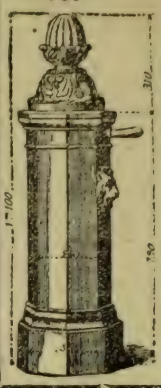


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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 23TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

"A Merry Christmas to all our readers."

LORD ROBERTS' only son has died of his wounds in South Africa.

THE Diet has risen for the New Year recess after a very quiet session.

THE Hamburg-America steamer *Patria* has been totally destroyed by fire in the English Channel.

COL. HECTOR MACDONALD is to succeed Gen. Wauchope in the command of the Highland Brigade.

THE German steamers *Suitai* and *Sutai*, now in course of construction, are expected, the *N. C. Daily News* says, to be in commission by the end of this month, when they will be put on the Shanghai-Hankow run.

LORD ROBERTS has been appointed to the Command-in-chief at the Cape, with Lord Kitchener as his chief of staff.

THE weather in Yokohama during the past week has been cold and wet; miserable in the extreme for the time of year.

CHRISTMS CAROLS will be sung in the Public Hall on Sunday evening after the usual evening service of the Church of England.

IT is becoming daily more clear that the British under-rated the strength of the Boers' and sent out much too weak columns to the attack.

A GLADSTONE statue, erected at Blackburn by public subscription at a cost of £1,800, has been unveiled by the Earl of Aberdeen.

THE *Standard* is informed that it has been decided to mobilize a seventh Division, with an eighth in reserve for service in South Africa.

CAPT. BRINKLEY gave an interesting address on experiences in Japan thirty years ago at the last meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society.

OWING to the Stormberg reverse all the Dutch in the country northward have rebelled, and the natives there, as well as in Basutoland, are unsettled.

THE situation in South Africa is peculiar, an *impasse* having been reached. Until fresh reinforcements arrive the British can make no forward movement.

FOUR robbers well known to the Yokohama Police were arrested on Monday night by the Tobe Police. Articles to the value of some $400 were found, in their possession.

A FIRE broke out at the store of a retail milk dealer on Wednesday morning in Kitagata, near the rifle range. Only the building where the fire originated was destroyed.

OWING to the situation in South Africa the Queen has postponed her departure from Windsor for Osborne until after Christmas, as she desires to be near London.

THE proprietor of a Chinese journal, who was burnt out by the late fire at No. 139, is suing Messrs. Bavier & Co., representing the Norwich Fire Insurance Company, for *yen* 499.36.

THE German cruiser *Hansa* arrived in Hongkong on Dec. 5th with Admiral Pope on board. He called upon H.E. the Governor on the 7th, being received by the Band of the R. W. F. and a guard of honour.

A YOUNG man the other day stole *yen* 20 from the *Japan Times* office, and absconded to Yokohama. He was arrested, and was sentenced on Tuesday afternoon in the Chiho Saibansho to a month's imprisonment.

ARGUMENTS in the appeal brought by Robert Miller, the convicted murderer of an American citizen and two Japanese women, were heard in the Court of Cassation on Monday before Judge Harada and a full bench of six associated judges. Mr. Takahashi appeared for Miller and made an eloquent defence. After a reply from Mr. Public Procurator Koga, the Court announced that it would give its decision on the 23rd inst.

SIR RICHARD WEBSTER, the British Attorney-General, has been made a baronet in recognition of his work on the Venezuelan Arbitration Commission. Sir Robert T. Reid, one of the counsel for Great Britain, has been made a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

AN armed robber effected an entrance into the Temple of Sengajii, in Kuboyama Cemetery, on Monday evening, and succeeded, after threatening the Priest with a butcher's knife, in stealing 20 *sen*. This was the whole of the offerings in the Temple at the time.

THE Yokohama Settlement Fire Brigade will henceforward be known as the Satsuma-cho Fire Brigade and will be under the direct supervision of the Kagacho Police Station, whose chief, Mr. Ikariyama, will be the superintendent. Mr. Morgin will act as Honorary Superintendent, and the staff will remain as heretofore.

A BOTTLER in the employ of the Tokyo Brewery was sentenced to four months' imprisonment in the Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday afternoon, for stealing from the Brewery 15,700 corks and capsules. The latter he melted and sold, the weight being some 14 *kwamme*, or about 118 lbs.

ON Monday the police of Yokohama received their certificates for good behaviour and attention to duty; those who have not been absent from duty for more than three days in the year being eligible. They received cash presents according to length of service, from *sen* 80 to $1.80. Only one-third of the force fulfilled the required conditions.

ON Tuesday the Bluff Police arrested two notorious robbers, Taguchi Yoshigoro and Ikeda Kanekichi, who had only recently been released from prison after serving terms of 12 and 13 years respectively. They are now charged with armed robbery in Tokyo. The portion of the goods stolen which has so far been recovered represents a value of over 400 *yen*.

ON Sunday afternoon a money-lender named Inaba went to the house of one Sekizawa in Matsukagecho, 1 chome, to claim *yen* 1.80 which he had lent Sekizawa. Hot words ensued between them, and Sekizawa, picking up a sword cane, struck the other a heavy blow on the shoulder. The scabbard broke with the force of the blow, causing a wound 8 inches long and an inch deep. The assailant was immediately arrested by the Kotobukicho Police.

A COOLIE, named Sugiyama Tokujiro, was arrested on Wednesday afternoon by the Kotobukicho Police for trying to dispose of two tins of opium containing some 2 lbs. He tried to sell them to several Chinese, but as he asked a low price suspicions were aroused, and the opium was refused. On examination by the Police, the man confessed to having stolen the opium from the steamer *America Maru* on the 11th inst.

THE Tokyo improvement scheme fixes the annual average expenditure at one million *yen* while revenue is to be obtained from the following sources.—Annual Government subsidy, 200,000 *yen*; imposts in connexion with land tax, 270,000 *yen*; additional imposts in proportion to income tax, 36,000 *yen*; another addition to miscellaneous taxes, 104,000 *yen*; house tax, 72,000; receipts from navigation tolls 190,000; total 872,000 *yen*.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Saturday, Dec. 16.

The wonder that the Boers were not able to produce any serious impression on Ladysmith, although they had such weapons as six 6-inch guns and one big howitzer at least, is probably to be explained by their great anxiety not to lose that artillery. They must have brought it from the forts at Pretoria. Six-inch cannon are not toys that a Government like that of the Transvaal keeps for amusement. It does not follow, of course, that the guns were actually mounted in the Pretoria forts before being put on railway-trucks and despatched to Natal. They probably formed part of the reserve armament. But, under any circumstances, their loss must weaken the defensive capacities of Pretoria very appreciably, and therefore they were not brought within dangerous reach of the Ladysmith artillery. The position chosen for them seems to have been about six thousand yards, or over three miles, from the town and at that distance artillery practice, even with weapons of the utmost precision, becomes most uncertain, since the gunners can neither watch the effects of their shells minutely not lay the guns accurately. The Boers gained the advantage of not exposing their big weapons to serious danger at the hands of the gunners in Ladysmith, but, in exchange, they sacrificed the efficiency of their own practice. We may be sure that they did not count on enterprises such as those recently undertaken by White's men. They must, inceed, have had great confidence in their ability to hold their own against any force sent to relieve Ladysmith, or they would never have embarked on such an undertaking as the transport of these huge weapons a distance of 322 miles by rail, and the construction of cement platforms to mount them.

With reference to heavy artillery, it will be a matter of great interest to watch the work done by the 5-inch rifled howitzers, seventy of which have been sent from England. These are said to be splendid weapons, the most advanced product of modern gun-manufacture. They throw heavy lyddite shells with great accuracy, and with half-a-dozen of them in position at a range of about 3,000 yards, it should be possible to render any extrenchments untenable.

Monday, Dec. 18.

We find it quite impossible to credit the theory that Methuen's troops were taken by surprise at the battle of Maggersfontein, or that his plans were in any way dislocated by the enemy's strategy. It is just conceivable that, had he been attempting to carry out a turning movement, the column engaged in it might have been unexpectedly intercepted by the enemy. But that he was not attempting anything of the kind seems plain from the details thus far received. Turning movements are futile unless a General has a sufficient force to hold the enemy's position strongly in front while despatching columns to outflank him. Methuen had no such force. We do not know what irregular troops he may have under his command, but he has only one Division of regulars. It consists of the Guards Brigade and the Highland Brigade. With them he fought the battles of Belmont, Graspan, and the Modder. It will have been observed that only the Highland Brigade and one battalion of Guards were engaged in the fight on the 11th instant. The Guards Brigade did not come into action at all. What happened was probably this. The key of the Boers' position was Scholtz Kop, an eminence on the East of Speifontein station, standing some 200 feet above the surrounding country. There they had thrown up intrenchments, and Methuen's reconnaissances had led him to conclude that the part of their defensive line near Maggersfontein—which is not marked upon any map in our possession—was the best point for delivering an attack. He had only two Brigades, as we have said, or some ten thousand infantry. He could not employ one of them for a front attack and the other for a turning operation. Such a programme would have been tactically wrong, since it would have left him without any reserve, and strategically unwarrantable in the face of an enemy numerically stronger than his own force. His resources dictated his tactics, and they were very simple. He launched the Highland Brigade at Maggersfontein and held the Guards Brigade in reserve. It is easy to see why he made that choice. The Guards had borne the brunt of the fighting at the Modder River and had suffered severely. So the place of danger was assigned to the Highlanders. Possibly they were stiffened with one Battalion of the Guards before moving to the assault, but it is also possible that the Coldstreams were sent to their assistance during the fight. At all events, the main point is that only one Brigade was despatched to deliver the assault. Had the Highlanders gained any substantial advantage, the Guards would have been thrown forward at once to maintain and develop it; but, pending an initial success on the part of the Highlanders, the Guards had to be rigidly held out of action. What sort of fight the Highlanders fought we know from the list of casualties. It was in accordance with the best traditions of the British Army. But they failed to win a position such as would have justified Methuen in sending his remaining Brigade into action, and, moreover, they incurred such losses that a retreat of the whole force to the Modder River seemeu prddent. We can not wonder at the result. Our wonder is rather that Methuen could have hoped, by means of a Brigade of some five thousand men, to carry an entrenched position held by twelve thousand Boers. As to the idea that he was taken by surprise, or that the affair had any features analagous with the incidents of the Stormberg disaster, we cannot discover any ground for the hypothesis. One telegram certainly speaks of the Highlanders having been "caught in quarter column," but none of the detailed telegrams sent by Reuter, nor anything in the official reports of Methuen himself, so far as we know, confirms that rumour. We believe that it was simply a daring and almost desperate attempt to win a victory in the face of heavy odds. Methuen's incentive was doubtless the desire to relieve Kimberley without a day's delay. Kimberley is not in any immediate danger, but Mafeking's plight suggests uneasiness, and there is a battalion of British troops shut up in Mafeking. Had the Boers been defeated at Speifontein, which is only 13 miles from Kimberley, the relief of the latter would have followed at once, and the Boers besieging Mafeking must then have consulted their own safety without loss of time. Methuen has failed, however, and the question now is, what time must elapse before he can renew his attempt? Presumably he will hold his position on the Modder River, being thus within 24 miles of Kimberley. The first reinforcements that can reach him will be the Fifth Division. At present there are four Divisions of British troops in South Africa. It is not possible to speak with absolute certainty of their distribution, but we can be tolerably sure that Buller has a Division and a half, together with a fraction of the Division originally under White's command. White has a Division, less that fraction; Gatacre has half a Division, and Methuen has a Division. There are two more Divisions *en route* for the Cape, namely, the Fifth Division, under Sir Charles Warren, and the Sixth Division under Sir Charles Mansfield. The former was to have left England at the end of November. It should therefore be just reaching the Cape now. The Sixth Division was expected to sail about the 6th or 7th of December, and doubtless no time has been lost in getting it off. If the Fifth Division is sent to the Modder River, Methuen will be able to resume the offensive in about a week from now, and will have under his command a force not inadequate for the task before him. But General Buller may think it necessary to reinforce Gatacre with a Brigade, in which case Methuen will get only half a Division, and be still too weak for really effective operations.

Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The South African affair is proving to be the most serious problem that England has had to grapple for many years. Apparently the explanation is that we are now for the first time engaged in war under the altered conditions of modern weapons of precision and rapid effectiveness. It is evident that magazine rifles and quick-firing guns have invested defensive operations with a power altogether beyond the conception of strategists or tacticians in former ages. The Boers have never succeeded in making the slightest impression on our troops when the latter were fighting on the defensive. Our men, however, have won five battles against the Boers standing on the defensive. There can be no question as to the superiority of the British soldier. Yet our columns are now checked at all points. Gatacre's failure may have been partly due to a surprise, but Methuen and Buller went open-eyed into battle and were not able to drive the enemy from his positions. We have now something like sixty thousand troops under arms in South Africa, and for the moment we seem to be brought to a stand-still. So are the Boers. They may, indeed, succeed in reducing one, or even all, of the places which they have been able to invest, but they are powerless to make any impression on Buller, Methuen or even Gatacre. Evidently it is essential that the attacking force must greatly outnumber the defending force, so that turning operations may be always within reach of a commanding officer. It is all very fine for German critics and French critics to sit in their studies, and preach sermons about this tactical error or that strategical mistake. Neither Germans or French have ever

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had to undertake any such task as that now engaging England. They have no practical knowledge, and we only wish that the business of furnishing an object lesson to the world had fallen to their share instead of to England's, though we are bound to say that she would probably have failed to derive such a useful lesson from their experiences as they will from hers. Given a mountainous country like South Africa, given men who know every inch of it, are armed with the best modern weapons, have an exceptional knowledge of their use and are animated by the stoutest spirit of resistance—given all these things and we have conditions demanding a modification of all previous rules of warfare. England, indeed, is the only Power in the world that could attempt to deal with this South African situation from a distance of ten thousand miles, and it seems likely to demand all her strength, for if the disaffection already engendered by recent reverses spreads among the Dutch and the natives, the complications will be indeed serious.

But while writing thus, we are by no means disposed to take a gloomy view of the situation. The Fifth Division is due at the Cape to-day (18th) and the Sixth Division ought to arrive on the 25th inst. Thus, within a week there will be two additional Divisions available. The presence of these troops, some twenty-five thousand combatants, will make a great difference. Meanwhile, it is plain that England is going to put her back into the work. Two more Divisions will be despatched with the least possible delay, and probably a considerable force of militia will be sent to guard the lines of communication. It would be a great convenience to draw upon India, but the employment of Indian troops would probably complete the disaffection of the Dutch in the Cape. Her Majesty's Government has hitherto refrained from requisitioning any steamers that are engaged upon regular lines of communication. That policy will now be abandoned, we may be sure, and instead of 125 steam transports, we shall see 200 engaged in the task. The appointment of Roberts and Kitchener is significant. Buller and Clery are probably as good men as we have in England, but to command an army such as is now to take the field, Her Majesty's Government rightly chooses the Generals in whom the country has most confidence.

Friday, Dec. 22.

It is naturally a matter of much difficulty for non-military persons to form an accurate idea of the fighting strength of the British forces now in South Africa. Very varying and vague statements are made, some putting the number at forty thousand, some at sixty, and some even at eighty thousand. The difficulty is caused in great part by the confusion that exists between combatants and non-combatants. Thus, when we hear that there are 12,000 Boers in position at Spyfontein, and that Methuen has a Division and a naval brigade under his command on the Modder River, we are apt to conclude, in a general kind of way, that the opposing forces are nearly equal, until suddenly our conclusion is upset by a statement that Methuen has only 7,000 men. It is easy, however, to make the matter tolerably clear. An Infantry Division consists of 8 battalions of infantry, a squadron of Cavalry and 3 batteries (18 guns) of Artillery. It has also a company of Royal Engineers, 3 Supply Columns, 2 Bearer Columns and 3 Field Hospital Columns, but all these belong to the non-combatant branch. The combatants are the infantry, the cavalry and the artillery. Now the nominal strength of a battalion of infantry on a war footing is 1,000 men, and we know that it was the intention of the War Office to raise to that strength all the battalions ordered for service in South Africa. But the War Office did not succeed. Some battalions mustered nearly a thousand; some less. We shall be very near the mark if we take the average at 900. Hence the 8 battalions constituting a Division aggregate 7,200 of all ranks, and artillery and cavalry give about 500 more, making the total fighting strength of the Division 7,900. Three of these Infantry Divisions were despatched from England at the outset, representing 23,700 men.

We have further to take account of the Cavalry Division, the Army Corps Troops and the Communications Troops. The combatants of the Cavalry Division are six regiments of cavalry, 2 batteries of horse artillery and 4 companies of mounted infantry, aggregating about 5,000 men.

The Army Corps troops are those under the direct command of the officer commanding the Army Corps. Each Division is a tactical unit, complete in itself, and able to operate independently. But the commander of an Army Corps—3 infantry divisions and 1 cavalry division—has a separate body of men whom he can utilize according to necessity. They consist of 8 batteries of artillery—3 of them being howitzer batteries—two squadrons of cavalry and a battalion of infantry making in all about 4,700 men (we are still excluding the non-combatants).

The troops for guarding the communications consist of 7 battalions of infantry, together with various non-combatants—as Army Service Corps, Medical Corps, Ordnance Corps and Balloon Factory. These combatants may be put down at 6,300 of all ranks.

Hence we arrive at the following results with regard to the troops sent from England according to the original programme:—

3 Infantry Divisions.....	23,700	combatants.
1 Cavalry Division	5,000	,,
Army Corps Troops.....	4,700	,,
Communications Troops...	6,300	,,
Total	39,700	combatants.

In order to know how many regulars there are altogether in South Africa we must add the Division sent from India, and the troops already in Natal and elsewhere. About that total there is some uncertainty, but if we assume 14,000 combatants, we shall certainly not be under the mark. Thus our total figure is 53,706 of all arms.

With regard to the distribution of these forces, it is pretty plain that Methuen has one Division; Buller one and a half, White one; and Gatacre half a division. The main part of the Cavalry Division seems to be guarding Methuen's line of communications and protecting his right flank against enterprises from the direction of Rosmead and Stormberg.

But we can not discover the whereabouts of the Corps Troops. If they are with Buller, he ought to have at least 7 field batteries, 2 horse batteries, and 3 howitzer batteries, or 84 guns in all. But his loss of 11 guns at the Tugela River seems to have temporarily crippled him, which is inconsistent with the theory that he has such a large park of artillery. This point must remain in doubt.

It has further to be noted that 800 regulars (combatants) are shut up in Kimberley and 650 in Mafeking. Kimberley has a total garrison of 3,000 and Mafeking has 1,200, but we are not counting Colonial troops in this statement. Altogether, if we assume that there are 10,500 troops (combatants) shut up in Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking, it results that the total attacking force of the British is about 43,000 of all arms, from which must be deducted at least 4,500 for casualties since the outbreak of hostilities, leaving to Buller, Methuen, and Gatacre a total of 38,500.

Let us apply the above figures to Lord Methuen's case. He advanced from Hopetown for the relief of Kimberley with a Division 7,900 strong, and a naval brigade numbering probably 450. Altogether his force was about 8,400 combatants. On the 23rd of November he fought and won the battle of Belmont. On the 25th he fought and won the battle of Graspan. On the 28th he fought and won the battle of the Modder. In these three engagements he lost 868 men, or more than one-tenth of his total force. It was a most brilliant feat. Methuen struck blow after blow before the enemy could find time to entrench. But the Modder fight exhausted him. He had to pause, and while he waited, the army in front of him not only increased, but also entrenched itself strongly. He was unable to resume his forward movement until December 11th, and we know the result; a repulse with 818 casualties. His total losses, then, between November 23rd and December 11th, in four fights, were 1,664 men, or just one-fifth of his total force. In that interval of 17 days, one man out of every five in his army fell dead or wounded, and he remains now with a body of some 6,700, faced by at least 12,000 Boers.

We can not speak with equal assurance about Buller, because of our uncertainty as to the whereabouts of the Corps Troops, but it may safely be asserted that he had not more than 13,500 men in his fighting line on December 15th. He lost 1,107, or about one-twelfth of the whole.

Evidently the tasks set for Methuen and Buller were impossible. Methuen, with some 7,000 men, had to attack a strongly entrenched army of 12,000. Buller, with 13,500, had to assault a difficult and strongly entrenched position guarded by at least 15,000, probably 18,000 or 19,000.

A telegram received in Yokohama announces that Lieut. Wilcox, who is among the garrison in Ladysmith, has been slightly wounded.

THE JAPANESE PRESS AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

The Japanese press has broken the silence preserved by it during the recent developments of the South African War. Four of the leading papers have spoken—the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the *Jimmin* and *Jiji Shimpo*. All agree that England's ultimate victory is only a question of time, but they evidently do not under-rate the magnitude of the task awaiting her. From the *Nichi Nichi's* writing we gather that

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there are among the Japanese some who rejoice at England's reverses, holding she is a species of all-consuming monster and that right is on the side of the two Republics. The *Nichi Nichi* condemns such notions as fallacious and reminds its readers that England is Japan's friend, and trusts that all will preserve at this crisis an attitude becoming the nature of the Empire's relations with Great Britain and worthy of the country's dignity. The strength of England, it says, is best developed by adversity. The more difficult the work to be done, the greater capacity she shows for doing it. Witness the fine resistance made by garrisons of places invested by powerful forces—Mafeking, Kimberley and Ladysmith. There can be no doubt whatever as to the final issue. England is pledged to conquer. She has sacrificed too much for Africa's sake to draw back now. The failure to relieve Gordon cost her a difficult and arduous war, which Kitchener has brought to a favourable close and the Soudan is now hers. The retreat after Majuba Hill is now costing her a still more difficult and arduous war which demands the exertion of her full strength. The result in the South will be what it has been in the North. The British people are not showing any disposition to blame their Government. What they think of is solely to carry the war through vigorously and unflinchingly. Japan can only hope for the speedy and complete victory of her friend. As for the apprehensions entertained in some quarters that Great Britain's difficulties in South Africa will be taken advantage of by certain Occidental Powers for aggressive purposes in the Far East, the *Nicki Nichi Shimbun* sees no reason for such fears, but says that at any rate Japan has to maintain an attitude of watchful preparedness, not allowing herself to be perturbed or betrayed into any hasty action.

The *Kokumin* admits the gravity of England's temporary reverses, but says that their only effect will be to make her exert her full strength, when the result can not be doubtful. Still there can be no question that she greatly underrated the difficulties to be overcome, and that her false estimate has increased them gravely, for General Gatacre's defeat at Stormberg seems likely to produce a revolt among the Dutch in the north of the Cape Colony. That is the only point suggesting real cause for uneasiness, namely, that the war may cease to be a struggle between England and the two Republics and become an inter-racial fight.

The *Jimmin*, while equally confident about the result, notes the great disadvantages under which the British labour. Their contempt for their enemy has enabled the latter to find them unprepared. Their knowledge of the country can not compare with that of the Boers. They have to fight an enemy whose men are fine marksmen of thoroughly acquainted with the kind of fighting to which the country is adapted. The volunteer system of service is an element of weakness compared with that of conscription. Continental Europe is bitterly hostile to them, and military experts from several European States are aiding the Boers. Yet the world's sympathy ought to be with England. Her conquest of South Africa means the uprooting of old prejudices, the promotion of the best type of civilization and the establishment of a liberal regimen. Victory will surely be hers, though it may cost dear.

The *Jiji Shimpo* is persuaded that there will now be no drawing back on England's part. Even the Opposition will not suggest any compromise. The fight has to be fought out to the bitter end, and the result is in no doubt. There is no reason why England should be in a hurry. The Boers are courageous and desperate. To attack them precipitately must involve heavy sacrifices. Great Britain can afford to wait. She has the complete command of the sea-board, and can effectually stop the arrival of warlike munitions or material in any form for the Boers. At all events the issue is quite clear. But the trade of the world can not fail to be affected.

The *Jiji*, after premising that the conquest of the two South African Republics by the British forces is only a question of time, draws attention to the great development of the South African districts in recent years, and predicts that their growth will be more rapid than ever under British administration. It advises its nationals to turn their attention to that part of the world, for there may be great opportunities for Japanese immigrants and Japanese commerce.

Our contemporary seems to take it for granted that England will annex the two Republics, and we gather that it is influenced by the strange argument, advanced in certain English journals, that in view of the heavy blows which the Transvaalers and Free-Staters are dealing to England, there is nothing for it but to annex them when she has conquered them. We confess that with the news of Gatacre's reverse, Methuen's reverse, and Buller's reverse ringing in our ears, it seems very bad taste, to say the least of it, that we should discuss what our country is going to do with the two Republics. Our object in writing, therefore, is only to enter our protest against the extraordinary idea that, because the Boers are giving us a tough job, we must annex their lands. That is not the *Jiji's* idea, we are confident, but it is an idea which has been expressed in almost as many words by some newspapers. What can be more irrational than to pretend that the Boers are to be punished for fighting bravely, and that, if they had behaved in a less manly fashion, greater consideration should be extended to them? That is not the view that the British nation will take, we are persuaded. There is, indeed, a valid reason for adopting a stern attitude towards the two Republics, namely, that their intention of going to war to drive the British out of South Africa is now indubitably seen to have been entertained for a long time back, and acted upon secretly and steadily. They have challenged the struggle for supremacy, and the conqueror must be supreme.

FRIENDLY PARAGRAPHS.

We have been watching with admiration the quiet demeanour of the Japanese press in the face of British reverses in South Africa. No better proof of this country's friendly feeling towards Great Britain could be shown than the fact that journals of all shades of policy refrain from joining the chorus of exultation indulged in by the Continental press of Europe over England's troubles. It is with regret, therefore, that we find one newspaper making a complete departure from that sympathetic attitude. The *Japan Times*, in its issue of Saturday last, publishes the following paragraphs:—

It is one thing to have advice to offer Gen. White and another thing to get it to him.

If Gen. White is still holding Ladysmith it is because no one has arrived to help him let go.

The British have revenged themselves good and plenty for the defeat of Gen. White by burning Oom Paul in effigy in London.

Gen. White takes all the blame for the Ladysmith defeat, though Gen. Joubert is quite ready to share the responsibility.

Russia may not care what Lord Salisbury will brook as soon as the British army gets thoroughly engaged in the Transvaal.

Gen. Buller still insists that it will be a short campaign. This is the only intimation thus far that the British intend to withdraw from South Africa.

The thorough knowledge which the Boers possess of live stock is again illustrated by the stampeding of another band of British army mules.

When the supply of genuine Transvaal war news runs short Cape Town makes up the deficiency with another report of a big British victory at Ladysmith, accompanied with an immense slaughter of Boers and the taking of a few thousand prisoners.

Lord Salisbury warns Europe that Great Britain will allow no interference in South Africa on the part of other countries. He should now warn the Boers that he will not tolerate for a minute such a thing as the capture of Ladysmith.

We can not tell whether these paragraphs were composed in the office of our Tokyo contemporary. They are obviously not from a Japanese pen, and it may be taken for granted that the editor himself had nothing to do with them. But they are printed as original matter, and therefore the responsibility for them rests with the journal publishing them. As Englishmen we can afford to laugh at such jeers, for the checks and reverses our arms have thus far experienced do not dishearten us in the least. England has conquered worse adversities and successfully faced greater difficulties, and that she will emerge from this crisis victorious we entertain not the least doubt. But we shall not forget those who flouted us when our gallant countrymen were dying by hundreds on South-African fields, nor will the scoffers find that the transient satisfaction of a flimsy jest was worth exchanging for the sterling friendship of the British people.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE SHIBA-RIKIU.

On the 21st inst., at 8 o'clock the Emperor was to receive the Foreign Representatives at the Shiba Detached Palace, for the purpose of engaging in the sport of duck-hunting, for which sport elaborate arrangements exist in the beautiful park. A capital account of this essentially Japanese pastime has been published in the columns of the *Field*, from the pen of Colonel Haggard, brother of Mr. Rider Haggard. The Colonel had an excellent opportunity of becoming practically acquainted with the sport during his recent visit to Japan, when he stayed at the Belgian Legation with his brother-in-law, Baron d'Anethan.

The meeting of British Residents at Kobe on Wednesday afternoon was a very crowded and enthusiastic affair. Mr. J. C. Hall presided, and several stirring speeches were made. A strong committee was elected "to collect and forward funds in aid of the disabled and of the families of the killed and wounded of the British forces in South Africa."

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RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

Saturday, Dec. 16.

Those directly interested in the question of religion in education are not ceasing their efforts to obtain some relaxation of the very drastic attitude assumed by the Japanese Government. Representatives of the Christian schools have approached Marquis Ito and received from him a careful hearing. Through his good offices, also, they obtained an audience with the Prime Minister, who is understood to have listened to them most courteously, and promised to consult with the Educational Authorities on the subject of their representations. The course suggested by the advocates of Christianity in education is that, while not extending official recognition to schools in which religious instruction is given or religious exercises are performed, and while withholding from such schools the privilege of being regarded as links in the chain of national education, it might at any rate be arranged that their graduates should have the privilege of competing on equal terms with the graduates of public and officially recognised institutions for admission to the high schools. With that concession the advocates of religion in education would be content, and since it is a concession which leaves entirely undisturbed the principle of excluding religion from the State system of education, and, at the same time, remedies the crying injustice of condemning parents either to exclude the moral influences of religion from the training of their children or to condemn the latter to marked disadvantages in their career, we trust that the Government will recognise in this suggestion an honourable exit from a position which, if maintained strictly, will prove incalculably injurious to the country's morality as well as its reputation.

Tokyo newspapers devote long columns to the discussion of the Religions Bill introduced by the Government in the House of Peers on the 14th instant. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that they devote columns to discussing the agitation which the priests of the Eastern Hongwan temple are fomenting against the Bill, for the measure itself meets with universal approval as an enactment giving proper practical effect to the principle of religious liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. Not one journal has a word to say in favour of the attitude assumed by the Buddhist malcontents. All agree in denouncing the Higashi Hongwan-ji priests, and in declaring that their objections to the Bill are founded really upon hostility to Christianity, which they would fain enlist official aid to drive out of the land. The *Jiji* alone draws attention to some features of the Bill itself that invite criticism. They have doubtless occurred to our readers already. There is, first, the question of a religious council. The Bill provides that such a body shall be created by Ordinance for the purpose of adjudicating religious disputes. That is an exceedingly vague function. What is meant by "religious disputes," and why should the Government endeavour to make any provision for pronouncing judgment in such matters? It will probably be found impossible to give practical effect to this provision without creating much dissatisfaction, and involving officialdom in endless troubles. Then there is the provision that any person slandering or defaming a religious body by speech, writing, picture, theatrical performance or the construction of figures, shall be liable to major imprisonment for a term of not more than one year. What is to be understood by "slandering or defaming?" Many of the religious controversies that take place betray those waging them into expressions which come within the scope of slander or defamation. It can scarcely be intended that the law should undertake to punish all such offences against the canons of good taste, though if such a responsibility could be discharged, society would gain appreciably. We are disposed to think that the drafters of this Bill have extended its provisions beyond the limits of practical expediency.

Monday, Dec. 18.

Contrary to expectation the committee of the various Buddhist sects, at a meeting on the 14th instant, passed a resolution virtually endorsing the attitude assumed by the Eastern Hongwan-ji priests towards the Religions Bill. The representatives of the Western Hongwan-ji strongly opposed the tendency of the meeting, but were out-voted. They therefore signified their intention of severing their connection with the association of sects. Such a proceeding would have meant a serious schism in the ranks of Buddhism, for the High Prelate of the Western Hongwan-ji is the highest dignitary of the creed in Japan. In order to avert that calamity, the Shingon priests stepped into the breach, and their eminent prelate, Mr. Doki Horyo, made a vehement appeal to the meeting on the following day, urging that negotiations should be opened with the Western Hongwan-ji to prevent the threatened disruption. The meeting agreed to expunge from its resolutions of the preceding day a clause declaring that foreign and indigenous creeds must be placed on a different footing, and thereafter negotiations were opened with the priests of the Western Hongwan-ji, to induce them to reconsider their resolve to withdraw from the association. The result of the negotiations is not known, but it seems plain that the Western Hongwanji men will stand their ground.

Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The Buddhist Priests—always excepting the influential party led by the representatives of the Western Hongwan-ji—seem quite determined not to desist from their agitation against the Religions Bill submitted to the Diet by the Government. They have removed from their platform the plank requiring that foreign and indigenous religions should be placed on a different footing *vis à vis* the law, but they insist that Buddhism has historical claims to State protection, and that it is justly entitled to official recognition as the religion of the Empire. We do not agree with that contention. The story of Buddhism in Japan has not been such as to constitute a title to State recognition. That it has been a splendid civilizing factor there can be no second opinion; but it has also been a flagrant disturber of the peace, a meddler in politics, a participator in intrigues, and an exponent of physical force. At the same time, no thoughtful person can be entirely unsympathetic with the Buddhists' point of view. The manner of their disestablishment at the time of the Restoration amounted almost to spoliation, and when they look back to the old days of power and opulence as compared with the present era of insignificance and even penury, they would be more than human did they not feel aggrieved. But the times have passed them by. They are no longer even a shadow of their old selves, and their condition is not so much due to their loss of lands and revenues as to their own falling away from grace. They appear to be without any elements of moral recuperation, and their plaintive cry to be gathered once more under the wings of officialdom appears to be only another symptom of their moribund condition.

Wednesday, Dec. 20.

The representatives of the various sects of Buddhism have come to an agreement, it is said, with regard to their attitude towards the Religions Bill. They have decided to desist from opposing the measure provided that a clause is introduced extending the power of the principal temples (*honzan*) over the branch temples (*matsu-ji*). That is an indirect way of obtaining official recognition, for if the law undertakes to enforce certain principles of Buddhist organization, the Buddhists will be in a position to claim that they are under Governmental protection. We do not pretend to understand what reasons may exist for the step proposed—whether the priests of the branch temples are showing too much independence of control, or whether their manner of living seems to call for closer scrutiny at the hands of their hierarchs. We merely state the facts as they are recounted by rumour.

Thursday, Dec. 21.

It appears that the followers of *Shinto* are not particularly pleased with the Bill which the Government has introduced in the Diet concerning religions. What the reasons of their objections are we do not clearly gather, but it is stated that Baron Senge—who represents one of the oldest families in Japan and whose ancestors were closely connected with the Great Shrine at Ise—is agitating against the measure in the House of Peers, of which he is a member. The Buddhists; as explained in our last issue, are now reconciled to the Bill, provided that an amendment be introduced with regard to relations between chief temples and branch temples. But the Japanese Christians are said to be dissatisfied. They think that the proposed system provides for too much official interference in religious affairs, especially since a council is to be appointed by Imperial Ordinance for settling disputes; and they object particularly to the clause forbidding religious preachers and teachers to meddle in politics.

We think it will be very regrettable if Japanese Christians attempt to insist upon this last point. Their religion lay under a ban during nearly three centuries in Japan chiefly because it was suspected of cloaking political designs, and if they now differentiate themselves in this respect from the followers of Buddhism and *Shinto*, who raise no objection whatever to the political veto, they will assuredly re-kindle the embers of prejudice. Can they not consent to stand aside from the political arena for the present, if by such a course they promote the welfare of their creed? They must see that the tendency of Japan is

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entirely progressive. Every veto that interferes with the liberty of the subject is bound to disappear. Can they not trust in time? And do they fail to see that there are incidents in the history of nations which certainly condone, if they do not justify, this attitude of timidity on Japan's part. The founder of Christianity showed his profound foresight when he said that the wisdom of the serpent should be recommended to his followers. Too often we are obliged to regret the indiscretion of Christians. The other day, one of them published a letter which he had addressed to a leading Japanese statesman reproving in unmeasured terms the supposed looseness of the latter's life. That sort of fanatical zeal, prompted too often by Pharisiacal vainglorousness, does infinitely more harm than good, and is directly opposed to the teachings of Christ himself. We venture to predict that if the Japanese Christians raise difficulties about the political veto in this Bill, they will do a serious injury to their cause.

THE PEST.

Saturday, Dec. 16.

Two fresh cases of pest are reported from Osaka. One of the sufferers, a youth of 17, died on the 13th instant, and the fact that his malady had been plague was not even suspected until the autopsy revealed the presence of the fateful bacillus. It is said that he had not shown any symptoms suggesting the Pest, and had consequently remained without proper treatment until the end. The second patient, a boy of 14, has been sent to hospital.

The *Kobe Herald* says the Governor of Hiogo Ken has issued the following notification:—Any person who refuses medical inspection or conceals himself to avoid medical inspection in regard to infectious disease cases shall be liable to be imprisoned or fined.

The total amount of subscriptions towards the plague fund and the relief fund received at the City office up to Thursday was *yen* 3,679 and *yen* 2 443.05 respectively.

The *Kyoto Shimbun* reports that Dr. Tsuboi Jiro, Principal of the Kyoto Medical College, brought back plague germs in a bottle from Kobe on Sunday and left the bottle in a room of the College after pouring some milk into it. The bottle was found in the room on the following morning, but the contents had disappeared. It is supposed that some person swallowed the milk or threw it out, and the whole college was in a state of excitement over the report. Dr. Tsuboi has denied the whole affair.

With the cessation of plague cases at Kobe there comes news of an outbreak at Nagasaki. It appears that the cause of the death of a person at Urakami, Nagasaki, which occurred on the 4th inst., was suspected by the authorities. A post mortem examination proved the case to be one of plague. Three deaths which occurred in the neighbourhood before and after this patient's death are regarded as suspicious.

Monday, Dec. 18.

Osaka reports its seventh case of Pest. The last victim succumbed to a singularly virulent type of the disease. He passed the medical inspection as perfectly healthy on the morning of the 15th, went on with his work, that of sock-making, and was dead at 6 p.m. on the 15th. His saliva and even the tears from his eyes are said to have swarmed with bacilli.

The Tokyo police have issued a notification calling upon any one that sees a dead rat to hand the carcass covered to the nearest police station. Failure to observe this order will entail a fine of not more than one *yen*. An extraordinary order! How on earth are people to be punished for such a sin of omission? If the citizens had been simply invited to assist the sanitary authorities in that manner, it would have been well enough, but to fine them if they fail to pick up and hand over the bodies of dead rats is quite farcical.

Tuesday, Dec. 19.

Two fresh cases of Pest are reported, one from Kobe and the other from Osaka.

The Sanitary Authorities in Tokyo have now nearly concluded the extensive operation of cleansing the city. Every householder was obliged to raise the mats in all his rooms, take out all accumulations of dust and rubbish beneath them, and also to carry out a thorough scavenging of every part of his premises. A large squadron of men and carts went round to remove the heaps of dirt thus collected in the streets. It was quite a spectacle, and while the business was in progress Tokyo's atmosphere could not be called charming. Japanese houses enjoy the reputation of being very clean, and so they are certainly, as far as appearances are concerned. But there could be no better dirt trap than a floor covered with *tatami*. Dust and filth are gradually forced through the divisions of the mats, and unsuspected masses of uncleanness are finally collected under the spotless *tatami*. Passing through one of the back-streets of the city while the scavengers' carts were at work, one was perplexed to imagine where such quantities of offensive matter could have been lying concealed.

Wednesday, Dec. 20.

The Pest seems to be gradually finding its way eastward. From Kobe it passed to Osaka; thence to Kyoto, though the latter can not be said to have been really invaded as yet; and now it has made its appearance at Hamamatsu. A railway porter at that place is said to have been attacked, but no particulars are forthcoming.

Thursday, Dec. 21.

No less than four fresh cases of Pest are reported from Osaka, making 12 in all since the first appearance of the disease. It is also stated that the carcase of a rat found in a goods' warehouse in Gifu, proved, on examination, to be full of bacilli.

The Tokyo Sanitary Authorities have received from the French Legation a sufficient quantity of the Yersin serum for use with 100 patients, and have forwarded it to Osaka. We were mistaken in saying that M. Harmand obtained the serum from France: he procured it from Indo-China where it had been prepared.

Friday, Dec. 22.

It is curious to see how fully events are justifying the advice publicly given through these columns by Dr. Baelz when the Pest first threatened to invade Japan. No sooner does the fell disease make its appearance in Hamamatsu than we hear of dead rats being found with the bacillus in their carcases, and latest intelligence from that place is that the transport agency's assistant who is now under treatment for Pest probably contracted the disease by burning the bodies of seven rats discovered dead in the building where he was employed. The rat has now assumed a new character. He will soon come to be regarded as the enemy of mankind. He can scarcely be eradicated, however, and after all the truth is that he is not a prime cause of mischief but only a fellow-sufferer.

Two fresh cases of Pest are reported from Kobe. It begins to be apparent that the disease can not be completely fought off.

IMPEACHMENT OF THE CABINET.

Last Friday's debate on the Address to the Throne introduced by the Progressists proved a most disappointing affair. The accusations formulated in connexion with the Yokohama foreshore-reclamation scheme and the bribery of members were not supported by any valid evidence. Two documents were produced as proofs. One lost all title to consideration on account of its connexion with the notorious Koyoma Kiunosuke, a member who, although he has openly confessed to taking bribes, still occupies a seat in the House; the other was completely deprived of value by the other side's production of a contradictory declaration signed by the very men whose words the former document professed to quote. Moreover the Prime Minister himself ascended the rostrum and declared that, so far as the Government was concerned, the charges were entirely false. The Progressist speakers endeavoured to draw sinister inferences from the fact that whereas the Liberals had formerly been opposed to any increase of the Land Tax, they changed front last session and supported it. But of course such a charge was easily met. Altogether the debate proved most unsatisfactory, and the worst incident connected with it was the tyrannical action of the majority. They allowed themselves to be betrayed into the unseemly course of handing over Mr. Ozaki—the introducer of the Address, to a Special Committee, with instructions to determine whether his speech had contained matter deserving disciplinary punishment. Parliamentary tactics of that kind do not commend themselves to English minds at all events. Mr. Ozaki spoke as the leader of a great party in the House, and his motion obtained the support of 121 members. Such a result furnished ample justification of his action in raising the question, and it seems to us to have been a mere abuse of power on the part of the Liberals to attempt to subject him to disciplinary punishment. We trust that wiser and juster counsels will prevail when the Committee's report is presented.

THE FORE-SHORE AFFAIR.

The Yokohama fore-shore reclamation complication has been at length settled upon lines which do not seem markedly favourable to the Yokohama folks. They are to have ten thousand *tsubo* of the reclaimed land, the title being transferred to them at once, and with regard to the remaining twenty thousand *tsubo* which they demanded in the first instance, Mr. Oyamada and his friends agree to pay over a sum of fifteen thousand *yen*. Considering that the land is expected to be worth at least 70 or 80 *yen* per *tsubo*, and that the cost of reclamation will not be more than 30 or 35 *yen*, the Oyamada party are well out of the wood.

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THE ADDRESS OF THE THRONE.

The Address to the Throne introduced by the Progressists in the House of Representatives and rejected by a considerable majority, elicited two interesting journalistic criticisms. The first appeared in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and was to the effect that the Address amounted to an impeachment of the Emperor himself since, while explicitly stating that the members of the present Cabinet had been selected by the Sovereign, it proceeded to denounce them as unworthy of trust. The point is cleverly taken, for though the Emperor is constructively assailed by any document accusing the Cabinet of incompetence and corruption since His Majesty is constitutionally the sole nominator of the Cabinet, this particular document commences with a glowing eulogy of the Sovereign's perspicacity and assiduity, and then, having declared that the Ministry was his choice, levels sweeping accusations against the latter. Such a method of drafting the Address seems so tactless that the *Nichi Nichi's* objection can not be called hypercritical. What occasion was there to begin by extolling the wisdom of the Emperor and then declare the Cabinet to have been chosen by him, by way of preface to an impeachment of the same Cabinet? We are altogether in sympathy with the efforts of the Progressists to turn the search-light into these murky places of corruption, but we wish that their methods were more judicious.

The second criticism comes from the *Asahi*. It is to the effect that the Progressists should look at home, and that if they want to tilt at the abuses of corruption, they ought to begin by their own share in the business of the Tokyo Street Railways. Apparently, if rumour is to be credited, all are tarred with the same brush. That things are as bad as that we do not believe, but the Japanese are their own accusers.

MR. WIRGMAN'S PICTURES.

We elsewhere comment briefly on the exhibition of pictures by Mr. Charles Wirgman, son of the old and well remembered friend of so many in Yokohama, and nephew of the celebrated portrait painter of the same name in England. To our own most appreciative comments we wish to add these remarks by a connoisseur of undoubted competence :—"I have just had a private view of Mr. Charles Wirgman's pictures and was very much struck with the real talent displayed. Any one desiring to see or acquire a really characteristic picture of Japanese scenery should not fail to visit the studio. Some of his spring flowers, autumn tints and fishing scenes are really charming. He has evidently been much impressed by Parsons' style, and an imitation, by no means unsuccessful, of that greatest of masters in water-colours is apparent in many of his works. Since Parsons exhibition no water-colours have been shown in Japan that can, in my opinion, equal these. I prefer him to the men who have come here with established reputations. It is to be desired that he should send some of his best drawings to England for next year's Academy, so as to obtain the opinion of really competent judges."

"EDITING."

The "editing" of telegrams in the *Japan Times* continues. In Sunday's issue of that journal the news that Methuen had fallen back on the Modder River because it was difficult to procure supplies of water at his former position is introduced by this heading :—"Why Methuen retreated 'in splendid order.'" Methuen's men had fought a grand fight. We should have supposed that, however hostile to England the editor of a newspaper might be, a sentiment of admiration would have been raised in him by the fact that a battalion which advanced some 700 strong to the assault could muster only 160 when it retired ; in other words, having left upon the field more than 3 men for every 1 that escaped. Yet we find the *Japan Times* inditing such a heading as "Why Methuen retreated 'in splendid order.'" It is a mendacious heading too, to say nothing of its satirical spirit, for it represents Methuen as having reported that he retired "in splendid order;" whereas his own words were "in perfect order," a radically different form of expression. Later on, in the same issue, Buller's check at the Tugela River is headed "Buller's Turn Now. Terrible Disaster at the Tugela." It is impossible to mistake the animus that inspires the composition of such headlines, and we are happy to think that the *Japan Times* is alone among Japanese journals in this exhibition of feeling towards England. Indeed, we do not believe that the editor of the *Japan Times* has anything to do with the matter, but the responsibility is his and we therefore invite his attention to the matter.

A LEVER FOR CHINA.

Many plans have been suggested for moving China onwards, but all have failed of their purpose up to the present. The latest suggestion comes from the *Jiji Shimpo*. It is that the Japanese should devote themselves to develop medical science according to Western methods in China. The application of the healing art furnishes object lessons which, in the opinion of our contemporary, could not fail to influence the Chinese. It was through medicine that Occidental civilization came to Japan in spite of the sternly repressive measures of the Tokugawa Government, and the *Jiji* recalls that fact, supplementing it by reference to the good work now being done by Japanese physicians in Newchwang. Foreign nations, says our Tokyo contemporary, endeavour by means of missionary labours to reach the hearts of the Chinese people. Why should not the Japanese endeavour to reach them through their bodies? That is very true, doubtless, but it is a plan that has suggested itself to others already. Surely the *Jiji* is familiar with the fact that medical missionaries have been working among the Chinese for decades, and that great sums of foreign money have been spent in building and equipping hospitals, dispensaries, and infirmaries where the Chinese receive skilled medical aid and medicines *gratis*. It appears to us that this most charitable work does not remain for Japanese to inaugurate. We should like to see them take their share in it, but we do not want them to ignore what others have done.

MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito has delivered another of his telling speeches. This time his audience consisted of members of the *Doki* Club. He spoke to them about Treaty Revision ; about its great significance to the nation ; about the immense difficulties that had impeded its achievement, and about the responsibilities it entailed. He had been surprised to find, during his recent excursions through the provinces, that an anti-foreign spirit still existed, and that the people did not seem to appreciate the sentiment of friendly recognition which had animated foreign Powers when they consented to admit Japan to their own comity. Neither did they seem to appreciate that this was the consummation of the great policy inaugurated at the Restoration. They could never hope to have satisfactory relations with the outside world unless this false spirit was eradicated. It was all very well to have a strong army and a strong navy. Such things might guarantee a State against invasion or attack. But an army and a navy ten times as strong as those of Japan would be fruitless to secure either the friendship or the respect of outside States so long as the Japanese did not adopt a different frame of mind towards foreigners, and, striking hands with them in a spirit of real friendliness, endeavour to secure their cöoperation for developing the Empire's resources.

RICE AND SILK.

Several years—quite six, if we remember aright—have passed since the *Jiji Shimpo* first broached the theory that Japan ought to abandon the cultivation of rice and take to that of silk instead. Our contemporary does not allow these questions to fall out of sight. It brings the subject forward again in its usual forceful style, and a very interesting subject it is. Briefly summarized, the *Jiji's* line of argument is that Japan is not naturally adapted for rice-growing. Rice is essentially a tropical, or sub-tropical product. In countries really suited for its culture fertilizers are not required, and the labour is comparatively small. But in Japan there is perpetual difficulty about fertilizers ; the toil connected with the work of cultivation is enormous, and crop failures, partial or total, are constantly caused by climatic irregularities which are in themselves a sufficient proof that to attempt to grow rice in this country is an agricultural mistake. If Japan wanted to remain with doors closed in the face of foreign nations, it might be reasonable that she should make great economical sacrifices to produce her own bread-stuffs. But all the world is now open to her, and she can easily obtain an unlimited supply of rice from abroad on comparatively cheap terms. At the same time, she can not be any longer doubtful that her future lies in the direction of manufactures, and it is equally plain that the hundreds of millions of inhabitants of Europe and America are ready to take any quantity of silk she has to offer. There is another consideration also. She has only thirty-five hundred miles of railway thus far. She ought to have at least twenty thousand miles. But the construction and maintenance of railways in this country are greatly complicated by the question of irrigation.

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In order to grow rice in places where nature never contemplated such an operation, the rivers have been banked up from generation to generation until their waters are raised above the level of the plains through which they flow, and one consequence is that when inundations occur they are of the most overwhelming character, destroying hundreds of millions worth of property, and interrupting the railway traffic for long intervals. These calamities would be obviated if the unnatural attempt to cultivate rice were abandoned.

THE HOUSE TAX.

A correspondent propounds an interesting question with regard to the much disputed House Tax. He says:—"In the original title deeds of course land only could be mentioned, because land only then existed, but, as you know, by English language and English law the word land carries with it all fixtures, such as buildings, &c., unless expressly exempted. But I should like to know how you get over the wording of the Revised Treaties. In paragraph 3 of Article XVIII. we have the word "property" and in paragraph 4 we have the word "lands." From this it would seem clear that property meant much more than land, and the Japan text confirms this, does it not, by using the words *zaisan* and *jisho*? No Japanese speaking of land alone would say *zaisan*: he would say *jisho*. Is not this so?"

There are here two distinct points. The first is that although the original leases referred to land only, that may have been because land alone was the object in sight, and not because the intention of the drafters of the leases was to limit their scope to land. In other words, although the leases were leases of land only, they may also have been intended to cover any buildings subsequently erected on the land, and such an intention would perhaps have been expressed if buildings had been in existence. It is not apparent that much value attaches to that view, for nothing would have been easier than to include buildings whether they were *in esse* or *in posse*. The lease could have been worded to read "such and such a plot of land and all buildings already standing on it or hereafter erected." Of course our correspondent sees that quite plainly. What he means, we take it, is that the circumstances under which the leases were framed preclude us from attaching any hard and fast value to their language. If we admit that, then, of course, the construction becomes a mere matter of opinion or convenience.

The second point affords a firmer basis for consideration. In the Anglo-Japanese Treaty we have these clauses:—

ART. XVIII.—When such incorporation (*i.e.* of the Settlements into the Communes) takes place, existing leases in perpetuity under which *property* is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property, &c.

All *land* which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall . . . . be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges.

Here we have two different expressions, "property" and "lands." Is each of the expressions to be read with reference to the other? Does the use of "lands" in the one case warrant the supposition that the use of "property" in the other was intended in a wider sense? As to the intention, we can not express any opinion, but as to the terminology, we should be disposed to agree with our correspondent were not a distinctly limiting clause appended: "No conditions whatsoever *other than those contained in such existing leases*." Hence the property in question is the property mentioned in the leases and no other property. But the leases mention "land" only, and thus we come back to land, not to land and houses. Moreover, it is not possible to admit the hypothesis that the word "land" is used in the leases in a sense inclusive of houses, if we contend that the same word "land," when used in the Revised Treaty, is used in a sense exclusive of houses. We must at least be consistent.

With regard to the Japanese terms *zaisan* and *jisho* (or *jimen*), it is undoubtedly true that *zaisan* may refer to buildings, chattels, money and property of all descriptions. But it may also refer to any one of them, and when we speak of the *zaisan* mentioned in a particular document where land (*jimen*) alone is described we must surely admit that limitation?

We have set down the facts as they present themselves to us with the sole object of contributing to a general understanding of the problem. That the Japanese Authorities never entertained any doubt of their right to levy house tax we knew two years ago, and published the fact in these columns. It is certainly a singular thing that the Treaties should have been revised on such a vague basis, and still more singular that the intention of the revisers can not now be clearly ascertained.

THE TOKYO WATER WORKS.

The opening ceremony of the Tokyo Water Works took place on Sunday, the 17th instant, at Yodo Bashi, where the principal works stand. It was a great ceremony, attended by about two thousand guests. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu was among those present, and addresses of congratulation were read by the Mayor of Tokyo, Mr. Matsuda; by Marquis Saigo, Minister of Home Affairs; and by several others. A luncheon followed, and the company was entertained with *No* and Sword Dances, juggling and music. The works are now in operation throughout the greater part of Tokyo. They are constructed on the basis of supplying 4 cubic feet of water daily per head to a million and a half of citizens, and the supply can be extended to two millions without difficulty. The main reservoirs have a total capacity of nine millions of cubic feet, that is to say, a day and a half's supply. It is stated that the total cost of the works has been 8½ million *yen*. The plans were prepared and the construction was carried out entirely by Japanese engineers, and the work has taken a little over seven years, having been commenced in September, 1892. The original estimate was 3 years, but much delay seems to have been entailed by the failure of the home-made pipes. Mr. Furuichi, the engineer-in-chief, is to be congratulated on having carried out such an extensive and difficult piece of work without any recourse to foreign aid.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

It is impossible not to endorse the *Mainichi's* comments on the recent debate in the House of Representatives with reference to the Progressists' Address to the Throne. There was a sort of tacit acknowledgement that cause of complaint exists, but, on the other hand, each party accused the other of being disqualified to press the charge. Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, one of the Liberal leaders, a man of the highest reputation, virtually admitted that there had been one or two instances of corrupt practices, but declared that isolated irregularities did not constitute a basis for an accusation against his Party in general, or against the Cabinet *en bloc*, and further contended that the Progressists did not come into Court with clean hands. We ourselves have pointed out that the Progressists are open to that retort. So long as they refrain from taking action against their own member, the notorious Mr. Koyama Kiunosuke, who, by his own confession, has taken bribes, it is difficult for them to stand forward as creditable accusers of the Liberals. What we observe with regret and surprise, however, is that there seems to be a disposition on both sides to follow party tactics, instead of seeking to probe these abuses to the quick. There have been abuses; there has been bribery, and there has been corruption. Of that no one can entertain any doubt. Who have been the bribers, who the bribed, and who the principals, are points remaining to be determined, and we should have supposed that if there was any earnest and honest desire to lay bare the true facts and expose the offenders, both the Liberals and the Progressists would have agreed to appoint a committee of investigation. Instead of taking that course, the accusers seem to shrink from really exhaustive inquiry, and the accused appear willing to take refuge behind the sins of their accusers, as if two wrongs made a right. The impression left on foreign minds is not reassuring.

THE SPECIE BANK AND THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

In connexion with the affair of Mr. Morse and the Kobe Water Works Bonds, attention is drawn by a Tokyo contemporary to the Government's policy in dealing with the gold problem. It is contended that if the Treasury did not show a disposition to become perturbed in the presence of a small exodus of specie, and if it did not resort to such measures as suspending the exchange of notes of gold by the Specie Bank in Yokohama and Kobe, foreigners would not trouble themselves about the sterling value of Japanese coins, but would handle them with the same confidence that they extend to English sovereigns. Without pretending to judge whether the action of the Authorities in matters of finance and the money market has been above criticism, we can not but think that this charge is groundless so far as it relates to the exchange operations of the Specie Bank. The question whether the Bank should continue to exchange notes in Yokohama and Kobe has been under consideration for many months, quite independently of the gold-exodus problem. It was a mere point of economical administration. The Bank of Japan saw no reason for bearing the

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expense of sending gold to Yokohama and Kobe. It took the view that persons desiring to exchange notes for gold, should take upon themselves the cost of managing the transaction. That view encountered some opposition, the contention of its opponents being that every additional facility afforded for purposes of exchange would help to maintain the stability of the gold system by promoting public confidence. We are inclined, for our own part, to endorse the latter opinion, but the point we want to make clear is that, according to information which we know to be trustworthy, the recent abandonment of the Specie Bank's exchange transactions was due wholly to a long debated policy of economy, and had nothing to do with the exodus of gold. It came, however, at an inopportune time, and the responsibility of having put the veto in force at a moment when it could scarcely fail to invite misconstruction and to augment the feeling of uneasiness in the money market, rests with the Bank of Japan. The step might easily have been deferred.

THE NEW ELECTION LAW.

The Government has introduced into the Lower House a project for a new law of elections. The scheme is slightly modified from that submitted last session. Consisting of 13 chapters and 114 articles, the Bill provides that each city and prefecture shall be regarded as one election district, instead of being divided into several districts, as is the case at present. The system of voting is to be uninominal and by unsigned ballots. Hakodate, Sapporo, and Otaru are brought within the purview of the law, but the other parts of Hokkaido, as well as Okinawa Prefecture, are to be dealt with by special Ordinance. The urban population is to return one member per eighty thousand units, and the proportion for the rural population is to be one for every hundred and twenty thousand. Qualifications for the franchise are to be the full age of 21, and the payment of 5 *yen* of land tax, or 3 *yen* of other direct national taxes, or 5 *yen* of mixed taxes. Any one who has attained the full age of 30 is to be eligible for election: there is no other qualification. It appears that these arrangements would give a total membership of 426, namely, 324 rural representatives and 90 urban, the remaining members being made up of 6 from Hokkaido, 4 from the various islands, and 2 from Okinawa. We do not know whether this measure has the approval of the Liberals. If so, they have made some important concessions.

THE KATEI GAKKO.

We have received the prospectus of an institution called the "Katei Gakko," or family school, which has for its object the reformation of children exposed to evil influences through penury or other causes. It is situated at Sugamo, in a suburb of Tokyo, and its chief promoter is the Rev. K. Tomeoka. Our readers should already be familiar with this gentleman's name. He held the position of chaplain in the Sugamo Prison when such a vehement agitation was raised by the Buddhists, in 1898, to procure his removal and contrive the restoration of the religious instruction of the prisoners to Buddhist hands only. Mr. Tomeoka nevertheless remained at the Prison until a few months ago. It would appear that he has always had a special desire to occupy himself with work connected with prisons. He spent a considerable time in America studying the reform methods pursued there, and on his return he published a book which marked him at once as the leading authority on penology in Japan. After giving up his post of chaplain in the Sugamo Prison, Mr. Tomeoka was appointed instructor in the school for training prison officials. He still retains that post, but his great aim is to establish a reformatory of the best type at Sugamo, where he has been enabled to secure a tract of land and to erect a small building. He evidently means to work slowly, and does not invite large donations. But there is a mortgage of 2,000 *yen* on the land, and he will welcome any assistance towards paying that off. Dr. D. C. Greene writes an introduction to the prospectus, and says, at the close, "I have great faith in Mr. Tomeoka's plans, and take pleasure in asking, for his small but most promising enterprise, the active sympathy and support of those who may read these words." We entirely endorse this recommendation. There is a large and practically unexploited field of usefulness in Japan for enterprises of the kind inaugurated by Mr. Tomeoka.

JURIDICAL PERSONS AND SUPERFICIES.

Dr. Lönholm has placed the foreign community under another obligation by carrying to their final solution two problems which have given rise to much controversy, namely, the right of juridical persons composed of foreigners to own real estate and the scope of superficies. The German jurist has always maintained that a duly registered partnership or company, constituting a juridical person, is entitled, under the provisions of Japanese law, to own real estate, whether the partners or members be Japanese subjects or foreigners whose principal office is in Japan, and his contention has been vehemently attacked by the *Kobe Chronicle*, the *Japan Herald*, a correspondent of *The Engineer*, and other critics. This journal has always supported his contention, and for doing so has been roundly abused by the Yokohama and Kobe newspapers above mentioned. Dr. Lönholm has also invariably maintained that the period of a superficies, according to Japanese law, can be fixed for any term of years mutually agreed upon by the contracting parties, there being no legal limit, and his contention has been vehemently attacked by the *Kobe Chronicle* and the *Japan Herald*. This journal has always supported his contention, and for doing so has been roundly abused by the Kobe and Yokohama newspapers above mentioned. Indeed the persistent denials and refutations published by the *Kobe Chronicle* were quite a feature of that journal's career. It will be seen, however, from Dr. Lönholm's letter published elsewhere, that he has carried a test case to the law courts, and obtained a favourable decision with regard to the ownership of real estate by juridical persons composed of foreigners. It will also be seen that he has duly registered a superficies for 500 years, and we may supplement that information by saying that, within our own knowledge, a superficies for 999 years has been registered by another foreigner. Facts are stubborn things. It is to be hoped that the newspapers which allowed themselves to be betrayed into such misleading assertions will now confess their error, and endeavour to remove the bewilderment into which they plunged their readers. It is fortunate for us that men like Dr. Lönholm are in our midst.

PREFECTURAL AND TOWN TAXES.

A correspondent recently asked us to state the amount of Prefectural and Town Taxes collected in Yokohama during the fiscal year commencing April 1st, 1898, and ending March 31st, 1899. We were not in possession of the figures at the moment, but we have since procured them. They are these :—

	Yen.
Amount of Prefectural Taxes ...	34.871
" Town Taxes.....	211,530
Total	246 401

In connexion with this subject we may mention that the official calculations as to the taxes to which a firm selling merchandise to the extent of five million *yen* annually is liable do not exactly agree with the calculations published by us in a recent issue. We give the official figures hereunder :—

NATIONAL AND LOCAL TAXES TO BE PAID BY A FIRM SELLING FIVE MILLION YEN WORTH OF MERCHANDISE ANNUALLY.

	Official Figures. Yen.
National Business Tax 5/10,000	2.500
Tax on rental value (1,500 *yen*) of buildings for general purposes (not for import operations only) 4/10,000	60
Tax on 10 employés (at 1 *yen* each) ...	10
Total of National Taxes	2,570
Prefectural Tax, 2 per cent. of the above.	51.40
Town Tax 50 per cent.	1,285
Total	3.906 40

The total is formidable, but so is the basis of calculation. If we take the case of a firm selling one million *yen* worth of merchandise yearly, the total taxes amount to only 781.28 *yen*. The Business Tax is, in our opinion, one of the worst imposts in the Japanese fiscal system.

MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

On Thursday afternoon, at Trinity Cathedral in Tsukiji, the marriage of Mr. E. H. Vickers and Miss Nishikawa was celebrated, in the presence of a very large concourse of the leading residents of Tokyo, including several of the Foreign Representatives and many high Japanese officials. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Bishop McKim, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Evans, the Rev. Mr. Cooke, and the Rev. Mr. Welbourn. A very pretty but simple scheme of decorations had been carried out in the Cathedral. The bride wore white Chinese brocade; the bridesmaids—the three sisters of the bride, Miss Conder, and Miss Brinkley—were in red and white the colours of Japan; and the costume of the chief bridesmaid Miss M. Nishikawa, was blue. All the young ladies carried baskets of flowers and wore gold bangles, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. Griffen acted as best man and Dr. MacCauley, Mr. Hillhouse, and Masters Nishikawa, Kirby, and Dooman were groomsmen. After the ceremony, a reception was held in the Hotel Metropole, and the happy couple started on their wedding tour amid the heartiest congratulations.

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JAPAN AND CHINA.

A group of clever men, who may be regarded as the leaders of the junior generation of statesmen in Japan, are exerting themselves vigorously to arouse a spirit of commercial and industrial enterprise among their nationals. The most prominent of these men are Mr. Kato, formerly Japanese Representative in London; Baron Hayashi, Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg; Prince Konoye, President of the House of Peers; Mr. Yano, formerly Japan's Representative in Peking; and Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Mr. Kato, Prince Konoye, and Mr. Kondo recently paid visits to China and Korea; and have embodied their experiences in more than one speech of great interest. Attention may be specially drawn to Mr. Kato's speech at a recent meeting of the Economical Society of Japan. An excellent translation of it appeared in the *Japan Times*, and is reproduced in these columns. It is interesting, we may remark *en passant*, to observe how thoroughly the Japanese have adopted the custom of public speaking. There was no difficulty in predicting that such would be the case, for the Japanese seem to possess the faculty of abstracting themselves from their surroundings, and can think out a subject as collectedly and coolly in the presence of an audience as in the seclusion of a library. The last meeting of the Japan Commercial Society illustrated this point, for Baron Hayashi, Mr. Kondo, and Mr. Yano all delivered speeches, well constructed, closely reasoned, and abounding in valuable matter. It is impossible for us, with the limited space at our disposal, to give a detailed *résumé* of these speeches. We must content ourselves with brief references, noting, at the same time, the fact that the three speakers had evidently drawn their inspiration from the same source, namely, a conviction that now is the time for the people of this country to put their hand to the plough of industry and commerce in the neighbouring empires. Baron Hayashi dwelt chiefly upon the expansion of Russia's tradal interests. It would be a serious mistake, he said, to suppose that her great national indebtedness of sixty-six hundreds of millions of roubles had been due chiefly to military preparations. A large part had gone to the development of transport facilities, the cutting of canals, the building of railways, and the construction of roads. People must not imagine, either, that the Siberian line was a strategical road in the main. Its prime purpose was to serve the requirements of trade, and its completion would be attended by results for which the Japanese nation should endeavour diligently to prepare itself. Mr. Kondo Rempei also devoted his opening remarks to the Siberian Railway, which seems to bulk very largely in the vista of Japanese business men. When the line was finished, Tokyo would be brought within 17 days of London, the world's commercial metropolis, for not only would the overland facilities be enormously increased, but Russia was also building a fleet of 7 or 8 steamers of 5,000 tons and 15 knots to ply between Japan, Vladivostock, and Newchwang. It did not appear that the Japanese were fully alive to the immense influence these things must exercise on the course of trade. Certainly they were not making in China any attempts worthy of the occasion. Japan might be said to have opened China to the world. It was she that had broken done the final barriers. Yet she allowed others to step in and monopolise the benefits of her own action. Europeans and Americans were busily exploiting the opportunities that China offered, but the Japanese remained comparatively idle, and they would surely regret their apathy when it was too late. There had been a great deal of talk about opening a Chino-Japanese bank, but in the meanwhile the Russo-Chinese Bank and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were operating in the most vigorous and successful manner. Mr. Yano spoke last. He dwelt with satisfaction on the fact that Japan's trade with Newchwang was developing greatly. A year ago, only 30 Japanese steamers had visited that port in a twelvemonth. This season the number had been 190, up to the time of the freezing of the port. But the bean trade at Newchwang was only one of the many sources that might be profitably worked by Japan in China. Hemp and lacquer certainly invited enterprise, and during his journeys in the neighbourhood of Peking Mr. Yano saw many objects in which, he was sure, a profitable business might be done. Japanese merchants were too fond of selling. They did not devote adequate attention to the buying branch of their business. One fact seemed to escape attention altogether; namely, the cheapness of money in China. Generally low interest was associated with the existence of good banks and a sound system of credit. Neither of these things was to be found in China, yet the rate of interest was so low that when a foreign bank opened its doors, Chinese depositors hastened to lodge their money with it and to take advantage of its comparatively high rates. Here was undoubtedly an opportunity that might be turned to advantage by the Japanese for getting capital on easy terms. Now was their golden opportunity, for the Chinese regarded the Japanese with special favour, and were quite ready to cooperate with them.

We imagine that the earnestness of these prominent men ought to stimulate their countrymen to some resolute efforts. But the great, the overwhelming trouble in Japan is want of money. Mr. Yano's suggestion as to using Chinese capital may prove of great value.

FOREIGNERS, MINING ENTERPRISE, AND REAL ESTATE.

A circumstantial statement is made by the *Tokyo Asahi* with regard to the Bill for amending the Mining Regulations, now before the House of Peers. The Bill does not contain any provision pointing to an extension of the privileges enjoyed by foreigners; or, to speak more accurately, does not contain any provision granting to foreigners the privilege of engaging in mining operations. They are totally excluded from such enterprises at present, and the Bill perpetuates their exclusion. The statement made by our contemporary is that certain members of the Cabinet—Viscount Aoki and Mr. Sone are specially mentioned—advocated the abolition of all restrictions in this matter, and would have had the Bill framed in a thoroughly liberal spirit. But a majority of the Ministers took a different view, and the Bill was accordingly drafted in its present form. In the House of Peers there is a strong party favourable to making some departure in a liberal sense; partly because they object to such restrictions in general, and partly because they believe that in order to encourage the inflow of foreign capital the Law must be recast. Their idea is that a clause should be introduced granting to foreigners the right of inspecting the working of a mine if they are holders of its debentures. But it is believed that even so small a concession as that would not obtain the approval of the Cabinet as now constituted, and the issue will probably be that the Bill will emerge unaltered from the hands of the Peers. Such is the *Asahi's* story.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The dysentery patients throughout the empire from the beginning of the year up to the 15th of December totalled 81,780, of whom 33,816 died. It was anticipated that the number would aggregate a hundred thousand, but happily the forecast seems likely to prove exaggerated.

The *Nippon* publishes a telegram to the effect that Russia has renewed, in a peremptory form, her claim to a portion of the property held by Messrs. Jardine and Matheson at Hankow. Our contemporary alleges that this action on Russia's part is taken in consequence of England's preoccupation in South Africa.

According to a telegram from Peking published by the *Fiji Shimpo*, the Belgian syndicate has obtained from the Chinese Government a charter for extending its line from Kaiphong to Honan-fu, as well as for another extension, apparently of the Lu-han road, but the particulars as to this latter are obscure.

It has long been intended to make a naval port at Ominato, on the north-eastern coast, but the Authorities are only setting about the work in earnest at present. There are apparently some very extensive operations to be undertaken, in the form of break-water building, levelling, dredging, and so forth. Tenders have been called for.

Tokyo newspapers state that the French Representative, M. Harmand, immediately on the appearance of the Pest in Japan, sent to Saigon for a quantity of Yersin's Lymph, which has now arrived and been handed over by His Excellency to the Japanese Authorities. This thoughtful act on the part of the French Minister is evidently highly appreciated by the Japanese.

The directors and shareholders of the Boso Railway have had a jollification to celebrate the extension of their line from Ichinomiya to Ohara, a distance of 8 miles 66 chains. They held their fête at Ohara, in the presence of a very large number of convives, and there were the usual adjuncts of such affairs in Japan. The total length of the Boso road, from Honjo to Ohara *viâ* Chiba, is now 57 miles and 47 chains.

The number of persons in prison as convicts, or awaiting trial on criminal charges, or confined in penitentiaries or under detention, aggregated 50,914 for all Japan at the end of October. The corresponding figure at the same time last year was 73,000, so there is a diminu-

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tion of 14,464, which result is attributed to the steps taken by the present Minister of Justice to shorten judicial proceedings and prevent the arrest of people on trivial charges.

Yesterday His Excellency Count Leyden proceeded to the detached palace at Numazu to present to the Prince Imperial the Order recently sent from the Emperor of Germany. The Minister was afterwards entertained at luncheon by the Prince.

News has been received by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* to the effect that the Representatives of Great Britain and Italy in Peking have entered a formal protest against the granting of a charter to the Belgian Syndicate for an extension of its railway from Kaifang to Honan-fu and thence on to Sinan.

The latest news is that Korea purposes throwing Port Hamilton open to trade. Three little islands constitute the group known in Japan as "Kyobu-to." The central is the islet occupied in 1885 by Great Britain, and the eastern served for exercising troops. It is stated that the Korean Government will make a harbour at the central island and appropriate land for a foreign settlement on the western. We do not see what opportunities for trade the place offers. Probably the move is political rather than commercial.

The temple Hongaku-ji at Aoki-machi, Kanagawa Prefecture, was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 15th instant, This temple was founded by the renowned Yeisai Zenji, of the Soto sect, six hundred and fifty years ago. Its chief interest for the general public lies, however, in the fact that it was the place of sojourn assigned for the foreign envoy who concluded the first of Japan's modern treaties with the outer world. The conflagration is said to have had its origin in a store-room, but the cause has not yet been ascertained.

The people, some 4,000 in number, who put their money into the Kompira lotteries stand to lose about a hundred thousand *yen*. The managers of the lotteries should have accounted for two hundred thousand, but it appears that only one half of that amount is forthcoming. Still that seems to be considered a better result than was at one time anticipated, and it is now stated a compromise will be effected, the officials of the Shrine undertaking to make good the deficit gradually, as funds accrue from the offerings of the faithful.

The Customs *Taotai* of Amoy, whose implication in the recent anti-Japanese disturbance induced the Government of this country to demand his punishment, has been removed from office. While acknowledging that the measure was necessary, some Japanese journals sympathise with the *Taotai* on the ground that he only obeyed his patriotic instincts. It appears that he addressed a despatch to the Government in Peking urging that the Japanese should not be granted a special settlement in Amoy, and declaring that their purpose was to convert the place into a second Formosa.

Marquis Ito's powerful and unequivocal speeches seem likely to have a sensible effect. After he had spoken at the recent meeting of the Deki Club, a movement was inaugurated to organise a party calling itself the *Kaikoku-gumi*, or "Open Country Association." The project seems to be still in the air, and we can not say anything definite about the programme, but we are disposed to think that such an aim is too vague to attract partizans, or to hold them together afterwards. If, however, Marquis Ito takes any active share in the enterprise, it will surely not prove abortive.

The people of Nakase-mura in Saitama Prefecture have been destroying an embankment amid scenes of considerable violence. We are unable to discover the reason of their resentment against the work, but they showed so much determination in carrying out their purpose that some policemen who attempted to interfere got badly mauled. Another section of the villagers turned out to prevent the destruction, and a serious conflict was with difficulty averted. This is the embankment, we believe, whose integrity is so essential to the protection of Tokyo against flooding by the Tonegawa.

A telegram from Peking, published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that His Excellency Tang Chung-lun, Commander-in-Chief of the Two Kwang, has been summoned to the capital, and that Li Hung-chang has been appointed to succeed him. This, of course, is the result of French representations. The ex-Viceroy Li will doubtless show himself in his well established character as a liberal and conciliatory negotiator, and we may fairly assume that his presence in the south will soon have the effect of completely restoring good relations between France and China.

It seem to us a little unaccountable that our Yokohama contemporaries, when copying Reuter's telegrams from the journals that receive them originally, should carefully copy the headings also. The headings are not telegraphed. They are composed in the office of the journal which publishes the telegrams, and they generally reflect the political bias of the composer. Why should other journals thus assist to give publicity to the views of an individual? Let us instance what we mean by quoting a few of the headings in question :—

Pretoria getting crowded.
672 more prisoners to be accommodated.
Another British Defeat.
50 more prisoners for Pretoria.
Surprising step by British War Office.
&c., &c.

Such headings as these do not commend themselves as particularly eligible for reproduction in the columns of British journals.

MOSQUITO YACHT CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Mosquito Yacht Club was held on Thursday afternoon at No. 78. Mr. J. MacArthur, Commodore of the Club, presided.

On the motion of Mr. MacWilliams, seconded by Mr. Stewart, the report, which stated that the past season had been a very successful one, was adopted. It appears that the Club now has 110 members—71 active, 33 absent, and 6 honorary. The accounts showed a debit balance of 138 *yen*.

The election of officers resulted as follows :—Commodore, Mr. F. J. Hall; Vice-Commodore, Mr. A. R. Owen; Secretary, Mr. J. McClure; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. Bishop; Committee, Messrs. G. Brady and H. W. Buckland.

An informal discussion ensued on several minor points, and they were eventually referred to the incoming Committee.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Among the opponents of Christianity in this country there are few writers who are so persistent as Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō, the President of the College of Literature in the Imperial University. The attitude of the large majority of highly educated men who have rejected Christianity after examining its general tenets is utter indifference to the efforts of missionaries and other Christians in this country. Not a few of these hold that, though of no use to well-read scholars, the doctrines of Christ may prove serviceable to the ignorant lower classes, and hence that nothing should be done to hinder Christian propagandism. But Dr. Inoue takes no such view. He is of opinion that it is his duty as a scholar and as a public man to oppose Christianity in every way possible, and for years he has taken every opportunity of showing his antipathy to the whole system of Christian theology. But no impartial judge could say that his representations of Christian teaching are always fair. It has been said that John Stuart Mill, before attacking an opponent, stated the opponent's arguments so correctly and so powerfully that the latter often felt that his case had been put in a more favourable light than he himself could have put it. Dr. Inoue lacks either the power or the will to do this. His representations of Christianity are too often mere caricatures. He sets up an image of his own design and then he finds pleasure in knocking it down. This is shown in a very clear manner in the columns of the *Fukuin Shimpō* by a writer signing himself "K.G." Dr. Inoue's atterances, which furnish the text of K.G.'s criticism, formed part of a lecture delivered to the Philosophical Society some little time ago on "The Future of Religion." K.G. pronounces Dr. Inoue's lecture to be the most illogical discourse that he has ever come across. We reproduce in a condensed form some of K.G.'s remarks. In speaking of Buddhism Dr. Inoue says its chief merit is its rationality; its defects are the pessimism of its doctrines, the negative nature of its morality, and the abstruseness or unintelligibility of its doctrines. Then he proceeds to observe that Christianity too is pessimistic. Now Dr. Inoue must know that the term pessimism is principally used to describe the dissatisfaction with nature as it now exists felt by some thinkers. Is it true to say that Christianity encourages the idea that all nature is out of joint, as it were? Does not every Christian youth kuow that the leading characteristic of Christianity is its optimism? The term used for pessimism in Japanese is *Ensei* (厭世) *teki shugi*. Now this term is also employed to express separation from the world, or asceticism. One would expect a scholar of Dr. Inoue's calibre to explain the sense in which he used the term and not allow his hearers to go away with wrong impressions.

Dr. Inoue then proceeds to discuss Christianity, but before doing so, says, *narubeku kōhei ni ron zen* (*As far as possible* I desire to discuss the subject in an impartial manner), a remark that speaks for itself. He then says that the chief merits of Christianity are that it is a civilised religion (*bummei teki shūkyō*) and that its doctrines are easy to explain. Can this be called impartiality? Why

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does he not name the numerous other merits that Christianity possesses? Why has he nothing to say about that solid foundation of the creed, the existence of God? Why is he silent about the character of Christ? Why does he not refer to the way in which the justice and love of God have been manifested by Christianity? Why does he say nothing about the great moral effects of Christianity? "Christianity does not accord with Japanese nationality," says Dr. Inoue. On this subject who is there that agrees with Dr. Inoue unless it be a few ill-informed middle school students or young army sergeants? But even supposing that it were possible to prove that Christianity does not accord with what Dr. Inoue calls the Japanese 國体, *kokutai*, is it not very unphilosophical to say that the national constitution of any country is to be made the standard whereby to judge of the quality of a religion? Have not religions altered national constitutions again and again? Is the Japanese constitution to be the only test of the truth or error of the great religions of the world? Is this the kind of reasoning that one would expect from a widely read man likn Dr. Inoue? It is quite evident that he loses his balance when discussing Christianity. We maintain that even if Dr. Inoue could prove that Christianity is entirely contrary to Japanese traditional notions on a variety of subjects, it would be no real objection to its being taught in this country.

The points in which Christianity is said to militate against Japanese ideas are discussed by K.G. under five heads as follows:—(1) The Japanese state is founded on family life. Christianity preaches individualism says, Dr. Inoue. Was not the old Roman system of government founded on family life much more than is the case in Japanese? But this was replaced by individualism. Are we not adopting individualism in law and politics generally? If the principle be not objected to in other spheres of thought, why should it be considered a drawback when connected with Christianity? (2) Loyalty and filial piety are two very ancient cardinal virtues in Japan. The tendency of individualism is to kill them both. The fact is the nationalism which Dr. Inoue advocates has been entirely destroyed by Japan's new Constitution. The day on which liberty of belief was granted it became impossible to pronounce men disloyal or unfilial on account of their belief. The opponents of Christianity are most illogical when treating this subject. They say that filial piety demands that a son should believe what his father believes. But when a father is a Christian and the son accepts his father's religion, they accuse the son of disloyalty to the Emperor and to his ancestral gods, and so on. Traditional belief is no longer obligatory on any Japanese; and Dr. Inoue is arguing against the Constitution when he says that it is. (3) In the matter of the subordination of filial piety and loyalty to superiors to other virtues Buddhism and many other religions are like Christianity. It is only Confucianism that maintains that these two virtues are pre-eminent, and that all other considerations must give way to them. (4) There is not the slightest ground for supposing that the adoption of individualism by the whole nation would in any way imperil the State. Would the Imperial line be affected by it? Not in the least. The connection between the State and the family system is by no means so close as is represented. (5) It is not at all impossible that an emperor of Japan may accept Christianity. What would Dr. Inoue and his party have to say then as regards the relation of Christianity to the essence of Japanese Nationalism? In my opinion, says K.G., the acceptance of Christianity by an Emperor of Japan is not at all unlikely to take place in the not very distant future. K.G. goes on to discuss other views of Dr. Inoue in an interesting manner, but we cannot follow him further.

A full report of the lecture referred to above has not yet reached us, but from the accounts published in several journals we have been able to form an idea of the line of argument taken by Dr. Inoue. The lecture was delivered on Oct. 25th at a very largely attended meeting of the Philosophical Society held in the Literary College of the Imperial University. Doctors Katō and Motora and many other well-known scholars were present on the occasion and a very lively discussion followed the discourse. The conclusions to which Dr. Inoue has come are that all existing religions in Japan are in a very degenerate state, that Japan cannot rely on any of them implicitly, that education is lacking in efficiency for want of a good moral basis. Dr. Inoue argues that a new form of religion is needed, and that the best way to obtain this is to determine the points on which existing religions agree and construct a new system that shall satisfy all reasonable minds. Realistic idealism is the basis proposed for the new religious structure.

* * *

In an article on Church Ceremony the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* expresses the opinion that Japanese Christians as a whole are too lax in their method of conducting church services. Our people do not assemble to worship, says the writer, but to hear preaching. If the preaching does not please them, they frequently get up and go out. This is partly the result of a reaction against the elaborate ceremonial to which Japanese Buddhists are accustomed and partly owing to the widely prevalent notion that the simpler the forms of worship the more acceptable is the act. To worship God in spirit and in truth is synonymous in their minds with the abolition of all ceremony. They make no distinction between ceremony that assists devotion and ceremony that is formal and empty. The writer goes on to remark that the Congregationalists and Presbyterians of the United States, in response to a very general demand, are following in the wake of Episcopalians in the matter of ceremony in a large measure, and expresses the hope that Japanese Christians will reform their ways in this respect.

In another article on the need of awakening the national conscience the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* holds up the Boers as patterns of godly zeal to the Japanese, remarking that in waging the war with England they are actuated by religious motives, and what not. Nothing of course could be further from the truth than such remarks. The writer evidently knows nothing about the Boers and less about the real cause of the war.

* * *

We have frequently mentioned in these summaries the works of L'Abbé Francois Ligneul. We have now been furnished with copies of all the principal works of this learned and prolific writer. We gather from the preface of one of the books that M. Ligneul has been nineteen years in Japan. He has evidently devoted special attention to literature. The contents of some of the books were originally prepared in French and translated by Mr. Maeda Chōtarō, a first-class translator, but others, as, for instance, the *Shosei Tetsugaku*, were delivered in Japanese and taken down and prepared for the press by Mr. Maeda. M. Ligneul's literary activity may be said to date from the spring of 1896. Since that time he has been pouring out works with astonishing rapidity. All those that we have examined bear the marks of careful research. The explanations given are lucid, eloquent, and thorough. There are no dull chapters in M. Ligneul's works. He has the art of making every subject interesting, and it is no flattery to say of him that he "touches nothing that he does not adorn." He not only displays a minute acquaintance with ecclesiastical and secular history, but gives abundant evidence that he has studied philosophy in the most thorough manner. In some of his works his point of view is merely that of an orthodox Roman Catholic priest, and when dealing with his opponents he is a controversialist of no mean type, who makes the best of every available argument and presents his case in the fashion most approved among skilled dialecticians, but in many of his books he figures also simply as a highly educated Christian philosopher, as an idealist, as an anti-materialist, as an enemy of selfishness, sordidity, and meanness of every type. When writing in this capacity, his works make the most delightful reading to any one who has thought earnestly on the subjects treated. We are not at all surprised to find Protestant reviewers confessing that M. Ligneul's works occupy the very first rank as Christian literature and have a charm of style possessed by few other religious books written in Japanese. There lie before us as we write 14 volumes of M. Ligneul's works, varying in size and in the number of pages. Some are little pamphlets covering only 50 or 60 pages, such as "The Trappists," the *Kyōiku kai no-ryukōbyō* the *Koku-i Fujin* (*Les Dames Noires*); others cover over 100 pages of closely printed No. 6 type Chinese. M. Ligneul's longest works are on history and philosophy. The *Shosei Tetsugaku* covers 256 pages, the *Tetsugaku Rouko* 261 pages, the *Jiseki-iseni-go-no-rekishi* 357, and the *Schisme Greco-Russe* 201 pages. Perhaps the most attractive to ordinary readers of all M. Ligneul's works is the *Shosei-tetsugaku*, published last July. It consists of seven imaginary dialogues in which the speakers discuss a variety of current topics. Dialogue I. is on the actual state of Japan, on education and the press. Dialogue II. is on Law in general, the administrators of Law, and the Social Hierarchy. Dialogue III. treats of the abuse of the press, on liberty run riot, and on political passions. Dialogue IV. insists on the necessity of law and liberty agreeing with each other. Dialogue V. is on the difference between duty and interest and on the influence of Art and Literature. In Dialogue VI. it is contended that genuine morality is the sole basis of national prosperity. Dialogue VII. asserts that nothing can take the place of a religion

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whose truth has been conclusively proved, as a foundation for everything to rest on.

M. Ligneul has expressed the most decided opinions on almost every current topic in modern Japan. He has written books both for the highly educated and the poorly educated. He has addressed both man and woman. His *Risō no Seinen* (The Ideal Young Man) is a charmingly written little book, full of high-toned thought that is sorely needed in this country at the present time. We cannot find space in this summary for a longer notice of the little Christian library, consisting of over 20 vols., with which M. Ligneul has furnished the reading public. These works are to be had, all at very low prices, at the Sansaisha, No. 13 Nishikichō, Kanda, Tōkyō, also at the Okazakiya, Kiji-chō, Kanda.

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The 講經資料 *Kōkei Shiryō* (Biblical Expositor) has nearly concluded its second year. It doubtless supplies Japanese Christian teachers with a large amount of material for their discourses. It has six editors, the Reverends Chappell, Woodman, Alexander, Coates, Learned, and Harrington. Among contributors are some of the best known Protestant writers. The magazine covers about 50 pages and is published once a month. The annual subscription is 75 *sen*. It is for sale at the Methodist Publishing House, No. 2, Ginza, Tōkyō.

The *Seinenkai-dōmei* (The Students' Christian Union) is the bi-monthly official organ of the Students' Young Men's Christian Association of Japan. It contains a few pages printed in English. It dates from the beginning of the year and has not as yet reached any great size. Its contents usually consist of reports of meetings, a few articles on topics connected with the lives of students, and Biblical exposition.

In the *Rikugō Zasshi* Mr. Takahashi Gorō writes on *Katsu-jigyō to Shi-jigyō* (Work that is living and Work that is dead) in the following terms. Hitherto much gospel seed has been sown on stony ground and borne no fruit. Things are very much at a standstill in the Christian world. There is a great dearth of the right kind of workers. The paucity of Christians of real influence is complained of everywhere. What is it that prevents men from engaging in Christian work? (1) The pay they receive as evangelists or pastors. Take the scale of salaries given by a church known to me, which no doubt represents approximately the disbursements of other bodies. The evangelists are divided into classes according to their supposed efficiency. In class No. 1 a married man gets 18 *yen* a month and an unmarried 15. In class 2 a married man gets 16 *yen* and an unmarried 12. In class 3 the figures are 14 and 10 and in class 4, 12 and 8. The salaries of regular pastors may be judged of from these figures. The men who occupy posts as evangelists have often been under training for years, and some of them have even been abroad. In the case of the latter they usually throw up the work after a few months' trial. This is the external cause of the fewness of the workers, but there are deeper reasons for the reluctance to join the ranks of evangelists felt by Christians. Suspicion, jealousy, envy, intrigue, backbiting—all these are painfully prevalent among Christians, and they naturally tend to disgust noble, minded men.....Many of the agents of the churches are narrow-minded and bigoted, and it is true of them to say they "do good that evil may come," for the results of their labours are anything but desirable results. Then the sycophancy displayed by certain Christians is lamentable. Each time the Mombushō changes its policy they will alter their schools to suit it, instead of laying down lines of their own and keeping to them despite all opposition. I am bold to say, though I regret to have to do so, that eight or nine tenths of the mission agents are merely perfunctory workers and are altogether unsuited for their position, and that is the reason why there is so little life in the church, concludes Mr. Takahashi Gorō.

* * *

The following historical account of the founding and progress of the Greek Church Mission in Japan appears in No. 454 of the *Seikyō Shimpō*. As a result of 30 years' labour there are in Japan 25,000 Greek Church converts. Father Nicolai first came to Japan in 1861. For 8 years he studied the language, Japanese history, and religion. During these years there were only 3 converts. At that time there was no such thing as a Russian Missionary Society. The whole of the Japan mission solely depended on Father Nicolai. In 1870 an organization was formed in Russia known as the *Shinodo* which undertook to superintend and aid Mission work in Japan, but this body did not provide funds for the carrying on of the work. Not long after this through the help of his friends, Father Nicolai founded a Missionary Society, and as a result of this, in 1874, an Evangelists' training institution was opened, and 32 evangelists and two foreign ordained missionaries were employed. In 1883 there were 8 ordained native pastors, 3 foreign missionaries, including Father Nicolai, and 85 evangelists or catechists, one Divinity School, and a training institution for deaconesses. In 1893 the foreign staff still remained the same, but the native pastorate had increased to 27 and the evangelists numbered 190. At the present time the work of the church is solely carried on by natives under the superintendence of Bishop Nicolai. The ordained pastors number 34, the evangelists 148. There are 8 or 9 teachers of singing and music, 11 translators, and 7 or 8 deaconesses constantly employed. It will be observed that the number of the evangelists is less to-day than it was six years ago. There are various causes for this, but the two chief are the difficulty of living on the pay allowed by the Church felt by some and the lack of religious earnestness in others. Evangelists are divided into two classes 正傳敎者, *Seidenkyōsha* (Full Evangelists, or Evangelists proper) and 傳敎生 and *Denkyōsei* (Student Evangelists). Six or seven years ago the latter were very numerous and the former few. Recently the full evangelists have been constantly increasing and the student evangelists decreasing. Those who have given up Christian work have mostly been probationers. The Divinity School has made great progress. The professors are all Japanese. Many of them are graduates of the Imperial University and hence are very well educated. The work of translation has not advanced at the same rate as other branches of mission work. There are only 3 or 4 engaged in translation, and they do not accomplish much. As yet we have no general school and no charitable institutions.

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To the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* Mr. Anezaki Masaharu contributes a very long and learned essay on Positivism, in which he discusses in a most philosophical way the assumption on which the system rests and the discrepancies between the different schools of Positivists. He comes to the conclusion that Auguste Comte attempted an impossibility and that there is nothing actually positive about the deductions on which his system rests. Nature only says what man puts into her mouth and all attempts to study her independently of the interpretation given to her processes by the human mind must fail. Though Comtism has given an impetus to scientific study, as a basis for religion it must be said to have failed, argues Mr. Anezaki. Although the methods of investigation adopted by the various schools of Positivists are the same, they by no means reach the same conclusions. They do not together establish an individuality that exists separate from all other entities in the world of thought. They have not succeeded in shutting out the subjective element in their inquiries. So conspicuously has this element asserted itself that we find them disagreeing among each other as to what are and what are not laws of nature, as to what is authoritative and what not, and specially as to what forms should be adopted for giving expression to religious feeling. Hence there is no unity about the system such as is required in order to entitle it to be called a religion. Comtist sects there are, but a Comtist religion there is not. Each set of investigators only agrees with other sets as to broad abstract principles. No sooner are these principles applied than the greatest divergence is the result. In order to establish a religion you must have an authority to which all bow. This in Comtism does not exist. The final conclusion on the general subject of religion which Mr. Anezaki reaches is that the ideas entertained by the best minds in reference to religious questions of all kinds constitute the only authority to which appeal can be made. To appeal direct to nature is a chimera that is quite unrealisable.

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The *Koye* (No. 202) contains a sharp attack on the *Rikugō Zasshi*, the liberality of which constitutes a mortal offence in the eyes of the *Koye*. The writer is of opinion that the *Rkugō* is undermining the foundations of religion whilst it professes to support and defend it. He takes special umbrage at a remark which occurred in a recent *Rikugō* article to the effect that even in the case of the four gospels there was no guarantee of absolute accuracy. If the gospels are not reliable, says the *Koye*, what becomes of the foundation of the Christian Church? This is what the Protestant principle of allowing individual liberty of thought leads to. Protestant converts are allowed to reject what they please, and many of them end by rejecting everything. This is what turning the back on the authority of the Church means. Such utterances as those of the *Rikugō* remind one of the cawing of the crows before the sun goes down. Darkness is closing in on such professors of Christianity. We shall soon be summoned to attend their funeral.

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It is difficult to find in Buddhist and Shintō organs anything of special interest to foreign readers. The same ideas are too often reiterated at a tedious length. That Buddhism is in a bad way most people admit, but that it has not lost its hold on the mass of the people is a fact which no well-informed writer or speaker attempts to deny. The most interesting subject connected with the creed is the ideas and the action of the reform party. No. 155 of the *Bukkyō* has an article on this topic, entitled, "Our ideas as to Buddhist Reform," of which we give a brief summary. The writer evidently sympathises with the reform movement. One great reason necessitating reform is the bad effect on the mind of traditional Buddhist teaching. The idea that this life of ours has been unalterably fixed by acts committed in a former state of existence has had the effect of making men regard their existence here as utterly insignificant and as incapable of being moved out of the pre-ordained channel. This result of the orthodox teaching of Buddhism has been acknowledged by all impartial Buddhists, and it is widely felt that it should be remedied.* It is no longer necessary to attack conservative Buddhism as has been done in years past. Its defects are well known. Destructive criticism is no longer required. What is wanted is a system of doctrine to replace the old and above all a revival of faith. Instead of spending time in attacking the corruption that exists wthin the Buddhist pale, we should make our teaching known to the outside world. But in order to be able to do this it is necessary that reformed Buddhists should be men of real faith. Nothing but heart-felt conviction can make a man a successful propagandist. Now there are great difficulties in the way of inducing men to place implicit confidence in new theories respecting, or new interpretations of, an old creed. The minds that we have to deal with still remember what they formerly believed in, and they find it hard to substitute for it something else. The thing which troubles all earnest Buddhists most is not so much the corruption of old Buddhism, but the difficulty of getting men to place any confidence in reformed teaching. . . What is the real reason of the present deterioration of Buddhism? "The lives of the priests," is the almost universal answer. But how did the lives of the priests become so bad? This was owing to the corruptness of society generally. Who can deny that at the present time corruption has spread everywhere, to education, to politics, to business, even to learning? For 300 years Buddhism was protected from Christianity by the Tokugawa Shōguns and had things all her own way, with the result that she lapsed into carelessness. When the spell was broken she found herself confronted by a creed whose preachers, while full of ardour, lived exemplary lives.

This was too much for her. It brought all her weakness and all her defects into prominence. She has been trying for years to adapt herself to the new situation. But the task is a formidable one. She is attacked on all sides. But it is no case of those who are without sin throwing stones. Many of the men who abuse her have no title to figure as moral censors. What is wanted is that all who have her true interests at heart should point out wherein lies the path of reform. To find Buddhism that suits the present age is very hard. But the question which it is pertinent to ask is, is this all the fault of Buddhism or is it partly the fault of the age? Can any Buddhism he invented that shall suit the present generation of men?

* It is hard to see how an article of the original Buddhist creed can be altered by the reform party. The view of life referred to is certainly a very essential part of Buddhist [illegible] every part of thew orld. (Writer of the Summary.)

IMPERIAL DIET.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20TH.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Yesterday (19th instant) the House of Representatives met for the last time this year and transacted a good deal of business. All the Ministers of State were in their places at the commencement of the sitting, in order to impress the House with a due sense of the importance attached by the Government to the Bill for amending the Law of Election, which stood first upon the Order. The Prime Minister introduced the measure in a brief speech. He recounted the efforts made by the Cabinet in previous sessions to procure the Diet's consent to a similar Bill, and he laid particular stress upon the necessity of increasing the representation of the urban population, which, in spite of the prominent place that industrial enterprise had begun to assume in Japan, laboured under marked disadvantages as compared with the rural population. After a few questions the Bill was handed to a Special Committee of 27, and on the motion of Mr. Hoshi Toru, the Committee was instructed to proceed with its investigations during the New Year's recess, so as to be in a position to report to the House on the reopening of the session next month.

Several Bills and Representations were then handed to Special Committees. Some of them were measures of considerable interest; for example, a project of law for preventing the adulteration of edibles and potables; a Bill for exempting from taxation all lands held by public associations; a Bill for amending the Code of Civil Procedure, in the sense of guaranteeing the holder of an emphyteusis against being deprived of his land without compensation after 50 years; a Bill for amending certain provisions of the Business Tax Law (as already explained in these columns); and Representations (1) urging the appointment of a council to investigate a system of moral education, the moral condition of the people being at present deplorable; (2) advising that men be sent abroad to study foreign commerce and industry; (3) suggesting that the number of High Schools be increased; and (4) recommending the appointment of a committee to investigate matters relating to sericulture.

The Bill for the Control of Usurers, which has provoked so much laughter, was thrown out, despite the strenuous efforts of its introducer, but the following important measures were passed:—

A Bill providing (as already explained) for the establishment of ware-houses for the temporary storage of imports without the payment of duty.

A Bill providing that vicarious signatures if supplemented by original seals may take the place of original signatures on certain documents, as, for example, in endorsing cheques.

A Bill for checking the vice of tobacco-smoking. This measure, as originally framed, was intended to prohibit smoking by youths under 18, but the House amended it so as to read "all youths under age"; that is to say, young men less than 20. If the Bill passes the Peers in that form, there will be a very large reduction of the quantity of tobacco smoked in Japan.

The House decided to suspend its sitting on account of the New Year recess, and to reassemble on the 14th of January.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20TH.

HOUSE OF PEER.

The House of Peers engaged in quite a protracted discussion of the Government Bill for transferring prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury. Viscount Soga presented the Special Committee's report on the measure. It was a favourable report, but the Viscount's speech created an impression that he himself and several other members of the Committee were not particularly well disposed towards the Bill. He furnished some interesting statistics. There are, it appears, 125 communal jails in the empire, and they contain about sixty thousand prisoners, whose maintenance costs from 4 300,000 *yen* to 4,400,000 *yen* annually, an average of from 60 to 70 *yen* per head. The convicts earn, however, about a million, or a million and a half, of *yen*, that is to say, 17 or 18 *yen* per head, so that the actual sum paid out by the communes for their keep is about 50 *yen* each. The number of officials in charge of these communal jails is 1,600, and their pay aggregates 1,220,000 *yen* yearly, an average of 10.53 *yen* each per month. On the other hand, the 4 Government jails contain 8,000 prisoners whose maintenance costs 872 000 *yen* annually, or 109 *yen* per head. These prisoners earn an average of 19 *yen*, and thus their keep costs the State 90 *yen* a head. They are looked after by 1,500 officials, whose pay averages 11.80 *yen* each monthly. The Government proposes to take over the communal jails from November, 1900, and estimates the outlay during the 33rd fiscal year at 2,210,000 *yen*, and the income at 520,000 *yen*, so that the net outlay will be 1,690,000 *yen*. From the following year (1901-2) the outgoings will be 4,800,000 *yen* and the income 1,270,000 *yen*, the charge on the Treasury being 3,530,000 *yen*. As to ways and means, the Government explains that a deficit of 300,000 *yen* will have to be met from some other source in the year 1900-01, but as the surpluses of revenue in the subsequent three years will be 4 millions, 16 millions, and 19 millions, respectively, no difficulty will be experienced.

Mr. Miyoshi Taizo opposed the Bill, not because he objected to it on principle, but because he thought that the prisons should be under the control of the Department of Justice, whereas the measure made no provision for that. The most telling speech against it, however, came from Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku, who contended, first, that official supervision was not likely to be much improvement on the present system; and secondly that, under existing circumstances, the Treasury ought not to be living up to its income, but should endeavour to accumulate a surpus against emergencies.

When a ballot (unsigned) was finally taken, the House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill by 151 to 68, and carried it though its Second and Third Readings at once, thereafter rising for the New Year's reccess.

CORRESPONDENCE.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In regard to liberty of education, may these principles be remembered?

1.—Children belong to their parents before belonging to the State.

2.—Performing instruction and education in schools is a trust received from the parents rather than from the State.

3.—Parents have the natural right to transmit their faith and religion to their children by all proper ways; education in schools is a very proper and efficacious way.

4.—The State is for the country not the country for the State. Then, as a general principle, the great natural function, and as it were, the *raison d'etre* of the State, is to serve the public and to promote the good of the people.

In the particular matter of education, the right of the State, posterior to that of parents, is

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properly speaking t survey and to promote that kind of education which parents like.

5.—Removing someone from public high schools or employments because he was bred christianly in schools, by the legitimate will of his parents, is derogatory to the liberty of conscience.

But what enlightened people would think of removing a boy from a public school or employment because he is better acquainted than others with English and the sciences?

6.—Entrance to public schools or access to public employments must not be called privileges.

Japanese are too intelligent not to feel, as Europeans and Americans, the rightness of these principles.

A FRIEND OF THE JAPANESE.

AN EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—A call has been issued for an educational convention of missionaries to consider the future of Christian schools in Japan. This convention is to be held in the Union Church, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 3 and 4. Delegates will be present from all parts of the Empire and will represent almost all the Christian denominations at work here. Although the convention is intended primarily for those engaged in educational work, yet, as the different kinds of mission work can not be strictly marked out, and what affects one branch affects more or less the entire work, all persons directly or indirectly interested in Christian education in Japan are cordially invited to attend. The first session will begin at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 3. A provisional programme has been arranged, as follows:—

Reports, oral and written, of the effect of the new Private School Regulations upon Christian schools. Address, by Rev. Wm. Imbrie, D.D., upon "The Present Situation."

Mission school curricula, past and present, ideal and practicable. Discussion led by Prof. M. N. Wyckoff.

Opportunities for further study and for positions of usefulness open to graduates of unrecognized mission schools. Leader, Rev. B. Chappell.

A high class Christian college or university, how secured? Discussed by Revs. A. Pieters and G. E. Albrecht.

An Educational Society among Protestant missionaries,—is it desirable? Rev. A. Pietess leader.

These important topics all demand careful and prayerful consideration.

Sincerely yours, { JULIUS SOPER. E. W. CLEMENT.

Tokyo, Dec. 18, 1899.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I quote below for your columns an editorial from the *Christian Advocate*, published at New York City, and edited by the Rev. James M. Buckley, D. D, LL. D. The paper mentioned is one of the leading religious weeklies of the world, and Dr. Buckley is well known in all religious and educational circles as a leader in the thought of the day. That leading men are watching the movements of Japan at this time will be sufficiently clear from the editorial itself. It is sometimes of profit to us to know what our neighbours think of us.

I quote the editorial entire from the *Advocate* of November 9th.

A previous editorial had explained the Private School Regulations and the accompanying Instruction.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID S. SPENCER,

Aoyama, Tokyo, Dec. 13, 1899.

MISSION SCHOOLS IN JAPAN—A CRISIS.

For some time it has been evident that the Department of Education (the most conservative and reactionary of the Departments of State) would assume a more stringent control of private schools, but few believed that religious teaching would be interfered with directly. It was anticipated that Japanese officers might be placed in some of the schools hitherto under the direction of foreigners, but few were prepared to believe that Japan would be so ungrateful to those who have given a quarter of a century of devoted services and many thousands of dollars in money, as to cut them off from all hope of carrying on their unselfish work of education and enlightenment.

The Minister of Education has an advisory body called the Educational Council, composed of a few teachers, more officials, and the heads of bureaux in the department. Here is the real centre of the trouble. These men are devoted Shintoists, intellectual Confucianists, or modern agnostics. They have nothing in common but hostility to Christianity. They can agree on little else; but on this they unite and send in their advice to the Minister. Their shibboleth is "A national system of education,—" whatever that may mean.

The religious question entirely aside, they are doing one of the worst possible things for young Japan, teaching the youth that everything must be seen through Japanese eyes, that the philosophies of the world must be looked upon from a narrow, insular standpoint, and that false pride or exaggerated conceit will atone for many sins and shortcomings. To encourage an already exaggerated idea of nationalism they are willing to uproot Christian schools. It is a survival of the same spirit that led the people forty years ago to speak of the foreigners as barbarians, and of Perry's fleet as the "black devil ships."

Christianity indeed is not mentioned in the Regulations or Instruction. Nominally Buddhists are affected as well as Christians, but Buddhism in Japan is too moribund and corrupt to have any conscience on the subject, while Shintoism, only by courtesy called a religion, takes special pride in bowing to authority. So these are not affected by the Regulations.

The mode of promulgating the regulations is as objectionable as the regulations themselves. They were signed August 2nd and published August 3rd, to take effect August 4th. Some schools did not know that the regulations had been promulgated till they were legally in force. Here we have the spectacle of a Government which has justly prided itself on liberality and courtesy, by a stroke of the pen and without warning, practically destroying schools that have been in operation, well known to all men, for a score of years. Nor can any emergency, exigency, or menace to the peace of society be urged in extenuation of such a course. At least, why could not a few months have been given to allow the schools to adjust themselves to the new conditions or to wind up their affairs?

It is gratifying to learn that practically all the leading newspapers, English and Japanese, in the empire and many public men have taken the strongest ground against the decision of the Department of Education.

This Department's action is really a blow at religious liberty. If one can be forbidden to read his Bible or offer prayer in a school which he has founded, he can, on one pretext or another, be forbidden to read it in any public place. If religion can be shut out of one kind of private school building, it can be shut of all such school buildings, and even out of church buildings. The Instruction of the Minister, it will be seen, does not refer to curricula, but to instruction "even outside of school hours." The school which the Christian Churches have built, and which they own, even in the concessions, cannot be used for religious services with students, even outside of school hours. Those schools which have not, as well as those that have had, a public status are affected.

Yet Article XXVIII of the Constitution of Japan reads:—

Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious relief.

Belief, as a subjective process, cannot be a matter for constitutional guarantee or statutory enactment. It is only when religious belief takes objective form in religious ceremonies and worship, that it becomes a subject-matter for law. Looked at from the standpoint of a private citizen, his civil rights and religious liberties are abridged, for he must send his children to a public school or one having public status, and yet both of these classes of schools are prevented from giving the students any religious instruction, "even outside of school hours."

It is sound educational policy that public schools shall not be allowed to apply any religious test. But it becomes a very different matter when a Minister of State demands that in private schools, built and supported by private funds, there shall be absolutely no religious teaching. Schools seeking a Government status should be required to do a prescribed amount of secular educational work, but when this is done no official, however high, has the moral right to say that social, ethical, religious, musical, or athletic exercises shall not be held or shall not be enjoyed by students within the limits of public peace and order. Thus indirectly and in a roundabout way Art. XXVIII of the constitution is set at nought, in spirit at least.

The reflex influence on Japan cannot be other than bad. For the way Japan has met the problems, many and complicated, in her regeneration, she has the world's hearty admiration. Among other periodicals which look beyond the limits of their own environments, we specially emphasized Japan's entering fully into the circle of nations in July last.

But this action in the matter of education shows such a lack of appreciation of what has been done for her, both by foreigners and by some of her own people, that we fear, unless steps be taken to correct this mistake, she will not have that influence in the councils of nations which she might easily possess. Japan has really nothing to gain, and much to lose, by pursuing a policy of vexatious restriction. What arguments of public expediency she can offer in justification of the course taken, we are utterly at a loss to discover.

It is to be hoped that better counsels may prevail, the text of this order be modified, or its application harmonised with the letter of the Constitution, and with the liberal spirit of the age. Educated missionaries are among the most devoted and steadfast friends that Japan has ever had since her gates were first found to be ajar.

UITLANDERS IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Holding myself ready to be corrected in case I have misunderstood the law, it seems to me that your statement that the "Uitlander" here has no ground of complaint, as he can be naturalized and can then vote, is not correct without important qualifications.

The provisions for naturalization are indeed reasonable enough, but a person so naturalized has not the right to vote for a member of the Imperial Diet. (Law concerning Nationality, Art. 16, Sec. 6, page 319, of Dr. Lonholm's translation of the Civil Code.)

To be sure, this disability may be removed by special permission of the Minister of the Home Department, but only after the applicant has been a naturalized subject for ten years, and therefore not less than fifteen years after he has become a resident Moreover, there is no indication that the Minister is under any obligation to give his assent.

Would a person excluded from voting for a member of the Diet be able to cast a vote in any of the local elections?

Yours very truly, ICHABOD QUILL.

Kagoshima, Dec. 11, 1899.

[We have always considered the law in question very illiberal. But the point is that in no country is a non-naturalized foreigner entitled to vote.—Ed. *J. M.*]

JURIDICAL PERSONS AND SUPERFICIES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It will interest your readers to hear that the Yokohama District Court has decided that registered partnerships and companies whose principal office is in Japan may acquire the full ownership of land, even though all the partners are foreigners. The land in question is situated in Honmoku, and the partners are two Germans. This decision fully justifies the assertion made in my book on the Condition of Foreigners, that "a partnership or company created in Japan under the Japanese law and duly registered becomes a Japanese juridical person, even though some or all of its members are foreigners. Such a partnership or company of foreigners has all the rights of a partnership or company composed entirely of Japanese, including the right of ownership." I am glad I succeeded in bringing about a judicial

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decision as to this so much contested question.

For people who do not yet believe in superficies I should like to mention that lately a superficies of 500 years has been registered by me for a German friend of mine in Koishikawa, Tokyo.

Yours truly, DR. L. LONHOLM.

Tokyo, 20th Dec. 1899.

MR. TOMEOKA'S PRISON LIBRARY.

Those who so generously contributed last winter to the fund for the purchase of books for Mr. Tomeoka's Prison Library will be interested to learn the use which has been made of their money.

At the time the collection was made, as will be remembered, Mr. Tomeoka was a Chaplain in the Sugamo Prison. Not long after, however, he was promoted to be instructor in the new school for training prison officials. He was able, nevertheless, to make arrangements for the continued use of the books in the Sugamo Prison, but since he could not give his personal attention to the matter, it seemed best to him and his advisors to move slowly. Accordingly, but few books were added. Still, the library gradually grew and proved of great service to the prisoners at Sugamo and also to those at Negishi.

The plan now is to use the books for the benefit of several different prisons. Mr. Arima, the Director of the Negishi Prison, is in hearty sympathy with the plan and gives Mr. Tomeoka his thorough-going support.

The amount expended to date is *yen* 272.93, leaving a balance in the hands of the Hon Treasurer of *yen* 304.92. With the experience now gained, it will be possible to increase the usefulness of the Library, and it is believed that the balance will largely disappear during the next half year.

While a considerable number of distinctively religious books are included, the collection contains also a large proportion of secular literature which has been chosen with much care. D.C.G.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT THE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

The annual distribution of prizes at the Girls High School took place on Thursday afternoon in Mrs. Cahusac's School-room, at 48, Bluff, which was prettily decorated for the occasion by the pupils. Unfortunately the inclemency of the weather kept many visitors away, but the audience though small was enthusiastic. The Rev. E. C. Irwine was in the chair, and made an appropriate speech explaining that owing to the prevalence of mumps in the community the meeting that afternoon was only to present the prizes, the usual Christmas entertainment given by the pupils being postponed till the end of January. We append a full list of the prize winners :—

CONDUCT.

	Prizes.	Certificates.
Class I	Lily Preston	2. Florence Wales
Class II	Elsie Blundell	2. Edith Wilson
Class III	Bertie Cahusac	2. Alice Blundell
Class IV	Basil Cahusac	2. Milly Hahn
Class V	Isabel Unite	2. Amy Unite

CLASS.

Class I	Lily Preston	2. Florence Wales
Class II	Edith Wilson	2. Elsie Blundell
Class III	Bertie Cahusac	2. Alice Blundell
Class IV	Iris Irwine	2. Milly Hahn, Gladys Woolley

FRENCH.

(Prizes presented by Miss E. B. Leach) :—

Class I	Lily Preston	2. Florence Wales
Class II	Elsie Blundell	2. Edith Wilson
Class III	Bertie Cahusac	2. Maydie Cahusac
Class IV	Iris Irwine	2. Basil Cahusac

GERMAN.

Class I	Lily Preston	2. Ettie Kuhn

BOTANY.

(Prize presented by Miss A. L. B. Eddy—Lily Preston

NEEDLEWORK.

Class II	Edith Wilson	2. Kathleen Stone
Class III	Alice Blundell	2. Dorothy Stone

DRAWING.

Class I	Ettie Kuhn	2. Lily Preston
Class II	Elsie Blundell	2 Kathleen Stone
Class III	Dorothy Stone	2. Georgie Tresize, Willie Blundell

(Special Prize for Drawing presented by Miss C. Carst) :—Ettie Kuhn

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Lord Ardilaun (Arthur Edward Guinness) has purchased the Muckross Estate for $300,000. The Muckross Estate includes the Lakes of Killarney.

People serve their country in different ways. A worthy citizen of Poplar, London, recently told the coroner that he had attended two thousand two hundred and twenty-eight inquests.

Only 70 or 80 Chinese attented the lecture given by Mr. Sudo at the Chinese Temple on Sanitation and Pest prevention measures. The Hall is capable of accomodating some 1,500 people.

From to-day Mizo, in Koza Gun, Kanagawa Prefecture, will have telegraphic communication with other places. Hitherto there has been only postal communication, though the place has a population of some 10,000.

Carpenters working on the New United Club buildings, have been in the habit of leaving their tools behind at night, and have missed them from time to time. At last the culprit named Kobayashi, an old offender, has been found, and he was sentenced on Tuesday in the Chiho Saibansho to six months' imprisonment.

The *Daily Chronicle* on Nov. 30th published what it called "startling information." It said : "Russia has decided to establish a permanent diplomatic agency in Cabul next Spring. The Ameer's consent has been obtained, and *pourparlers* have been exchanged between Count Muravieff and Great Britain, which is not likely to oppose the step."

Sir Arthur Sullivan's new opera, "The Rose of Persia," produced at the Savoy, is another illustration of the difficulty the librettist has in following in the footsteps of Mr. Gilbert. In many instances Sir Arthur's music is delightful, in the choruses as well as in the solos, and the staging is excellent, but the book lacks the spontaneity and humour of Mr. Gilbert's works, although given a friendly reception.

Truth announces that the Emperor William has achieved one of the objects of his visit to England, in having induced Queen Victoria to give a conditional promise to visit the Prussian Court during the last week of April. She will travel, it appears, from North Italy to Germany, by the St. Gothard Tunnel, and be Germany's guest for several days at Coblenz or Potsdam. Her Majesty's visit will be entirely private. There will be no illuminations or reviews.

Americans and some others have been expressing wonder that Sir Henry Irving has appeared on the play bills minus his title. It is apparently forgotten that he himself resolved at the time he received the honour that his name should be used without prefix in all matters connected with his profession. The reason why he made this stipulation was a sensitive but very natural fear that he might seem to be making professional profit out of an honourable distinction.

The number of candidates for a pass certificate at the English Bar again shows a notable falling off. There were seventy-three candidates this this year, against eighty-five last year, and that year was a reduction on the numbers of its predecessors. Of the seventy-three candidates only forty-one passed, or 56 per cent ; this is about up to the average. In the minor branches of the examination the numbers are up to the average, but the mortality in Roman Law was exceptionally severe, as only about 30 per cent. passed, whereas a few years ago the average was 90 per cent. Roman Law is of absolutely no use to the practising barrister. Out of 120 who passed in various branches no less than twenty-seven were Indians, and there were many more candidates from the Colonies.

About midnight on Tuesday, a policeman noticed a woman in the Creek in the mud near the Nishinobashi. He pulled her out, and brought her to the Kagacho Police Station, where her pockets were found to be full of stones. She confessed to having tried to commit suicide, but said that owing to the low tide she could not accomplish her object. She had had a quarrel with her husband, Sanada Kokichi, living in Ishikawa.

Miss Anna Elizabeth Klumpke, an American girl, has decided not to keep all the millions of francs bequeathed to her by Rosa Bonheur. She will sell all the paintings and other valuables and give one-half of the great fortune to the relatives of the dead painter. It was said when the terms of the will were made known that the relatives would file a contest. Miss Klumpke will not wait for any such proceeding. As soon as she heard of the generosiiy of her friend and companion she felt the injustice to those of kin and decided what action she would take.

News from Uganda gives a very satisfactory account of the state of things in that Protectorate. The country has gradually settled down after the events connected with the Soudanese rising, and is now almost entirely quiet and pacific. In and around Mengo, the capital, it is so safe that Europeans no longer carry arms in their walks abroad, and everywhere there are signs of returning confidence. Sir Harry Johnston will therefore be able to devote his attention to the special objects of his mission, which concern the future administration, not only of Uganda, but also of British East Africa. Recruiting for the Uganda Rifles has been going on briskly at Khartoum.

The exhibition by Mr. Wirgman at Keil's Building on Tuesday attracted a fair number of visitors, and many of the extremely pretty water colours exhibited found ready purchasers. The subjects included many charming sketches of characteristic Japanese scenery and piquant studies of Japanese outdoor life. Mr. Wirgman knows his Japan thoroughly, and few men know better how to reproduce the local atmosphere, the marvellous summer brightness and the winter gloom, the flat but impressive expanse of rice-field and the dark silhouette of the mountains. The Japanese face and costume, too, he catches with a success that many eminent visiting artists fail to achieve.

It is very amusing, says a home paper, referring to the cancelling of the Muzzling Order in London and the home counties, to observe the behaviour of the now liberated dogs. A great many of them evidently do not know what to make of the change. Most of those whose recollection takes them back to pre-Muzzling Order days are apparently under the impression that mankind has at last returned to sanity. But those who were born since the Order are quite evidently convinced that the whole thing is as unlawful as it is delightful. A few who have actually come to love their muzzles are melancholy, supposing, it would seem, that the neglect to bring out the muzzle means that they are not to be taken out any more.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday morning, Judge Fujise and Assistant-Judges Morii and Mitamura, heard the case of Mr. L. Abenheim, of Messrs. Bruhl Frères, against Nakano Saokichi, a watch dealer, and Yoshioka Ijuro, a pawn broker, for the recovery of watches in their possession. Nakano Saokichi deposed that he had bought four gold and three silver watches, from Kubo, an employe of Messrs. Bruhl Frères, not knowing they were stolen, and Yoshioka had bought some 25 gold and silver watches from one Saito, who had

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bought them from Kubo. Kubo is the boy that stole some watches and other jewellery from Bruhl Fréres in June, and who has since been sentenced. After hearing the evidence, judgment was given that Nakano Saokichi return to Messrs. Bruhl Fréres the seven watches in his possession. Yoshioka Ijuro need not return his watches, as he bought them from Saito, and not from Kubo direct. Saito was tried in court some time ago, for buying stolen goods but his case was dismissed.

An unusual incident happened on the home voyage of the Castle liner *Carisbrook Castle* from the Cape. The English letters not having arrived before the *Lismore Castle* sailed from Cape Town for home, the captain of the *Carisbrook Castle*, which was to sail the following day, good-naturedly undertook to deliver the letters to the disappointed passengers of the *Lismore Castle* on the high seas. On overtaking the *Lismore Castle* the captain had the letters enclosed in a tin box and soldered up. This was put into a flour-barrel, with a pole attached flying a red flag, and having passed the *Lismore Castle* and got well ahead of her, the barrel was dropped overboard, the captain of the *Carisbrook Castle* at the same time hoisting a signal which had been pre-arranged. The *Lismore Castle* coming up on her course in due time picked up the barrel and so the passengers received their anxiously waited news from home. They expressed their gratitude on their arrival in England by sending to the commander of the *Carisbrook Castle* a beautifully illuminated address, on which was depicted a barrel floating on the high seas bearing a red flag, the barrel being supported by two pretty sea-maidens.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Dec. 20th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,055,417
Amount of convertible notes issued...	224,286,838
Government deposits	77,988,873
General deposits	4 344,171
Exchange liability	31,077
Total	353,706,378
Cr.	
Discount notes	73,187,191
Foreign discount notes	13.879.847
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	69 916.383
Exchange liability	3,602.860
Government bonds	57,177,203
Property...	1.971.654
Bullion and Specie	111,980,237
Total	353 706.378

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	223.157,033
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103.361,557
Silver	7.000,000
Total	110.361 557
Securities :—	
Government bonds	22,011,955
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	3,786,992
Commercial notes	64.996.529
Total	112.795.476

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	370.356
Silver	—	666.667
General loans	—	33.732
Government deposits	—	657.950
General deposits	—	1,586,035

On Tuesday Mrs. Tiverson, a visitor living at 92 Settlement, was robbed of a valuable pair of diamond ear rings, while shopping in the new bazaar in Theatre street. She was carrying the jewels in a pocket of her jacket.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

Amounts received by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China on account of the Lord Mayor's fund for the widows and orphans of the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces, who may lose their lives from the war in South Africa :—

	Yen.
Sums previously acknowledged.....	952
Charles V. Sale	500
J. F. Lowder	100
H. MacArthur & Co.	100
Jas. Dodds.....	100
John MacDonald	100
Mrs. M. E. Warton	100
"Uitlander".....	100
J. H. Cockedge	100
George J. Melhuish.....	60
C. D. Moss	50
W. R.	50
J. E. Beale	50
Harry J. Sharp.....	50
H. J. Snow	25
C. Thwaites	20
Wm. Campbell	20
H. J. Neville	20
E. M. H. Hampden.....	20
B. Gillett	20
Pyramids (R.O.L.S.)	12
Wm. Friedlander.....	10
Late 4th Coy Royal Engineers	10
W. H. Cole	10
C. H. Fearon	10
Four Corners	8
"Esto Sol Testis"	5
Samuel Samuel & Co.....	500
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	500
Chas. D. West.....	300
W. B. Walter	200
Montague Kirkwood	100
S. Strauss & Co.	100
E. Rogers	100
Wm. H. Stone	100
J. R. Parsons	100
W. F. Page	50
L. J. Healing	50
F. Commins	30
Montague Beart	25
John W. Cain	25
L. B. Cholmondeley	25
G. Blundell	20
C.B.S.	20
F. L. Tavener	20
F.B.	20
F. Owston	20
Ernest A. Leather	20
R. C. W. Motley	10
I.S.S.	10
A.S.....	10
T. Batchelor	10
M.A.	10
Mrs. Melhuish	10
Geo. Watt.....	10
A. S. Boyle	10
"Hensei Suru"	10
John Roberts.....	5
F. Schroeder.....	5
Vixen	5
Yen	5,030

Demand Remittance of £513 9/7 @ 2/½=Yen 5,030

LOSS OF THE "ST. HELENS."

A wire was received in Shanghai on Dec. 14th, by Messrs. Meyer and Co., that the steamer *St. Helens*, Captain Luckham, which left on the 9th ultimo for Singapore in ballast, has been wrecked on the Paracels. No mention was made of the crew. The *St. Helens* was a tank steamer of 2,580 tons net register and 333 nominal horse power, built at Messrs. Craig, Taylor and Co.'s yard, Stockton, in 1893 to the order of the European Petroleum Co., Ltd. and has been for some time engaged in the carriage of kerosene from Lankat, Sumatra, to Eastern ports.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

On Sunday (Christmas Eve) in the Public Hall an appropriate festival service will be rendered at 6 p.m., by the full choir during which Simper's *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* (full setting) and Sullivan's Anthem "Sing! O Heavens"! will be sung. The service concludes with the carols :—"Hark! The Merry Christmas Bell;" "Good King Weuceslas;" "Ring out the Bells for Christmas;" "Nowell! Nowell!"

JAPAN AND CHINA.

MR. T. KATO'S SPEECH.

Mr. T. Kato, Japanese Minister to England, Mr. Yoshio Kusaka, Mr. Senkichiro Hayakawa, Mr. S. Iwanaga, and Mr. S. Tsuruhara were the guests of the Nippon Keizaikai (Economic Association) at its monthly dinner at the Imperial Hotel on Tuesday the 19th inst. Among those present—says the *Japan Times*, whose report we are quoting—may be mentioned Mr. Hiromoto Watanabe, Count Matsura, Mr. T. Yamamoto President of the Nippon Ginko, Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mr. Jushiro Kuichi, director of the Bureau of Commerce and Manufactures, Mr. T. Abe of the Meiji Insurance Company.

Mr. Kato was the principal speaker of the evening. He spoke about his recent tour in Korea and China. In undertaking that tour, he had, he said, no special object in view his sole idea being to see things and men in those countries for his own information. First referring to Korea, after briefly describing what he saw at Fusan, Mokpo, Chemulpo, and Sōul, he stated that he was agreeably surprised to discover that the Japanese colonies in the places named were doing on the whole extremely well; and above all to find that the prospect of Japanese enterprise in the peninsula was brighter and more promising than he had ever imagined. Before his visit to that country, the speaker was one of those Japanese who thought that Korea was a sort of unavoidable but none-the-less unwelcome burden upon Japan. But his recent tour completely undeceived him on this point, and he was, he said, full of hopes for the future of Japan's interests and position in the peninsula. Japanese trade there was advancing at a fairly good rate, the country promised a profitable field for Japanese industrial enterprises of various kinds, and with its rich soil and comparatively scanty population, it would probably offer a good field for the emigration of Japanese planters. Considering the intimate and inseparable connections between Japan and Korea from historical, racial and various other points of view, Mr. Kato strongly urged his countrymen to spare no pains to develop their interests in the peninsula. As to the political condition of Korea, the speaker was sorry that his official position did not allow him to speak sufficiently frankly. But he might remark that the present Emperor, with whom he had the honour of an interview, appeared to him to be a man of intelligence, and seemed to recognize the advisability of cultivating friendly relations with Japan. As to the Korean ministers and politicians, he did not think himself justified in making any personal remarks, but truth compelled him to state in a general way that the political atmosphere appeared to be extremely unhealthy, the absorbing ambition of the politicians being how to get power at the expense of their friends and how to fill their pockets at the cost of the country. As to the people in general, they were a mere cipher from a political point of view. Ignorant and inactive, they seemed incapable of competing either with the Japanese or the Chinese. Would the Koreans ever be able at stand on their own legs? It was not, said the speaker, very easy to answer that question; indeed, the prospect seemed to him very doubtful. But the independence of Korea being as necessary for Japan as for Korea itself, Mr. Kato urged that both Government and people should do their utmost to secure that end. On this point, there was, he said, no difference of opinion in Japan, without distinction of party or class. It was satisfactory for him to observe that his countrymen were doing noble work in Korea in the field of education, and it was also satisfactory to see that much is being done in the way of educating Korean youths in Japan. Education was an indispensable condition for the regeneration of a nation. But at the same time it was necessary to remember that it takes a long time for education to produce the desired effect, and it was, consequently, important that a more practical and immediately available method should also be employed. And that method consisted in increasing the points of contact between the Japanese and the Koreans by pushing our commercial and industrial enterprise in the peninsula with all possible speed. Mines and railways, for instance, would surely prove profitable. As to railways, the section of the Sōul Chemulpo line already opened for traffic was very largely patronized by Korean passengers and should prove remunerative to the company owning it. The Sōul-Fusan railway, for which a concession had already been obtained by a Japanese company, would also prove profitable, and the speaker strongly urged the importance of beginning the work without any delay. In short, the development of Japanese interests throughout the penin-

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sula would benefit the Koreans themselves as much as the Japanese, for it was the most potential factor in preserving the independence of Korea.

Then proceeding to his experiences in China, Mr. Kato first called attention to the rapid growth of Japanese trade at Newchwang, where he was informed by our Consul that whereas before the late war, very few Japanese steamers ever entered port, now four or five of them were always at anchor there. From the commencement of the year up to the time of the visit—early autumn—as many as 130 steamers flying Japanese flags called there, and the Consul expected that the number would be increased to 150 by the close of the season. Another circumstance which struck the distinguished visitor's imagination at Newchwang was the singular lack of patriotism among Chinese. He met two Chinese at a dinner given in his honour by the Japanese residents of the port. From the conversation he had with these Chinese, he gathered that they were at a loss to understand why either England or Japan did not undertake to govern China, and that they would be quite contented, whatever nationality,—be it English, Japanese, French German or Russian—administered their public affairs, so long as they were assured of the security of their persons and property. This strange attitude of mind, Mr. Kato afterward found to be shared by a large number of Chinese in other parts of the country. Another peculiarity of the Chinese was forcibly brought to his mind while travelling by rail from Tientsin to Peking. Once a day the rail conveyed between the two places what is called the "mail car," which is very comfortably fitted up with sofas and chairs, but which is closed to all Chinese no matter what their official or social position may be! And the strange part of it, said the speaker, was that the Chinese were in no way disposed to object to this peculiar arrangement; they seemed to think that it was the most natural thing in the world. In Peking, he had an audience with the Emperor and the Empress Dowager and met all he prominent figures in the Chinese circle. The Chinese statesmen seemed quite awakened to the necessity of doing something to set their house in order. But none of them seemed to know how to do it. The speaker sincerely sympathized with them in the present difficult position, for although it was easy to point out that the body politic in China was not what it ought to be, the task of introducing reforms in a system so vast and so complicated as that of China was in its nature so difficult and dangerous, that any statesman, however able or active, would hesitate to undertake it. From Peking, he proceeded to Shanghai, and thence went up river to Nanking and Hankow. Finally touching the Chinese question in its broadest sense, the speaker remarked that, although partition was talked of by irresponsible observers, there was at present little probability of its being practically carried out. He would not say that it would never come to pass; what he meant to say was that no Power, at least none of the Powers with valuable commercial interests in the country, seemed ready to favour such a solution of the problem. At all events, he was confident that England was not in favour of it. For what could Powers which had important commercial interests gain by undertaking the administration of a thickly populated country like China? Partition would mean to these Powers such an expenditure of money and men as would hardly compensate for the interests they had at stake. It might be otherwise with Powers whose aims were more political than commercial, but none of these Powers had as yet openly advocated the policy of partition. But whatever might be the future solution of the Chinese question, the policy which Japan should pursue was clear and definite. And that was to develop her tradal connections with China and open up the various industrial resources of the latter country. Reading in newspapers of the concessions constantly obtained by foreigners, it might be thought that very little was now left for the Japanese. But this, said Mr. Kato, was a great mistake; there still remained an almost inexhaustible field of activity for the Japanese. With their limited capital, it might not at present be practicable for Japanese to undertake any big enterprise like the construction of railways, for instance. But there was any amount of profitable work they might easily take up. Mining was one of these, and manufacturing was another. The speaker, however, did not think it necessary to go into an enumeration of the particular industries inviting Japanese enterprise; all that he wanted to impress upon the audience was the fact that there was a vast field for Japanese enterprise in China. The present, he said, was a golden opportunity for us, for all classes of the Chinese were extremely friendly toward us, and he hoped that his countrymen would prove themselves equal to their opportunity. In conclusion he laid particular stress upon the importance of a self-relying spirit on the part of those Japanese intending to engage in Chinese undertakings. Nothing could be more erroneous or more ruinous than to rely upon state aid for the prosecution of private enterprises. There was a tendency among the Japanese to complain that the Government was not doing enough to promote Japanese trade and industry in China, but the fact was that the Government had done even more than was necessary. Consuls had been appointed and post offices opened at every treaty port, and at many places suitable sites had been marked out for Japanese settlements, but the people were very slow to take advantage of these facilities. A constitutional Government like ours could not be expected to engage in trade and manufacture in China; the utmost it could do was to protect Japanese interests and afford facilities for Japanese enterprise. But there must be interest and enterprises before any protection or facility could be afforded. So the speaker reminded his countrymen that whether or not the present unique opportunity would be properly utilized entirely depended upon whether or not they were ready to avail themselves of it. He also strongly advised them to pay a visit to China and study the problem on the spot.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Dec. 15.

The killed, wounded, and missing at the battle of the Modder River on the 11th instant totalled 818, of whom 650 belonged to the Highland Brigade.

The following officers were killed:—

BLACK WATCH.

General Wauchope; Colonel Coode; Captain Elton, and Lieutenant Edmonds.

SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.

Captain Clarke and Lieutenants Cox and Cowie.

HIGHLAND INFANTRY.

Captains Cowan and Lambton.

ARGYLLS.

Colonel Goff; Major Robinson.

GORDONS.

Captain Wingate.

COLDSTREAMS.

The Marquis of Winchester.

MOUNTED INFANTRY.

Majors Milton and Bay.

In addition to these 15 officers killed, 48 were wounded, five are missing, and one was taken prisoner, making 69 casualties in all among the officers.

After the Highland Brigade fell back, the Black Watch numbered only 160.

The *Standard* is informed that it has been decided to mobilize a seventh Division, with an eighth in reserve.

The Hongkong Bank has received a telegram which reports that Ladysmith has been relieved.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.

Mr. Winston Churchill [the war correspondent], has escaped from Pretoria.

Warren, with the Capetown artillery, bombarded the Boer positions round Colenso on the 13th. The enemy did not reply.

General French intercepted a body of the enemy proceeding direct to Naauwport. The enemy's guns were quickly silenced, and the Boers were forced to retire, losing 40 killed and wounded. Captain Mosley of the 6th Dragoons was wounded. One private was killed and seven were wounded.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.

Col. Hector MacDonald is to succeed Gen. Wauchope in the command of the Highland Brigade.

The return of Methuen's force to the Modder River was due to lack of water at the position occupied on Monday.

[By "the position occupied on Monday" is evidently meant the position from which Methuen advanced to the attack of the Boers at Maggersfontein. He had taken up that position in the expectation of being able to force his way to Kimberley, but, as there will probably be some delay now, he has fallen back to the more convenient camp on the Modder River.—Ed *J. M.*]

A Boer' despatch says that a great British force is advancing upon Colenso.

A sharp skirmish took place ten miles to the east of the Orange River on the 13th. A patrol of British mounted infantry dislodged the Boers from Zontpansdrift. Captain Bradshaw of the York and Lancaster Regiment was killed; Lieut. Gregson, of the East Kents, wounded, and 10 men were killed or wounded.

Gen. Buller has failed to force the passage of the Tugela River, and has lost eleven guns.

Shanghai, Dec. 17.

A despatch from Gen. Buller, dated at Chieveley Camp on Friday, reports that he met with a severe reverse in attempting to force the passage of the Tugela River that morning. He was obliged to abandon 11 guns, and retired upon Chieveley. He fears that his losses were heavy.

Major-General Hart, who attacked on the left at daylight, was unable to force a passage, despite a gallant attack.

The Connaught Rangers, who were leading, suffered heavily. Colonel Brooke was wounded.

Major-General Hildyard advanced on the right flank and occupied Colenso Station.

Meanwhile the whole artillery division supporting the attack advanced close to the River bed, which proved to be full of the enemy. The latter opened a galling fire at close range, killing all the artillery horses. It was impossible to bring away the guns.

As it would have been too great a sacrifice to force the passage unsupported by artillery, the troops were ordered to retire. They returned to camp in good order.

Throughout the day the enemy pressed the British right flank, but were kept back by Dundonald's mounted men and by a part of Barton's Brigade.

Shanghai, Dec. 18.

An official despatch from General Buller says that his casualties in the attempt to force the passage of the Tugela River were 92 killed, 667 wounded, and 348 missing.

The officers killed on Friday were Captain Goldie and Lieut. Schreiber, of the Artillery; Captain Bacon and Lieut. Henry, of the Dublins; Major Charley and Captain Loftus of the Inniskilling Fusiliers; and Captain Hughes of the Medical Corps.

Owing to the Stormberg reverse all the Dutch in the country northward have rebelled, and the natives there, as well as in Basutoland, are unsettled.

The English papers agree that the situation is the worst which England has had to face since the Indian Mutiny.

New South Wales is about to send more troops to the Cape.

Chermside is to command the 14th Brigade.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Defence Committee (?) of the Cabinet is considering the employment of both Militia and Volunteers in South Africa.

Lord Charles Beresford is to be second in command of the Mediterranean Squadron. He has resigned his seat for York, and will assume the command in January.

Later.

It is officially announced that Lord Roberts has been appointed to the Chief Command in South Africa with Lord Kitchener for Chief of Staff.

Shanghai, Dec. 19.

It has been decided to call out the remainder of the Reservists and to allow the whole of the Militia to volunteer for service outside the Kingdom.

A force of Yeomanry Cavalry will also be sent to South Africa.

The Australian Mounted Contingent will start before the 11th January.

Lord Roberts sails on Saturday.

Thousands of Volunteers have already offered their services.

Roberts's son has died of wounds received at Colenso.

Owing to the situation in South Africa the Queen has postponed her departure from Windsor for Osborne until after Christmas, as she desires to be near London.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.

An official statement of the British Government says that there will be raised for South Africa a mounted infantry force consisting of 120 companies; also infantry volunteers sufficient to supply one company of 114 men to each line battalion in South Africa, these companies generally replacing the mounted infantry of the line battalions.

[If there are 8 Divisions in South Africa as seems to be the programme, there would be 64 battalions, and consequently 64 companies of infantry volunteers, or 7,296 men. The mounted infantry force of 120 companies will probably aggregate 14,400 men. Thus the volunteer system is intended to produce 21,696 men.—ED. *J.M.*]

The cruiser *Isis* has gone to Alexandria to take Kitchener to the Cape.

Accounts up to the evening of the 15th show that though the British guns were abandoned at the Tugela it is doubtful whether the Boers captured them. A Boer report, dated the 16th, mentions the capture of 2 guns, 13 wagons of ammunition and 208 prisoners.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Saigon, December 15.

The English had 82 killed, 667 wounded and 348 missing at Colenso.

In consequence of the defeat of General Gatacre, the rebellion is spreading to all the north of the Cape Colony.

Saigon, Dec. 17.

General Buller telegraphs that he has been beaten on the 15th in trying to force the passage of the Tugela near Colenso. He lost 10 pieces of artillery.

His casualties were considerable, principally in Hart's Brigade.

Saigon, Dec. 19.

The Press of Continental Europe asserts the gravity of the situation resulting from the British checks in South Africa.

Shanghai, Dec. 20.

Mr. Goschen, referring in a speech to the eagerness of the men of the Navy to participate in the war, declared that the full complement of every war-ship must be ready in case of any emergency.

The offer of a second Canadian Contingent has been accepted.

The House of Representatives has passed the Government's Currency Bill.

The situation at the Modder River is a complete *impasse*. The Boers are gathering larger forces and have made their defences unassailable, but they are unable to attack the British position. The enemy's only disadvantage is the precariousness of their food and water supply.

Saigon, Dec. 21.

A rumour is current that the Boers surround Methuen, whose communications by railway and telegraph are cut.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG VOLUNTEER GAZETTE.")

London, Dec. 3.

The Boer Commandant Delarey has reported to President Kruger that the Burghers were surrounded at Grasspan and forced to retire.

A dispatch from Frere Camp dated 28th November states that a mounted force under Col. Lord Dundonald, with four guns, pursued and shelled the last of the Boer detachments returning to Colenso and, advancing to within 2½ miles of that town, engaged in a short artillery duel. Col. Dundonald then returned with no casualities.

Criticism on the insufficiency of Cavalry in South Africa is general, the opinion being that the insufficiency renders it impossible to follow up a victory.

The son of Mr. Hay (Secretary of State) is proceeding to Pretoria to replace Mr. Macrum as American Consul.

Hongkong, December 9.

Reuter has news from Magalapye to the 30th of November that preparations had been completed for an advance in force the next day to repair the line and restore communication with Mafeking. The Boers were in a strong position at Metsimaklaba, a hundred miles north of Mafeking.

Col. Baden-Powell reports on the 27th of November that all was well and the bombardment intermittent. The besieging force was much weaker.

News from Frere Camp to the 7th instant says that the Boers were striking one of the largest of their five camps near Colenso and moving eastward.

(FROM THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

Hongkong, Dec. 7.

A dispatch of the 2nd instant from Ladysmith to the *Echo* reports a hot bombardment with new big guns at 5 000 yards on that day and the day before. The shells, loaded with melinite, were bursting in all directions very effectively. Tents were rent and some of our howitzers smashed. There were thirty-two Boer guns within range systematically shelling.

An official dispatch from Sir Redvers Buller dated the 5th instant says that it is very difficult to state the enemy's loss. For instance, at Belmont, 81 dead Boers were accounted for, and the enemy reported fifteen killed.

There is every reason to believe that the enemy's loss at Ladysmith on the 9th November was over 800 in killed and wounded.

It is evident that the enemy do not admit a tenth of the losses they have suffered.

London, December, 8.

Colonel Plumer is advancing from Rhodesia to the relief of Mafeking.

Hongkong, December 12.

The French cruiser *Descartes* has arrived from Kuangchouwan. The delimitation is settled, and Marshal Su has handed over the bodies of the two murdered lieutenants.

The *Descartes* left for Shanghai on Sunday. The final settlement of the affair is to be made at Peking.

Hongkong, Dec. 14.

General Barton's Brigade has occupied a strong position three miles from Colenso without opposition.

The Boers have evacuated Gaberones.

General Gatacre exonerates his guide, who was a local policeman.

The Government has requisitioned the Cape Liner *Gascon*, which is to take 1,600 troops on Saturday. The *Gaika* takes 1,600 on Friday.

Of the Northumberland Fusiliers 366 are reported missing at Stormberg, including Major Wm. E. Sturges.

The transport *Denton Grange* is aground at Las Palmas (in the Canary Islands).

[The *Denton Grange* is the transport which is taking the traction engines, mammoth ploughs, and 7,200 tons of stores to the Cape].

General Gatacre has fallen back on Storkstroom.

London, Dec. 14, 10.55 a.m.

General Methuen is secure on Modder River.

The Boers losses were terrible.

General Gatacre's position is impregnable.

Many of the missing (at Stormberg) have turned up.

Hongkong, Dec. 15.

The Boer prisoners state that their losses at Modder River on Monday, the 11th, were terrible. Several corps were completely wiped out.

The Boers are treating our wounded with the utmost kindness.

London, Dec. 15, 1.5 a.m.

A successful sortie has been made from Ladysmith.

General French has driven the enemy away from Naauwport.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Colombo, Dec, 11.

Telegrams from Cape Town state that Major-General Sir W. F. Gatacre marched out from Molteno, the town three or four miles south from Stormberg Junction, in Cape Colony, hoping to surprise the enemy by a night attack.

Two miles from Stormberg, his force, reported to consist of over 2,000 men, was met unexpectedly by a heavy fire from the front and right flank. The British troops sought cover on the kopje, but were still exposed to a searching artillery fire, the enemy having covered the hills with heavy artillery.

Finding the place too hot, General Gatacre now occupied a position on a hill half a mile distant, and sent out his mounted infantry to attempt to outflank the enemy. At the same time, he advanced with two regiments of infantry to engage a strong Boer commando closing down upon him from the north. Here again he was received with a heavy fire by the Boers' machine guns, and as the enemy clearly outnumbered him by at least 3,000 men and was better armed with artillery General Gatacre retreated steadily upon Molteno.

A temporary bridge has been constructed by the British Engineers over the Tugela River at Frere, where train loads of troops have been arriving continuously for several days.

Everything, except a few details, has been arranged by General Buller for an advance from Frere to succour and relieve General Sir G. Stewart White in Ladysmith.

News is expected hourly of a desperate battle near Frere.

London, December 12.

General Gatacre, operating from Molteno against the Boers at Stormberg, had 670 men captured by the enemy.

There is much indignation here against General Gatacre, it being alleged that he had overworked his men. They were subjected to a long forced march over rough country, and were thirty hours without sleep.

The retreat to Molteno was most disordered. The Boers pursued the retreating force, pouring upon it a harassing fire from the hilltops.

General Lord Methuen is reported to have made an artillery reconnaisance on Sunday, the 10th instant, from his base on the Modder River. A Boer states that fifty Britishers were captured. The British are severely handicapped owing to deficiency of cavalry.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets in the Green Room at the Public Hall, Bluff, from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 450.

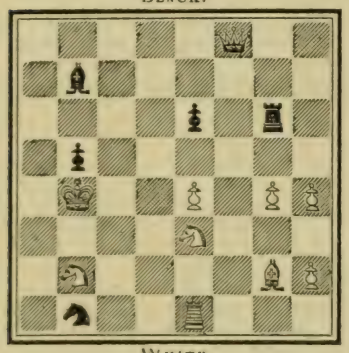
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 4	1—K takes R
2—Q takes B P ch	2—K takes Q
3—R takes P mate	
	2—K to K 3
3—Kt to Q 4 mate	
	1—K takes Kt
2—Kt to B 3 dis ch	2—K to K 3
3—Q takes K P mate	
	2—K to Kt 5
3—R takes Kt P mate	
	1—P takes Q
2—B takes P	2—K takes R
3—B to B 4 mate	
	2—K takes Kt
3—B to Q 7 mate	

Correct answers received from "East Anglia," (who says, "the work of a master"); "L.M.A," and "Marco."

PROBLEM No. 453.

By J. F. Moon.

BLACK.



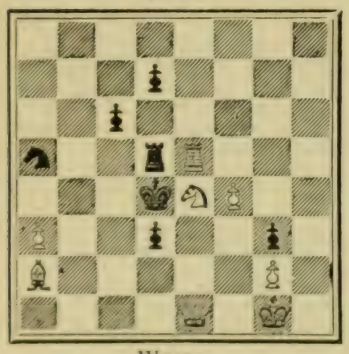
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 454.

By Mr. T. Jackson (Bury).

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 576.

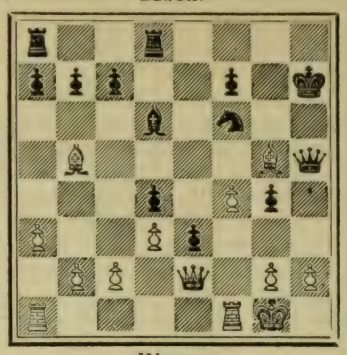
Every reader of chess columns feels delighted when the weary rows of letters and numerals indicating the moves in a game of chess are broken by a diagram, which enable one to study an interesting position without toiling through all the preliminary combinations. If for that reason alone the following game would be interesting, but it has also the merit of being a game worth study for its own sake.

FOUR KNIGHTS' OPENING.

White—I. Gunsberg. Black—W. H. K. Pollock.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	12 PxB	Q R5q
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	13 Q B3	P Kt5
3 Kt B3	Kt B3	14 Q K2	Kt P
4 P QR3(a)	P Q4(4)	15 KtxKt	QxKt
5 B Kt5	P Q5	16 BxP	KR Q5q
6 Kt K2	B Q3	17 P KB3(d)	Q R4
7 P Q3	P KR3	18 Q Q2	K R2(!)
8 Castles	Castles	19 B Kt5	P K5(e)
9 Kt Kt3	Kt K2	20 P KB4(f)	P K6
10 Kt R4	P KKt4(e)	21 Q Kt(g)	
11 KKt B5	BxKt		

BLACK.



WHITE.

21	P Kt6(h)	25 K Kt sq(j)	BxP
22 QxQch	KtxQ	26 QR Ksq(k)	R Q3(!)
23 BxR(i)	PxPch	27 B B4(l)	Kt Kt6(!!)
24 KxP	RxB	Resigns. (m)	

(a) First played, we think, in the first match game between Messrs. Gunsberg and Blackburne.

(b) Blackburne continued with 4.....P to Q 3; the text move was chosen by Zukertort in a game against Gunsberg played in the Tournament of the British Chess Association.

(c) The *Field* remarks: "Somewhat bold; but, having succeeded in this instance, the benefit of the doubt must be given to it."

(d) Underrating the danger of the position: instead of the attacking move in the text, White should play 17—Q to Q 2, so as to be able, if necessary, to exchange Queens.

(e) Initiating a powerful attack, which Black carries to a successful issue with rare ingenuity and accomplished mastership.

(f) If 20—B takes Kt, then, of course 20...P to K 6 decides at once the contest; if 20—P to K R 4, Black might proceed with 20...P takes P *e.p.*, 21—Q P takes P [21—B takes Kt, P to K 6, 22—Q to K 2, P to P, 23—Q to Kt P, R to K Kt sq, &c.], P to P, 22—Q takes Kt P, R to K Kt sq, 23—P to K B 4 B takes P, 24—R takes B, R takes B, and wins.

(g) 21—Q to K sq, threatening to exchange Queens, would be much more to the purpose.

(h) The exchange of Queens, offered in this peculiar way, involves a very fine sacrifice of the exchange which greatly increases the power of Black's attack.

(i) White has no choice; if 26—P to K R 3 Black would continue with 23...P to K B 3, 24—B to K R 4, B takes P, &c.

(j) If 25—P to K Kt 3, Black wins with 25...R to K Kt sq, 26—R to K B 3, R takes P, 27—R takes R, B takes P, 28—R to K Kt sq, Kt to R, 29—R to Kt, P to K 7, &c.

(k) To no purpose. 26—R to B 3 afforded still some means of defence, and might have given White some chances of escaping with a draw.

(l) Feeble; but his game was past redemption. If 27—R to B 3, Black would equally continue with 27... Kt to Kt 6.

(m) White may postpone, but cannot avoid the threatened loss; *e.g.*: 28—R to B 3, R to K R 3, 29—R takes Kt, B takes R, 30—R to K B sq, B to B 7 ch, 31—R takes B, R to R 8 ch, 32—K takes R, P takes R and wins.

GAME No. 577.

Game played on Board No. 1 in a recent match, Hampstead *v.* West London. The notes are from the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—P. W. Serjeant Black—R. C. Griffith.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 Q Q2(e)	Kt B3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	16 K Kt Kt5	Q Kt Q1
3 B K 5	Kt B3	17 Q K3	Q B3
4 Castles	KtxP	18 KtxRP(f)	KxKt
5 P Q4	B K2	19 Q R3ch	K Kt1
6 PxP(a)	Castles(b)	20 K B6ch(g)	PxKt
7 R Kt1	Kt B4	21 PxP	Kt Kt4(h)
8 P QKt3(c)	P QR3	22 Q R6	K (Q1) K3
9 B QB4	P QKt4	23 PxB(i)	P B3(j)
10 B Q5	B Kt2	24 PxR(Q)	RxQ
11 B Kt2	Q B1	25 BxP	Kt Rook(k)
12 Kt B3	Kt K3	26 PxKt	K B2
13 Kt K4	Kt R4(d)	27 B Kt7(l)	KtxB
14 BxB	QxB	28 R K7ch (m)	Resigns.

(a) The customary move here is 6 Q to K2, or 6 R to Kt.

(b) P Q4 is preferable.

(c) This move in conjunction with the Ruy Lopez always leads to interesting developments.

(d) It would have been better to have played this Knight to Q1. It has no future on R4.

(e) If 15 Q takes P, B to Kt5, 16 P to B3, QR to Q1 with advantage.

(f) An interesting sacrifice, and one which is dictated by a powerful attacking instinct, combined with the courage to run some risk. The only disadvantage of this kind of play is that when successful it is sublime, and when unsuccessful it is the opposite.

(g) It is to be sublime after all. White must have seen through the whole combination, which is a beautiful piece of chess strategy.

(h) Black must also be given credit for a good deal of perspicacity. It was very tempting to adopt the following line of play: B takes P, 22 B takes B, Kt to Kt2, 23 Q to R6, QKt to K3, 24 R takes Kt and wins.

(i) If White would have attempted a playful move such as 24 P to KRt, Black would have got his Queen into play by Q takes P.

(j) Of course Black must prevent Q to R8 mate.

(k) A plucky attempt even in this extreme position to obtain some counter-attack. He could not move the Knight anywhere else.

(l) Again finely played and a worthy finish to a splendid game.

(m) If K takes R, 29 Q takes Kt ch, R to B 2, 30 R Kt ch, K Q 1, Q to Kt 8 ch, and mates next move.

CHESS NOTES.

The match between Lasker and Janowski is said to be off. Lasker wanted to decide it by the first eight wins, and Janowski insisted on ten. Each man has his reasons, doubtless—some question of endurance, or health, or collateral convenience. But it is rather pitiful to see two great masters held apart by such a trivial difference.

Many analysists have undertaken to tabulate the attributes required by a great chess player. There is a popular belief that he belongs to the same class of genius as a military strategist, but probably the two have as little in common as a skilled marble player and a great architect. However, a measure of interest always attaches to these speculations, and we therefore commend to our readers the following extract about the Jews and Chess:—

It is a significant fact that the "greatest players of modern times, like Kolisch, Horrwitz, Lowenthal, Zukertort, Steinitz, and Lasker, have been Jews." A writer in *The Jewish Chronicle* finds a reason for the superiority of the Hebrews in Chess from the fact that certain "traits of mind" characteristic of the Jews have made them great Chess-players. These are summed up as "quickness of apprehension, tenacity of purpose, readiness in the application of resources and an intuition which enables them to seize the opportune moment for developing action," and also "a mathematical turn of mind."

To the same order of metaphysical speculation belongs this: "Men's minds are like the pieces on a chess board in their way of moving. One mind creeps from the square it is on to the next, straight forward, like the Pawns. Another sticks close to its own line of thought and follows it as far as it goes, with no heed for other's opinions, as the Bishop sweeps the Board in the line of his own colour. And another class of minds break through everything that lies before them, ride over argument and opposition, and go to the end of the board like the Castle. But there is still another sort of intellect which is very apt to jump over the thought that is next and come down in the unexpected way of the Knight. But that same Knight, as the chess manuals will show you, will contrive to get on to every square of the board in a pretty series of moves that looks like a pattern of embroidery, and so those zig-zagging minds, like the Master's, will, sooner or later get back to the square next the one they started from.—Oliver Wendel Holmes." There is one kind of mind that Holmes forgot to mention: the mind which never succeeds in following any train of thought to a conclusion, yet is contented to grope aimlessly among a number of broken threads of reflection, wearing out an adversary's patience and moving in the end at hap hazard.

The *Birmingham Weekly Mercury* notes the following amusing deduction from the London international:—Mason beat Janowski, both games, Janowski beat Lee, both games; Lee

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beat Mason, both games. Those who argue from the results of cross play will be puzzled what to make of this. But, if they choose, they can prove that Lee is the best player of the three; for he beat Mason, who in his turn beat Janowski. On the other hand it is clear that Mason must be still stronger, having beaten Janowski, who beat Lee, who, by our first process, has been proved the strongest.

It is stated that after the conclusion of the play in the London Congress a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* induced Lasker to visit a phrenologist, to whom he was personally unknown. The phrenologist measured the champion's head—"22in. head, 48oz. brain, just about the average." Then he said that his sitter was "gallant to the ladies, was trustworthy as a custodian of secrets, had a good memory for faces, had a bad memory for dates, loved his friends, but was slow about making new ones, and was not prone to tell all comers what he was thinking about." The phrenologist's next announcements were that his sitter was "fairly constructive, able to organise quickly, rather deficient in self-esteem, but very sensitive to praise or blame; was versatile, and did not always concentrate his mind; was apt to distribute his attention over many things; was combative, and inclined to criticise; and had a good deal of executive power." The phrenologist then said that his sitter's "hope" was not too large, but that his "calculation" was good, and that he was skilful in finance. "Concentration" was not large enough to give him persistency in any particular pursuit. He would, however, make a good chemist or druggist, or metchant, or stockbroker. Thereupon the journalist asked if the sitter had any aptitude for any game. "Yes," was the phrenologist's reply; "he might play chess a little, but cricket was his speciality." This was too much for Lasker. He got up, and said that the phrenologist had been right on one point. "He had an excellent memory for faces, and he would remember the phrenologist's face as long as he lived."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 14th December,—Kobe 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 15th December,—Kobe 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 15th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 25th November, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Burmeister, 16th December,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai 12th Dec., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer 1,567, S. Tsuji, 16th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 9th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 16th December,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 17th December,—Otaru via ports, 10th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lady Joicey, British steamer, 2,046, Cook, 18th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 16th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, F. W. Horton, 18th December,—Kobe, 16th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 17th December,—Yokkaichi, 16th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, R. Iida, 18th Dec.,—Hakodate, 15th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Goodwin, 18th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 17th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hongkong Mau, Japanese steamer, 3,047, E. W. Filmer, 18th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 17th Dec., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., 4th Dec., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 19th Dec.,—Seattle, Wash., 29th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Irene, British steamer, 2,473, W. Attree, 19th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 21st Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Catania, German Steamer, 1,822, Bode, 19th Dec.,—New York via ports, and Port Arthur, 13th Dec., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, G. C. Talbot, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 18th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.109, J Giese, 19th December,—Fushiki, 15th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, H. Fraser, 19th Dec.,—London via ports, and Hongkong, 13th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 20th Dec.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Desler, 21st Dec.,—Hongkong, 13th Dec.. Sugar, Rice and Salt.—Simons, Evers & Co.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,150, T. R Rae, 21st December,—Victoria, C.B., and Tacoma, Wash., 26th Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Queen Eleanor, British steamer, 2,270, E. Ritson, 21st December,—Batoum via Singapore, 2nd Dec., Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 21st December,—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 21st Dec.,—Otaru via ports, 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 15th December,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 15th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, James Thom, 15th Dec.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer 3,911, N. Trennt, 16th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Nakajima, 16th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,902, H. Suppmer, 16th December,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 17th Dec.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General,—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 17th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Anderson, 17th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 18th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3 003, R. Archibald, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Independent, German steamer, 1,040, A. Holtz, 19th December,—Moji, Ballast.—Becker & Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 20th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, S. Tsuji, 20th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 20th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. W. Greene, 20th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 20th Dec.,—Nagasaki via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Catania, British steamer, 1,822, Bode, 21st Dec.,—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Saint Irene, British steamer, 2,473, W. Attree, 21st December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 21st December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. Tanikawa, Mr. W. Watanabe, Mr. J. Yokobori, Mrs. R. Sago, Mr. M. Enya, Mr. K. Yamada, Mr. H. Funasaka, Mr. W. A. Chamberlain, Mr. Hamon Mizuno, Mr. C. M. Garnier, Rev. Geo. Wallace, and Miss Julia A. Gulick, in cabin; Mr. S. Togo, Mr. S. Mashino, and Mr. H. M. Morgin, in European steerage. For Nagasaki:—Miss Elizabeth Moore, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Martha Nicolaisen, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Droste, Miss Mary Kelting and servant, Miss Carrie J. Dreibellies, Miss Nellie M. Decker, Miss Jean Arbams, and Miss D. E. Badsley, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. L. J. Lambert, Mrs. E. C. Batten, Mrs. C. H. Murphy, Mrs. Edward A. Stuart, Mrs. A. Enochs, Mr. A. E. Castle, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Noyes, Mrs. G. M. Cralle, Mrs. F. R. Brown, Mrs. W. J. Sears, Mrs. Jas. B. Hallwood, Dr. K. Weisse, Miss S. Alden, Mrs. Chas. S. Lincoln, Mrs. A. R. Kerwin, maid and infant, Mrs. J. B. Pascoe, Major and Mrs. H. B. Mulford, and Mrs. L. G. Purinton, in cabin; Mr. L. J. Lambert, and Mr. Lui Hong Ni, in European steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. U. Hashiguchi, Mr. Meyerink, Masters Prevost (2), Master Waddilove, Mr. Haussman, Mr. C. Cranter, and Mr. T. Ibukiyama, in cabin; Mr. E. H. Bagle, Mr. Tangper Ching, Mr. K. E. Breston, Mr. Kudo, Mr. Lean Chee, Mr. Saito, and Mr. Murakami, in second class, thirty-three, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. K. Yamazuki in cabin; and 18 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong, via Kobe:—Mr. E. J. M. Marquez and servant, Mr. H. W. Andrew and servant, Lieut. C. S. Hill, Mrs. Tjesnevska, Mr. J. L. Jensen, Mr. C. R. Rusby, Mr. K. Yabe, Miss Ocolodcoff, Miss Tjnesivska, and Mr. R. A. Brown in cabin; and 3 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco:—Miss Lao Chog Ying, Mr. E. Roall, Mr. S. M. Alexander, Mr. W. H. Miller, Miss Pang Tang Sho, Mrs. M. Laur, Mr. W. Christie, Mr. H. Stolzel, and Mr. Pung Mint, in cabin; and 1 Japanese and 51 Chinese in steerage.

Per British stermer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. S. W. Horne, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Robinson, Miss Robinson, maid and valet, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Perry, Mr. S. Suzuki, Prince Adam Czartoryski and servant, Mr. G. W. Colton, Mr. and Mrs. Casten. For Kobe:—Mr. T. Kimura, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. H. W. Mumm. For Shanghai:—Miss M. L. Rowley, Miss L. M. Masters, M.D., Mr. B. Van Horne Vingut, Miss C. Bonnell, Mr. J. C. Callender, Mr. R. Dickie, Mr. E. C. Andra, Mr. R. Locke, Mr. C. M. Beecher, Mr. Kong Pai, and Mr. and Mrs. Kong A Yen in cabin; 13 in second class; and 553 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. T. Guignard, Mr. H. M. Brace, Mr. J. Carson, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Mr. A. Reynell and Mr. and Mrs. Wentz and son in cabin; and 4 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from London via ports:—Lieut. Stewart, Mr. A. Hartley, Mr. W. C. E. Cotter, and Mr. Fry in cabin; and Dr. W. Okada and Mrs. Tanaka in second class. For Kobe:—Mr. A. Denbeigh in cabin; and Mr. Kimura and Mr. K. Sogo in second class; and 2 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Futami Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Major D. P. Brainard, U.S.A., Lieut. R. W. Mearns, U.S.A., Lieut. Louis M. Nuttman, Mr. R. C. Steele, U.S.N., Mr. John C. Duff, Mrs. C. C. Cornwell, Miss Cornwell, Mr and Mrs. Arthur Benn and child, and Miss Helm Braybrooks, in cabin; Mr. W. K. Prender, U.S.A., Mr. O. P. Smith, U.S.N, Miss Suye Sano, Mr. K. Wakihama, and Mr. T. Yamaguchi, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Awa Maru*, for Marseilles and London via ports:—Inspector of Paymasters G. Hirai, I.J.N., Mr. Lyman T. Dyer, Miss Johnson, Mr. M. Kato, Mr. M. Mine, Mr. K. Sano, Mr. M. Matsunami, Mr. B. Kubota, Mr. F. Watanabe, Mr. Jiro Murahashi, Mr. M. Takanashi, Mr. Yo Kei Shi, and Mr. Yo Ki Sho in cabin; 104 Japanese and Chinese in steerage.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, for Bremen via ports:—Mr. Cocksedge, Mr. Carlton, Mr. A. Groener, Mr. Machado, Mr. and Mrs. W. Newton, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mr. John Cameron, Mr. A. Koppel, Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. M. Raspe, Mr. Groebel, Mr. G. Middleton, Mr. L. Van Rensalear, Mr. S. B. McQuade, Mr. Thos. R. Brownbut, Mr. Chas. F. Heinlein, Mr. A. Serm, Mr. W. Grauthoff, Mr. and Mrs. L. Koch, Mr. Bolke, Mr. W. Schmadecke, Mr. J. G. Watson, Mr. F. Tornoe, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. J. Naudin, Mr. T. P. Davies, Mr. G. E. Shaw, Mr. H. Duval and Miss B. Duval, Mr. S. Otaka, Miss Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, Mr. M. J. Kronberger, Mr. F. Maria Ligo, Mr. D. Y. Gargan, Mr. George Fischer, and Mr. P. di Benedetto in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Alden, Mrs. F. R. Brown, Mrs. A. R. Kirwin, infant and maid, Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Enochs, Mrs. Stuart, Mrs. L. J. Lambert, Mrs. J. B. Hallwood, Miss Badeley, Major and Mrs. Mulford, Miss Ketring, Miss Carrie Dridelbis, Mrs. J. B. Pascoe, Miss Decker, Mr. A. L. Young, Mr. Albert E. Castle, Dr. K. Weiser, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Noyes, Mrs. Cralle, Mrs. L. G. Purington, Mrs. Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Droste, Mr. and Mrs. Moale, Master Moale, Mrs. C. H. Marple, Mrs. E. C. Batten, Mr. Smalley, Miss Nicolaisen, Miss Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Ames, Miss Moore, and Mr. H. R. Bowie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. Souberbeille, Mr. P. D. Donald and servant, Mr. T. Henderson, Mr. W. Tollers, Mrs. G. L. Otis, Miss A. Bergland, Miss Otis, Miss Scudder, Mr. J. A. Ailion, Mr. J. Cardona, Mr. T. W. Gotch, Mrs. J. D. Davis, Mr. N. W. McIvor, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. J. C. Dusel, Mr. W. R. Harris, Capt. & Mrs. E. J. Parrish, Miss Parrish, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. S. Kawaguchi, Mr. T. Nakajima, Mr. K. Yabuta, Mr. R. Masujima, Mr. Kishi, Mr. Tison, and Miss Gulick in cabin; Mr. Mac Man Sun and Mr. Leung in second class; and 1 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. M. Eckvall, Mr. W. Christie, Mrs. M. Lane, Mr. B. Mano, Captain and Mrs. G. Maercher, Mr. K. Kubota, Mr. A. Unger, Mr. J. Kono, Mr. S. Tsukaguchi, Mr. F. A. Gardner, Mr. Leong Kai Chew, Mrs. Loo Choy Yuig, and Lieut. W. Romanoff in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai, via ports:—Lieut.-Col. I. Oka, Major M. Akashi, Lieut. Y. Nakafuku, Lieut. K. Tobimatsu, Lieut. S. Fujii, Mr. and Mrs. K. Ishii, Mr. A. G. Denbigh, and Mrs. S. Ogawa in cabin; and Mr. and Mrs. I. Morishima, Mr. T. Sho, Mr. J. Koga, Mr. Y. Sawaii, Mr. T. Tachibana, Mr. Masajiro, and M. Morimoto in second class; and 49 Japanese and Chinese in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Karlsruhe*, from Bremen via ports:—Mr. E. C. Ogden, Mr. M. Kimura, and Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Church, in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen 1	Sa. Dec. 23
America	P. M. Co.	On Sang 2	Su. Dec. 24
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Caledonien 3	Th. Dec. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 4	Th. Dec. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China 5	F. Dec. 29
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 6	M. Jan. 1
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Jan. 1
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Jan. 1
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. Jan. 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Jan. 12
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Jan. 15

1 Left Nagasaki on the 20th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 20th inst. at noon.
5 Left Hongkong on the 20th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 13th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Onsang	M. Dec. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Dec. 27
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Dec. 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Dec. 29
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. Dec. 30
America	P. M. Co.	China	Su. Dec. 30
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Jan. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Jan. 3
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	F. Jan. 5
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. Jan. 10
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Jan. 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Em. of India	M. Jan. 15

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In every line there is scarcely anything doing. In view of the high rate of interest middlemen are more anxious to get in accounts from up-country clients than to enter into new transactions, despite the fact that textiles are sure to rise still further in price.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.80
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	$40.00 to 42.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	52.00 to 55.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	92.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	120.00 to 125.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	90.00 to 95.50
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	106.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	135.00 to 145.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23.50
Chinese	45.00

METALS.

Nothing at all doing, the Japanese middlemen being disinclined to enter into transactions. Prices show a steady tendency to rise.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	6.20 to 6.40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12.50 to 13.80
Wire Nails, assorted	7.60 to 7.90
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (¼ to 1¼ inch)	7.15 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is firm; quotations show an advance.

American	$3.10 to 3.15
Russian	3.00 to 3.04
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

Little business has been doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.30 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.50 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.00 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.90 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Although there is but a small business doing prices do not give way materially. We leave last week's quotations unchanged, but a reduction of 10 *yen* all round could be obtained. Advices from Lyons report a dull market, with prices from 7 to 10 per cent. below ours.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,360 to 1,370
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,360 to 1,310
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,260 to 1,270
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1,200 to 1,210
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1,270 to 1,280
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,240 to 1,250
Re-reels—No. 2	1,200 to 1,210
Re-reels—No. 3	None
Kakedas—Extra	1,270 to 1,280
Kakedas—No. 1	1,250 to 1,260
Kakedas—No. 1½	1,210 to 1,220
Kakedas—No. 2	1,180 to 1,190
Kakedas—No. 2½	1,140 to 1,150

WASTE SILK.

Market very strong and all counter offers from abroad are refused. Prices nominal as last quoted, but some dealers ask even higher rates.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 210
Noshi—Filatures, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu, Best	190 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	185 to 190
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	180 to 185
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$135 to 145
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	160 to 170
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	150 to 160
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	70 to 80
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 65

TEA.

Nothing doing. Prices nominal.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 21.

Silver from London ⅛ lower, and China sterling quotations ⅛ lower, no alteration in discount rates from London, and exchange locally remains about the same as yesterday.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 5/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 15/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 to 2/0 15/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 3/16 to 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	257½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262½ to 3
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight *	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight *	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight *	73¼
— Private 10 days' sight *	75 to ½
On India—Bank sight	151½
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	27⅛

* Nominal.

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 21.

Breweries—A small lot of shares can be had at *yen* 170. Engine and Iron Works—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 215. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 245. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 85. Oriental Hotels can be placed at *yen* 125. Founders' shares have buyers at *yen* 300. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms—A few shares can be had at *yen* 55. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Bretts were sold to-day at *yen* 9 25.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110; V. U. Clubs were sold again to-day at *yen* 108—A few more can be placed at the same rate. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

China Fires changed hands to-day at $87.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50	215 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	170 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100	245 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	85 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100	125 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Fdrs.), $100	300 B.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10	9.95 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100	95 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 21.

Engine and Iron Works have buyers at *yen* 215. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 250. Oriental

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Hotels are wanted at *yen* 130. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 90.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	215 Buyers.
Grand Hotel	250 Sellers.
Club Hotel	90 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	130 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	175 Sellers.

Tokyo, December 21.

Redemption Loan Bonds	93.50
War Loan Bonds	93.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	97.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	408.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	66.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	268.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	68.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	68 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	28.60
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	71.10
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	59.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	23.80
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	122.10
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	80.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	53.20
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	44.30
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	58.80
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	45 40
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'way, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	72 50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	92.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	42.80
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	30.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	39 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	36 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	27.30
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	12.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 23	21.50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	217.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	205.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	62.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	14.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	26.20
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	20 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	42 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	53.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	236.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	203.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	127.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	80 70
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	52 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	26.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	81 50

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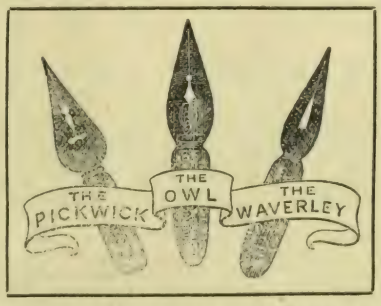
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 30TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SUM of $3000 has been collected to assist in building an Episcopal Church in Manila. The total sum required is $10 000.

PRACTICALLY things are at a standstill in South Africa until the arrival of Lord Roberts, though of course there is skirmishing every day.

IN consequence of the tightening of the London market, the Bank of England, the *Shogyo* asserts, has ceased to discount bills of more than fifteen months' sight.

THE dead body of a man, apparently a coolie, was found at noon on Wednesday, near Minatoba hi, Yokohama. It is believed that he committed suicide.

A TELEGRAM from Singapore announces an extraordinary fall in the value of tin. Quotations which were at one time up to 92 or 93 *yen* per picul have now fallen to 80 *yen*. The demand in America has decreased, though the cause is unknown.

PILAR'S army in Luzon is reported to be split up. The American troops are now scattered about the island of Luzon pursuing detached fragments of the Filipino army.

IT is anticipated that Mr. H. H. Joseph, formerly P. and O. Superintendent in Hongkong, will succeed the late Mr. F. D. Barnes as Managing Director of the Company.

A GIRL, 13 years of age, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday for stealing clothes from bath-houses, and elsewhere. Her name is Ishikawa Matsu.

A *sendo* belonging to the lighter *Daikoku Maru* was found dead on board, on Thursday, He had evidently been suffocated by the fumes from the *hibachi*. The remains were transferred to the City Office by the Water Police.

COLONEL Bell, of the 36th Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and Colonel Kobbe, of the 3rd U. S. Artillery, have been raised to the rank of brigadiers-general of volunteers. General Kobbe has risen from the ranks, and General Bell is known as one of the best fighting men in the American army.

A SPECIAL telegram from New York published in the *Shogyo* announces that the cotton crop of America for the present fiscal year (1899-90) amounts to 8,900,000 bales. The crop for the year 1897-98 totalled 11,972,000 bales, while the corresponding figure for the year 1898-99 was 10,500,000.

COUNT Matsukata, Minister of Finance, is said to have determined to bring to Japan specie to the amount of 20 million *yen* now deposited in London, inasmuch as he entertains apprehensions that without such a step the foundations of the convertible note system are likely to be weakened.

AT a general meeting of the Japan Flour Manufacturing Company, the accounts for the latter half of this year were given as follows:—Net profit, 22,062 *yen*; reserve, 4,000 *yen*; reserve for machinery, buildings, &c., 1,000 *yen*; dividends, 10,800 *yen*; carried to next account, 4,262 *yen*. A resolution was passed authorising a call of 5 *yen* on shares for the 4th period.

ACCORDING to the *Shogyo* the expenditure of various countries on the transport of mails by sea is as follows:—United States $1,038,141; Germany, $1,894,620; Italy, $2,185,266; Austro-Hungary, $1,724,249; Portugal, $163,300; Norway, $136,948; Denmark, $82,455; Great Britain, $5,762,572; France, $7,632,242; Russia, $1,168,187; Holland, $255,971; Sweden, $31,844; Japan, $3,492,107.

THE *Jimmin* refers to official investigations of pasturage grounds in Hokkaido. Establishments devoted to the rearing of cattle and other domestic animals now number 73, and the pasturage area is 51,926,972 *tsubo*. The number of cattle reared has increased to 2,884, of which 600 are of foreign origin, while 2322 are of mixed breeds, the rest being native. The number of horses totalled 4,260, 45 foreign, 1,338 mixed, and 2,877 native.

THE silk trade grows year by year. This year it has been especially active quotations rising to such figures as have never been known since the opening of the port of Yokohama. In the 30th year of *Meiji* the amount exported was 6,919,861 catties, valued at 55,630,460 *yen*—the highest figures since the 1st year of *Meiji*. The aggregate total up to November for this year falls short of the above amount, but the sum realized has by far exceeded that for the 30th year, being nearly 60 million *yen*.

A NUMBER of engineers were recently despatched by the Railway Bureau to enquire into the condition of the various private railways in the Empire with a view to enforcing strict control over them, and as a result it is probable that a Bill extending the existing regulations will be submitted to the Diet. The recent Hokigawa accident on the Japan Railway was virtually the cause of this action. The Bill provides that any disaster arising from errors or faults on the part of the railway officials shall be visited by severe penalties after due trial.

ACCORDING to the *Jimmin*, the amount of loans issued by the Bank of Japan has reached 100 million *yen*, whereas in May and June this year it did not exceed 30 or 40 million. This enormous increase is due to the abnormal appreciation of commodities, and the consequent absorption of currency, which, in turn, has operated to increase the volume of trade in general. The purchasing power of the agricultural classes was considerably augmented by the appreciation of rice, while there has been a marked development in the weaving industry in Kiriu and Ashikaga.

AN official despatch recently received by the Government asserts that some of the statesmen of the United States have begun to take the view that there is no further need for a tax on tea. Moreover, the people of the United States are vehemently clamouring against the Stamp Regulations enforced simultaneously with the tea tax. A bill for the abolition of these imposts is likely, remarks a vernacular paper, to be introduced into Congress at no distant date. If so, teas from Japan will participate in the benefit. The agitation for the rescission of the tax is therefore not altogether hopeless.

THAT the export trade of Japan has undergone a marked development during the past ten years is an unquestionable fact. The cotton industry shows the most remarkable record. In the 30th year of *Meiji* the total output was 42,034,975 catties, valued at 13,490,197 *yen*, whereas by the 31st year it had increased to 68,800,688 catties, valued at 20,105,671 *yen*. Still further progress is expected this year. The cotton manufactures exported from Kobe from January to November this year aggregated 26 million *yen* approximately, while the number of bales is said to have exceeded 300,000. At present a forecast of 28 millions of *yen* over the year is by no means unjustifiable.

A GENERAL meeting of lacquer dealers and artisans was recently held in Yokohama when over seventy persons at ended, representing the two cities and nineteen prefectures. In the absence of the President, Mr. Mayeda Masana, the chair was taken by Mr. Ishizawa Heigo, Director-in-general of the Business men's Association. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce was represented by the Mr. Muraoka, Professor of Engineering, and a number of other officials. The subjects of debate were as follows:—(4) Method of improving lacquer wares; (2) extension of market for the same; (3) course to be pursued in connexion with imitative goods from Germany; (4) measures to be adopted for increasing the cultivation of lacquer trees in the interior; (5) advantages or disadvantages resulting from the increase or remission of taxes on lacquer imported from China; (6) method of improving imported lacquer.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Thursday, Dec. 28.

Among the casualties at the Tugela battle on the 16th instant, 343 missing were reported. A recent telegram says that these men, together with the officer in immediate command, Lt.-Colonel Bullock, were undoubtedly captured. We are left in the dark as to the circumstances under which they fell into the enemy's hands—whether they had crossed the river and, being unsupported, had to surrender, or whether they had been detached on some special service which involved the catastrophe. But there does not seem to be any reason to suppose that they fell into an ambush. In considering the events in South Africa, sight must not be lost of the exceptional mobility of the Boers. They are all mounted infantry; very excellent mounted infantry, too, for they know how to ride splendidly, and have practised a manœuvre of great potency—galloping to a position, dismounting, delivering a withering volley and then remounting and galloping away again. Men attacking such foes in a mountainous country, may receive their fire and be unable to return it effectually owing to the difficulty of locating them. Moreover, these rough-riding riflemen are eminently qualified for cutting off any detachment whose connexion with its supporting column has become loose or distant. The attack on the Tugela position doubtless extended over a distance of some miles, and the units of the assaulting force probably became more or less disunited in the face of the difficulties they encountered, thus affording easy opportunities to an enterprising enemy organized and trained as the Boers are. It seems very conceivable that Gatacre's disaster at Stormberg was due to a similar cause. His movements were closely watched, his direction of march fully ascertained, and the rapidly moving Boers concentrated their force on a point short of his objective and beyond his reckoning.

A curious feature of the Tugela situation is suggested by the latest news that the British camp has been moved a few miles south from Chieveley, in order to obtain a better water supply and to avoid shelling by the Boers from the heights on the left. If the former reason alone had been assigned, we should conclude that the camp had been transferred to the immediate vicinity of the Blaaumkrass river; but the shelling by the Boers implies that they are posted on the south of the Tugela, and that they have transported heavy artillery across the river, for it is inconceivable that they can be so near the British camp as to shell it with ordinary field artillery. White shut up in Ladysmith has perforce to endure being made a target by the Boers, but it is singular that Buller should allow the enemy to push him back in such a manner. Chieveley is 6 miles from the southern bank of the Tugela. The shelling can not be from beyond the river, therefore. Various explanations suggest themselves. The first is that Buller has received instructions to avoid an engagement and to hold the Boers as long as possible in Natal, so as to give time for the massing of the Fifth and Sixth Divisions at Hopetown, prior to a march against Bloemfontein. We have believed throughout that the latter was the true plan of campaign, and everything tends to show that we conjectured rightly. If Lord Roberts can move with thirty thousand men direct on Bloemfontein, leaving Methuen to face Cronje's army on the Modder line, he would effectually turn Cronje's position and, at the same time, relieve the tension in Natal. It would be important to the success of such a plan that Buller should not precipitate events in Natal, for Roberts can not be ready to advance before the middle of January at soonest. We calculate that the Fifth and Sixth Divisions have already reached the Cape, and are making preparations to move to De Aar and Hopetown. Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener will arrive about the 5th or 6th of January. By that time the two Divisions should be fairly well mobilized. It is probable, however, that the arrival of additional troops would be awaited, in order to push forward the men now engaged on the lines of communication. On the whole, therefore, a pause of three weeks is desirable and Buller may be acting accordingly. But even on that supposition we doubt whether he would allow the Boers to cross the Tugela and place heavy artillery in a position for shelling him. A display of vigour sufficient to check such enterprises could not compromise the situation in any way. Another hypothesis is that Buller may be seeking to draw the enemy across the Tugela; and yet another, that he has detached the greater part of his force for a flanking movement by the eastern roads. It is difficult to choose between these suppositions, and after all we may find that the Boers are trying the experiment of throwing shells from 6-inch guns at a range of 7 or 8 miles.

Meanwhile, the defence of Kuruman, the capital of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, by a force which, at the end of November, numbered only 20 police and 30 half-castes, is another example of the lesson this war in teaching, namely, that, given the advantage of cover, a comparatively small body of men armed with modern weapons can defy attack. The experiences now gained in South Africa will modify the whole character of strategy and tactics. Turning movements will be regarded as the only feasible method of advance, but when we observe that, owing to the immense increase in the effective range of present-day rifles and artillery, an army can extend its front something like a mile for every thousand men it numbers, the difficulty of turning movements without great superiority of force becomes apparent.

Friday, Dec. 29.

It seems as though the South-African war might bring some compensation even in the Far East for the loss of life and the anxiety it has caused. The stout defence offered by the Boers, and the great difficulty of obtaining any advantage over them, have shown what kind of task lies before any Power attempting to carry on a campaign against a country at a distance of thousands of miles. If the Boers with their comparatively small numbers and their exclusion from the sea-board, can defy Great Britain, or, at any rate, tax her strength severely, what reason can there be for any apprehension on Japan's part as to her own independence? Why should she hesitate to grant mining or land-owning privileges to foreigners if her own prosperity would be fostered by doing so? She is absolutely safe from assault and can exercise any liberality she pleases, without fear of the consequences. These considerations are said to have greatly influenced the politicians who are now labouring to bring about the drafting of a Bill for granting the privilege of land-ownership and mining to foreigners. It is stated that, in his speech recently delivered at a meeting of the Doki Club, Marquis Ito strongly urged this view of the South African war, and declared that every one of the elder statesmen of Japan from Prince Iwakura downward had been in favour of making these concessions. We do not find any such emphatic utterances in the published reports of Marquis Ito's speech, but they are now confidently attributed to him, and they are believed to have vastly strengthened the hands of the progressive politicians. It appears to us that the lessons which the South-African war is teaching as to the defensive power that modern weapons confer even on undisciplined forces, were not needed to reassure Japan about her own invulnerability, but it is agreeable to find that the war may have some good effects.

The censors are now keeping us just a week in the rear of events. On the 28th of December we learn what happened at the seat of war on the 21st. The restriction would not apply to good news, we presume. If, for example, the passage of the Tugela had been forced and Ladysmith relieved, we should doubtless have heard of it quick enough. Casualties also would not be kept back. It is therefore a fair assumption that nothing of importance had occurred up to the 26th.

From the fact that Buller shelled the Boers' positions at Colenso with lyddite on the 20th and the 21st, we take it that the Cape Artillery is now with him. When he met with his reverse on the 16th instant, he seems to have had only the Divisional Artillery, namely, 18 guns, and the loss of 11 of them compelled him to abandon his operations. The Corps Artillery consists of 5 batteries of Horse and Field Artillery and 3 Howitzer Batteries, 48 guns in all. It is not improbable, however, that the shelling on the 20th and the 21st was with the 5-inch howitzers, thirty of which were despatched to the Cape in November. We have not heard of them being in use anywhere up to the present, and the position at Colenso would probably be much assisted by artillery of that type. Long range shelling with ordinary field guns could scarcely accomplish much, and Buller would not be likely to waste lyddite shells on such an operation.

JAPAN'S TRADE AND TRANSPORT.

The *Jimmin* contains a retrospect which is sufficiently striking. First, as to the growth of maritime carrying facilities in Japan, we have these figures:—

THE MERCANTILE NAVY OF JAPAN.

		Tonnage.
1894...	Total number of vessels steam and sailing (junks omitted) 1,467	212,932 tons
1897...	do do ...1,684	318 394 tons
1898...	do do ...3,044	648,324 tons

We are unable to understand this extraordinary leap in one year, but such are our contemporary's figures. Next as to trade:—

	Trade with Asia. Yen.	Trade with Europe. Yen.	Trade with America. Yen.
1888	81,140,000	87,370,000	56,560 000
1898	204,610,000	139,680,000	89,870,000

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JAPANESE OPINION AND THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

In commenting in a recent issue on the fact that the *Japan Times*, by the use of offensive headings—offensive from an English standpoint—and the compilation or reproduction of paragraphs which showed a disposition to sneer at Great Britain's reverses, was displaying a spirit of unfriendliness which differentiated it unpleasantly from the majority of its Japanese contemporaries, we ventured to express the conviction that the editor of the *Japan Times* had no part in these head-lines and paragraphs, and that they did not reflect his sympathies. We are glad to find that our conjecture was correct. In its issue of the 22nd inst., the *Japan Times*, after commenting on the apparent unreadiness of England and her mistaken estimate of the difficulties of the war, says :—

> This aspect of the question, however, primarily concerns the British people alone, and we should not have alluded to it, did we not strongly sympathize with them in their present humiliation and difficulty which might have been spared them had their rulers proceeded with more prudence and foresight. But now that both Government and people in England have awakened to the full significance of the situation, we have little doubt that the position of affairs will soon change—and change for the better so far as England is concerned; and we hope, in common with all the important organs of opinion here, that peace will be restored within a reasonable length of time.

It is not to be denied that, according to all superficial appearances, the British Government greatly under-estimated the nature of the task to be undertaken in South Africa, but, in our opinion, that is only a part of the story. Other discoveries have been made for which the British Government could not reasonably have been expected to be prepared.

THE DIET AND POLITICS.

This session of the Diet has been of a most uninteresting nature up to the present. We have not even thought in necessary to publish, day by day, an exact statement of the measures dealt with, or a report of the desultory and commonplace debates that have occurred. There has been a certain amount of solid business done. A few bills of domestic importance have been carried through their preliminary stages, a few have been passed, and the House of Representatives has accomplished, without delay or friction, its chief function, that of examining and voting the Budget. For the first time in the history of Japanese parliamentary institutions the House of Peers will have ample time to consider and debate the estimates.

When, however, the Diet reassembles on the 14th of January, there appears to be a probability that it will have to consider various Bills of importance. The Codes Committee's revision of the Criminal Code will then be ready for the Houses' consideration, and so will a Bill providing facilities for the establishment of mutual insurance associations (*sogo-kokenkaisha*), as well as Bills relating to the Administrative Court. There will remain only some five weeks of the session after the Diet re-assembles, so it will have to show much more vigour than has hitherto marked its proceedings, if the work before it is to be accomplished.

Thus far the Liberals have stood by the Cabinet loyally, but it is plain that a section of them feels more or less discontented. These persons contend that the time has come for the Ministry to carry out its pledges to them, but what those pledges are, no one seems able to state clearly. The gist of the matter, of course, is that the Liberals want substantial "recognition" of their services, and that they suggest, as a means to that end some modification of the Law of Official Appointments—a modification in the sense of adding a clause which would throw open certain offices to men not possessing the technical qualifications required by the Law as it stands at present. The Cabinet are understood to be willing to make an amendment of that kind, but not an amendment sufficiently comprehensive to satisfy the Liberal complainants. Having sacrificed the principle, however,—a most regrettable sacrifice, we think—the Ministers of the Crown will probably be able to come to an understanding about the minor question of degree.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Nobody has succeeded in laying bare the source of the rumour recently circulated so assiduously that Japan and Russia were on the eve of war. Vienna and Söul appear to have been chiefly responsible, but Peking lent some aid. *The Times*, generally so well-informed, was misled in this instance. However, every wind blows good for some one. This breeze has had the effect of eliciting some very frank expressions of opinion from leading Japanese newspapers. If they rightly gauge public opinion, the sentiment of this nation towards Russia is much more liberal than many persons suppose. There is no tolerance of the idea that, did Japan consult her own interests, she would fight Russia before the Siberian railway becomes a means of pouring Muscovite troops into Far-Eastern Asia. The railway, so far from being regarded with apprehension as an instrument of warfare, is counted a peace-making factor, which will tend chiefly to promote trade, and to foster those material influences that make for international good-will. Again, Liao-tung does not appear to rankle any longer in the bosoms of Japanese publicists. They resented the incident strongly at the time, but the impression has been gradually effaced by observing that whatever honour and glory might have attached to the possession of the peninsula, there would have been a dark reverse to the picture. Then the theory that the two Empires can not work side by side in Korea finds little serious endorsement. It is retorted that stronger causes of dissension operate upon the relations between England and Russia, yet they manage to get along very comfortably without fighting. So far as Japanese experiences in Korea up to the present are concerned, she seems to think that her Conventions with Russia are working very satisfactorily. Railway concessions come to her people without difficulty, and mining concessions are now looming on the horizon. The long and short of it is that she never felt less like fighting, or saw less reason for picking a quarrel with the Great Northern Power. The folks that started this sensation chose a most unhappily inappropriate time.

COUNT INOUYE.

The speeches recently delivered by Count Inouye at meetings of economical societies are attracting much attention. Briefly speaking, Count Inouye's points are these :—First, the country is threatened with embarrassment owing to the outflow of specie, and the nation must endeavour to be more self-supplying. Secondly, one of the great obstacles to material progress in Japan is want of intelligent combination : railway companies ; store house companies, and, in a general sense, all persons engaged in industrial and commercial enterprises, seem to be ignorant of the immense advantages resulting from cöoperation ; they prefer dislocation and wasteful competition, the result being that the whole machinery of transport and of business transactions moves in a slow, cumbrous fashion. Thirdly, the hopes founded on Treaty Revision have proved illusory, so far as the inflow of foreign capital is concerned. According to present appearances, direct loans from abroad seem to be Japan's only way of getting foreign money ; but such loans involve a yearly outflow of specie and their products do not go at once to the development of commerce and industry. There have been evidence that foreigners are willing to come to Japan and start large undertakings here, but at the eleventh hour they have been deterred by the discovery that land could not be held in their own names, and that various restrictions are imposed on their participation in important companies. All obstacles of that nature should be removed, for unless Japan can obtain foreign capital and employ it not only to develop her own resources but also to aid in opening up China and thus creating a market for her products, her future is not brilliant. Fourthly, it is futile to criticise the country's foreign politicians as not being sufficiently active. The plain truth is that the nation has not kept abreast of its own foreign policy. Diplomacy gained for Japan large concessions in China after the War of 1894-5, but the people have utterly failed to utilize them. These were the main topics discussed by the Count.

THEN AND NOW.

One of the sights of Tokyo for reflecting persons is Prince Tokugawa Keiki, the last of the *Shōguns*, riding on a bicycle. The Prince is some sixty-four years of age, but time has dealt lightly with him. He can do his twenty miles on a bicycle or tramp by the covert's side from dawn to darkness, gun in hand, without giving any indication that his years have become heavy to carry. There are happily many veterans as hale and hearty as the Prince, but there is only one last of the *Shōguns* who rides a bicycle ; and to us who remember what the *Shōgun's* Court was thirty-two years ago, how sacred was his person, how inviolable the seclusion in which he lived, how austere and elaborate the ceremony that attended his least important goings and comings, this spectacle of the once magnificent ruler bestriding a vulgar bicycle almost crowns the pinnacle of Japan's radicalism. Only one sight remains now to be witnessed—the Mikado dancing a *pas-de-quatre*.

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FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF LAND AND THE PRIVILEGE OF MINING.

The Society for Investigating Economical Problems has come out flat-footed on the question of foreign ownership of real estate in Japan. In a pamphlet just published by it, it declares that the general custom of civilized states is to extend this privilege to foreigners, and that Japan can not withhold it any longer. The Society is certainly to be complimented on having the courage of its opinions. It has the honour of being the only influential association in Japan to take this decided stand. Other bodies are nibbling at the question—the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, for example. Undoubtedly public opinion has taken on a much more liberal hue towards foreigners of late, but there still exists in Japan something of the same tyranny of sentiment that may be observed in the writings of foreign local newspapers of a special class. These make it their business to keep the fires of racial prejudice always burning fiercely, so that they may be ready to score any one that ventures to detect a grain of justice or fair-play in any course not exactly agreeable to the average Occidental, and in a similar manner there is an unreasoning chorus of revilers in Japan who call any one a renegade that ventures to advocate liberality towards the foreigner. It is much easier and pleasanter to shout with the rabble on either side than to stand against them, and we admire the Economic Investigation Socety's choice of parts.

The same pamphlet advocates the State purchase of private railways for the purpose of freeing the capital sunk in them. That is one of the only sound arguments in favour of such a step.

We notice, also, that Mr. Totake, a prominent Japanese man of business, has formed a society having for its declared object admission of foreigners to mining privileges in Japan. These movements will not be without effect. They are significant signs of the time.

THE CHINESE IN VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock is said to be the scene of considerable excitement. From two to three thousand Chinamen were lodged in jail there at the date of the most recent advices. It appears that every Chinaman coming to Vladivostock has to be provided with a passport costing 5 roubles. The permanent Chinese population of the place numbers some fifteen thousand, but twenty thousand "casuals" arrive yearly from Newchwang and Chefoo, including a large proportion of men who live by their wits. These persons are not genuine passport-holders. They elude the Authorities by borrowing the passports of fellow-nationals for a small consideration, and quite a brisk business is done in that kind of accommodation. The preservation of public peace and good order being impossible under such circumstances, the Russian police recently organized an inquiry on a large scale, and arrested every person who was not found in possession of a proper passport. Over four thousand were apprehended, but about one-half of them speedily obtained their release. The remainder, however, will be fined and, we presume, deported.

THE NAGOYA AFFAIR.

Friday, Dec. 29.

The courageous and persevering efforts made by the Rev. U. G. Murphy in Nagoya to apply a legal test to the question whether a girl can be chained to a life of shame in spite of her desire to quit it, have led to the display of personal violence. The main facts of the case are that a girl named Koroku, serving in one of the brothels of that city, was encouraged by Mr. Murphy and others to apply to a law court for release from the obligations which enabled the keeper of the house to detain her. The court gave judgment in her favour, but the defendant appealed, and pending the decision of the higher tribunal, such pressure was brought to bear upon the girl that she consented to withdraw her application. That step naturally caused much indignation among those who had induced her to come forward in the first instance, but they were not able to accomplish anything in the face of the girl's changed attitude. Ultimately, however, for reasons which we do not clearly follow, Koroku was allowed to go free, and she found refuge in the house of Mr. Murphy. The gamblers and roughs of the brothel quarter seem to have strongly resented this issue. They resolved to interfere forcibly, and on the 27th instant, when Mr. Murphy was driving in a *jinrikisha* followed by the girl in another *jinrikisha*—we do not know whither or why—five or six of these stalwarts waylaid them, pulled them both from the *jinrikisha*, and were proceeding to maltreat Mr. Murphy when the bystanders interfered, and the police, arriving upon the scene, arrested the peace-breakers. Fuller details are not yet forthcoming.

Saturday, Dec. 30.

The details published by us yesterday with regard to a disturbance in Nagoya have to be corrected by the light of fuller information. It appears that the complication had its origin, not in the case of the Nagoya unfortunate, Koroku, but in that of a similar sufferer, Umeko, whose place of servitude was Nara. Umeko, hearing of the action taken by the Rev. U. G. Murphy and the *Kyofu-kai* (Society for the Reform of Customs) in Nagoya, wrote imploring that she also might have the same succour extended to her. The *Kyofu-kai* sent a Japanese pastor, Mr. Matsuda, to investigate the matter, but owing to the heavy pecuniary liabilities contracted by the girl, it seemed difficult to rescue her. Leaving the matter in the hands of a barrister, Mr. Matsuda returned to Nagoya. Umeko, however, appears to have found her life unendurable. She fled to Nagoya, and found a refuge in the house of Mr. Murphy. Thither she was followed, and her task-master succeeded in removing her from the house against her will. But Mr. Murphy discovered what was going on, gave chase, and overtaking the party, rescued Umeko, not without suffering an assault at the hands of some roughs, who were speedily arrested. The girl's master, Hosoya of Nara, is said to have applied to the Court for a distraint upon her person—the first instance, we believe, of such an application,—and Mr. Murphy in turn, has instituted an action against Hosoya for violation of domicile (*kataku-shinniu-zai*).

REGISTRATION.

Saturday, Dec. 23.

We can not undertake to find space for any further articles from "Student" or Dr. Lönholm on the subject of "foreign partnerships." The public must feel grateful to both gentlemen for the great care and the extensive knowledge they have brought to the discussion of this question, but it has now reached an academical stage beyond the range of ordinary readers' perception, and we must beg our correspondents to let it rest. The last word belongs to Dr. Lönholm as the party originally attacked.

Meanwhile we learn that all the German and Swiss firms and many of the French and American have duly registered as *gomei-kwaisha*, or *goshi-kwaisha*, and that the British firms are left alone in their attitude of objection. The work of registration seems to have been done very well by the Yokohama Local Court. The officials showed themselves reasonable, listened to objections with courtesy and kindness, adopted a liberal line, and made all possible concessions. In Kobe things did not work quite so smoothly. The Court at first put forward demands which did not seem altogether reasonable or justified, but they were finally withdrawn, and things thenceforth proceeded without hitch. The *Official Gazette* is now publishing the names of the firms that have registered.

Wednesday, Dec. 27.

The fact that so many foreign firms in Yokohama have refrained from registering themselves, because they do not consider that their status is of a nature requiring that measure, is beginning to attract public attention in Japan. The 15th instant was the last day of the period allowed by law for completing the operation of registration, but the Kanagawa Prefectural Authorities have not taken the steps that would be adopted as a mere matter of routine were Japanese firms the defaulters, and the *Jiji Shimpo* speaks somewhat impatiently of this attitude of official reserve. We presume that the opinion of the law Courts will have to be consulted sooner or later, but in the meanwhile we desire to remind our Japanese contemporaries that the hesitation of the foreign firms does not result from any disposition to defy or ignore the laws of the country, but is simply due to uncertainty as to the meaning and scope of those laws. If the foreign firms were authoritatively assured that registration is necessary even in the cases which they consider doubtful, there would be no further hesitation. The Japanese Authorities are well advised, we venture to think, in handling these matters lightly. The transition period is the time of trouble, and a little patience and mutual forbearance now will bear good fruit hereafter.

FOREIGNERS' LAND TITLES.

By the provisions of the Imperial Ordinance, a translation of which we publish to-day, the question of the registration of land-titles in the districts covered by the former foreign settlements is disposed of in a manner which will doubtless be found satisfactory. It is true that the titles are called "superficies," but that fact does not at all affect their quality of perpetuity. Superficies, owing to the

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singularly groundless controversy of which it has been made the subject, is regarded with more or less suspicion by many persons, and these will probably object to the use of the term in its present context. Perhaps the easiest way to dispel such doubts is to ask what, if any, name would be preferable. The objection urged against "superficies" is that by law certain restrictions are applicable to it, and such restrictions, if applicable, would materially reduce the rights acquired by foreigners under the treaties. But suppose that the term "perpetual lease" were substituted. The law does not recognise perpetual leases at all. It undertakes at any moment to apply, in their case, restrictions still more stringent than those applicable to superficies of unlimited duration. As between the two terms, then, "superficies" and "perpetual lease," the former is preferable. Whatever apprehension may be entertained concerning limitations imposed by law on "superficies," the same apprehension would have still greater force with regard to "perpetual leases." It appears, therefore, that complaints urged against the substitution of "superficies" for "perpetual lease," are complaints that a fuller right has been substituted for a more restricted. That is the purely legal aspect of the matter. Within the recognised nomenclature of Japanese laws some term had to be chosen, short of absolute ownership, and it is plain that the terminology selected by the Government is the best under the circumstances. Further, the term "perpetual lease" is not abandoned. It is inserted parenthetically, the effect of such insertion being that, for the purposes of this Ordinance, the "superficies" referred to is to be interpreted in the sense of the special form of "perpetual lease" under which lands are held within the foreign settlements. The evident intention is to fully safeguard foreign rights.

It is desirable that note should be taken here of one point which seems to have hitherto escaped observation. The law, if its interference is to be invoked in the case of either superficies or perpetual lease, must be set in motion. By whom would it have to be invoked, or set in motion, in the matter of foreigners' land titles? Obviously by the Japanese Government which owns the land. But the Government is bound by treaty not to meddle with foreigners' titles. Hence the question turns, not on the provisions of law, but upon the treaty obligations of the Government. To put the case in another form The restrictions which are applicable by law to superficies or leases of unlimited duration, can not be applied unless one of the parties to the contract seeks the intervention of the law The parties in this instance are the Japanese Government, as owner, and the foreign leaseholder, as tenant. Surely it can not be imagined that the Government, the landowner, would attempt to evade the treaties by recourse to the provisions of law, or that any such attempt would fail to evoke immediate diplomatic protest.

Another satisfactory feature of the Ordinance is that it dispenses with registration fees. The function of directly recording transfers is removed from the District Registration Office, to the Prefectural Office. The former can not register a transfer, by the ordinary methods, without receiving the fee fixed by law. The latter is not bound by any such rule. Hereafter, then, the foreign land-holder will have nothing to do with the District Registration Office. His concern will be with the Prefectural Office only, and it will be the Prefectural Office's care to see that the registration of the transfer is duly effected without expense to the foreigner. We congratulate the Japanese Government on its liberal manner of dealing with a problem which has caused much anxiety to foreign land-holders.

THE BUDDHIST PRIESTS.

While the Buddhist sects, in the main, have shown themselves disposed to listen to wiser counsels, and have abandoned their opposition to the Government's Bill for placing all religions on an equal footing *vis-à-vis* the law, the Eastern Hongwan-ji people remain as obdurate as ever, and are agitating with increased vehemence as they see their chances of success diminishing. They seem to have adopted the device of attempting to intimidate the Diet, for they have presented no less than sixty thousand petitions against the Bill. Such, at least, is the number given by our vernacular contemporaries, but we find it difficult to credit. At all events, the fact may be accepted that they are determined to avail themselves of every possible means of compassing their end, namely, procuring State recognition for Buddhism. Indeed, we read of ninety friars who have organized themselves into a band called the *Kesshi-tai* (the "fight-to-the-death company"), which is headed by the notorious Major Okamoto Riunosuke. This is the officer who acted as ringleader in the Take-bashi mutiny, many years ago, when Count Okuma's residence was fusilladed. He escaped punishment on that occasion by the assistance of physicians who declared him *non compos mentis*, and the public next heard of him as acting a prominent part in the *emeute* which ended in the murder of the Queen of Korea. He may be a very earnest man and a very good man in his sane moments, for taugh we know to the contrary, but his record does not make him a very desirable leader of a religious movement. It may be, however, that his association is with the gladiatorial section only. Marquis Kuga seems to be the real leader of the movement for State recognition.

Count Otani Koson, the high prelate of the Western Hongwan-ji, delivered a most liberal and enlightened speech at a recent meeting of the representatives of the sects. He said that Christianity used to be regarded by the Japanese as an evil creed, but that the days for such violent discriminations had gone by, and the Constitution required that all religions should enjoy equal freedom. The Buddhists felt no enmity towards the disciples of a different creed. They merely hoped to see them converted to the truth faith and to hear them join in reciting *nembutsu*. Referring to the question of obtaining official recognition for the relation between the chief temples and their branches, he pointed out that the relation has never been connected with religion but was merely the outcome of an administrative arrangement for discriminating between the professors of Buddhism and the believers in Christianity.

TOYOMATSU.

Kent's accuser, Toyomatsu, who in turn became the accused, has just been found guilty of inflicting bodily injury on Kent by biting him, and has been sentenced to 5 days' detention. Toyomatsu is understood to have appealed.

We may mention that two of our Tokyo contemporaries are publishing comments by judicial experts on the Kent case. We await the conclusion of these comments before reproducing them. In the meanwhile, it is interesting to note one point which, being a mere question of facts, does not invite criticism. The delay that took place in connexion with the trial has been severely condemned, the critics pointing out that such a charge would have been dealt with in 24 hours by a Police magistrate in England. The answer given is that the Police Courts have no competence to deal with such matters in Japan: their jurisdiction is confined to delicts. But, apart from that, the delay is explained, by the facts, first, that two adjournments were granted on the application of Kent's counsel; secondly, that dysentery broke out in the family of one of the Judges, so that his house was segregated for several days and he was unable to attend Court. The question arose whether another Judge should be appointed in his place, but as that would have necessitated re-hearing the case from the beginning, it was decided that the more expeditious plan would be to await the Judge's release from sanitary restraint.

THE PEST.

Saturday, Dec. 23.

Another fatal case of Pest is reported from Osaka, which seems to be now the head-quarters of the disease. In Hyogo Prefecture, on the other hand, there do not appear to be any fresh seizures, and we are almost tempted to think that the vigorous measures adopted by the Sanitary Authorities have stayed the spread of the malady. But it is over-soon to be sanguine.

Up to the present, the total number of cases reported to the authorities has been 37; namely, Hyogo 20, Osaka 12, and Nagasaki, Shizuoka, Fukuoka, Hiroshima and Wakayama one each.

There is to be a wholesale process of sanitation undertaken in Kanagawa Prefecture. It will begin about the 24th instant and is expected to require at least a month for its completion. The houses of the lowest orders will, of course, be dealt with first. The expenditure connected with the affair is estimated at eighteen thousand *yen*, of which the Treasury will furnish six thousand, and the remainder will have to be obtained by increased local taxes.

Thursday, Dec. 28.

The rats are fully justifying the noxious character attributed to them as propagators and pioneers of Pest. Their bacillus-infested carcases at Toyohashi in Aichi Prefecture have warned the people there what to expect, and news now comes from Numazu that a similar discovery has been made in that town also. Obviously the disease is creeping gradually northwards, and if rats, working, for the most part, under-ground, are the instruments of its progress, the hopelessness of effectually

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checking it must be admitted. Meanwhile news of sporadic cases continues to arrive from the south. Another patient is reported from Osaka, a woman engaged at a *kanakin* factory.

Saturday, Dec. 30.

Another case of Pest is reported from Osaka. We learn, also, that the Authorities have relaxed the sanitary precautions hitherto observed in that city. The inhabitants will no longer be subjected to weekly examinations.

The Imperial Household Department publishes a notice that no one coming from, or having passed through, certain places, can be permitted to repair to the Palace until an interval of 9 days has elapsed, and until proper measures of disinfection have been carried out. The places are Osaka, Hyogo, Nagasaki, Shizuoka, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, and Wakayama.

The Tokyo Municipaf Authorities are thinking of offering a reward of 5 *sen* for every rat brought to the police. The project has received the approval of the City Council and now awaits the endorsement of the Assembly. It is stated that the rats will be plunged in kerosene on receipt. Poor brutes. Some more merciful method of dealing with them might be adopted. They will have a bad time anyhow.

CRIMINAL DECISIONS.

Daigo Kakutaro has been sentenced to imprisonment for life for killing his uncle, Marquis Daigo. A great deal of sympathy is felt with the criminal in consequence of the revelations elicited at the trial as to the cruel neglect from which he, his brother, and his father suffered, and the exceedingly unnatural conduct of the Marquis.

Count Tokugawa Atsumori has been convicted of obtaining money under false pretences, and sentenced to 10 months imprisonment, a fine of 8 *yen* and police surveillance for six months. This case has excited much comment. The Count belongs to one of the three secondary succession families (*gosankyo*) of the Tokugawa Regents—the Hitotsu-basbi, the Tayasu and the Shimizu —, the principal families being those of Kii, of Owari, and of Mito. There is a very strong feeling that the misguided youth did not entertain any fraudulent design, and that when he obtained money on a promissory note, he expected that funds to meet it would be forthcoming.

WHALE FISHING IN KOREAN WATERS.

Some time ago we published news of the fact that a deep-sea fishing company had been formed by Mr. Kawakita with a capital of a hundred thousand *yen*. We now read in Tokyo journals that the company has applied to the Korean Government for permission to catch whales in the seas adjacent to that country. It is considered certain that the application will be successful. The estimate is that 200 whales can be captured annually, and as each is worth 2,000 *yen*, the prospect is very bright. At present this business is in Russian hands, but the Japanese projectors expect to alter that very soon.

SONGCHIN & KOREA GENERALLY.

The lots for the new foreign settlement at Songchin in Korea were recently put up for sale. They numbered twenty-five, but only fifteen purchasers, all Japanese, were forthcoming. Apparently the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha take an interest in this land for their names figure among the principal buyers. Not one of the lots fetched as much as sixty *yen*, but that statement is not of much value in the absence of information as to the area comprised in a lot.

The application made by Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi and others for a grant of certain mining concessions in Korea, is tolerably sure to be granted. So the Japanese Representative in Söul is said to have reported to his Government. Does it ever occur to the Japanese, we wonder, that they themselves are too timid to extend to foreigners the privileges freely granted by China and Korea?

The return of Mr. Hayashi, Japan's Representative in Söul, is variously interpreted by Tokyo newspapers. Some say that he is to be replaced by an official more accurately pourtraying the present policy of the Foreign Office; others, that he is coming to receive explicit instructions with regard to certain questions which will present themselves for practical discussion after Mr. Pablov's return to Söul; and others that no special importance attaches to his movements. We incline to the last view.

A DUEL.

A member of the Tochigi Local Assembly is said to have been guilty of a miserable performance. It appears that two respectable units of that body agreed to submit their political differences to the test of muscular strength. The accounts of the incident are so vague that we can not tell whether the Assembly was in session when the duel took place, but we infer that it was. At all events, the challenge emanated from a Liberal and was promptly accepted by his Progressist opponent in the controversy. Nature's weapons were employed, and the two men had reached the culminating point of a fine rough-and-tumble struggle when a third person "danced out" and fell upon the Progressist, punishing him unmercifully. It is to this person's intervention that the epithet "miserable" is applied. One of our Tokyo contemporaries denounces him as a mean "coward." Duelling, it says, is a low kind of pastime at the best, but there are occasions when a duel is appropriate and almost unavoidable. There never can be an occasion, however, when a third person is entitled to assist one of two combatants who have agreed to submit their dispute to the arbitrament of fists. "Honour among brutes" appears to be the motto of this stalwart critic.

THE FALL OF THE YEAR.

We have received a very beautiful coloured photograph from Mr. Tamamura, accompanying his annual almanack. It is really a charming picture, and it bears witness to the excellence of Mr. Tamamura's photographic methods.

The Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company of Toronto, whose agents in Yokohama are Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe, and Company, print their 1900 calendar at the foot of a map of the world with the British possessions coloured red, and the most important steam-ship routes clearly marked—a very practical and useful publication.

The Meiji Fire Insurance Company, now in the ninth year of its existence, issues a prettily designed calender, its decorative motive a landscape in which the peerless mountain of course occupies a prominent place.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's calendar for 1900 is a very pretty affair, well designed and beautifully executed. Such a calendar is a picture that might be hung anywhere with satisfaction.

The Netherlands Fire Insurance, of which Messrs. Raspe and Company are the Yokohama Agents, issues a thoroughly practical calendar—a volume of large sheets, one for each month in the year. The spaces allotted to the days are sufficiently large to allow memoranda to be made.

Messrs Browne & Company, Agents of the Imperial Insurance Company, send out the usual card calendar, which has the great advantage of being specially compiled for Japan, and containing a quantity of information essential to residents here.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

We learn with regret that Baron Ito Miyoji is somewhat seriously ill. An attack of influenza has brought on inflammation of the lungs, and some uneasiness is felt as to the result. Dr. Baelz and Dr. Hashimoto are in attendance.

We note with pleasure that Baron Hayashi, who recently returned from St. Petersburg, has been decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun. Baron Hayashi is one of the ablest among Japan's younger statesmen, and that he is destined to be a very important figure in politics, we do not doubt.

Mr. Edward Gauntlett has published the second part of his "Phonographia Japonica." It sets forth the reporting style. This system devised by Mr. Gauntlett is meeting with great favour. We hear it everywhere spoken of as a most marked improvement on the system hitherto in use, and there appears to be no question that he has conferred a very great boon on the Japanese nation.

It is confidently stated that the Cabinet has decided to continue the subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the navigation of inland waters and also the subsidy to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for its service to China—that is to say, the Diet will be asked to sanction these expenditures. There is to be some reduction, however, in the amount—880,000 *yen*—granted to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; how much and for what reasons we do not know.

We noted in a recent issue that a bevy of *geisha* are to go to the French Exhibition, where they will doubtless be appreciated. It is now said that a theatrical troupe also will go. It will not include any of the great stars of the stage, as Danjuro or Kikugoro. The members are to be of the so-called *soshi* type, headed by Mr. Kawakami, who is now a celebrity.

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We do not see why these people should not derive a measure of success. Their acting will certainly be appreciated by the French, despite the terrible drawback of the words being unintelligible.

The rebels in Formosa are still active. A telegram from Taipeh dated the 18th, says that a party of them recently attacked a gendarme station about 20 miles from Tainan, at a place the name of which we can not identify, and that they killed two gendarmes. The village where this occurred has always been a rebel head-quarter, and drastic measures to clear out the malefactors were adopted last July and August. Apparently the result was not complete.

The operation of railway construction seems to be proceeding satisfactorily in Formosa. It is announced that the Takau-Tainan section (40 miles) of the Takau-Kagi line will be finished by March next, with the exception of a bridge over the principal river *en route*. The total length of the line is 120 miles (English), and the surveys of the remaining portions will be completed by the end of this year, when tenders are to be invited. The present programme is to have the whole road open to traffic by March 1901, but that seems a somewhat sanguine forecast.

Apparently cigarettes are to be the object of the first "trust" in Japan. Messrs. Murai Brothers are said to have entered into an agreement with the great American Tobacco Company, and henceforth the manufacture of the celebrated and much advertised "Pin Heads," Cameos," and "Old Gold" will be carried on in Kyoto. We venture to predict that this example will be largely followed. The old guild system of Japan was, in effect, a form of trust, and the new expression *gōdō* has come to stay.

It is officially announced in another column that all foreigners holding Japanese Orders from the Sixth Class upwards, should send their names, addresses, and a statement of their Orders to the Board of Ceremonies of the Imperial Household Department not later than the 26th instant, if they desire to attend His Majesty's Levee on the 1st of January. This does not apply to foreigners who are in the service of the Japanese Government: their names will be sent in by the Departments in which they are serving.

Yersin's serum, a quantity of which has been procured from Saigon through the good offices of the French Minister in Tokyo, is said to have the potency of reversing the rate of mortality in cases of pest: that is to say, whereas 70 or 80 per cent. of the persons attacked perish without the aid of the serum, 70 or 80 per cent. recover when the serum is used. How immense must be the gratification of the inventor of such a cure! He recognises in himself the direct saviour of thousands upon thousands of lives and the averter of mourning from innumerable households.

Marquis Ito, interviewed by a member of the *Asahi's* staff, said that his views with regard to the Religions Bill had been sought before it was submitted to the Diet, and that he approved of it in the main. He also endorsed the attitude of the Nishi-Hongwan-ji priests; though possibly they had exposed themselves to a charge of much opportunism. Speaking of the Prince Imperial, Marquis Ito was guarded in his utterances, but if it is permissible to read between the lines of the language attributed to him, we infer that the Prince, after his marriage next spring, is likely to pay a visit to the Occident, and that Marquis Ito will probably accompany him.

Vernacular newspapers assert that a society, calling itself the American Asiatic Association of Japan, has been organized with Mr. J. R. Morse as President and Mr. G. W. Middleton as Vice-President, and that it has applied for registration as a juridical person. The objects of the Association are said to be the promotion of good relations between Japanese subjects and American citizens, and the furthering of everything that tends to foster trade between the two countries. That is somewhat vague, but the public will doubtless have explicit information in due time.

The Fifteenth Bank has provided two hundred thousand *yen* out of the five hundred thousand that Mr. J. R. Morse has declined to pay, being the second half of the loan made by him to the Water-works of Kobe. This accommodation will rescue the Water-works Authorities from the dilemma into which they would otherwise have been thrown by Mr. Morse's procedure. Tokyo newspapers allege that a law-suit between the Kobe people and Mr. Morse is inevitable. We trust not. It is scarcely possible to conceive that Mr. Morse is making any mistake in this matter, and it is quite certain that he is acting in accordance with what he believes to be just and right.

The Court of Cassation has delivered judgment in Miller's case, rejecting his final appeal and confirming the sentence of death, which will now, doubtless, be carried out. The Japanese courts have shown much care and thoroughness in dealing with this case, and it can not be said that undue delay has taken place, seeing that only five months have elapsed since the perpetration of the crime, and that every judicial process has been exhausted. We must express our admiration of the conduct of Mr. Akiyama, who, solely in the interests of justice, for he can not have received any remuneration, lent his valuable services throughout the trial on Miller's behalf.

The meeting held by Buddhist Priests under the leadership of the Higashi Hongwan-ji, on the 23rd instant in the Kinki-kwan, Tokyo, was not without incidents. One of the speakers, Mr. Nakayama Riken, was denouncing the Government's cringing attitude towards the foreign faith with more vehemence than might have been expected from a reverend gentleman, when three *soshi* stalked through the audience, ascended the platform, and claiming their right of freedom of speech, called upon the self-declared *Hisshi-to* (do-or-die party) to stand forth and justify the appellation they had chosen. These stalwarts had to be expelled by the police, after which event the meeting proceeded quietly.

The second duck-hunting party at the Shiba Detached Palace took place on the 26th instant, His Imperial Highness Prince Kanin acting as host. The Representatives of Germany, the United States, Austria, the Netherlands, Portugal, Chili, China and Korea were present. The weather was overcast, but although that fact impaired the brilliancy of the affair, it promoted the sport, and no less than 50 duck were bagged by 11 o'clock. Tiffin was served in the island pavilion and the party broke up at 1 p.m.

In addition to the 22 ports of export fixed by Imperial Ordinance on the 1st of June last, it is now announced that Itozaki in Bingo is to be opened. Itozaki is in the Bay of Mihara, and is connected with Onomichi. The latter, though an excellent harbour in some respects, is too narrow at the entrance, and it is expected that Itozaki will fulfil all purposes.

Disputes between the villagers of Nakase-mura and Tatsumoto-mura, with respect to the Tonegawa embankment, have again broken out. One party wants the embankment lowered; the other wishes to have it raised, and they are disposed to effect a muscular settlement of the question. Forty-five policemen have succeeded in intervening.

It appears that the *Asahi Shimbun's* account of an interview with Marquis Ito, in which the latter was represented as speaking of the Prince Imperial's projected trip to the Occident and the Marquis' idea of accompanying him, was made out of whole cloth. No such interview ever took place. Certainly it is difficult to know what may be trusted if a paper of the *Asahi's* standing is thus deceived by a reporter.

The urban and rural representatives of Kanagawa Prefecture have not been able to agree as to the manner of dividing the expenses which will be incurred in connexion with the extensive measures of sanitation now in progress. The originally proposed apportionment was, the Treasury 2,000 *yen*; the urban population 9,464 *yen*, and the rural population 2,535 *yen*. Finding that the dispute was likely to check the adoption of these most essential measures, the Governor sought permission from the Home Department to proceed at once, and the sanitation commenced on the 26th instant. A hundred and fifty physicians are employed, fifty from Tokyo and a hundred from Kanagawa Prefecture.

There is a grand scheme on foot to enlarge Yokohama harbour, extending its limits to Honmoku and Kanagawa, and rendering it capable of admitting a hundred ships of ten thousand tons burden. The projectors are influenced by the prospect, now at length said to be imminent, that Tokyo is to be provided with a harbour suitable to its needs. They foresee that such a consummation would probably deprive the premier port of its position, and even of a great part of its business, so they intend to take time by the forelock. There is the usual talk of getting assistance from the Treasury, which in Japan seems to be regarded as a kind of Fortunatus purse, as accommodating as it is inexhaustible.

Proceedings have been instituted by Mr. Kwan-no-Zenyemon against the Japan Railway Company to recover damages, to the extent of ten thousand *yen*, for the death of his son who was killed in the Hoki-gawa disaster last summer. Newspaper statements of the case give no indication of the processes by which Mr. Kwan has arrived at the

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amount claimed, but a great deal of interest attaches to the case, for if the Company loses, other claims will, it is said, be preferred against it. We understood, however, that the surviving sufferers and the relatives of those who lost their lives had accepted the solatium given by the Company, and if so, it is difficult to see how they can come before the Courts now.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, without attempting to pass judgment on the merits of the quarrel between England and the South African Republics, is struck by the quality of the resistance that the Boers are making, and by the courage they showed in entering upon this war. In numbers, wealth and extent of territory the Boers can not compare with Great Britain, but they are strong in unity and in the sense of fighting for their independence. The young valiant dog may give the old tiger much trouble. What a contrast they present to China, says our contemporary. China with her hundreds of millions of people and her immense resources, lies at the mercy of the whole world because she can not summon up a particle of the courage that animates the Boers.

The importunate drop of water that hollowed the proverbial rock is evidently taken for model by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* in its attacks upon Viscount Aoki. It never "lets up." No one is thinking much about Japan's foreign politics just at present. The sky is comparatively clear. Suddenly the *Yomiuri* shoots a new thunderbolt. Every one, it says, is dissatisfied with Viscount Aoki's methods of conducting the country's foreign affairs, and the Prime Minister has of late been looking out for some one to succeed him. The choice will probably fall on Baron Hayashi, who recently returned from St. Petersburg. It has been the *Yomiuri's* fate for some time to cry aloud in desert places. Even echo refuses to be disturbed by its voice any longer.

The Government is said to have refused to guarantee interest on capital expended in constructing the Söul-Fusan Railway and the project is consequently at a standstill, though the projectors still entertain some hope that they may break down the Treasury's resistance. The *Tokyo Asahi* discusses the question, and with refreshing frankness asserts that since other Powers are busily establishing for themselves spheres of influence in the Far East, Japan should not hesitate to push the building of railways in the hands of her own people, that being the most orthodox method of marking out a "sphere." Our contemporary, observes, with much truth, that several Western Powers do not hesitate to employ public funds for such purposes.

A somewhat mysterious statement is published by Tokyo newspapers to the effect that one Mr. Aoki, an *employé* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, having speculated beyond his means, raised money on what are called "obsolete shares" of the Company; that a certain insurance company is in possession of 230 of these shares; that others are held by banks, and that application has now been made to the Directors of the Yusen Kaisha on the subject. If the shares were obsolete, it is difficult to see how they can have been accepted as securities through want of due care on the part of the insurance company and the banks, unless, indeed, the pledger's position as an employé of the Company is held to render the latter liable.

Rumour says that the recent disturbance in the Liberal Party was unquestionably an attempt to unseat Mr. Hoshi Toru and make the Tosa influence supreme, but that the attempt having failed, Mr. Hoshi is planted more firmly than ever in the place of power. The purpose ascribed to the agitators is, first, to make Count Itagaki the working head of the Party; and secondly, to reorganize under the headship of Marquis Ito. But both projects having been found incapable of realization, the malcontents now perceive, it is alleged, that their best plan is to reconcile themselves to the leadership of the only man who seems really capable of carrying the Party to complete victory. Mr. Hoshi is the pet of fortune. Everything inures to his benefit. Attacks which would crush most men leave him unscathed, and rebellions against his authority confirm his title to power.

The duck-hunting entertainment at the Shiba Detached Palace took place on the morning of the 22nd, as projected. The weather was happily fine, though the heavy rain and sleet of the preceeding day had given a very different promise. The Minister of the Imperial Household and Viscountess Tanaka acted as host and hostess, and there were present the Representatives of Belgium, Spain, Russia and Italy, Viscount and Viscountess Aoki, Baron and Baroness Sannomiya, Mr. and Mrs. Nagasaki and others. The sport lasted from half past 9 to 11, during which time 36 ducks were netted. Luncheon was then served, and the party broke up at 3 o'clock. There is to be another similar entertainment on Tuesday the 26th, when the Representatives of Holland, China, Korea, and Siam and other distinguished persons will be present.

It appears that among the Japanese exhibits in Paris there are to be ten *geisha*. The proprietor of a restaurant called the Sampo-tei is said to have undertaken to provide the fair ladies, and to furnish interpreters and other accessories. We can not deny that the *geisha* is essentially a Japanese product, and that she has no counterpart elsewhere. But it might similarly be said that the *grisette* is essentially a French product, and if Japan exhibits *geisha*, one does not see why France should not show *grisettes*. Is it intended to have *geisha* dances and *samisen* playing? Of course some pretty spectacular effects might be obtained in that way. But the *geisha* is not the kind of young lady to limit herself to spectacular effects. She has been a great deal too much *en evidence* in modern Japan, and it might be prudent now to let her drift a little into the back-ground.

There is a movement, as yet in its infancy but apparently having the support of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, for increasing the securities reserves of the Bank of Japan with a view to a larger issue of convertible notes. The supporters of the idea base their argument on an allegation that the amount of the reserves was fixed originally with reference to the ordinary revenue of the State. In 1881, the revenue totalled 70 million *yen* and the reserves were fixed at that figure. In 1891, the reserves were raised to 85 millions, *pari passu* with the revenue, but although the latter is now 190 millions, the reserves stand at 115 millions only. It is claimed that this failure to maintain the ratio of equality, combined with a marked reduction in the volume of Government and bank paper in circulation, has produced something like a money famine in the commercial world. A society, calling itself the *Yuraku-kai*, has been formed for the purpose of investigating the question, and as it is headed by men like Messrs. Shibusawa and Masuda, much interest attaches to its proceedings.

It is estimated by statisticians that in 1888 the value of Japan's yearly production of cotton and silk fabrics—*mempu* and *kempu*—was only 30 millions of *yen*, whereas in 1897 it was 120 millions. In the same time, the imports of these articles grew from 4 millions to 11 millions. These figures are quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* in support of its contention that the country should devote its attention to manufacturing industries. The argument is strengthened by observing that whereas Japan's exports of cotton yarns to China and Korea were only 2 million *yen* in 1889, they reached the figure of 20 millions in 1898, and whereas she exported only 28 million *yen* worth of silk in the former year, the figure for the latter was 44 millions. The *Jiji* thinks that she ought to manufacture these 64 millions *yen* worth of materials into fabrics, and export them in that form. Undoubtedly she will do so one of these days. That is a forecast about which we entertain no doubt whatever.

Rumours have been current lately to the effect that the Triple Union was about to obtain the charter of the Tokyo Street Railway, but it is now stated that a Secretary of the Home Department, having been consulted on the subject, emphatically denied the existence of any such intention on the part of the Authorities. He added that the Department was not disposed to grant a charter to anyone without exercising the greatest care. That is all very well, doubtless, but we trust that there are some limits to such care. To ordinary persons the thought suggests itself that during the course of the long years which have passed since this problem first came under consideration, it ought to have been possible for the officials concerned to arrive at some decision as to the most suitable system. At all events, Tokyo was never in such a miserable plight as it is at present. Traffic increases steadily but there is no improvement whatever in the manner of repairing the streets, and their condition is terrible. A moiety of the city's muscular force is expended in the mere effort of getting from place to place.

Long-service telephones do not appear to be a success in Japan. Another has just been opened between Kyoto and Sakai, but unless the public show greater appreciation of these enterprises, the Department of Communications will not carry out its original intention of bringing Nagoya within the circuit. We imagine that the rates charged are the cause of the ill-success. It now costs 1.40 *yen* for five minutes talk between Kyoto and Tokyo; 1.30 *yen* for the same facility between Yokohama and Kyoto; 1.60 *yen*, between Tokyo and Sakai, and 1.50 *yen*

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between Yokohama and Sakai. That is too much. By the time that communication has been fairly established and the person with whom one wants to speak has installed himself at the mouth-piece on the other side, a great part of the five minutes is gone. Besides, there is always the uncertainty of not finding the man one wants, and the Japanese naturally think that a *yen* and a half is too much to risk on the chance. The authorities would be well advised if they reduced their figures by one-half. The telephones do not pay as things are now, and some incentive must be applied.

Decorations and cups of gold and silver have been presented to the members of the Committee entrusted with the duty of making preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, and also to the members of the Law Investigation Committee. Eleven gentlemen have been recipients of these honours.

The *Official Gazette* publishes an interesting letter from Dr. Yabe, of the Naval Department, who is now studying in Europe. We mentioned in a recent issue that the Doctor was said to have discovered a remedy for tuberculosis, but we learn from this letter that he has found the thing to be cured, not the cure. He speaks with great confidence, however, about the completion of his work. Indeed the tone of the letter does not appear to be in harmony with the spirit of reserve and humility that generally distinguishes the true scientist. However, we do not insist upon that point. What we read as undue confidence may be merely an evidence of not unnatural exultation. The letter abounds in technical terms which place its exact meaning beyond the scope of our perception, but we gather that the learned investigator has carried his analysis considerably beyond the point reached by Koch, and has discovered that there are two germs to be dealt with, which he calls the "tuberculo-mycopratene" and the "tuberculo-bactericidine." The subject will, of course, have immense interest for specialists at this stage, and for the whole world by and by, but at present it is too obscure for uninitiated intelligence.

In speaking of the dislocation and want of cöoperation that tend to paralyse Japanese commercial efforts at present, Count Inouye, though his strictures are generally applicable, is said to have had Kobe's case chiefly in view. Considering the importance that Kobe is steadily assuming in the country's trade, its conditions are singularly defective. The railway passes by at a distance, virtually ignoring the place, and the accommodation furnished by the Custom House is so small that great inconvenience is constantly felt. A bale of cotton for the spinning mills in Osaka has, first, to pass the Customs in Kobe; then to be stored, and finally to be taken out of store and reshipped for Osaka, the cost of these various operations being from 45 to 50 *sen* per bale of 300 catties. Such a waste of energy and money is intolerable. The first thing to be done is to enlarge the harbour and extend the accommodation furnished at the Customs. That is one of the purposes contemplated by the new Society, the *Yuraku-kai*, of which Count Inouye is the central figure. It is said that he has approached the Authorities on the subject, and has obtained their approval of a grant of 1½ million *yen* for the above purposes. The appropriation will be included in a supplementary budget for next year.

THE TRANSFER OF LAND

Imperial Ordinance No. 458 of December 27th, 1899.

Translated by Dr. L. Lönholm.

The Imperial Ordinance No. 329 of the year 1899 is amended as follows:—

Art. I.—When a superficies (perpetual lease) created in a foreign settlement is transferred, such transfer cannot be set up against third persons unless it is entered in the title deed by the *Chihōchō* * of the place where such land is situated.

If an application according to the foregoing provision has been made by the parties concerned, or if a notification concerning a superficies (perpetual lease) has been made, the *Chihōchō* must without delay give notice thereof to the Registry Office within whose jurisdiction the land is situated.

When a *Chihōchō* gives notice of the transfer of a superficies (perpetual lease) a copy of the title deed must be annexed; but in case of a second or subsequent notice it is sufficient to add the designation of the land, the names of the parties concerned, their nationality and domicile, the ground of the transfer of the right, and the date.

If a right other than that mentioned under Paragraph I which might be set up against third persons has been duly acquired by an alien or a foreign juridical person before the time fixed in the Imperial Ordinance No. 251 of the 32nd year of *Meiji*†, but has not been registered before the said time, it cannot be set up against third persons, unless it is registered up to the 31st December, 1900.

Art. IV.—When an application for registration is made, all facts which can be set up against third persons must be mentioned in the application, and the documents necessary to prove such facts must be annexed.

When a Registry Office has received a notice of the transfer of a superficies (perpetual lease) it must register it *ex officio*, and the same applies when in case of a notification concerning a superficies (perpetual lease) an alteration in a registration is to take place.

If when an application for the registration of a right whose subject is a superficies (perpetual lease), is made, such superficies (perpetual lease) is not yet registered, such registration must be made *ex officio*.

Additional Provisions.

Entries as to the transfer of a superficies (perpetual lease), made in a title deed by a *Chihōchō* or a Consulate before the taking effect of this Ordinance, have the same effect as entries made by a *Chihōchō* according to the provisions of this Ordinance; but this does not affect the rights of third persons which have been registered after the time fixed in Imperial Ordinance No. 251 of the 32nd year of *Meiji*.

* 地方廳 That is, for Yokohama and Kobe, the *Kencho*.

† That is, the time fixed for the taking effect of the treaties.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

Last month we summarised the remarks of Dr. Tomii on the failure of a large number of Law students to pass the Imperial University examination last July. In a later number of the *Taiyō* Mr. Kubota Yuzuru discusses the same subject in the following terms. There are no fewer than five conceivable causes of the failure complained of. (1) The preparatory education of the students may be defective. (2) Their special preparation for the examination by study may have been misguided or deficient in point of detail. (3) The method of conducting the examination may have been unreasonable. (4) The teaching preparatory to the examination may have been defective. (5) Or the students plucked may have been idle for the most part. Among these the first surmise is undoubtedly the nearest to the truth. From the University's point of view the education imparted at the Middle and High Schools, being very defective as regards the teaching of foreign languages, is unsatisfactory. But those who are responsible for the present system urge that the chief object of the middle and High Schools is not simply to prepare students for the University, but to give them a general education that may be of use to them in case they do not go to the University. These schools then are attempting two things that seem to University professors to be incompatible, namely, imparting a special and a general education. As neither party can have its own way a compromise has been the result. But the compromise has worked badly, and the incompatibility of the two objects aimed at by the Middle and High Schools has made itself more and more manifest. It amounts to this, that at present there is no real link connecting the lower institutions with the Imperial University. The University stands by itself, and in point of fact has done so for over twenty years. It has been developed under foreign influence and owes its efficiency to that influence. But all the subordinate educational institutions are native to the core, and foreign influence is practically *nil* in these institutions. Trained in these establishments the student finds when he enters the University that he has a great gulf to cross over which no bridge has as yet been erected. There is connected with each High School what is called a *Daigaku Yobikwa* (A University Preparatory Department), but, regarded from the point of view of the University, it does not fulfil its purpose in an adequate manner. Law is a favourite study owing to its connection with politics; and the University Law College is crowded with undergraduates from year to year. The difficulty of dealing with such large numbers of students increases continually, and it seems as though it had led the professors to make the examinations more severe, in order to stop the influx into the ranks of barristers. Regarded from the point of view of national interests this course is open to severe criticism; for a supply of highly educated politicians is just what the country needs at the present time, and seeing that law and politics are studied together, to reduce the number of students who reap the advantage of a thorough university education is certainly against the interests of the State. The fact is our educational system needs a thorough reform. It is a

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piecemeal concern and has been so for many years past. The incident of last July (the failure of the Law students to pass their examination) was only the fuse that caused an explosion of public opinion. The combustible elements have existed for years past. It is our hope that now the Department of Education may recognise the necessity of radical reform.

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Dr. Katō Hiroyuki in No. 24 of the *Taiyō* discusses the interesting question, "What is the chief object of learning"? The text for Dr. Katō's article was furnished by Baron Ishiguro's observations in No. 23 of the *Taiyō*. Baron Ishiguro relates that many years ago, during an interview with the famous Sakuma Shōzan, the latter impressed upon him the importance of estimating the value of learning by its capability of being put into practice. In learning that which is useful only occupies the first rank. With this view Dr. Katō entirely disagrees, and expresses wonder that at this late date a man of Baron Ishiguro's standing in the learned world should be found defending a theory of this kind. It is quite plain, says Dr. Katō that a *knowledge of truth* and not the serving of practical ends, is the chief object of learning. The idea espoused by Baron Ishiguro comes from Confucianism as far as Japanese are concerned. It was the teaching both of Confucius and Mencius that the value of all theories was to be tested by their practical utility, and that learning not connected with practical affairs was to be discouraged. Wang Yang ming (王陽明) was the champion of the doctrine known as the 知行合一, *Chikō-gōitsu*, (the Combination of Theory and Practice) This teaching as regards politics or ethics was well enough, but to apply it to scientific study, philosophy, and the like, as Baron Ishiguro seems to intend it to be applied, is quite absurd. If any such theory had been held in the West there would have been little progress in knowledge. The astronomer the physicist, the geologist, the naturalist, and numerous other earnest scientific explorers are in search of truth, and give no consideration whatever to the question of utility. The view of the object of learning taken by Baron Ishiguro is no less degrading than out-of-date. If the value of things is to be gauged by the actual requirements of life then poetry art, music, and a hundred other enjoyments of refined life must be consigned to a very subordinate rank in the scale of things. Persons who accept this utilitarian view are still barbarians. The essence of civilisation consists in the aspiring to a higher state than mere animal existence. . . . . The idea that the men whose theories are carried into practice, such as Bismarck, Beaconsfield, and Gladstone, are in some way superior to philosophers like Kant, Hegel, Comte, and Spencer, though very widely entertained, is entirely opposed to salient facts in the history of human progress.

* * *

The *Sekai-no-Nihon*, under the title of "A Suggestion to Novelists," proposes that, instead of repeating *ad nauseam* their accounts of the doings of *geisha*, students, and other pursuers of fleeting pleasures, novelists should write up phases of life that are on a higher level. This advice has been given many times before, but has not been followed, and we fear is not likely to be followed, for the simple reason that most of the fiction writers of Japan do not possess the necessary knowledge for writing high class works. Then they naturally ask the question, should we find sufficient readers for a different kind of story? The *Sekai-no-Nihon* is of opinion that a higher type of novel would be welcomed by thousands of educated people, and it urges novelists to try the experiment.

* * *

The *Tenchijin* (No. 23) expresses disappointment with Professor Ladd's lectures in Tōkyō. It pronounces them commonplace in the extreme and lacking in originality. It says that doubtless Professor Ladd was loath to repeat anything that he had said in his books, but that the public had a right to expect something less threadbare than the arguments he doled out.

The *Tenchijin* laments the fact that the mass of Japanese readers know so little of contemporary foreign literature or even of any foreign literature, for that matter. Those who try their hands at reproducing articles or books that have been published abroad often become the butts of very petty criticism. It is no time to be over-particular about the merits of the style of the translators, says the *Tenchijin*. If they give us foreign ideas in an intelligible fashion, we should be thankful. Care should be taken not to discourage the few men who are engaged in this much-needed work.

In the above-quoted magazine we find the following descriptions of newspaper men and their lives which are worthy of being recorded here.

Few people know how much Mr. Murayama Ryōhei has gone through in order to make a success of the *Tōkyō Asahi Shimbun*. In all weathers and at all times of the day and night for months he was to be seen among the type setters in the printing room, directing the workmen and taking part in what was going on.

Since Mr. Ooka Ikuzō has had charge of the *Chūō Shimbun* he has been in great pecuniary straits. On one occasion he was so depressed by the situation of his affairs that he went to the edge of the Shinobazu pond three times with the intention of drowning himself. But at last he argued with himself thus:—"Among those who have undertaken newspaper work there are few that have not found the existence a kind of middle state between life and death. Considered as business, there is no such laborious way of making money as that followed by the newspaper man. There are no real holidays from year's end to year's end. When the publishing hour comes around the paper has to be forthcoming or serious consequences follow. The competition is so great that a paper that is an hour late in delivery two or three times in a month stands little chance of success. If papers sent to the country miss a train their loss in circulation is considerable. Then the fashion of printing extras keeps newspaper men continually on the strain. Such is the life and to expect it to be otherwise is useless."

Among the contributors to the *Yorodzu Chōhō* are three or four men who receive from fifty to seventy *yen* a month for holding themselves in readiness to write articles whenever they are required. They are seldom called upon to perform this duty more than once or twice a month. On Mr. Kuroiwa's being remonstrated with on account of the seeming extravagance of this plan, he replied that no scheme was so good as this for insuring promptness and proficiency.

There is no newspaper that employs so much money for telegrams as the *Osaka Asahi*. Mr. Murayama is of opinion that even 500 *yen* per day is not too much to spend on telegrams, and has given permission for this sum to be spent. . . We may sum up the results of our inquiry, concludes the *Tenchijin*, by saying that the success of a paper is by no means assured by the amount of capital it has at its disposal. There have been papers which have run through 30 or 40 thousand *yen* without making much profit, and there have been papers that have begun with a very small capital and have ended by realising enormous gains. The *Miyako Shimbun* not so very long ago only had a capital of 400 *yen*. It was with great fear and misgiving that the *Yorozu Chōhō* ventured on printing 20,000 copies of the paper, hardly daring to expect that more than one-tenth would find buyers. But the success of the paper was contrary to all expectations.

To the *Gwaikōjihō* the editor, Dr. Ariga Nagao, contributes an interesting and thoughtful article entitled "My feelings on coming back to Japan," the gist of which we give below:—During the past five years I have been to Europe three times. I do not pretend to say that I thoroughly understand the state of political affairs in Europe, but, compared with those who have never been out of Japan, I am able to form a correct estimate of the position which Japan holds in the eyes of Europeans generally, and it is in reference to this that I wish to give my impressions. It is acknowledged that in outward and superficial civilisation Japan has progressed as far as it is possible for any nation to progress, and foreigners are now asking how far the intellect and conscience of the nation as a whole have been enlightened and improved. Though of course reform of the deeper kind always takes time, I cannot but feel that we are doing little in this direction. Though it is unreasonable to expect everything at once, one does look for a few steps in the road to progress, but even these we do not see. The moral courage required for this is lacking, and so is the equally necessary self-confidence. Everywhere one sees utter indifference to real progress and reform. While this is so, old abuses retain their hold over the minds of the people. . . Foreigners admire our scenery as much to-day as ever they did, and modern books are as explicit on this point as ever they were. But in describing our people the comments of those modern authors who aim at writing up the real Japan are unfavourable. Look for instance at what Mr. Chamberlain, who is an old resident and evidently fond of Japan, says in his latest edition of "Things Japanese" about the business morality of the Japanese. How true and yet how sad it is! The hope of reform lies in the effects of the Constitution on the masses of the people. It ought to increase their sense of responsibility. But this it does only to a very limited extent. There are few that have any fixed ideas as to the obligations connected with the government of the country. Politicians, seem to think much more of their own reputation than of their duties to the State, and hence they go into office and out of it in an equally flippant manner, thereby diminishing the solidity of government, and

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rendering a settled policy difficult. It is this fickleness that has caused foreigners to speak of Japanese cabinets as *sōbatō-teki naikaku*, "Cabinets that resemble lanterns with revolving paper shades." . . . Turning to the masses, seldom have they been in such a state of disorder as they now are. Murders are reported day after day that make one's blood curdle. There are children that beat their parents and women that kill their husbands. This state of things is damaging to Japan's reputation in foreign lands. . . .

Now there is one consideration which ought to weigh with the whole nation and induce it to use every effort to recover the ground it has lost in the eyes of Europe. I refer to the retrocession of the Liaotung peninsula and its subsequent seizure by Russia. It is impossible to deny that Japan has lost prestige over this affair. Russia insulted Japan by thus acting and did it with impunity. This is known to Europe and America. Now I do not intend to advocate that we should make up our minds to fight Russia on this point. But what I do insist on is that we should labour by increasing our resources and by further developing our powers to place ourselves on an equality with Western nations The revised treaties place us on an equallity in name, but this Liaotung affair is unmistakable proof that we are not on an equality in reality. It is this consideration that renders reform of all kinds so urgent and that makes all earnest patriots deeply regret the existence of so many weak points in our national life and institutions.

* * *

A very long discusssion of Japanese orthography by Mr. Tokutomi has been reported in the *Kokumin Shimbun*. This is the reproduction of an address delivered to the Kokugo-gakkai at a meeting held in the Higher Normal School some weeks ago. Much of what Mr. Tokutomi urges has been urged before and, as it seems to us, with little effect on the practice of writers. Mr. Tokutomi thinks that in many ways those who have treated the subject at great length have hindered reform by indulging in long academical discussions that have little interest for anybody. It is desirable to keep to the most practical aspects of the question. Briefly epitomised Mr. Tokutomi's essay on the subject may be thus given :—In competition with foreign countries there is no reason why we should handicap ourselves in the way we are doing. A speech delivered in Edinburgh by Sir William Harcourt a short time ago, which was not finished till 11 p.m., appeared in full in the *Times* the next morning. Our Diet is usually over by 6 p.m., but we find that it often takes us till 3 a.m. the next day to prepare the speeches for printing. The type-setters in a Japanese printing office run about from case to case like dogs in a fair, so great is the variety of the type required. . . . In the use of language it is now felt that the chief object of a writer is to state his ideas so that there shall be no fear of their being misunderstood by semi-educated people. Hence a semi-colloquial style has become more and more popular.* Hitherto in Japan writers have been slaves to the letter and have, when taking up their pens, asked not so much what they shall say, as what language they are going to use in expressing their thoughts. The style that it is considered should characterise important documents like the Imperial Rescript on education is most laboured. This document was drawn up by Viscount Inoue and the late Mr. Motoda Yeifu. It is said that the Imperial Rescript announcing the promulgation of the Constition, which was penned by Marquis Itō and Viscount Inoue, occupied 40 days in preparation. The effort consisted in producing a style not in daily use, a stilted, classical style which only polished scholars can write and fully appreciate. The labour of Japanese composition lies in imitating ancient writers. The whole thing considered from the point of view of reason is upside down. Instead of moulding the language to suit the ideas to be expressed, the ideas are moulded so as to suit the language in which they are to be stated. It is a case of altering the shape of the foot in order to make it fit a shoe, instead of altering the shoe to make it fit the foot. Most of Japan's noted scholars have followed this plan Sorai, Mabuchi, Chizuzan, Rai Sanyō were all writers of this type, Numerous are the instances in the latter's great work, the *Nihon Gwaishi*, in which facts are incorrectly stated in order to enable the writer to round his sentence in Chinese style* The works which were noted exceptions to this rule were Hakuseki's *Hankampu* and *Tokushi-Yoron*; Dazai's *Keizairoku*; Kumazawa Banzan's *Shūgiwasho*; Kaibara Ekiken's *Yōjōkun*, Muro Kyūsō's *Shundai Zatsuwa*, and a few others. It is a characteristic of the Meiji literature that the exigencies of language are made to give place to the exigencies of thought. In old times thought and language were obliged to develop independently of each other, and it is true to say that some of the best written books from an orthodox literary point of view are characterised by shallowness and meagreness of thought. Milton by his skilful use of language could give to the fancies of his fertile mind an appearance of reality that was most striking. The language used by Satan and his followers when holding a solemn council of war remind us of earnest debates in the House of Commons. He made unreal things appear to be real by the way in which he described them. Our classical scholars do the exact opposite; they take away from real things every vestige of reality by the stereotyped manner in which they describe them. . . . The veneration felt throughout the country for the classical style is as great to-day as ever it was, as is evidenced by what takes place on all occasions of ceremony. There is no harm in venerating this style of writing, but what I complain of is that the rapid development of thought is hindered by our clinging to an unsuitable vehicle of expression. It is a characteristic of a scientific age that accuracy is of more value than fine diction, and when the two are incompatible, the fine language is sacrificed. This is the practice in the West, but with our literary men there is little regard for truth and accuracy in description. The literary conscience has yet to be created. The indefiniteness of the classical style is most annoying to all persons who are in search of real facts, and minute ideas. The language may mean half a dozen things, and the reader is left to interpret it as he pleases. This is fatal to progress in knowledge of the modern scientific type. The language we use to-day is full of exaggerations that appear to those unaccustomed to them most grotesque. When we praise or blame, we deal in hyperboles such as it would be difficult to match in Western languages. The reforms which I desire to see effected are all in the direction of making language more natural, more simple, more minute, of sacrificing form to utility.

* * *

The *Shakai* (No. 9) quotes the following short sketches of the leading writers of modern times under the title of "Prominent Actors of the Meiji Era."

Far removed from the haunts of men as though floating on the clouds, sits Fukuchi Genichirō, invisible to the eyes of the world, and only known to a select few by the charm of his style and the breadth of his views when he takes up his pen.

As a lover of boundless liberty, as one who is forgetful of Japan's history, drunk with revolutionary ideas, full of the sanguinity of youth, as the transmitter of theories that date from the French revolution, figures Nakae Chōmin (Tokusuke).

As an opponent of the unlimited rights of man, as one who gives sacred names to those in power, and who represents despotism as part of the constitution while he preaches the doctrine of utilitarianism, figures Katō Tensoku (Hiroyuki).

As one who at a time when patriotism as it is known in Japan to-day was non-existent, by his publication of the *Keikoku Bidan* turned men's thoughts into a new channel and brought into being modern politicians, Yano Ryūkei (Fumiwo) will never be forgotten.

As an advocate of the theory that Christianity is the basis of Western civilisation, as an intimate friend of foreigners, as one who believes in introducing Christianity of a pronounced Western type, figures Niijima Jō.

As a deadly foe of despotism, as a warm advocate of popular rights and popular representation, as the wielder of a facile and fascinating pen, and the exponent of ideas that fill the minds of Japan's young men to-day, the name of Tokutomi Sohō (Iichirō) will go down to posterity.

As an opponent of slavish and persistent imitation of foreign ways, as a preacher of the danger of Japan's losing her national individuality, as one who puts new life into conservative doctrines by the force with which he states them, figures Shiga Shinsen (Chōkō).

As a man who has done much to establish harmony between officials and private persons, and who has accomplished wonders in the way of organisation, Itō Myōji will not be forgotten.

As a man who has given all his energy to the union and consolidation of political parties with a view to the establishment of party cabinets, Inukai Mokudō is worthy of being remembered.

As a politician who knows how to mould the hearts of men and arouse to action the weak and purposeless, though he has to resort to some very rough

* Mr. Fukuzawa, Dr. Inoue Enryō and many other well known writers advocate and employ this method of writing.—(Writer of Summary).

* Parallel instances of this may be found in other countries. It is recorded of a famous Latin historian, that he would have made Pompey win the battle of Pharsalia had the effective turn of the sentence required it. This is undoubtedly the habitual practise of certain literary artists who prove conclusively that truth-telling is not a gift of nature.—(Writer of Summary)

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methods, as a man who is prompt in action and afraid of nobody and nothing, Hoshi Tōru's name will go down to posterity.

Commenting on these sketches, the *Shakai* says that it is too evident that the writer only has an admiring eye for Young Japan's heroes. Any attempt at sketching the careers of the leading men of the Meiji era should certainly include such names as those of Saigō, Katsu, Okubo, Kido, Itō, Itagaki, and Okuma. But the newspaper world seems to think that Mr. Hoshi Tōru is the ideal man of the present age. "What kind of man will serve as an ideal of the generation to come?" asks the *Shakai*.

* * *

Mr. Kubota Yuzuru has published a book entitled "The Reform of our System of Education" which deals in a very thorough manner with the principal defects of the present system, and furnishes a large amount of information on schools of all kinds. We can do no more than indicate briefly the general line taken by Mr. Kubota. He informs us that there are in Japan 28,453 schools, 87,855 teachers, and 4,168,717 scholars; and that on an average 573,796 students graduate every year. The attendance percentage of eligible children is about 66. The increase in the number of schools has not been proportionate to the increase in the number of students, and hence candidates for any but the most elementary education have to depend on success at competitive examinations. The physique of the students is bad, their morals are loose, and they are mostly lacking in will power. Mr. Kubota is of opinion that the system of education in vogue sadly needs reform. The evils he specially touches on are the constant change of Ministers (in 28 years the Minister of Education has been changed 23 times), and the consequent changes of policy, the length of time required to go through the various schools, which exceeds that needed in any Western country; want of attention to the physical development of the children attending schools (eyesight is bad and brain and lung diseases are most common); and the expense of education to students of slender means. In discussing the latter subject Mr. Kubota says that at least 15 *yen* a month is required to enable a student to attend a Middle School, and that 20 *yen* a month is required by University students. These sums are higher than is warranted by the resources of the country and the general scale of living. The reforms proposed by Mr. Kubota are the shortening of the course by the elimination of non-essential branches of learning, the reduction of expenses by giving more State help to schools, the use of school buildings throughout the whole day by a succession of teachers and a succession of students, which would save a good deal of trouble and expense. This plan Mr. Kubota says is followed in some parts of Germany. Mr. Kubota makes other comparisons with German schools which he considers disadvantageous to Japan. German elementary School buildings are, we are told, usually the worst-looking structures in a village, but the contrary is the case in Japan. Then in Germany the elementary school boasts of no servants to wait on the pupils and the middle schools have no secretaries. Japan's possession of these luxuries is condemned by Mr. Kubota. He thinks there should be more time devoted to teaching foreign languages, which are needed for business purposes as much as for scholarly investigation. The present High Schools should be turned into Universities. They were originally started with a view to giving instruction in special subjects, *as finishing off establishments*, as is stated in the Ordinance which created them, *Kōtō-gakko wa Semmon Gakkwa wo Kyōju suru tokoro to su.* "The High Schools are places in which instruction in special subjects is imparted." The said Ordinance contained also these words *Tadashi Teikoku Daigaku ni iru mono no tame Yokwa wo mōkuru koto wo uru.* "Nevertheless it is allowable for them to create a department for preparing students for the University." It is quite plain that the preparation of students for the University is not the principal function of these schools and yet in late years they are repeatedly referred to as though this were the case. Things cannot be allowed to go on much longer as they are, argues Mr. Kubota. The need of reform is felt throughout the country and the Mombushō can no longer turn a deaf ear to intelligent public opinion.

MESSRS LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'S JUBILEE.

The title of this flourishing business house remarks the *China Mail*, is in every sense a household word in the Far East, and it will be interesting to read how from small beginnings a huge business has been built up. In 1850, Mr. Ninian Crawford established the business, of which his brother, Mr. D. R. Crawford, is now the respected senior. The premises were then situated in the locality of Messrs Falconer's shop, in Queen's Road, Hongkong, and Mr. Ninian Crawford developed to a considerable extent the auctioneering branch of the business. On 15th August, 1850, Mr. Lane joined Mr. N. Crawford, and originated the now celebrated firm name. The firm attained very large prosperity in the Colony, and the China War of 1860 gave the opportunity which was quickly availed of to extend the business outside Hongkong. A ship was chartered by the firm to take stores to the British fleet at Taku and another ship was subsequently despatched on the same errand. It is said that when these ships arrived the people swarmed on deck before the hatches were opened and beer was selling at $1 a bottle. This enterprise proved so successful, that a branch was opened at Tientsin. With the termination of the war, the prosperity of business at Tientsin waned, and the establishment was transferred to Shanghai. This branch now rivals in prosperity the Hongkong establishment, and one of the partners is a son of the founder of the firm. Mr. D. R. Crawford arrived in Hongkong in 1859, and has been associated with the Hongkong establishment since that date. There is a flourishing branch at Yokohama, where another son of Mr. Ninian Crawford presides. Mr. Ninian Crawford left China for good some time in the sixties, and Mr. D. R. Crawford was left the sole partner. In 1887, Mr. Crawford went home, intending to remain there, the business having been transferred to his cousin, Mr. Henry Crawford, and Mr. J. McCallum. After an absence of eight years, Mr. D. R. Crawford returned to Hongkong in 1895, and during the last few years the business has enormously increased, and another branch was opened after the occupation of Manila by the Americans. New premises are being erected for the firm on the Praya, Hongkong.

The Kanagawa police have issued orders that all rats found dead in Yokohama must be sent to the Police Station. Rats caught in traps must be incinerated. Persons violating this regulation are liable to be fined.

FOREIGN PARTNERSHIPS.

I have again to correct a misstatement of "Student." In his last communication he says:—"The learned author who criticises these notes ignores what attentive readers will have observed, namely that the word "corporation" (in the German treaty "Korporationen") is in *all* the revised treaties translated *kwaisha*." Now when a person asserts a fact in such a positive manner, one may fairly expect that he has himself been an attentive reader and has really perused the Japanese text of *all* the treaties. But this is apparently not the case with "Student." Otherwise he would have found out at once that "corporation" is not translated *kwaisha* in *all* the treaties. In the German treaty, which he specially mentions, the expression "corporation" is correctly rendered by *dantai*.* The same word for "corporation" is found in the draft of a law submitted to the Diet some days ago. To translate "corporation" by *kwaisha* is an unpardonable blunder. A "corporation" may be for profit, but also for political, scientific, charitable or religious purposes. In civil law the State is a corporation; cities, towns, and Universities are corporations; in English law there are spiritual and eleomosynary corporations, but nobody would call them *kwaisha*. The mistake in translating "corporation" by *kwaisha* is so flagrant that it seems more than strange that the learned author who calls himself "Student" should have built a whole system upon such a gross blunder.

The citations from French writers are not to the point. Nobody denies that foreign business associations can do business in Japan; but in doing so they must comply with the laws and regulations of the country, as is expressly provided in Art. III of the English treaty. In Japanese law registration is compulsory for *gomei-kwaisha*. Now I have clearly shown that English partnerships in their legal nature are similar not to *kumiai* but to *gomei-kwaisha*. Hence it follows that they would be obliged to register, even though there were no Imperial Ordinance to that effect at all. To register the "trade name" only, as "Student" proposes, would be a very unwise act. By doing so, firms would not "continue trading as they heretofore traded," but they simply would renounce their legal standing as a firm which they had under the British Partnership Act, and become "single merchants." Besides, such an act would be wilful misrepresentation to the Court.

"Student" repeats his demand for me to give him authorities for my statements. I do not like to give authorities, I prefer reasoning. But as "Student" is perhaps accustomed not to believe anything for which there is no authority, I advise him to apply for information to any one of the compilers of the new Commercial Code. I cannot produce any authority from the time of Jimmu Tenno or even Iyeyasu, as at that time the Japanese ideas of *kumiai* and *kwaisha* were yet badly confused. So I hope "Student" will be satisfied with the testimony of a simple modern University professor.

As to "Student's" assertion that my deductions did not find general approval among foreign residents," I should be very sorry, indeed, if he were right, for it would prove not that I am wrong, but that my explanations were not clear enough to be understood by a layman. But I dare say that according to my own experience there are very few people left in Yokohama who do not now understand that "Student's" theories as to *kumiai* have been entirely blown up. I fully acknowledge the difficulties under which English scholars labour in studying the new Japanese-German laws, but just this fact ought to have caused "Student" to be a little less positive in his assertions.

DR. L. LOENHOLM.

Tokyo, 19th December, 1899.

* 国有財産法 "Law concerning the immunity of land owned by the Government, towns, villages or other public corporations."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SOCIAL EVIL TEST CASE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I find that the Osaka social evil case was decided in favour of the plaintiff and not in favour of the defendant as erroneously reported in the *Osaka Mainichi*. The *Osaka Asahi* of Nov. 16th, a copy of which came to hand a few days since, contains the true version of the matter. The court granted the petition of the girl on the ground that a person cannot be compelled to follow any occupation in order to return a debt, the presence or absence of bodily infirmity having no relation to the matter.

Inasmuch as many, including myself, were led to make very uncomplimentary remarks concerning the supposed shallow reasoning of the court, I feel that this correction is necessary.

Yours most respectfully,

U. G. MURPHY.

Dec. 21st, 1899.

THE GALE.

There was a very severe storm on the 23rd instant. It struck the coast at Osaka, Numazu and Hamamatsu, and did great damage, wrecking many junks and fishing boats. Thirty-four lives are said to have been lost, and some twenty persons received injuries. The gale seems to have been very sudden. It burst out shortly after sunset, and was accompanied by thunder and hail. In Tokyo and Yokohama it was felt also, but did not cause any disasters.

Reports of a severe storm in Hokkaido are to hand. A strong gale, accompanied by snow, is said to have swept over the territory since the 24th instant, doing much damage to railways. An official telegram dated the 25th inst. announces the fall of snow to a depth of over five feet and a consequent interruption of railway traffic. Fortunately no casualty seems to have occurred to life and limb. Similar telegrams have been received from the north-eastern provinces. In Niigata the storm is said to have begun on the afternoon of the 23rd instant, increasing in violence until the following morning. Several houses were demolished in the town and neighbourhood. The Kashiwazaki-Omigawa Railway line and the Kakizaki-Hachizakiline were buried in mud and sand, while traffic was interrupted between Naoyetsu and Nagaoka on the 24th instant. At Miyagi, some lives were lost and much injury was done to animals and houses. At Osaka about forty-six craft of various kinds are said to have been wrecked off the coast of Tempozan, while 14 persons are missing. Three corpses have been recovered. In Kyoto 28 fishing boats and 56 men are missing. Up to noon on the 25th instant, however, 141 houses had been destroyed at Yamagata and 15 burned; while 60 godowns and sheds were entirely destroyed. Casualties to life and limb were 7 killed and 11 injured.

A severe storm of wind and rain passed over Kobe neighbourhood on Saturday afternoon and evening, says the *Kobe Herald*. Reports from various outlying districts show that great damage has been done on sea and land and that many lives have been lost. In Kobe the principal effect of the storm was to emphasise—if possible—the bad material and construction of the thoroughfares, walking being rendered almost a physical impossibility during the evening.

A serious disaster is reported to have occurred in Tottori Prefecture in consequence of the gale of the 23rd instant. Out of 28 fishing boats which sailed from Akazeki just a little before noon on that day, 13 were wrecked, 47 men being drowned. Eleven other boats which left Mikuriya on the same day have, according to the *Jiji*, encountered the same fate, the number of men drowned being no less than 38.

From Miyagi comes news equally serious. Some ten fishers from Nagahama, who sought shelter at Hachimori at the time of the storm, had their boats capsized by the raging sea, and six of them were drowned. Miura, in Sagami province, was not less unfortunate. Six fishers were at work on the 24th instant off the coast of Nagai village when their boat was overturned by a sudden squall. One corpse has been recovered, but the rest are still missing. Two sailing vessels, the one of 55 tons and the other of 420 *koku* burden, owned respectively by Takekawa and Omori of Sagami, are said to have sustained considerable damage, and seven of the crew were lost. Two fishing boats from Mannencho, Odawara, were wrecked off the coast of Suma-mura, the whole crew of eight being swept off by the waves.

A telegram from Niigata dated the 27th instant announces that a steamer plying in the northern seas ran aground on the coast of Kaifu, and the captain and 4 of the crew were drowned.

INUNDATIONS IN HOKKAIDO.

The inundations in Hokkaido have proved extremely disastrous this year. The area devastated includes ten towns and twenty-five villages in Ishikari. A petition has been drawn up by the representatives of these districts requesting the Government to take measures to avert these continually recurring evils. To mention only a few instances of suffering caused, it may be stated that the number of houses submerged or washed away by flood in September last exceeded 17,288, while wet and dry fields to the extent of 41,120 *cho* were overwhelmed, the losses being estimated at not less than 5,840 000 *yen*. The floods in August this year devastated lands to the extent of 13,500 *cho*, the loss amounting to 7,190,000 *yen* approximately. Taking the North as a whole the injury from inundations during the past year seems to have extended to 56,087 *cho* of cultivated fields. The direct consequence of this has been the gradual diminution of settled inhabitants, and the disappointment of new immigrants. Last year the number of new settlers was over 60,000, but this year the figure had decreased to 3,800. It has been suggested that a council should be organised, the members consisting of officials and engineers of the Hokkaido Office and some private individuals, to consider the adoption of remedial measures.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The seating capacity of the Van Schaick Hall was pressed to its utmost limits on Friday evening to accommodate the members of the Yokohama Literary Society and their friends. The Vice-President, the Rev. E. S. Booth, presided in the unavoidable absence of Mr. McIvor. After an admirably played overture by Miss Vincent and Mr. W. K. Vincent, Mr. J. T. Griffin read the paper of the evening, which was contributed by Captain Brinkley, R.A.

The full programme was as follows:—

Overture....."Italiana in Algieri".....Rossini.
Miss Vincent and Mr. Karl Vincent.

Vocal Quartette.."Spring Song".....Pinsuti.
Miss Thomas, Miss Leach, Mr. Nicholas, and Mr. Somerton.

Cello Solo ....."Concerto" .....Golterman.
Mr. R. Schmid.

Song.."When a Lover kneels before her"..Weber.
Madame Henckler.

Piano Solo.....(*a.*) "Nocturne" .....Chopin.
(*b.*) "Prelude".....Chopin.
Mr. Berrick.

Song....."The Golden Bar" .....F. Bevan.
Mr. Somerton.

Quintette .....Schumann.
Miss Andrews, Messrs. Kaufmann, Poole, Schmid, and Mason.

LEASES IN PERPETUITY.

An Important Decision.

The following is a translation of an important decision in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho: No. 27 (So) 32nd.

DECISION.

Leonard Joseph Healing, British subject, of No. 20 Yamate-cho, Yokohama, in the Prefecture of Kanagawa, Complainant, by his Counsel, Idkura Rikio, No. 10 Yamashitacho, Yokohama.

William Stuart Frazar, British subject, of No. 10 Castle Street, Edinburgh, Complainant.

Thomas Boom Nelson, British subject, of No. 145 Cannon Street, London, Complainant.

Charles Francis Wright, British subject Barrister-at-law, Inner Temple, London, Complainant, by their attorney, Francis Scott James, of No. 119 Yamatecho, Yokohama, Kanagawa.

In the matter of a complaint made to this Court by the above-named applicants against a decision rendered by the Yokohama Ku Saibansho refusing an application for the registration of the right to a lease in perpetuity. It is ordered that the same be, and is hereby dismissed.

REASONS.

The essential grounds of the complaint are that as the right to a lease in perpetuity in respect of which application for registration was made, is granted by the Title Deed itself, and is confirmed by Article XVIII. of the revised treaty between Japan and Great Britain of the 16th July, 1894, the Yokohama Ku Saibansho was in error in ignoring the existence of the right claimed by the complainants, and in refusing their application; and that the Court was also in error in making it a ground for refusal that the application was defective, inasmuch as defects, if they exist, can be corrected at any time.

Upon consideration we find that no process is provided for the registration, under our law, of the right called by the complainants the right to a lease in perpetuity; and as the so called right is not recognized by the Civil Code; and as there are no regulations for the registration of the same; and as, notwithstanding that the alleged right is claimed by virtue of the title deed as well as of the treaty, nevertheless there exist no special regulations for the registration of the same, either in the case of individual foreigners, or of foreign judicial persons, the application must be refused. It is true that the Yokohama Ku Saibansho gave as a reason for rejecting the application that it was defective in form, but this was mere surplusage, the main reason being that the nomenclature of the tenant-right claimed by the complainants is not one that is recognized by the law. Consequently there was no error in the Court below, and the complaint is dismissed as being without foundation.

Given on the 15th December of the 32nd year of *Meiji* (1899) at the First Civil Division of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

Fujise Yaichiro, Presiding Judge.
Otamura Richu, Associate Judge.
Morii Ryosuke, Associate Judge.

Copied from the original on the 19th of the same month at the same Court.

(Signed and stamped.)

Hoshino Hideo, Court Clerk.

THE "TAMBA MARU" CASE.

The Yokohama Ku Saibansho delivered judgment on Saturday morning in the case in which Umezeko Toyomatsu late quartermaster of the *Tamba Maru*, was charged with biting Mr. Kent, the third officer. The accused was sentenced to five days' detention. The statement of reasons went over the circumstances preceding the scuffle, and admitted that accused's general behaviour was not such as should be shown towards a superior officer. Although

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the fact that the accused used excited language was not admitted by him, it might be inferred from the circumstances of the time that he did so. The starting of the fight between the accused and Kent must, however, have been caused by the first blow having been struck by Kent. Although Kent made a statement to the effect that Hill and De la Hyde were on the spot from the beginning of the struggle, looking on, but offered no interference despite the fact that Kent was struck by the accused below the right ear, and twice thrown down, this statement could hardly be credited. In the Chiho Saibansho Kent stated the accused bit him while the latter was standing, whereas in this Court he stated that he was bitten while sitting. Thus there was a discrepancy of evidence on a most important point. Also Kent's statement that the accused continued his biting in spite of his being struck in the eye was hardly credible, for the blow in the eye must have temporarily incapacited him. The evidence of Wale and Renny had no practical importance, as they were not on the spot when the struggle was proceeding.

The Court came to the conclusion that accused bit Kent in two places, and discredited accused's statement that he only bit Kent in the height of his agony while being put in irons. The injuries Kent received were not of such a nature as to necessitate his abstaining from work. The judgment concluded :—

In view of the fact that Kent in the first place mistook the prisoner's ring for the lighted end of a cigarette, it could scarcely be said that the prisoner's disrespectful conduct towards his superior was unjustifiable. Admitting the conduct of the prisoner to have been blameable, still it is not considered to be of so serious a nature as to have provoked Kent. In short, Kent's violent conduct was out of proportion to what had been done by the prisoner, or in other words, judged by common sense, it is not reasonable to conclude on Kent's behalf, that his inferior ought to expect such a punishment for such disrespectful conduct as the prisoner was guilty of. According to the evidence given by Takahashi Kuro, the prisoner was obedient and industrious, and this was also proved by the evidence given by the boatswain of the *Tamba Maru*. The prisoner was reprimanded by the Captain simply because he was misjudged by Kent. Naturally, he must have greatly regretted this uncalled-for accusation, and in an excess of anger he was induced to walk in an unrighteous path, though his conduct in this regard deserves some consideration. Another extenuating circumstance lies in the fact that notwithstanding that he bit Kent, the wounds thus inflicted were not so serious as to incapacitate Kent from work. Considering the above two extenuating circumstances, two degrees should be reduced from his punishment, but as one degree has to be added in view of the provisions of the Seafaring Men's Regulations, the following judgment is hereby passed on the prisoner :—The accused to be sentenced to five days' detention.

An appeal has been lodged by accused.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on Friday evening at the Oriental Hotel. Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., presided, and there were also present Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. James Dodds, W. R. Bennett, W. B. Walter, W. W. Till, F. W. Mitchell, G. Philip, A. J. Easton, J. C. Nicholson, T. Thomas, &c.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The report and accounts were submitted as follows :—

The Committee are pleased to be able to record the continued prosperity of the Nippon Race Club; the Honorary Treasurer's account showing a surplus of yen 7,947.09 as compared with yen 5,187.46 at the end of last year, and this in spite of very heavy expenses in connection with the Grand Stand, &c.

Judging by the accounts for the past three years, the financial position of the Club is assured; your Committee therefore suggest that their successors endeavour to reduce the expenses to owners, which are now very heavy.

Registration of the Club is being attended to, when completed the properties of the Club will be transferred to the Nippon Race Club.

Owing to the impossibility of obtaining Country bred horses suitable for racing purposes, the Australian market was tried, the result being the purchase of 30 animals that arrived during September, and an order for 20 more to reach this by March 4th.

The first batch gave satisfactory racing at the Autumn Meeting.

It is proposed to order a lot of China ponies from Hongkong, provided obtainable after the races at the port.

In accordance with Rule 4 the Executive Committee now retire.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Yokohama, December 19th, 1899.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HON. TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1899.

Dr.	Yen.
To Rent of Race-course for 1899	750
„ Fire Insurance on Grand Stand Stables, &c. (*yen* 9.000) for one year, to 20th Nov., 1900.....	110
„ Fire Insurance on Grand Stand for one year, to 25th February, 1900 (4,000)	40
„ Momban's Wages, keeping of the Course, &c.....	798.58
„ Rebuilding Grand Stand	4,149
„ Repairs to Fences, roads, &c.	331.18
„ New Stables and repairs	912.97
„ Expenses in connection with Meetings	916.44
„ Printing, including Race Books, Advertising and Stationery.....	859.73
„ Cost of China Ponies, Spring Meeting	2,160.03
„ Cost of 10 China Ponies, Autumn Meeting	2,116.86
„ Cost of 30 Australian Horses, Autumn Meeting	9,369.37
„ Prizes, Spring Meeting	6,845
„ „ Autumn Meeting	7,225
„ Secretary's Salary for year	300
„ Collector's „ „	100
„ Half Forfeits returned Autumn Meeting	85
„ Interest on Current Account (Hongkong and Shanghai Bank) 1899.....	10.63
„ Telegrams to Singapore ordering 20 Australian Horses of Spring, 1900...	38.76
„ Fixed Deposit (Hongkong and Shanghai Bank) 1,500 00	
Credit Balance *6,547 09	
	7,947.09
	45,065.64

Cr.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward	5,186.46
„ Members' Subscriptions	3,622
„ Entries, Spring Meeting	3,170
„ " Autumn Meeting	2,930
„ Rent of Stalls, and Jockey's Licences, Spring Meeting.....	780
„ Do., Autumn Meeting	848
„ Gate Money and Sale of Race Books, &c., Spring Meeting	7,598.82
„ Do., Autumn Meeting	6,878.69
„ Rent of Refreshment Room, Spring and Autumn	100
„ Registration of Names and Colours...	13
„ Interest on *yen* 1,500 at 5 per cent. Fixed Deposit (H. K. & S. B.) for the year 1898	75
„ Interest on *yen* 1,500 at 5 per cent. Fixed Deposit (H. K. & S. B.) for the year 1899	75
„ Interest on Current Account with H. K. & S. B. to 31st December, 1898	62.33
„ Interest on Current Account with H. K. & S. B. to 30th June, 1899	54.08
" Received for 10 China Ponies, Spring Meeting	2,160.03
„ Received for 10 China Ponies, Autumn Meeting	2,116.86
„ Received for 30 Australian Horses...	9,369.37
„ Mr. Blum's contribution towards boy who was hurt Autumn Meeting, 1898	25
	45,065.64

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 19th Dec., 1899.

GEO. PHILIP, Hon. Treasurer.

Subscriptions and Vouchers examined with the books and found correct.

S. WARMING.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that he was very glad to be able to congratulate the Club on the very great improvement revealed in the balance sheet. Last year they had a balance of a few dollars more than 5,000 *yen*; this year they had one of a few less than 8,000 *yen*—and this in spite of very great expenses, including the erection of a new story on the grand stand, and, he believed also, an extension to the stables (A MEMBER : Twenty new stables) and a piece of land. He thought they ought to express the gratitude of the Club for the continued patronage which it enjoyed from His Imperial Majesty. The Emperor had graciously favoured them with his presence at the Spring Meeting, and he (Sir Ernest) believed that he would have been quite ready to appear at the Autumn Meeting but that Parliamentary duties interfered with his coming down to Yokohama. His Majesty was good enough to present them with an exceedingly handsome prize to be run for. He (Sir Ernest) had noticed that that prize, which had been received year after-year, had always fallen into the hands of Japanese sportsmen. He had nothing of course to say against that except that he wished some day a foreign owner would succeed in carrying it off. He felt towards the Emperor's Cup very much as the English all did with regard to the Cup which had been carried away from England 50 years ago, and which no English yacht had so far been able to recapture. Some day he hoped the Emperor's prize would come to an Englishman or at any rate to a foreigner.

Mr. NICHOLSON, interposing, remarked that he had won the prize several times.

Sir ERNEST : Not lately?

Mr. NICHOLSON : Yes, within the last year or year and a half.

The CHAIRMAN proceeded to say that he had on behalf of the Club extended an invitation to the Crown Prince, but as His Imperial Highness was at the time of the last meeting staying in the neighbourhood of Kobe he was unable to come. They might, however, hope that if the weather was good he would be present at the next Spring Meeting (hear, hear.) It was a very satisfactory thing to know that the Emperor and the heir to the Throne took so great an interest in horses and the noble sport of horse racing. Sir Ernest Satow went on to recall the early racing days, speaking of Dr. Wheeler's Typhoon, the winner of 27 races, and then referred to the importation of Australian horses, which had been the means of furnishing good sport, and had been a sufficient success to encourage the Committee to extend their operations. They expected to receive 20 more horses from Australia by early in March. The Committee had secured these at extremely reasonable rates. Having remarked that the list of the Permanent Committee was wanting in two names—those of Governor Asada and Mr. Rinouye, who had been elected last year—the Chairman said he had to express regret at losing their valued colleague Mr. W. B. Walter, who was leaving Japan shortly and had therefore resigned. This was not the last occasion on which notice would be taken of his departure, and therefore he (Sir Ernest) would not anticipate what would be expressed at a future juncture.

On the proposition of Mr. BENNETT, seconded by Mr. STIRLING, the report and accounts were passed.

A SUGGESTION.

Mr. TILL called attention to the fact that Mr. M. Kirkwood had kindly suggested to the Committee a scheme for providing a regular supply of country bred horses. Mr. Kirkwood had lately visited most of the breeding farms and also the remount depots in the North of Japan and in China, and, with the interests of the Club in view, he had arrived at the conclusion that the only way to obtain a regular supply of half-breds would be by entering into a contract with a reliable Japanese breeder. He mentioned the name of Mr. Sonoda, President of the Marine Insurance Company, &c., &c., who had a horse-breeding establishment not far from Hakodate. Mr. Kirkwood made the following suggestions :

I would suggest that the Club offers to Mr. Sonoda through his Manager Mr. Take a contract somewhat as follows :—

1. Mr. Sonoda to deliver to the Nippon Race Club at Yokohama in August, 1901, 20 horses

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(not mares) suitable for racing purposes. The age to be not less than full three or more than full five years, and to average less than, say, about 42 months.

2. The horses to be half-bred, three-quarter-bred, and seven-eighth-bred, but to average about three-quarter-bred.

3. The price to be either 250 *yen* for each horse plus reasonable charges of shipping, &c., from Hakodate to Yokohama, or 270 *yen* for each horse delivered in Yokohama. The risk of transit until delivery in Yokokama to be the seller's.

4. The Club to undertake to take further lots of 20 (?) in February and August of each year so long as the animals supplied give satisfaction, and Mr. Sonoda undertake to supply them.

5. It is the object of the Club to improve in this way the breed of horses in Japan, and in furtherance of this object Mr. Sonoda, apart from the terms of this contract, agrees to render the Club every assistance in his power to promote the Club's interests.

Mr. Till remarked that the date for the first arrivals was somewhat distant, and the outgoing Committee did not feel justified in entering into any such contract unless they knew that they had the meeting at their back. The incoming committee would like to have some guidance in the matter.

Mr. Bennett remarked that there were three great objections to the proposal. The first was the time for first arrivals was too far distant. The second was the disparity of age, for no weight could make matters equal between three years and five years. The third was that there could be no even racing betweens half-breds three-quarter-breds, and seven-eighth breds.

Mr. Till (after a pause): If nothing is said on the other side I think Mr. Bennett has expressed the feeling of the meeting.

The Chairman: Does Mr. Kirkwood's letter demand a reply?

Mr. Till: Yes, I think it does.

The Chairman suggested that Mr. Bennett should embody his views in a definite motion.

This was done, and the motion was put and carried.

Mr. Till proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Kirkwood for the trouble he had taken. He had made his enquiries prior to the arrival of the Australians, at a time when the club was really very hard up for racing material, and the Club was indebted to Mr. Kirkwood for the trouble he had taken.

These remarks were generally endorsed.

On the motion of Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Philip, the Committee were asked to pay particular attention to the paragraph in the report referring to the expenses of owners.

COMMITTEE.

The ballotting for the Executive Committee resulted in the following being elected:—Messrs. K. Mori, W. W. Till, T. Thomas, A. J. Easton, G. Philip, and J. C. Nicholson.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Thomas.

PEKING.

(From our Correspondent.)

The new Japanese Minister has arrived, the British Minister has returned from abroad, and the American Minister has returned from the south. The whole staff of diplomats is ready for the winter's shut-in and for every emergency that may arise. At present everything is quiet. A month and more ago the main excitement was over the alliance of China and Japan and the acceptance by the Chinese Foreign Office of a Japanese Adviser. The latter part has failed, and probably nothing will result to the former idea. The closer relation of the two countries would mean benefit to China in ways of reform, but when there is included the idea of combining against the Occident—the yellow race against the white—the proposition is viewed with disfavour by the other nations. In all probability Japan must take her place along with Western nations without securing any special privileges for herself and without promising any special aid to China against the rest of the world.

After the excitement over Japan came excitement over France. A peaceable result came sooner than was expected. The Chinese simply yielded. Though the French rushed in before definite arrangements had been made with the Chinese, it seemed useless for China to resist the demands of France, and so at once came peace. The French now have a port and islands of their own in Canton province to offset the British. This fact made the Chinese more pliable.

The desire and demand of Italy to have a port still meets with resistance from China. In fact China has yielded to too many countries already. The way China has been called upon to give away her leading coast defences, suitable ports, and adjoining islands not only shows how weak she is, but how ravenous and inconsiderate are others.

The United States has come to the front in securing for the China Development Company the final papers for building the railroad from Hankow to Canton. The preliminary document had been agreed upon some months ago. There was delay over the point as to whether the Company should also be granted mining privileges along the line of the rail-road. This last has been arranged by granting what the American Company asked for.

The other matter in which Americans have been interested is that of education. The establishment of the Imperial University last year was largely brought about by the aid of Rev. Dr. Martin. He was afterwards chosen by the Throne to be President of the Faculty. The institution has been going on for now nearly a year. For a time it seemed as if the opposition to Western methods would lead to the closing up of this University, but the Empress Dowager is disposed to follow out the edict issued by the Emperor last year that there should be a trial of three years. The main fact that the University is permitted is a sign of encouragement. The number of students is however, only about 200, and mostly in primary branches. The Faculty has moreover been far from harmonious, which weakens the power of Western education. Besides the University, an American, Dr. Gilbert Reid, has been seeking to establish an International Institute, in which all countries shall take part. The plan was sanctioned by the Tsung-li Yamen over two years ago. Since then the scheme has been presented to different countries for support and after favourable response it is again presented to the Tsung-li Yamen to be memorialized upon to the Throne. If such further sanction is secured, the scheme will then be initiated as an Imperial Institute for China.

An important appointment is that of Li Hung-chang as special Minister of Commerce to visit the ports with the view of increasing the tariff and so increasing the revenue. The tour of the ports will probably not be made till next spring, and when completed Li will probably reside in Peking as head of a new Bureau of Commerce. This gives the old statesman an occupation, but the essential thing will be more revenue for the bankrupt government.

Sheng, as Director of the Railways in the South, has been detained in Peking for a much longer time than was first planned. He had to expend large sums in order that he might be properly received, and partly from this and partly from his keen insight his views of progress have been acceptable to the Empress-Dowager. He has hence been retained to consult with the Tsung-li Yamen and the Foreign Ministers as to ways and means for increasing the Central Treasury. His plan is much like the idea in appointing Li Hung-chang, namely, to raise the tariff. The one perplexing problem is how to secure money for Peking with the Customs revenue meeting the interest on loans to pay Japan.

Dec. 3rd, 1899.

Japanese and foreign householders in Yokohama are shortly to be informed by the police that they must thoroughly clean their lavatories, compounds, and drains, which will afterwards be inspected by the authorities.

BUSINESS NOTES.

The output of flannel in Kishiu this year amounted to 1,100,000 *tan*, valued at 3,310,000 yen. Compared with ordinary years this is an increase of about ten per cent.

According to investigations made by the Otaru Fishing Corporation, the herrings caught throughout Hokkaido this year amounted to 719,500 *koku*, valued at 6,345,520 *yen*. Compared with the previous year this is an increase of 20,324 *koku* and 215,257 *yen* is noticeable.

The *Nichi Nichi* is surprised at the increasing imports of Chinese silk delivered at Kobe, no steamer arriving in the port without some quantity of the staple. Below are the figures for the week ending 14th instant:—Raw silk, 28,275 catties; waste silk, 10,200 catties; manufactured silk, 1,213 catties.

The tea market of Japan seems to have been considerably affected this year by the existence of old stocks remaining in various parts of America, in consequence of which quotations have fallen to no small extent. The output in Japan shows an increase of 550,000 catties, but a decrease in value of 428,450 *yen*. From these figures it may be inferred that the tea trade for this year has been far from satisfactory.

The *Shogyo* publishes a telegram from New York to the effect that the Exchange Trust Company in that City has become bankrupt, causing a serious depreciation in cotton. Our contemporary adds that the Company referred to has hitherto been maintained with a capital of 5 million dollars, its chief business being in cotton. The cause of insolvency seems to be the tightness of the money market in London.

A scheme for the amalgamation of the Asahi Spinning Factory in Osaka with the Temma and Meiji factories has been accepted in principle by the shareholders and will take practical effect early next year. During the interval the Asahi Factory has arranged to carry on its business under the altered name of the Osaka Union Spinning Corporation. The new concern is to be maintained with an increased capital of one and a half million *yen*.

At the end of last year a rumour was in circulation pointing to the probable establishment of a Japan-China Bank, but nothing definite came of it. Lately, however, the question has again been brought upon the tapis through agitation on the part of a few leading merchants of Tokyo and Osaka. A certain Chinese capitalist has agreed to be one of the promoters. The object is to acquire special privileges from the Chinese Government for the issue of convertible notes to facilitate the circulation of money in China.

Investigations completed by the Fishing Corporation in Hokkaido and published in the *Nippon* show the total capture of herrings this year to have amounted to 719,500 *koku*, valued at 6,345,500 *yen*. Compared with the previous year this is an increase of 20,324 *koku* in weight and of 215,257 *yen*. As to herring fertilizers the figures stand at 521,243 *koku*, worth 4,642,290 *yen*, while the amount of pickled herrings is said to have reached 124,613 *koku*, valued at 982,088 *yen*, the corresponding figures for dried herrings being 56,818 *koku* and 69,252 *yen*.

The *Osaka Asahi* publishes statistics relating to the various prisons in Osaka. The aggregate total of prisoners in that city up to the 19th instant was, according to its calculation, only 3,266, of whom 501 were detained on criminal charges and 2,650 as ordinary prisoners. The total compared with the corresponding period of last year, shows a decrease of 1,083 in all. The number of prisoners in the branch penitentiary in Sakai for the period above mentioned totalled 366, an increase of 12 as compared with the previous year.

It is rumoured, says the *Yomiuri*, that the Government will shortly submit to the Diet a

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bill for altering the Shooting Law in the sense of increasing 1st class licenses from 10 *yen* to 20 *yen* and decreasing those of the 2nd class from 3 to 2 *yen*. In the former case the present provisions relating to the payment of over 15 *yen* in income tax or of 200 *yen* in land tax are to be simplified in such a way as to include persons paying direct national taxes, whereas in the latter case the restriction refers only to persons who are not paying that form of tax. As to the limits of shooting, the amended regulations will enable any person to establish exclusive rights of shooting provided he pays an annual tax of 20 *yen* for every 50 *cho* of land preserved.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha is said to have determined to increase its capital from 5½ million *yen* to 15 millions for the purpose of extending its service in all directions. The tonnage is also to be augmented to 80,000 tons. Of the increased amount of capital 2½ millions are to be appropriated for extension of the service to the Yangtszekiang; 1,700,000 *yen* for making arrangements connected with landing places; 1,700,000 *yen* for extending lines to Southern China; and 2 millions for a similar purpose in respect to North China, Korea, and inland seas. Should any deficiency arise in carrying out the above programme, the reserve funds for four periods amounting to over 900,000 *yen* are to be appropriated. The Company seems to have obtained the approval of the Communications Department with regard to a Government subsidy for the projects on hand. The *Jimmin* is responsible for the above statement.

The *Shogyo* is surprised at the extraordinary increment of freight carried by Government railways. During the month of November the aggregate of goods transported amounted to no less than 201,000 tons, while the receipts did not fall short of 374,000 *yen*. Below are comparative figures for the past eight years as investigated by the Railway Works Bureau:—

Year.	Goods vans in operation.	Traffic mileage. Miles.	Average per car per day. Yen.
1894	1,629	557	2
1895	1,798	564	2 43
1896	1 923	581	2·75
1897	2,014	613	2 23
1898	2,548	691	2 99
1899 (from Jan. to Oct.)	2,600	751	4 49
1899 (November)	2,600	754	4 81

At the beginning of the present month the average daily tonnage amounted to 6,400 tons, the receipts being 12,000 *yen*.

A general meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Electric Light Company has been held with regard to the embezzlement committed by an ex-accountant, Hayashi. Mr. Nakano stated that as the incident was attributable to want of proper control on the part of the principal officials, the loss thus caused to the company would be borne by the latter. The accounts were as follows:—

	Yen.
Brought over from last year	2,300
Profits	92,920
Total	95,220

Distributed as follows:—

For reserve (5 per cent. of profits)	4,647
For equalization of dividends	87,800

A dividend was declared at the rate of 8 per cent. on the total paid up capital of 2,375,000 *yen*. The balance carried over to the 2nd term was 3,075 *yen*.

The same paper states that, with regard to the four important questions of the day, namely, nationalisation of railways, alteration of election laws, foreign ownership of land, and mining privileges to foreigners, the following resolutions have been passed by the Economic Investigation Society:—That in the opinion of the Society measures should at once be taken to purchase the four lines owned by the Coal Mining, the Kobu, Kyoto, and Nishinari Railway Companies, by the issue of public bonds at 5 per cent. interest with a short period of redemption. That the electoral representation of commercial and industrial interests should be increased. That the remaining two questions should be dealt with in the spirit of opening the country to foreigners. A representation conveying the sense of these resolutions is shortly to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

The Hagoromo Theatre, one of the three Theatres destroyed by the great fire in Theatre-street, will be opened on January 1st. The Theatre has seating for 1,600, and cost *yen* 25,000 to rebuild.

Commenting on the deep sea fishing industry as now carried on, the *Nippon* says that imperfection in the construction of fishing smacks and defects in the process of fishing and want of enterprise in securing markets, are chiefly, if not entirely, the causes of failure, and in consequence advantages that might otherwise have been won by Japanese in the Pacific or in the Japan Sea have in most cases been obtained by foreigners. Owing to these circumstances a society for encouraging deep sea fishing was some time ago organised by persons interested in marine enterprises. The aims of the society are as follows:—1. Development and improvement of deep sea fishing; 2. Exploration of fishing places; 3. Radical reform in methods of fishing; 4. Discipline on board fishing craft; 5. Securing of markets; 6. Investigation of methods adopted in Europe and America. The Society's offices are in Kayaba-cho, Tokyo, and Mr. Murata Tamotsu is the President. A representation is shortly to be forwarded to the Diet urging the necessity of introducing radical changes in the present system of deep sea fishing.

With respect to Mr. Taketomi's statement in the Diet that the increased system of taxation has had the effect of depreciating the value of land throughout the empire to the extent of from 20 to 30 per cent., a certain financier says that the attempt frequently made by men of Mr. Taketomi's class to formulate statistics in such a way as to mislead the public is no matter of wonder. But what is wonderful is Mr. Taketomi's utter ignorance of economy, which manifests itself in his assertion that the national property has diminished in value by 150 million *yen* through the increased taxation. Where did he find the basis for such a calculation? Elaborate investigation has already proved the appreciation of land in some parts of the country since the operation of the revised system of taxation, although it is not to be denied that more or less depreciation has taken place in other parts. Yet the depreciation in question is attributable not so much to the altered system of taxation as to various economic stresses through which the agricultural industry has passed. The reassessment of the value of land having been effected on the basis of a reduction after the expiration of five years, the land is in no way affected by the system now in operation.

The manufacture of clocks in Japan has now entered upon a stage of prosperity, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*. The output has not only proved sufficient to supply the demand in the interior, but a large number are exported to China, India, Siberia, and the various islands in the South Pacific. As a natural consequence of this, however, competition has arisen between the manufacturers to such an extent as to bring about serious losses. To obviate this difficulty the leading clock companies in Osaka, fifteen in all, recently formed an union, and determined to carry out an arrangement from the beginning of next year, according to which clocks are divided into several classes, with fixed minimum value, spurious manufacture is prohibited, and offenders are subjected to a penalty of not less than one thousand *yen*. The offices of the Union are to be established at Nagoya, while the expenses of its maintenance are to be met by a contribution of one *sen* for each clock manufactured.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

Amounts received by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, on account of the Lord Mayor's fund for the widows and orphans of the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces, who may lose their lives from the war in South Africa:—

		Yen.
Sums previously acknowledged		5,030
Lane, Crawford & Co.		250
David Jackson		250
Jno. W. Hall		100
A. J. Lines		100
Maurice Russell		100
A. W. Thompson		100
J. D. Hutchison		100
Thos. B. Glover		100
J. C. Nicholson		100
A. B. Walford		100
H. S. Bickerton Brindley		100
J. M. James		100
Through Wright's Hotel—		
W. N. Wright	30	
P. Joss	20	
H. S. Smith	15	65
H. W. Buckland		50
J. C Hartland		50
W. B. Mason		50
J. H. Brooke		50
F. S. James		50
P. S. Bent		25
D. Macdonald		25
J. H. Curtis		25
A. J. Easton		25
H. M.		20
V. H.		20
D. Marshall		10
W. F.		10
A. R. Firth		10
E. F. Crowe		10
E. V. Thorn		10
Jmi		5
O. C. G. D.		4
Bowden Bros. Co., Limited		250
W. Sutter		250
Alex. Clark		100
Nemo		100
V. R. Bowden		75
L. D. O. S.		73 45
Mrs. V. R. Bowden		25
C. K. Harrington		25
Frank P. Solomon		25
H. J. Owen		25
Frank H. Bull		25
Alfred D. Charlton		15
I. S. M.		5
C. Ellis		5
Tom. Thomas		100
C. B. Bernard		50
G. W. Rogers		50
R. Howie		50
F.		50
Jas. W.		25
"Christmas Eve"		20
G. W. Conner		20
N. A. Walter		15
The Members of St. Andrew's House, Tokyo		15
F. G. Woodruff		15
W. Frank Madeley		10
A German Cousin		10
T. Herlihy		10
J. U. M. P.		8
Mr. and Mrs. Gauntlett		5
W. Oliver Hall		5
"Pyramids"		4
D. Jee		1
		Yen 8,505.45
		£10:10:0
Demand remittance @ 2/-½ of £344.11/6.		
Q.		£25
Revd. A. Lloyd		10

JUSTICE IN KOREA.

The *Korean Independent* says that three months ago the Chief Commissioner of Police, Kim Yung Chun, arrested a man named Yi Hwai Wan, because he, having lent money to some of the officials, would not do the same for the Commissioner when called upon to loan him $16,000, so that he might present a daily allowance to the Emperor, at least so says report. He was put into prison and has been allowed to remain there ever since, on the trumped-up charges of having helped the political refugees and being a member of the

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Independence Club, both of which charges are absolutely false. They have even gone farther than this, and declared that foreigners have been bribed to intimidate officials in their dealings with Korean subjects. The excuse given why Mr. Yi has not yet been tried, is that his accomplices have not yet been arrested. Even if he were guilty and there were accomplices, that is no reason why one man should have to linger in a Korean prison for three months, or years, until the supposed accomplices are arrested.

One of Mr. Yi's friends, who acted as middleman in the affair, was also arrested at the same time, and imprisoned for twenty days, but after having shown that it was impossible to obtain the money if they were both detained, he was released, in the hope that the money would be forthcoming, which, however, was not the case.

Having heard the facts of the case, we ourselves interviewed the Chief Commissioner of Police to see if we could prevail on him to do anything in the cause of truth and justice: he was obdurate; and stated that he had full proof of Mr. Yi's guilt. If this is so, why does he not have him brought to trial? But no; instead of this, the son of Mr. Yi has been arrested and sent to keep his father company.

It is by such tricks as this that the Koreans are induced to become loyal, patriotic citizens! The sooner the perpetrators of such behaviour are dismissed the better.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A great deal of Borneo timber is being shipped to Manila for U.S. Government purposes.

The constables who arrested Kent, the suspected American forger, were rewarded on Christmas Day by the Governor of this Ken.

The Filipinos continue to attack the commissary trains between Dagupan and Manila, and occasionally pick up American provisions, clothing, and stores.

A telegram has been received by the Agents of the Nord d. Lloyd, Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf., that the wife of the Director General, Dr. Wiegand, has died at Bremen.

The official transfer of the Caroline Islands to Germany took place on the 15th October, the flag-transfer ceremony occurring at Ponapé. The new German garrison marched in and the the Spanish troops marched out.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain sent a sympathetic telegram to Lady Mitchell, expressing the deep regret of Her Majesty's Government at the death of her husband, Sir Charles Mitchell. Sir Alexander Swettenham will administer the Government of the Straits Settlements.

It is reported that the Spanish Government has agreed to sell the gunboats *Quiros* and *Villalobos* to the U.S. Government. Both vessels were built for service in the Pacific and are of a similiar class to the gunboat *Samar*. These little gunboats were built by the Hongkong Dock Company shortly before the war with Spain

The Christmas Eve service at the Public Hall was of a bright and interesting character, and attracted a large congregation. The anthem and other musical portions of the service were sympathetically rendered, while the old Christmas carols sung at the close proved very charming with their wealth of English associations and old-time suggestions.

According to the revised law of election, as submitted to the Diet, the qualification of electors is to be reduced to the payment of over five *yen* in land tax, or over three *yen* in direct national tax apart from the same, or over five *yen* in both. Should the new system be carried into effect, the figures in the different classes will be as follows:—Payers of over five *yen* in land tax, 1,691,409; payers of over five *yen* in land tax and other direct national taxes, 143,142; total 1,835,251. Those paying over three *yen* in direct national taxes apart from the land tax number 539,357, so that the grand total will be no less than 2,374,608.

The Bishop of London has given notice to the Rev. L. S. Wainwright, vicar of St. Peter's, London Docks, and the Rev. H. Wilson, vicar of St. Augustine's, Stepney, that they must forthwith abandon the use of incense and portable lights. The two clergymen have replied that they cannot, and that they are supported by their congregations. The Bishop has informed them that he will suspend them for two years, and appoint incumbents in their places.

A Paris correspondent writes:—"It is stated here that the East Siberian Metallurgical Works, a creation of the now bankrupt Moscow millionaire, Mansontow, has entered into negotiations with the Creusot Works with a view of selling the establishments in Siberia. The offers are reported to be favourably progressing; so that the most important metallurgical concern of France may soon be in possession of one of the biggest similar concerns in Russia."

A Japanese carpenter, an employé of the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway Co., was murdered by a coolie belonging to the same Company at Chemulpo on Friday, the 8th inst. The body was found by a Japanese policeman about eight o'clock in the evening. Upon examination it was found that the man had been wounded in six distinct places: back, ear, eye, nose, and cheeks. It is supposed that robbery was the motive, as the man was known to have a watch and chain and about $30, which he had lately drawn as wages. The murderer was arrested.

At 4 p.m. on the 23rd instant, Fukui Prefecture was visited by a strong southerly gale, accompanied by heavy rain. Much damage was done to houses in the town. Nagai and neighbouring districts were swept by a strong hurricane and heavy snow, which destroyed 16 houses in the town. Seven houses were demolished in Narita and 12 in Nishine, where one man was killed and another slightly injured. Innumerable trees, fences, and walls were blown down. Reports of a similar nature came from Takada in Iwashiro.

A short time ago certain American newspapers were inspired to publish long articles attacking the stability of the cruiser *New Orleans*, built by Messrs. Armstrong, and purchased by the United States Government on the outbreak of the Spanish War. It was stated that it would be criminal to send the vessel to sea, as in her present condition she was liable to "turn turtle," unless extreme caution were exercised. In view of these statements it is interesting to note that the *New Orleans*, recently *en route* to Manila, gained a day on the *Brooklyn*, also then on the way thither, which is regarded as the smartest cruiser in the Navy. Impartial naval officers say that the *New Orleans* has thus far made a better record that the *Brooklyn*, which proves that the attacks on the vessel's stability were a malicious attempt to discredit English builders.

The fact that Dr. Yersin's serum has proved remarkably efficacious in the treatment of patients suffering from pest is now universally acknowledged. His method of treatment was adopted in Oporto where the fearful malady recently made its appearance, and it is said that the measure proved eminently successful. The serum recently procured by M. Harmand, the French Minister in Tokyo, is said to have been prepared by Dr. Yersin in person at the Pasteur Lymph Institute in Annam. There, under the superintendence of Dr. Yersin, serum for pest is prepared, and also the serum to be used for patients and domestic animals suffering from other contagious diseases. A similar institute has also been organised in some parts of India and China for the purpose of investigating the nature of certain diseases. It is reported that the anti-toxin serum has been effectually used for the relief of sufferers from rabies, diphtheria, small pox, and snake bites, and that patients are now crowding to the Yersin hospital from all parts of China, Indo-China, Siam, and India.

The colossal statue of Cromwell, by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft, which has been erected on the lawn before the west front of Westminster Hall, was unveiled on 14th November without any formal ceremony. In the evening a crowded meeting in celebration of the tercentenary of Cromwell's birth was held in the Queen's Hall. Lord Welby presided, and Lord Rosebery delivered an address, in which he cited the testimonies of Macaulay, Mr. S. R. Gardiner, and Southey to Cromwell's greatness as a man and a prince. He himself regarded Cromwell from three points of view. He was a great soldier, a great ruler, and a great upholder of British power and influence abroad. Then he was the first ruler who really understood practical toleration, and he was—not, indeed, by title, but in essence—a defender of the faith. The secret of Cromwell's greatness was that he was a practical mystic—the most formidable and terrible of all combinations. If he had been, as some believed, a hypocrite, he could not have wielded the enormous force he did wield.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The natives of Cebu have been telling the U.S. soldiers snake stories. They say the forests are full of serpentine monsters 75 feet long, and with a diameter of three feet!

It was announced on the New York Cotton Exchange in November that the average estimate of 150 members of the exchange placed the present cotton crop at 9,613,000 bales.

The British steamer *Ping Suey* has been chartered to take 40,000 quarters of grain from Philadelphia to Rotterdam. This is believed to be the largest cargo of grain every carried by a single vessel from the States.

Six persons were killed and about as many more injured in a railroad wreck on the Delaware & Lackawanna, at a crossing at Paterson, N. J., on Nov. 29. The Phillipsburg accommodation, west-bound, crashed into the rear of the Buffalo express, known as No. 6, while the latter was standing at the depot. The two rear cars of the express were totally wrecked. The list of dead included Mrs. Mary Rice and her two daughters, of Ithaca; Walter Wellbrock, Cornell College, Ithaca; Miller Craig, New York; and an unknown woman.

A Pittsburg telegram dated Nov. 15th says—In half an hour to-day Mr. Andrew Carnegie listened to and approved the plans for a library building that will make Pittsburg famous the world over—a building unequalled in any land. At the close of their interview Mr. Carnegie told Mr. W. N. Frew, chairman of the board of trustees of the Carnegie Institute, that $1,750,000 was at the disposal of the managers to be used in enlarging the buildings and to proceed with the work. The Institute is to be made three and one-half times the size of the present building. Under the one roof will be found departments devoted to science, music, art and literature. It will be the only institution of the kind in the world.—*Chicago Record.*

The "jubilee" convention of that rapidly growing body of Christians known as the "Disciples of Christ" was held in Cincinnati in the latter part of October. The city was thronged with visitors. The great communion service was particularly impressive, and was said by Dr. Clark, president of the Christian Endeavour Society, to be the largest he had ever attended. The reports showed gains from all quarters both as to membership and practical church equipment. The Disciples now number almost 1,200,000 communicants, and the value of their church property is in excess of $18,000,000. The rate of increase in membership is twice the rate of increase of population in the United States.

The case of Dr. McGiffert, which was refer-

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red back for decision to the New York Presbytery by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church last spring, is still causing embarrassment. Dr. McGiffert was asked by the Presbytery to withdraw quietly from the Presbyterian ministry, but this he has been unwilling to do. He is said to have met the committee in the frank and kind spirit which characterized his letter to the Assembly, but on each occasion he has asserted that his utterances have been misunderstood and that they do not constitute heresy, as has been charged. The general opinion is that the Presbytery will refer the case back to the General Assembly which meets next May at St. Louis, and that that body will order a trial for heresy.

The testimony taken in Chicago the other day by the New York State Investigating Commission as to the reasons for the decline in the commerce of New York brought out the opinion of the Chicago grain dealers that the deepening of the Erie canal is the only remedy for New York's falling commerce. B. L. Fairchild, counsel for the commission, said:—"The investigation has shown that Chicago has been assisted in winning back commerce by the new canals on the St. Lawrence. What is gained by the Canadian route is lost to New York. It is the opinion of leading grain merchants of Chicago that the only salvation for New York is the enlargement of the Erie canal to give transportation for large vessels to New York." Mr. Fairchild estimated the cost of the enlargement at $25,000,000. This would give twelve feet of water, admitting craft carrying 25,000 bushels of grain.

Last year Mr. Secretary Wilson sent to Japan for ten tons of rice seed of the best quality, which is supposed to be the finest in the world. This seed was distributed among the rice-growers of the Southern states free of charge, particularly Louisiana, South Carolina, and Georgia. The first crop in Louisiana has been harvested and the berry from the Japanese seed is superior to any that has ever been produced there. Samples were received at the Agricultural Department for comparison with that grown from the ordinary American seed. The yield is not only much larger, but in thrashing it is found that the Japanese rice turns out much better and the waste by cracking was only 17 per cent. in Louisiana. Secretary Wilson is much gratified at the result of the experiment, and expects that the ordinary American rice will be entirely supplanted by the Japanese variety. The planters in Louisiana are so well satisfied that one of them has already sent to Japan for ten tons of seed on his own account. —*Record.*

As the smoke of battle clears from the field of State politics, remarked the *Literary Digest* of Nov. 25, the significance of the municipal elections in several of our large cities becomes more apparent. Philadelphia has attracted the most attention, where alleged gigantic election frauds, perpetrated by the Republican machine, have been exposed by *The North American* (owned by John Wanamaker, Postmaster-General in President Harrison's Cabinet) and *The Press* (owned by Charles Emory Smith, the present Postmaster-General). Tammany's sweeping victory in New York City has called out the usual amount of moralizing, and the defeat of the reform element in New Orleans by what *The Times Democrat* calls "the ring" has elicited not a little comment. These are offset in some degree by the inauguration as Mayor of Baltimore of Thomas S. Hayes, who has made a declaration of independence from the politicians; and by the result in San Francisco, where Mayor Phelan, who is credited with an excellent record, was reelected. An illustration of the diversity of our political currents is afforded by the city of Ansonia, Conn., which elected its new mayor, Lockwood Hotchkiss, Jr., solely, it is said, on his record as hero of the wreck of the *Nutmeg State*, a Sound steamer which burned just before the campaign began.

FRENCH POLICY IN CHINA AND ELSEWHERE.

The American papers give the following brief summary of M. Delcassé's important speech on French policy in China, delivered in the Chamber of Deputies on Nov. 24th:—

Turning to the situation in China and the recent incidents in Kwang-chau-wan, the Minister reviewed the concessions obtained by other nations and said France's share had been inferior to Great Britain's. He continued: "We took what we thought to be the most convenient spot. But we must husband our resources, for efforts in our vital interests may render it necessary. Our immense empire and frontier in China ought to keep us from impatient enterprises which might cost us dearly. The partition of China is not imminent. Russia has reached Pechili because she has not met with great resistance. Our zone of influence lies beyond Tonkin. The point in dispute is in a poor province, but what is important to us is that China has undertaken not to yield the neighbouring provinces to the influence of any one power. We must seek to maintain the open door."

The Minister's declaration of the general policy of France is also interesting as indicating that the wild utterances of the French press for war had no responsive action in the minds of France's responsible statesmen:—

Touching upon lingering newspaper strictures as to the Fasoda settlement, the Minister remarked: "Some papers make it a business of dwelling on national humiliation. The Government took a decision which it was quite justified in doing, and a subsequent treaty gave France vast territory and consolidated our African empire. The Government's adversaries wish France to be powerful in Europe and insist that she ought to intervene everywhere. They unceasingly demand territorial aggrandizement, as if we did not already have an immense colonial empire to develop. We shall consult the country's interest and not seek doubtful popularity. When the Government considers where our vital interests lie and the fact that the population of France increases but little, it comes to the conclusion that it ought rather to devote its efforts to maintain what is acquired rather than seek aggrandizement." The speaker than denounced "those unscrupulous politicians who exploit the noble sentiments of the country in order to excite public opinion against the Government." He recalled the fact that Germany, on the morrow of her victories, was obliged to seek an alliance, and said: "The Franco Russian alliance, opposed to the Dreibund, has been drawn closer, and this alliance, which guarantees peace at present, admits of far reaching projects in the future and ought to encourage us to persevere in the existing line of policy." Alluding to the commercial agreement with the United States, M. Delcasse said: "We have concluded with the United States a commercial agreement, and when the matter is discussed we shall have little difficulty in showing that we have scrupulously safeguarded the interests of our agriculture. This agreement will give fresh impetus to the commerce of the two peoples, who are united by history and similarity of political institutions and can never cease to be so, save by a misunderstanding of their evident interests. It is by endeavouring to smooth difficulties, by conciliating interests and by suppressing as far as possible the sources of conflict that we have obtained the friendship of some and certainly the esteem of all. I am aware that some journals urge an opposite—the policy of shaking the fist at all the world, a policy which implies stupefying ignorance or the shameless exploitation of the noblest sentiments. Who does not see what risks to dignity and safety our country would run by such an attitude? But you will never tolerate such a policy. Bluster does not mean strength."

M. Delcassé's speech is said to have made an excellent impression in the lobbies, and was expected to have a good effect abroad. The entire Chamber, with the exception of the "Nationalists" and anti Semites, applauded.

THE MODDER RIVER FIGHT.

(FROM THE "TIMES OF CEYLON.")

London Dec. 4.

Two accounts have now arrived, which help to resolve the doubts entertained on receipt of the first news regarding the exact position at the battle of Modder River.

The *Daily Chronicle* correspondent says that the enemy's force stretched for a distance of five miles along the northern bank. They had entrenched themselves and gauged the defensive possibilities of the ground to a hair. The British shelled the left flank for hours. The Boers replied with Hotchkisses and Maxims. A lull then ensued, whereupon two Brigades of Infantry approached the river, the Guards being on the right. The whole advancing force was absolutely without cover, and was exposed to the deadly accurate hail of bullets. The Scots Guards advanced to within 600 yards, crouching to escape the fusillade, which henceforth was unremitting. The Argyll and Sutherlands and the Coldstreams frequently attempted to cross the river, exposed to a murderous fire. Some narrowly escaped drowning. A party of Guards eventually succeeded, and stood at close quarters for hours in the face of a vastly superior force.

The Boers retreated in the evening, carrying off their guns. The Staff Officers concur in the opinion that the British force never in any battle faced a worse or more sustained fire.

The *Daily Mail* correspondent says that at the outset a portion of the enemy were ensconced on the south side of the river, but crossed early in the fight.

The *Times*, surveying the progress of the campaign, reluctantly admits that the lessons taught are both numerous and painful, noting that 3,500 men have either been killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. The leading journal also says that the initial arrangements in Natal were clearly ill-conceived; and the decision to hold Kimberley and Mafeking unwise. The enemy has been underrated throughout; and the Boers' tactical strength has possibly not yet been realised. "Doubtless," concludes the critic, "our commanders will in future forego successive frontal attacks, entailing heavy losses and facilitating the enemy's retreat."

A Pretoria correspondent describes the entry into the Transvaal of the British who were taken prisoners at Dundee. They were escorted by a strong guard past the President's house. Mr. Kruger, who was standing on the terrace, uncovered as they passed; and the soldiers responded by saluting.

Bombay, Dec. 6.

A *Bombay Gazette* wire gives the following details of the Modder River engagement:—

Lord Methuen found the Boers entrenched beyond the river, over a front extending for five miles.

After a three hours' artillery duel the British advanced towards the river.

There was no cover for the men, who fell rapidly under a hail of bullets from marksmen close up on the opposite bank.

The 91st Regiment (the Argyll and Sutherlands) made several attempts to rush a bridge, but were driven back.

Eventually a detachment of the Guards crossed, and held their own for hours against a vastly superior force.

The British Artillery maintained a terrific fire all day, and at night the British drove the Boers from their trenches and occupied their position.

The Boers carried off their guns. They must have lost tremendously through long exposure to the Artillery fire.

Two officers and twelve men of the Coldstreams swam across the river under fire, but were forced to go back.

The Boers shelled the ambulance wagons and the wounded under treatment.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.

General Buller is silent.

The Boers' position at the Tugela is regarded as the strongest imaginable. The Boers, prior to the recent battle, had dammed the river below one of the drifts, thus rendering it almost impassable.

The second Canadian contingent numbers 1,050. It consists of three batteries of artillery and three squadrons of Mounted Rifles.

New Zealand is sending a second contingent.

Déroulède has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

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Prince Henry of Prussia has been relieved of the command of the Cruiser Squadron.

A corporation of the leading citizens of London has subscribed twenty-five thousand pounds towards the expense of equipping a City Corps of a thousand volunteers for service in South Africa. Lord Wolseley has accepted the offer.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

The *Dunottar Castle*, with Lord Roberts on board, is to pick up Kitchener at Gibraltar.

Lord Roberts' farewell audience with the Queen yesterday is believed to have been affecting.

The City of London Volunteer Corps is already complete. Hundreds of applicants had to be refused.

Mr. Winston Churchill is safe at Delagoa.

The Admiralty has despatched another naval force of 700 men to strengthen the Brigade serving in South Africa.

An official despatch from Pietermaritzburg says that 7 were killed and 12 wounded at Ladysmith on the 18th inst., but no explanation is given how it occurred.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Roberts had an inspiring send-off at Waterloo station.

It is now certain that the guns were captured at Colenso, as well as Colonel Bullock and a number of the Devonshires.

It is generally believed that Buller is preparing a fresh attack.

Lord Methuen is, in the meanwhile, stationary, hoping that the difficulty of obtaining provisions will induce the Boers to attack him. A despatch from him, dated the 17th instant, says that the Boers are gradually extending their wings round his camp.

A despatch from Sterkstroom, dated the 16th instant, says that the Boers have increased since the Stormberg reverse, and that the country north of Stormberg is now in arms.

Considerable apprehension is felt in Capetown that the rebellion may become widespread in consequence of the recent reverses suffered by the British troops.

The Duke of Westminster has died.

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Mr. Leyds is now in Paris and is reported to be seeking an interview with M. Delcassé, but his motive is not explained.

A Reuter's telegram from the Modder River, dated the 18th instant, says that the Boer entrenchments now extend twenty miles athwart the railway and that they are still digging strong works. The British camp is in a splendid position on a plain, five miles distant from the nearest hill.

Shanghai, Dec. 26.

An official despatch from Ladysmith, dated the 23rd, says that five deaths have occurred from disease.

Kuruman (to the north of Kimberley) is still held by a small force of police in spite of renewed exertions on the part of the Boers to capture it.

The Free State Boers are credited with the intention of transferring the seat of government from Bloemfontein to Winburg, Bloemfontein being undefended and indefensible.

The British Camp has been moved from Chievely to a place a few miles further South in order to obtain a better water supply and also to escape shelling by Boer guns from the hills on the left.

Sharp fighting was heard in the direction of Ladysmith on the 18th inst.

The correspondent of the *Standard* in Ladysmith insists emphatically on the utter inferiority of the British field artillery, which never gets within effective range of the French and German guns.

[NOTE.—This probably refers to the heavy siege guns which the Boers have brought to bear on Ladysmith.—ED. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

A despatch from Ladysmith, dated the 20th, says that the news of General Buller's reverse had been received with equanimity. Everybody is confident that the relief of the place has only been postponed for a short time, and they can hold out indefinitely.

A despatch from Chieveley, dated the 20th, says that the British guns bombarded the Boers' position at Colenso with Lyddite shells for some hours that morning, but the enemy did not respond. The British are eager for battle.

Later.

The situation at the Modder River is unchanged. Methuen is well entrenched, and the enemy does not molest him.

Gatacre reports that Dalgety with 150 police has occupied Dordrecht. The Boers are retreating. "Pink-eye" has appeared among the Boers' horses; also among Gatacre's horses.

Dysentery is somewhat prevalent, especially on the Modder River.

Joubert has returned to the front after his illness.

Later.

Evidence is daily accumulating of a wide-spread spirit of sedition in the Cape Colony. Three members of the Cape Parliament are implicated.

The War Office has received a despatch from Maritzburg, dated the 24th inst., which says that Colonel Fawcett of the 5th Lancers has been severely wounded, Major King, Captains Wethered and Oakes, and Adjutant Hulse have been slightly wounded, and nine men have been killed and ten wounded. There are no details of any engagement, but the list shows that the casualties were chiefly amongst the Gloucesters.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

Communication between the Modder River and De Aar, a distance of 70 miles, has been perfectly established by means of Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy.

Reuter telegraphs that, on the 21st instant, there was intermittent shelling between the British and the Boers on the Modder River. The Boer shells fell short.

The Times' correspondent at Sterkstroom telegraphs that not loyalty but fear prevents a general rising. The British reverses have encouraged many waverers to join the Boers, although the numbers are exaggerated. Nevertheless the Free staters and Transvaalers are bitterly disappointed at the small number of Colonials joining them.

The Boer positions at Colenso were again shelled with lyddite on the 21st instant.

Later.

An official despatch from Capetown dated the 26th says that the situation is unchanged. Methuen reports that the enemy's force has increased, and that they are engaged entrenching 3½ miles from our outlying pickets.

Gatacre is endeavouring to re-open communications with the Indwe collieries.

Kitchener embarked at Gibraltar in the *Dunottar Castle*.

Later.

The embarkation of the Sixth Division was completed on Monday. The mobilization of the Seventh Division will be completed on Saturday.

The New South Wales Battery sails on Saturday.

The Queen entertained at Windsor the wives and families of the Guards in South Africa.

Lord Stanley joins Roberts' staff.

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Although no actual fighting has taken place the British have made small but successful reconnaisances at Kimberley, the Modder River, Chievely, and Sterkstroom. Meanwhile, the enemy are improving their entrenchments and mounting guns at Colenso.

Considerable bodies of the Boers are constantly on the southern side of the Tugela.

Hartes, the director of the Hanoverian Mission in Natal, and Stucke, a German farmer, have been arrested on a charge of harbouring the enemy. They claimed the protection of the German flag and were remanded to jail in Estcourt.

Later.

The Seventh Division commences embarking on the 4th January. The Government has accepted a battery from the Honourable Artillery Company.

The Times has a message from Ladysmith dated the 19th which states that the garrison has food supplies for two months only and that there is trouble regarding forage. The enemy's shelling has improved in accuracy, causing a greater number of casualties.

The Times has a despatch from Delagoa Bay which says that the Boer commissariat is well supplied, but that there is great destitution among the burghers' families, and that the price of necessaries has increased 100 per cent. The Boers are experiencing difficulties in purchasing supplies from the Continent without shipping bullion, which is seizable by warships.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Saigon, Dec. 23.

The Representative of France in Peking announces that Li Hung-chang has been appointed Viceroy of the two Kwangs; that the Sub-Prefect of Sonikai has been degraded, and that the indemnity for the murder of two officers of the *Descartes* is promised. Marshal Su is expected in Peking, carrying the convention for the delimitation of Kwang-chou-wan.

Saigon, Dec. 24.

No combat had taken place in South Africa up to the date of the latest news received.

Saigon, Dec. 26.

A telegram from Lorenzo Marques says that the Boer casualties at Colenso were 30 killed and wounded.

Five hundred English, made prisoners at Stormberg, have reached Pretoria.

Saigon, December 27.

Intelligence from the Cape is to the effect that the English are fortifying their positions. They seem desirous to confine themselves for the moment to acting on the defensive.

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Saigon, Dec. 28.

The French Representative in China has informed his Government that China has conceded all demands formulated by France with reference to the Bay of Kwang-chow-wan and the events relating to it.

Saigon, Dec. 29.

In England they are hastening the despatch of reinforcements for South Africa. The mobilization of the seventh division is nearly terminated. The War Office announces that the situation is unchanged.

The miners and weavers of Saint Etienne have gone out on strike.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Colombo, Dec. 22.

A despatch from Chieveley dated the 16th says that after the two batteries of British Artillery had been abandoned on the Tugela River, Captains Schofield and Congreve, Lieutenant Roberts, and two teams of mounted men, with every available horse, made a plucky attempt to save the guns, but failed.

On the British General applying to the Boer Commander to allow him to bury the dead the Boers agreed to a suspension of hostilities till midnight. Burying parties are now out burying our dead.

During Friday's battle General Clery's horse was shot under him.

General Buller was also under fire and his *aide de camp's* horse was shot under him.

Before the attack on Colenso the Boers dammed the Tugela River below Bridle Drift, rendering the British crossing almost impossible. Four of the Dublin Fusiliers were drowned in attempting to cross it.

THE GALE.

Sums previously acknowledged...	8,042.45
	£10:10s.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Dec. 23rd :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000 000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,287,923
Amount of convertible notes issued...	228,828,255
Government deposits	76,860,973
General deposits	5,654,476
Exchange liability	62,475
Total	358,694,103
CR.	
Discount notes	78,717,067
Foreign discount notes	14 991.925
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	69,168,932
Exchange liability	2,585 911
Government bonds	57,115,086
Property...	1,981.299
Bullion and Specie	112,133.880
Total	358,694,103

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	225.635.377
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	103,455,205
Silver	7 000.000
Total	110,455 205
Securities :—	
Government bonds	22,456,955
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	3,786,992
Commercial notes	66 936,225
Total	115.180,172

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	93,646	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	747,457
Government deposits	—	1,137,899
General deposits	1,319,363	—

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 451.

Key move B to K Kt 6.

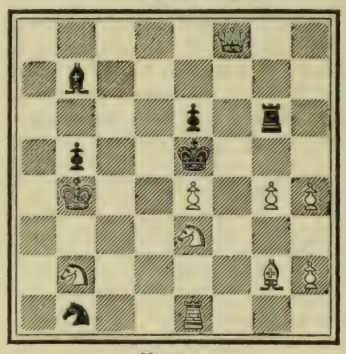
Correct answer received from "East Anglia."

With regard to Problem No. 453, it labours under the trifling disadvantage of having no King to be mated! The responsibility for this defect does not rest originally with us, for the problem appeared in that form in the publication from which we took it. Our readers doubtless had no difficulty in discovering that the place of the Black King was at K 4. This is the corrected problem :—

PROBLEM No. 453.

J. F. MOON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The incident has moved a correspondent, "W.D.C.," to send us the following effusion :—

Two champions were playing
A little game of chess :
I fear I'm right in saying
They made of it a mess ;
For one, who shan't be named,
Quite guilelessly exclaimed ;
"Hullo! Where is my King?"
The other, not ashamed
Or fearing to be blamed,
Arose and coolly stated ;
"Why, lest I should be mated,
I took the plaguey thing."

And now there's an example
(A very funny sample)
Of a problem in the *Mail*.
'Tis not exactly clear,
Though said to be a "three-er";
But what is very queer,
And defective in idea,
And where it seems to fail,—
The *Moon*-y problem-maker
Becomes his own King taker,
And doesn't see the lack
Of the monarch of the Black,
Although it's he that's fated
In three moves to be mated.

And so the wretched solver
Is driven now by fate
To take up a revolver
And declare a

"SUI-MATE."

BLACKBURNE.

We take the following from the *Westminster Gazette*:—Mr Blackburne's collection of games has made its appearance. Reviewing it has been a pleasant duty to us. Amongst the four hundred odd games which Mr. Blackburne has selected from the vast store of his published games we find many that have gone through our hands before, others recalling incidents which occurred when we watched him playing them on memorable occasions both in this country and abroad.

We are told that during his chess career, dating back to the early sixties, he must have played over 50,000 games, and in the work before us he gives a selection of those which, in his opinion, are worthy to be preserved as specimens of sound master play, or for the brilliant combinations which occurred in others; but for whatever quality they might have found a place in the book they are useful in affording pleasure to chess players and instruction to the student.

The games are divided into three parts: Match and tournament games played against the great masters of all countries; games contested with amateurs in the Metropolis and during his annual tours in the provinces; and a selection of "blindfold" games. In the first section we find games played in Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Frankfort, Hamburg, Breslau, Leipsic, Dresden, New York, Havana, Australia, and in all these tournaments the English representative was a dreaded opponent and in the front rank of the favourites. The games being arranged according to openings, the student will be able to see at a glance the different styles of the Masters, and with the aid of Mr. Blackburne's remarks to salient points in the games he will receive useful instruction. The second division of the games is useful in other respects, viz., whilst the combinations or "ideas," as Mr. Blackburne terms them in the standard games, are only discernible if pointed out—these "ideas" do come off against the less experienced opponents. From this section the student will be able to store up a fund of useful positions which may come in handy against his opponents. The third section consists of Mr. Blackburne's speciality, blindfold games. In this part are stored the proverbial "bits of Morphy." Mates in four, five and up to eight moves abound, and although played without sight of board and men, and in series of eight and ten games simultaneously, some of the beautiful combinations which occur are brilliant and sound, and withstand the scrutiny of analysis. Besides the attractions enumerated, the book contains a number of Endings from actual play, and twenty-eight problems composed by Mr. Blackburne. The book is edited by Mr. P. Anderson Graham, who also furnishes an introduction and an interesting biography of Mr. Blackburne. The book is well printed (Longmans, Green, and Co., 29, Paternoster-row, price 7s. 6d.) in clear, readable type, and the notation used by Mr. Blackburne is precisely the same as in the *Westminster Gazette*. We select two games, a King's Knight Gambit, played over thirty years ago at Dundee against Herr Neuman, one of the strongest players of that period. It was won by Mr. Blackburne in brilliant style. The other was played at Manchester in 1870 against a strong amateur, simultaneously with nine others, and blindfold.

GAME No. 578.

DANISH GAMBIT.

White.—Mr. Blackburne. Black.—Mr. Steinküler.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 Kt Q4	P QKt3
2 P Q4	PxP	16 P B 5	Kt B3
3 P QB3	P Q4	17 KtxKt	BxKt
4 P K5	PxP	18 QR K-sq	B Kt4
5 KtxP	B QKt5	19 R B3	P B4
6 Q R4ch	Kt B3	20 P B6	P Kt3
7 B QKt5	Bx Ktch	21 Q Q2	R K3
8 PxB	B Q2	22 R R3	K R-q
9 P KB4	KKt K2	23 Q R6	Q KKtsq
10 Kt B3	Castles	24 Q Kt5	QR Ksq
11 Castles	P QR3	25 R R6	B B5
12 BxKt	BxB	26 B B-q	P Q5
13 Q B2	BxQ2	27 R K4	B Q4
14 B R3	R K-q	28 QR R4	RxKP

NOTE.

Whereupon Blackburne announced mate in five moves.

It is evident from the manner in which Black defends the dangerous Danish Gambit that he is a player of no mean ability. After a dozen opening moves he is the gambit pawn still to the good, with a safe position besides. A player of the late Mr. Steinkuhler's strength would have been a worthy opponent single single handed over the board, yet on this occasion he was one of ten, Blackburne playing without sight of board and men. Black's first weak move occurs with 16...Kt to B 3, changing the original plan of shutting out the B at R 3 with P to QB4. Blackburne thus secured Bishops of different colour, a safe draw in any case, and a possible win, to which Black gave him the opportunity with 18...B to Kt 4, losing a move to drive the Rook to where it would have been played without compulsion. He had no means to avert defeat afterwards. A curious

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incident occurred when Blackburne announced mate in five. His opponent replied, "There is a mate in four," but the blindfold player demonstrated immediately the following mate in five moves: 29—R takes P ch, Q takes R; 30—R takes Q ch, K to Kt sq; 31—R to R 8 ch, K takes R; 32—Q to R 6 ch, K to Kt sq; 33—Q to Kt 7 mate.

GAME No. 579.

KING'S KNIGHT'S GAMBIT.

White—Neumann. Black—Blackburne.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 KtxR	Kt B3
2 P KB4	PxP	19 KtxKt	KtxP
3 Kt KB3	P KKt4	20 KtxB	KtxKtP
4 B B4	B Kt2	21 Kt K6ch	PxKt
5 P Q4	P Q3	22 Q Kt6	R R7
6 Castles	P KR3	23 RxP	PxR
7 P KKt3	P Kt5	24 KxR	Q R5ch
8 Kt K-q	P B6	25 K Ktsq	Q R8ch
9 P B3	Kt Q2	26 K B2	Q Kt7ch
10 Kt R3	Kt Kt3	27 K K3	Kt B8ch
11 B K3	Q K2	28 K B4	QxQ
12 Kt Q3	B Q2	29 KxP	Kt R7ch
13 Kt KB4	P KR4	30 K B2	KxKt
14 Q Q3	P R5	31 B KB4	Q B4
15 Kt Kt5	PxP	32 K Kt3	Q Kt5ch
16 PxP	P QB3	Resigns	
17 Kt B7ch	K Q-q		

NOTE.

In this variation 8—Kt to R 4 is generally played, leaving White the option of sacrificing the two advanced Pawns, or to play Kt to B 5 at an opportune moment, so as to get an open King's file. White lost too much time with 13—Kt to K B4; he might have played instead 13—P to R 4, preventing the eventual advance of Black's P to R 5, or, if 13—P takes P e.p., to play 14—Q takes P, which is the logical sequence of the initiative 9—P to K Kt 3. White thought of stopping the counter-attack with 15—Kt to Kt 5, probably not dreaming that Black would allow 17—Kt to B 7 ch, and give up a whole Rook, but such was the case; the finesse in the combination being Black's 16—P to Q B 3, so as to prevent 17—Kt to Q 5. This danger being avoided, Black could give up his Queen's side pieces, staking everything on the attack. The game is quite a gem and singularly pretty, beginning with the beautiful 22—R to R 7, to which White has no valid defence.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, J D. Sarchet, 22nd Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 20th Dec., General.—Cornes & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 22nd December,—Kobe, 20th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Y. Mura, 22nd Dec.,—Kobe, 20th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 22nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 22nd Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 16th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gisela, Austrian steamer, 2,640, F. Mosca, 23rd December,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 16th Dec., Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 23rd December,—Yokkaichi 22nd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 23rd Dec.,—Kobe, 21st Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, R. Heintze, 24th Dec.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 23rd December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 24th December,—Uraga 24th December, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 25th December,—Kobe 22nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835. A. W. Sails, 25th December,—Cebu, P.I., 12th December, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Manauense, U.S. Army Transport, 976, Barneson, 26th December,—Manila via Nagasaki, 23rd December, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 26th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,093, C. Boulard, 28th December,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 27th December, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 28th December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 26th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 28th December,—Otaru via ports, 22nd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, T. Tibballs, 28th December,—Kobe 26th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,360, J. Jones, 28th December,—Kobe, 27th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 28th December,—Otaru via ports, 23rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525. M. Hamada, 28th December,—Kobe, 27th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Fuchs, 28 h Dec., —Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 27th Dec. General.—C. Illies & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A Lee, 28th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 27th Dec., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 29th December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 28th December, Mails and General,—P. Ms S.S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, G. Anderson, 29th December,—Otaru via ports, 24th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 29th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 23rd Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrander 22nd December,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Lady Joicey, British steamer, 2,046, J. Cook, 22nd Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu and San Diego, Mails & General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 22nd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,150, T. R. Roe. 22nd December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 23rd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Kishi, 23rd December,—Yokkaichi, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, J. N. Petterson, 23rd Dec.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797, H. Peterson, 23rd December,—Moji, Ballast.—General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Burmeister, 24th Dec.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Y. Mura, 24th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 25th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Goodwin, 26th December,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 27th December,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, J. D. Sarchet, 27th December,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Gisela, Austrian steamer, 2,640, F. Mosca, 27th December,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 27th December,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tetartos, German steamer 1,578, Desler, 27th December,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, H. Fraser, 28th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 28th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 29th December,—Vancouver, B.C., Mail. and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Mumezono, 29th December,—Otaru via port, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. A. W. Allen, Mrs. Wheeler, La Marquise C. H. Nembrini Gonzaga, Mr. T. A. Edale and child, Mr. G. Gun, Mr. T. A. Guttierrez, and Mrs. T. Takahashi, in cabin; Mrs. and Miss Balmès, Mrs. Sirot, Mrs. C. Sakai, Mr. S. Takano, Mr. N. Ono, Mr. K. Hayashi, Mrs. M. Takano, Mr. T. Shioikari, and Mr. S. Jissoji, in second class; 8 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, from Bremen via ports:—Captain and Mrs. Guehler, I.G.N., Mr. O. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. von Lindholm, Mrs. and Miss Slade, Lieut. Z. L. Hilmer, I.G.N., Mr. A. W. Taylor, Mr. Averill, Mr. R. Gysin, Mr. G. Bayfield, Mr. L. von Rensalear, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Copmann, Mr. Noltenius, Dr. Zuzuki, Mr. A. Peters, Miss Payne, Miss Worthington, Mr. and Mrs. J. Schneckenhofer, and Miss G. Suendermann, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Martin Schmidt in second class; one Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage. For Seattle:—Mr. Moritz Thomsen in cabin. For Victoria:—187 Japanese in steerage. For U.S.A.:—29 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Lefizelies, Père Casseliss, Mr. Bassandry, Mr. Ebaram, Mr. Yuess, Mr. Bong Yook, Mr. Colomer, Mr. Crevatiss, Mr. and Mrs. Mattaldi, Mr. Schmackks, Mr. Edrei, 1 Chinese, and boy, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. W. Burthwick, Mr. and Mrs. Poole, Mr. F. J. Nutter, Mr. C. N. Beck, Mr. S. Hirai, and Mr. and Mrs. P. H. McKay, in cabin. Mr. J. P. Crerar, in cabin: 12 in second class; 151 in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss R. A. Sellers, Miss F. M. English, Vicomte de Breteuil, Mr. A. Howaldt, Mr. J. T. Richardson, Miss Garvin, and Miss Hawooth in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. V. Petrovsky and Mr. Lan Chu T. Y. Chow and servant in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. J. A. Seagrave and 4 children. Mr. G. H. Vinton, Mrs. J. H. Vinton, Mr. H. G. Vinton, Miss Haswell, Miss E. Haswell, Mr. G. S. Beebe, Mr. and Mrs. A. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Davies, Miss D. Maclachlan, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Worley and 4 children, Mr. H. W. Worley, Miss M. M. Worley, Mr. C. H. C. Moller, Lieut. and Mrs. N. Philipnoff, child and servant, Lieut. D. Philipnoff, Mr. W. H. Dakneke, Miss L. E. Case, Rev. W. R. Lambert, Miss E. M. Brown, and Mr. S. Allehin in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Rev. Albertus Pieters, Messrs. E. Greening, S. Hihara, K. Shiramine, Chen Chao Kon, Mr. and Mrs. Katayama in cabin; Lieut. and Mrs. Nakajima, Ensigns Ushijima, K. Kawada, K. Shishido, Y. Shimidzu, Nishiara, Messrs. K. Sagara and N. Takechi, second class; 14 Chinese, and 22 Japanese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. T. Hayashi, Mr. R. Nakamaya, Mr. E. Knaff, Mr. G. Beill, Mr. S. Watanabe, Mr. S. Sekiguchi, Mr. G. Hayashi, Mr. M. Fukuchi, Mr. and Mrs. Deladonespe, Mrs. E. S. Patton and servant, Mrs. Von Ruffin, Mrs. Tjemierska, Miss Alexander Almazoff, Miss P. Esdale, Mr. C. O. Beck. Mr. Eritz Netie, Mr. Huin Theil, Mr. de Souza, Mr. R. C. Ross, Mr. Thompson, Rev. George Wallace, Rev. P. Dom Sauton, Mr. R. Dubuffet, Mr. P. Sazuruge, Mr. T. Yatsui, Mr. K. Matsuo, Mr. U. M. Jaumahomed, Mr. J. Abdoolhather, Mr. E. Susay, Mr. Berard, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. Adet, Mr. L. de Micheaux, Mr. Jos. O. Callender, Mr. Correard, Mr. Young, Mr. W. Bushy, Mr. C. Beale, Mr. H. Fenner, Mr. Vaux, Mr. Mazich, Mr. J. H. Alme, Mr. Paul Labbe, Mr. Chan Yue Ping and boy, Mr. Ming Kai and boy Mr. Neu Cheong and boy, Mr. Chan Yan Mr. Choy Sai Shu, and Mr. Ting Sing Fai, in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. F. K. Guttierrez, Mrs. Tami Yokoi, Mr. Y. Yezaki, T. Yamagishi, Mrs. and Miss Balmes, Mrs. Silot, Mr. W. Y. Showlet, Mr. T. Tokuhiro, Capt. K. Kohei, and Mr. C. Miyagawa, in cabin; 37 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Symons, Mr. E. P. Keeble, Captain Udo Pockets, Lieut. F. Ritter von Liebieg, Mr. C. H. Brown, Mr. A. W. Taylor, Mr. Chan Wing Quai, and Master Pow Kwa Chew in cabin; 10 Chinese and 7 children in steerage.

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Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Thos. R. Brownlee, Mr. J. L. Crerar, Mr. Geo. R. Gregg, Mr. C. G. McCully, Mr. C. J. Mitchell, in cabin; Mr. Z. Akao, Mr. M. Tamida, Mr. S. Asakura, Mr. Y. Kitai, Mr. Kurokawa, Mr. R. Rawlings, Mr. T. Slack, Mr. To Chen, Mrs. Kwan Shi and child, Mr. Lum Hung, and Mrs. Ah Fong and child, second class.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK & EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL, PACKAGES.
Hongkong ...	1,624	—	—	702	—	2,326
Foochow.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai ...	410	—	—	100	—	510
Kobe	244	—	—	—	—	244
Yokohama...	763	262	338	31	—	1,394
Total	3,041	262	338	833	—	4,474

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL BALES.
Hongkong and Canton	299	..... —	299
Shanghai	550	..... —	550
Yokohama	424	..... —	424
Total	1,273	..... —	1,273

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 15 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 285 bales.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Waste Silk for Europe, 63 bales.

Following were silk shippers per C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, Dec. 29:—

	Bales
Vivanti Bros.	55
Otto Reimers & Co.	13
Kiito Shokwai	176
Doshinsha	93
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	86
Total	423

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	On Sang 1	Sa. Dec. 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 2	M. Jan. 1
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla 3	M. Jan. 1
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 4	M. Jan. 1
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Karlsruhe	Sa. Jan. 6
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 5	Tu. Jan. 9
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	———	Tu. Jan. 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Jan. 12
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Jan. 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Jan. 25

1 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 13th inst.
3 Left Nagasaki on the 29th inst. at 5 p.m.
4 Left Nagasaki on the 29th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 21st inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Onsang	Su. Dec. 31
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Jan. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Jan. 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Jan. 3
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	F. Jan. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Jan. 10
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. Jan. 10
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Karlsruhe	Sa. Jan 13
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Jan. 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Jan. 15
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Jan. 26
America	P. M. Co.	Algoa	Sa. Feb 17

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In every line a holiday tone prevails, and no business will be done till after the opening of the New Year.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	3.20 to 3.60
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches ...	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Turkeys and Patterns Black	PER YARD.
32 inches	0.10 to 0.11

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.85
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches ...	0.85 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0 62½ to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	9.50 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches.	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	$40.00 to 42.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	52.00 to 55.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	76.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	92.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	120.00 to 125.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	90.00 to 95.50
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	106.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	135.00 to 145.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	$25.50
Indian Broach	23.50
Chinese	45.00

METALS.

There is the usual year-end apathy in all lines.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	6.20 to 6.40
Iron Plates, assorted	6.10 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 6.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	12.50 to 13.80
Wire Nails, assorted	7.60 to 7.90
Tin Plates, per box	8.70 to 9.00
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅛ to 1½ inch).....	7.15 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

A holiday spirit prevails.

American	$1.10 to 3.15
Russian	3.00 to 3.04
Langkat	No stock

SUGAR.

Nothing doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao.....	$5.30 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.50 to 6.80
Brown Daitong.....	5.00 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 6.90
White Java and Penang.....	7.00 to 8.80
White Refined	7.90 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The week has been dull, but just before closing a little has been done upon the bases of quotations given below. The market will be closed now for a few days, and it is a problem how it will reopen.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse.....	1,320 to 1,330
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,270 to 1,280
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine.....	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,230 to 1,240
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1,180 to 1,190
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No 1	1,240 to 1,250
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,210 to 1,220
Re-reels—No. 2	1,180 to 1,190
Re-reels—No. 3	None
Kakedas—Extra	1,250 to 1,260
Kakedas—No. 1	1,220 to 1,230
Kakedas—No. 1½	1,180 to 1,190
Kakedas—No 2	1,150 to 1,160
Kakedas—No 2½	None

WASTE SILK.

Little doing. Dealers have closed their books for the year. Prices nominally strong, but probably some concessions will be obtained when the market reopens.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 210
Noshi—Filatures, Good	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshu, Best	190 to 200
Noshi—Oshu, Good	185 to 190
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	180 to 185
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	$135 to 145
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Best.....	160 to 170
Kibiso—Filatures, Seconds	150 to 160
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	70 to 80
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

The market is lifeless. Quotations quite nominal.

QUOTATIONS

Choicest	32 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium.....	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common.....	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 29.

London silver ¼ higher and China sterling ¼ higher; London discounts down to 6 per cent. for 3 months paper, and 5½ per cent. for 6 months, will have a good effect at the close of the year. Rates of exchange remain steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0½
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0⅝
— — 4 months' sight ...2	0 15/16 to ¾
— Private 4 months' sight ...2/1	to 1/16
— — 6 months' sight...2/1	3/16 to ¼
On Paris—Bank sight	257½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight...	263
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49⅛ to ⅜
— Private 4 months' sight...	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208⅛
— Private 4 months' sight...	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight...	5% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74¼
— Private 10 days' sight	75¾ to 76¼
On India—Bank sight	151½
— Private 30 days' sight ...	154
Bar Silver (London).....	27⅛

MESSRS. BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 29.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 170. Engine and Iron Works are steady at *yen* 215. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 242.50, while sellers ask *yen* 245. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 85. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 125. A few Founders' shares can be placed at *yen* 300. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms were sold again to-day at *yen* 55. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted. North and Raes have buyers at *yen* 215. Bretts can be placed at *yen* 9.25. Hodogaya Breweries were again sold to-day at *yen* 47.

Debentures—Breweries are in demand at *yen* 110. Y. U. Clubs are wanted at *yen* 108. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ld., $50 ...	215 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. *yen* 50	170 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., $100.....	242.50 B.
Club Hotel, Ld., $100	85 St.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., $100.....	125 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. (Debs.), $125	300 B.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., *yen* 100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ld., $100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., $10.....	9.25 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., $100.....	93 S.
Helm Bros., $50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., *yen* 50 ...	60 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100.....	110 B.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb., $100.....	108 B.
Brett & Co., Ld. 7% Deb., $100.....	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb., $100	108 St.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ld. 7% Deb. $100	N.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B.=Buyers, Sa.=Sales, St.=Steady N.=Nominal, W.=Weak E.=Enquiries.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 29.

Engine and Iron Works changed hands to-day at *yen* 215. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 250. Oriental Hotels are steady at *yen* 130. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 90. Langfeldts are obtainable at par. Japan Breweries have buyers at *yen* 170. Bretts are wanted at *yen* 9.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares changed hands at 336 per cent. premium.

Queen Mines are wanted.

YEN.

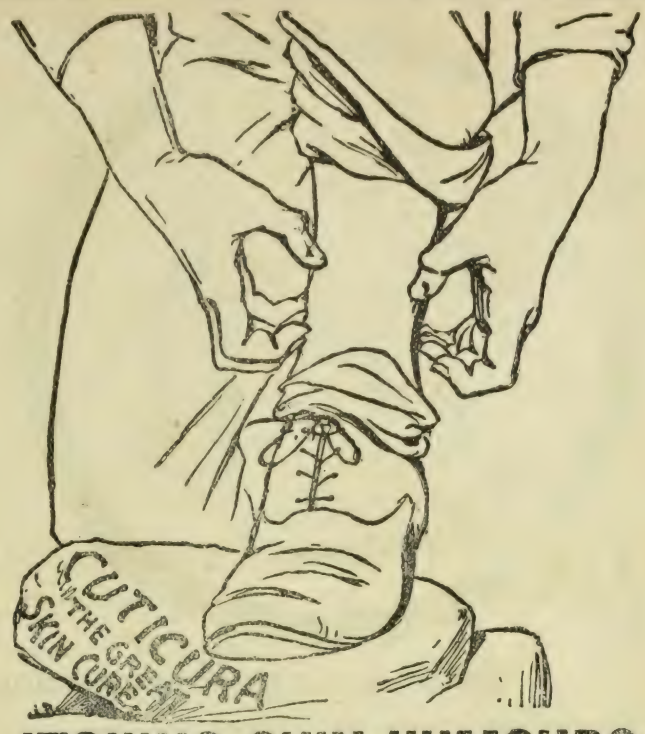
Yokohama E. & I. Works ...215	Sales.
Grand Hotel 250	Sellers.
Club Hotel..... 90	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel 130	Steady.
Langfeldt & Co. 100	Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co. 170	Buyers.

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Tokyo, December 29

Redemption Loan Bonds	94 20
War Loan Bonds	94.20
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	97.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	408.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	65.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	267.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	68.80
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	68 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	105.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	29.10
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	72.30
Japan Railway, 5th issue—paid up yen 41	50.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	23 80
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	122.10
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	80.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	53.80
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	44.80
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	59.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 40	45 50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	98 50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 28	72 50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	92.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	42.80
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	30.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	39 00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	18 00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	36 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	27 30
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25	12.00
Tohu Railway—paid up yen 13	21.50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	217.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 12.50	205 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	63 80
Osaka Shosen Kaisha paid up yen 25	27.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	14 50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	26.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 23	20 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	42 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	33.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	236.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	203.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	137.00
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	80.70
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	2.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	51 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	26.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	89 00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22	56 00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	88.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 12.50	33.50
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	54 50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	78.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	56 00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	22.00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 12.50	14.50
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	45.00

x Ex dividend.



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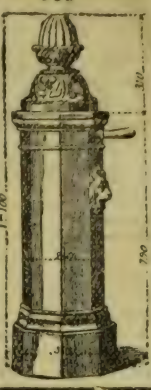
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